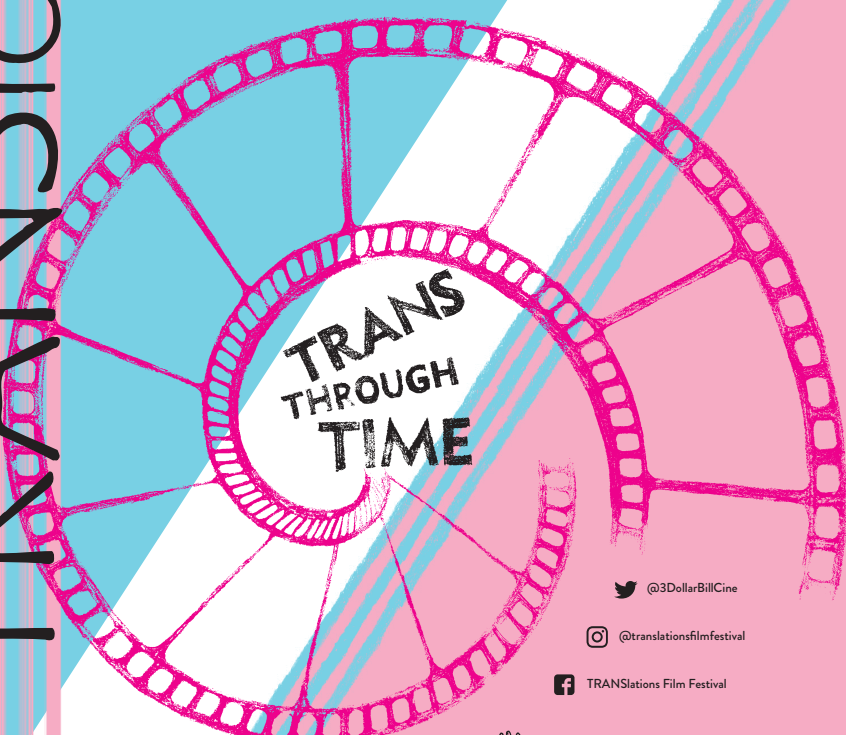


2023 TRANSLATIONS

# 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Seattle Trans Film Festival MAY 4-7

SCREENINGS IN  
COLUMBIA CITY MAY 5-6



TRANS  
THROUGH  
TIME

@3DollarBillCine

@translationsfilmfestival

TRANSLations Film Festival



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## COVID PROTOCOLS

The safety of our attendees is the highest priority and Three Dollar Bill Cinema has worked diligently with our venues and partners to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience. In order to achieve this, we ask that you please adhere to the following COVID-19 protocols:

- Attendees must be masked for the duration of the screening/event (except when eating or drinking). We are aware that county/state mandates have shifted, but are still requiring these safety measures for the foreseeable future.
- For masking, we recommend N95 & KN95 masks only. We will have high grade masks available at the venue for those who do not have one. Cloth masks, neck gaiters and bandanas are not acceptable forms of masking. TRANSLations reserves the right to deny entry to any attendee not found in compliance.
- Social distancing is still encouraged during all TRANSLations screenings/ events. Please keep a distance of six feet from others when possible
- Hand sanitizer will be available at all TRANSLations venues, and we encourage attendees to use it when both entering and exiting a venue
- Increased sanitization measures will be in place at all theaters. Please check out our venues' websites for more information about their specific practices.
- If you are feeling sick in any way, please do not attend in-person events and enjoy our virtual TRANSLations offerings from the comfort of your home.

## CREDITS

### TDBC STAFF

MANAGING DIRECTOR

Billy Ray Brewton

LEAD PROGRAMMER

Anto Astudillo

PROGRAMS &

OPERATIONS MANAGER

Maddy Szmidt

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Kathleen Mullen

PROGRAMMING &

ADMIN INTERN

Em Chan

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Rachael Brister

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Kontent Partners

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Ade Connere

DESIGN/MOTION

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MUSIC

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DP

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WDBE/HMU

Lindsey Watkins

### SPECIAL THANKS

Hugues Barbier

Beth Barrett

Jason L. Bergevin

Jess Byers

James Nadeau

Jason Plourde

Q Programmers

### BLURB WRITERS

Anto Astudillo

Em Chan

Maddy Szmidt

Lorin Murphy

Hogan Seidel

Chynah Thomas

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## OUR FUNDERS



# MANAGING DIRECTOR LETTER

When TRANSlations was started 18-years ago, it was one of the only trans-focused film festivals in the entire world. Flash forward to now, and we are still only one of six. While a lot has changed in the world and the trans community over the years, we still find ourselves faced with the reality that trans voices continue to be under-represented in film. Our theme for this year, “Trans Through Time”, is intentional in that it creates a bridge between the past and the present for audiences to enjoy the trans canon in a way they never have before.

As TRANSlations has grown and evolved, so has its needs. For Year 18, we have moved the festival to the Columbia City neighborhood of Seattle, outside of the hustle and bustle of Capitol Hill, while injecting a very unique flavor that only South Seattle can provide. We have truly embraced the community there and look forward to many more years to come with our friends at Ark Lodge Cinemas and The Beacon Cinema.

As states all across the country enact more and more anti-trans legislation and continue to silence trans voices, providing audiences with the ability to empathize with trans stories and voices is more important and powerful than ever. The trans community is at war with far right ideologies and we have to do our part to stand up and fight for our communities. Art has always been one of the sharpest weapons to utilize, and we're ready to go.

But, you know what? It's also about having fun and celebrating trans joy. It's about honoring those that came before, which is why we've created our Trailblazer Award to be presented to groundbreaking filmmaker, Isabel Sandoval. Isabel will be joining us to accept her award, and being able to bring someone who has spent their career at the forefront of the movement, fighting for representation with their art, is why we started this festival 18-years ago.

We couldn't be more thrilled with the curation of our lead programmer, Anto Astudillo, and the exciting stories that audiences will get to experience. It's an exchange of ideas that we don't take for granted. Three Dollar Bill Cinema remains committed to doing whatever it can to elevate trans voices, and TRANSlations turning 18 is just one example. Please come out and support all of the unique voices of Translations. We'll see you there!

Enjoy the show,

**Billy Ray Brewton**

Managing Director

**Kathleen Mullen**

Artistic Director

# LEAD PROGRAMMER LETTER



Welcome to the 18th annual TRANSlations: Seattle Trans Film Festival! This is a very important year for us and we are happy to share so many wonderful new films and events with our community!

I am deeply moved to have the opportunity to program this festival, which at the same time, I recognize as a great responsibility. After many years programming films in order to create community and dialogue between artists and audiences, I finally get to do it in the context of a festival with as much history as TRANSlations. I am very grateful to have worked alongside an insightful group of people who make up the Screening Committee, I also want to thank the immense dedication and talent of the Three Dollar Bill Cinema team. The work behind this festival comes from the commitment and love we all have towards film and our community.

We can proudly say that the festival has grown this year. We are showcasing around 80 films from Turtle Island, and 17 countries including Perú, Brazil, Colombia, Chile, México, Portugal, Taiwán, Cambodia, Spain, UK, Romania, Finland, Canada, Azerbaijan, Germany, France and Australia.

This year's festival theme is TRANS THROUGH TIME, a celebration of trans history in cinema, and to express our appreciation to our community we will be honoring Isabel Sandoval in-person with our inaugural TRANSlations Trailblazer Award. This theme is also the title of a special shorts film program that includes three films from the UCLA/Outfest Legacy Project, work from our jury members, and current independent filmmakers.

I highly recommend the special program ARTIST SPOTLIGHT: SIMON(E) JAIKIRIUMA PAETAU. It is our first program of the in-person portion of the festival scheduled for May 4th, at The Beacon in Columbia City. Simon(e)'s program includes the avant-garde and unique piece POSH starring Ronique, an homage to black trans women.

On May 5th, we have plenty of programming including the Industry Panel for filmmakers, AMPLIFYING OUR VOICES, with Daniel Sea, members of Outfest, Trans, Nonbinary & Intersex Summit at Outfest, Artless Media, and Transgender Film Center. The panel will be followed by an industry reception at The Beacon. Later, join us at the award ceremony and screening of our two Opening Night Films, and end the night with the exciting Opening Night party, featuring performances by Moscato Sky and Howie Echo-Hawk.

This year's feature films touch on themes about our valuable trans history. These films highlight the experiences of different generations that reveal particular realities, and evidence of a complex and layered trans universe.

I want to dedicate this festival to the memory of Rasheeda Williams, Koko Da Doll, protagonist of the movie KOKOMO CITY directed by D. Smith. Koko's art and legacy will continue to empower many Black trans women and the trans community through this beautiful film and we are honored to be able to share her story this year. Rest in Power Koko.

We have a strong shorts program lineup, which includes the block RESISTANCE/RESILIENCE. Following this power program, we invite the community to join us for a conversation in-person with Daniel Sea, our special guest for the 2023 TRANSlations.

In 2023, anti-trans bills continue to be introduced across the country doubling the numbers from last year. The immense stress and anxiety that this is causing to members of our community often goes unnoticed. I believe TRANSlations can help us find each other during these challenging times. Through film or any form of art, we have a say in the world we build for ourselves. To be active members of our society we need to find ways to celebrate our existence and be in solidarity with one another more than ever.

We hope that through all the films and events you'll experience by joining our festival, you can feel a sense of community; that you can feel empowered and inspired to keep sharing our stories to those you care about and to a world that needs to learn about our beautiful lives and legacies.

Trans is beautiful!

Enjoy the festival! Mucho amor para todos!

**Anto Astudillo (they/them)**

# JOIN OUR QUEER WORLD TAKEOVER

Being a member of Three Dollar Bill Cinema is a community-driven relationship between our organization and our fans, allowing us to offer exciting perks throughout the year with our various festivals, events, and partners. Memberships are a great way to support our non-profit and enjoy special experiences year-round!

**MEMBER PERKS**

1. \$3 discount on all TDBC tickets
2. Exclusive offers from partners
3. Advanced film screenings
4. Early bird ticket access for SQFF & TRANSLations
5. Preferred seating during our festivals
6. Mention in program guide & website
7. Membership lanyard

**\$40** ACCESS MEMBERSHIP  
**\$60** INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP  
**\$110** COUPLE MEMBERSHIP

**three dollar bill cinema**

## DONOR LEVELS

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  - SEPTEMBER SQFF PREVIEW DRINK TICKETS
- \$500-\$999**
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  - VIP AREA AT ANNUAL GALA WHEN APPLICABLE
  - VIP SQFF OPENING NIGHT RECEPTION
- \$1,000+**
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  - ON SCREEN RECOGNITION AT FESTIVALS
  - PRIORITY TABLE AT ANNUAL GALA WHEN APPLICABLE

| Visit [www.threedollarbillcinema.org/membership](http://www.threedollarbillcinema.org/membership) for more information! |



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*Many thanks to all of our donors who gave under \$100. Every contribution adds up and helps further our mission!*

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T Van Doren  
Cassie Wallender  
Kathy Wehle  
Kathi White  
Isaac Wiedenmeyer  
Randy Wiger  
David Wilson  
Sue Woehrlin  
Don Zwick

## WATCH VIRTUALLY

Most films are available to watch virtually (unless noted) from May 4-7 all across the U.S. You have 72 hours to complete a virtual screening once you have started the film. The last day to buy tickets for the virtual screenings is May 7.

[watch.threedollarbillcinema.org](http://watch.threedollarbillcinema.org)



## WATCH IN PERSON

TRANSLations screenings will be at Ark Lodge Cinemas and The Beacon Cinema.

We also have events taking place in Columbia City.

### **Ark Lodge Cinemas**

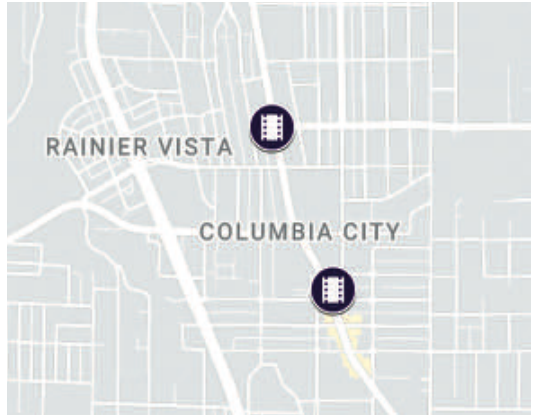
*May 5 & 6*

*4816 Rainier Avenue South  
Seattle, WA 98118*

### **The Beacon Cinema**

*May 6*

*4405 Rainier Avenue South  
Seattle, WA 98118*



|                               |                |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>HYBRID PASS</b>            | <b>\$75</b>    |
| <b>IN-PERSON PASS</b>         | <b>\$50</b>    |
| <b>VIRTUAL PASS</b>           | <b>\$50</b>    |
| <b>HOUSEHOLD VIRTUAL PASS</b> | <b>\$75</b>    |
| <b>SLIDING SCALE TICKETS</b>  | <b>\$13-30</b> |

| Access tickets available via submission form on website |

**BECOME A MEMBER TO SAVE:**

|                              |             |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>MEMBER HYBRID PASS</b>    | <b>\$56</b> |
| <b>MEMBER IN-PERSON PASS</b> | <b>\$37</b> |
| <b>MEMBER VIRTUAL PASS</b>   | <b>\$37</b> |

**GO TO [TINYURL.COM/TRANSTIX](https://tinyurl.com/TRANSTIX)  
TO PURCHASE A TICKET OR PASS!**



## STFF SCHEDULE MAY 4-7

MAY 4

## THE BEACON

7:30 PM

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT:  
SIMON(E)  
JAJKIRIUMA PAETAU  
(78 MIN)

## ONLINE PROGRAM

11:00 AM

TEA TIME W/  
MAX  
DISGRACE

12:00 PM

FILMMAKER  
NETWORKING HOUR

## ONLINE PROGRAM

ALL DAY

VIRTUAL FILM  
ACCESS

MAY 5

## THE BEACON

4:00 PM

INDUSTRY PANEL -  
RSVP

5:00 PM

INDUSTRY  
RECEPTION (VP  
RECEPTION)

## ARK LODGE - THEATER 2

6:00 PM

AWARD CEREMONY  
- ISABEL SANDOVAL

7:00 PM

SOMETHING YOU  
SAID LAST NIGHT  
(96 MIN)

9:00 PM

KOKOMO CITY W/  
AN AVOCADO PIT (90  
MIN)

## THE ROYAL ROOM

11:00 PM

OPENING NIGHT  
PARTY

## ONLINE PROGRAM

11:00 AM

TEA TIME W/  
CATRILEO +  
CARRION

ALL DAY

VIRTUAL FILM  
ACCESS

## MAY 6

## ARK LODGE - THEATER 2

11:00 AM

RESISTANCE/  
RESILIENCE  
(103 MIN)

12:45 PM

R/R PANEL WITH  
DANIEL SEA - 45 MIN

2:00 PM

EM(POWER)MENT  
(94 MIN)

4:30 PM

SOFT W/  
I IDENTIFY AS ME  
(97 MIN)

6:45 PM

THE TIES THAT  
BOND (93 MIN)

9:00 PM

TRANS THROUGH  
TIME (90 MIN)

## ARK LODGE - THEATER 3

1:30 PM

FUZZY FEELING  
(84 MIN)

3:45 PM

BODY-ODY-ODY  
(98 MIN)

6:00 PM

LINGUA FRANCA +  
SHANGRI-LA  
(95 MIN)

8:00 PM

SEXUAL HEALING (88  
MIN)

## THE BEACON

## ONLINE PROGRAM

11:00 AM

TEA TIME W/ DANA  
WASHINGTON-  
QUEEN

ALL DAY

VIRTUAL FILM  
ACCESS

## MAY 7

## ONLINE PROGRAM

11:00 AM

TEA TIME W/  
DANIEL SEA

## ONLINE PROGRAM

12:00 PM

ARTLESS MEDIA  
FILMMAKER PANEL

## ONLINE PROGRAM

ALL DAY

VIRTUAL FILM  
ACCESS

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## FEATURES JURY



### **Daniel Sea** (*he/they*)

Daniel Sea (*he/they*) is a trans non-binary actor, musician and artist. Sea has worked in film, theater and TV series. They played the first recurring transmasculine role on television, appearing from 2006-2009 as Max in Showtime's *The L Word*. In 2022, he revised his role as Max for the current iteration of the *L Word: Generation Q*. They acted in films such as John Cameron Mitchell's "Shortbus", and Barbara Albert's film "The Dead and The Living/Die Lebenden."

In collaboration Marissa Lobô, Jota Mombaça, Juliana dos Santos, and with participation from artist Ani Gonzaga, and activist Sonia Guajajara, Sea was a part of creating the theater piece "Ghost Times/Decolonizing Teatro Mundi", at the Brüt Theater in Vienna, Austria.

Sea is co-writer, producer and songwriter on "La La La Little Shows", a decolonial children's sci-fi series, which includes animation, music performance, narrative storytelling and interviews with artists. This show centers BIPOC and Queer characters and artists.

As a conceptual artist, Sea works with interdisciplinary memoir, engaging in processes such as research-based performance, writing, music, drawing, video and photography. Prior to their work acting in mainstream tv and film, Sea came of age as an artist as a part of the queer punk, art and activist scenes of the San Francisco Bay Area, California in the 1990's. His work transverses from the queer vanguard to the mainstream, intervening on pop culture, infecting the mainstream with a political and magical queer and trans agenda.



### **dana washington-queen**

(*they/them*)

dana washington-queen is a photographer and filmmaker working in poetic and documentary forms to render and celebrate black life and expression.



### **Frances Arpaia** (*she/her*)

Frances Arpaia is a queer trans woman who lives in Brooklyn and makes weird films.



## NARRATIVE SHORTS JURY



### **Max Disgrace** (*he/him*)

Max Disgrace is an award-winning film director, a film programmer and trans man of Chinese descent, living in London. He has been selected as a Director for BFI Network x BAFTA Crew 2020/21, Berlinale Talents 2020 and the BFI Flare mentorship, and his work has been screened at the BFI, Tate Modern, the Barbican and at film festivals internationally.

Max has directed a new short film *Dismantle Me* associate produced by Lilly Wachowski (*The Matrix*, *Bound*) on this film he worked with with a majority trans and non-binary cast and crew, achieved in

collaboration with filmmaker directory: Trans+ On Screen.

Max's body of work has focused on the politics of queer sexual intimacies between marginalised bodies. *Dismantle Me* builds on this - focussing on nuanced experiences of romantic pleasure and desire between trans characters in narrative fiction.

His previous short film *Ruptured* premiered on underground film platform 4:3 Boiler Room, for which he was awarded the Wahala Film Fund grant –for Queer, Transgender and Intersex People of Colour filmmakers.



### **Danny Denial** (*she/her*)

Danny Denial is a musician and filmmaker listed in Status Magazine as the "POC of the Queer Punk & Alternative Scene to Watch", and in Afropunk's "8 Punkiest Bands on the Planet Right Now" list, as well as known for fronting Seattle band Dark Smith.



### **Moscato Sky** (*they/she*)

The Them Fatale of Drag & Burlesque, Moscato Sky is a latinx, trans-femme, non-binary dancer, educator, and award winning choreographer based out of Seattle, WA. This tempting tart is one fourth of world renowned burlesquesensation Mod Carousel and was crowned The Noire Pageant 2020 Duchess of Burlesque. They were the first trans femme competitor at the Burlesque Hall of Fame and are the reigning Princess of Burlesque. This genderqueer goddess was voted on the 21st Century Burlesque Top 50 List of most influential

burlesque figures in the world since 2020 and is currently ranked at #18.

## DOCUMENTARY/TRANSGENRE SHORTS JURY



### **Pol Merchan** (*he/him*)

Pol Merchan (1980, Spain) is an artist, filmmaker, and film programmer for the Xposed International Queer Film Festival. He received his bachelor's degree in Fine Arts from the University of Barcelona and his master's degree from the Universität der Künste Berlin's Art in Context program. His audiovisual work examines visual semantics and cinematic processes while dissecting traditional filmmaking methods. Merchan's films have been exhibited internationally in art institutions and at numerous film festivals around the globe.

### **Catrileo + Carrion Community** (**Manuel Carrión-Lira & Antonio Catrileo Araya**)

Comunidad Catrileo+Carrion are queer/trans/nonbinary Indigenous epupillan (two-spirit) beings who work articulating generative spaces of reciprocity and relationality. They honor the land and their ancestors through ceremonies materialized in their audiovisual, textile, editorial, curatorial, and community practices. Comunidad Catrileo+Carrion reside divided between Pikunmapu/Qullasuyu (Valparaíso Region, Chile) and Kumeyaay Territory (San Diego, California, USA). The group is currently composed of Antonio Catrileo Araya, Constanza Catrileo Araya, Malku Catrileo Araya, Alejandra Carrión Lira, and Manuel Carrión Lira.



### **Antonio Catrileo** (*they/them*)

Antonio Catrileo (they/them) is a Mapuche writer, artist, and weaver from Pikunmapu/Qullasuyu (Curico, Chile). Currently is a student at the PhD in Ethnic Studies at the University of California San Diego. They hold a B.A., M.A. in Chilean and Hispanic Literature at Pontificia Universidad Católica de Valparaíso. Author of the book "Awkan epupillan mew: dos espíritus en divergencia" (2019) and "Diáspora" (2015). Member of the Catrileo+Carrión Community, where they have collectively published the books "Poyewün Nütamkan Pikunmapu/Qullasuyu"

(2020), "Poyewün witril: bitácora de las tejedoras de Neltume" (2019), "Torcer la palabra: escrituras obrera-feministas" (2018) and "Yikalay pu zomo Lafkenmapu" (2018). Currently is a collaborator of Global Center for Advanced Studies Latin America Collective. Their work is presented as a critical intervention in how colonial categories have been imposed on notions of sexuality and gender in the Mapuche context. Catrileo claims the word epupillan (two-spirit) as a generative practice that focuses on not reproducing the damage of the archive's narratives in order to imagine a Mapuche futurity beyond the politics of recognition, nation, and identity. Epupillan is a situated knowledge shared by several elders who are HIV/AIDS activists and defenders of the land.



### **Manuel Carrión Lira** (*he/they*)

Manuel Carrión Lira (he/they) is a Pikunche researcher, video-artist and curator from Pikunmapu/Qullasuyu (Quillota, Chile). They are currently a Fulbright International Fellow studying in the PhD in Literature at the University of California San Diego. Manuel holds a M.A. in Latin American Art, Thought and Culture from the Instituto de Estudios Avanzados at Universidad de Santiago de Chile, and a B.A. in Design at Universidad de Valparaiso. Member of the Catrileo+Carrión Community, where they

have collectively published the books “Poyewün Nütramkan Pikunmapu/Qullasuyu” (2020), “Poyewün witrál: bitácora de las tejedoras de Neltume” (2019), “Torcer la palabra: escrituras obrera-feministas” (2018) and “Yikalay pu zomo Lafkenmapu” (2018). Manuel is part of the Global Center for Advanced Studies Latin America Collective. Manuel’s work focuses on Indigenous Media at the intersection with Trans-indigenous/Transnational kinship networks beyond the nation-state framework, all of this with special attention to queer/trans/2S/epupillan Indigenous cultural production.

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## OPENING NIGHT SCREENING

### KOKOMO CITY



*D. Smith 2023, United States, 73 min.*

Directed by two-time Grammy nominee D. Smith, *KOKOMO CITY* takes up a seemingly simple mantle — to present the stories of four Black transgender sex workers in New York and Georgia. Shot in striking black and white, the boldness of the facts of these women's lives and the earthquaking frankness they share complicate this enterprise, colliding the everyday with cutting social commentary and the excavation of long-dormant truths.

Accessible for any audience, unfiltered, unabashed, and unapologetic, Smith and her subjects smash the trendy standard for authenticity, offering a refreshing rawness and vulnerability unconcerned with purity and politeness.

*Content warnings: Vulgar language, nudity, discussion of transphobic violence, drug use, non-explicit sexual situations*

### SCREENS WITH COMPANION PIECE

#### **AN AVOCADO PIT**

*Ary Zara, 2023, Portugal, 19 min.*

*Portuguese*

Larissa, a trans woman, and Cláudio, a cis man, meet one night on the streets of Lisbon. Two people, with two vastly different realities, come together to dance their differences away till morning light.

*Content warnings: Vulgar language*

**IN PERSON ONLY MAY 5, 9 PM, ARK LODGE CINEMAS**  
**RUN TIME: 92 MIN**

## OPENING NIGHT SCREENING

### SOMETHING YOU SAID LAST NIGHT

*Luis De Filippis, 2022, Canada/Switzerland, 96 min.*

Vacationing with the family can be one of the biggest challenges when you are still in the process of finding your autonomy. This is the case for Ren, an aspiring writer in her twenties who has been recently fired from her job and decides to spend a few days with her sister and her parents at a lake house. Ren's inner world is constantly disturbed by outside forces and characters who don't see her for who she is. This debut film by Luis De Filippis stands out for her work directing actors and writing. It is a film that is limited to a small and sometimes claustrophobic physical space, but that investigates the vast complexities of intra-family relationships from a trans perspective. It will remain fresh in the audience's mind for many years to come.

"Something You Said Last Night is about love, embarrassment, shame, failing to see people even as they stand before you, and learning how to be an adult while still being your parent's child. I'm so excited for the world to see what happens when trans women tell our own stories. Something You Said Last Night is a universal story, but it is also a film by the dolls, for the dolls" - Luis De Filippis

**MAY 5, 7 PM, ARK LODGE CINEMAS**

**VIRTUAL SCREENING IN WASHINGTON STATE ONLY**

**RUN TIME: 96 MIN**



## FILMMAKER NETWORKING HOUR

Join us for Filmmaker Networking Hour to connect with other filmmakers featured in the festival, film distributors, and special guests! Come connect and chat about your experiences creating independent films and cultivating community.

Let us know you'll be there by RSVPing online

**VIRTUAL ONLY MAY 4, 12 PM PST VIA ZOOM**

## INDUSTRY RECEPTION PANEL AMPLIFYING OUR VOICES!

In this industry panel we are interested in talking with professionals who are actively participating in projects that provide support to the community of Trans/Non binary/GNC/Two-Spirit artists.

We are happy to have guests representing Outfest, the Trans, Nonbinary & Intersex Summit at Outfest Los Angeles, Artless Media, the Transgender Film Center and Daniel Sea, actor from The L Word.

Open to all Trans/Non binary/GNC/Two-Spirit artists involved in projects that are in progress or ready to be exhibited.

### Panel Participants:

**Gabi Grossman** (*she/her*) Senior Programming Coordinator at Outfest and the Program Manager at the Transgender Film Center.

*"To my mind, trans people are making the most thoughtful work across any number of genres that engages with the medium in exciting, playful, and boundary-pushing ways."*

**Kieran Medina** (*they/he*) is an artist development professional and creative consultant. He is a queer Latine trans man born in CDMX and raised in the San Fernando Valley. Currently, Kieran is the Artist Development Manager at Outfest. Kieran received his MA in Media Studies from USC and a double BA in Multimedia Production and Gender Studies at CSU Northridge. Before joining Outfest, Kieran worked for Sundance, Blumhouse TV, and Bad Robot. Through his work, Kieran strives to transform the media landscape into a more inclusive and accessible space for queer and trans artists. In his free time, Kieran enjoys spending time with his partner and family, going to music festivals, hiking, camping and being a dog dad.

*"I work in artist development for Outfest and I'm the programmer for the Trans, Nonbinary & Intersex Summit at Outfest Los Angeles. I wanted to get involved with TRANSLations to watch films and connect with trans and nonbinary filmmakers and peers. As a trans person myself, I also just love being in community with other trans and nonbinary people! <3"*



**Daniel Sea** (*he/they*) As a conceptual artist, Sea works with interdisciplinary memoir, engaging in processes such as research-based performance, writing, music, drawing, video and photography. Prior to their work acting in mainstream tv and film, Sea came of age as an artist as a part of the queer punk, art and activist scenes of the San Francisco Bay Area, California in the 1990's. His work transverses from the queer vanguard to the mainstream, intervening on pop culture, infecting the mainstream with a political and magical queer and trans agenda.

*"Very much looking forward to my participation in this fantastic and historically groundbreaking festival. I admire your programming and filmmaking and curation, and TRANSlations festival itself for its history of bringing trans stories to the screen as one of the longest running trans festivals."*

**Russell Sheaffer** (*he/him*) Visual artist and producer whose work revels in queer abstraction. He produced Josephine Decker's THOU WAST MILD AND LOVELY, Daniel Laabs' JULES OF LIGHT AND DARK, Grace Byron's series TRANS MONOGAMIST, and Georden West's PLAYLAND. He is the founder of the San Diego-based production company Artless Media.

*"We screened Grace Byron's series TRANS MONOGAMIST at TRANSlations in 2020 (in some of the first days of lockdown) and it was such a beautiful, welcoming experience. I'm thrilled to be coming back to the festival - in person this time!"*

**IN PERSON ONLY MAY 5, 5 PM, THE BEACON CINEMA**

## RESISTANCE/RESILIENCE

Join us for a lively, informative, and thought-provoking panel discussion with our guest artist, Daniel Sea, where we will be addressing some of the current issues affecting the trans community. With trans rights being stripped all across the country, it's imperative that we connect with one another and build resistance through the practice of filmmaking and involvement with local organizations. If you're wondering - "How can I fight against anti-trans legislature?" or "How can we build resilience while still caring for one another and nourishing ourselves?" - this panel is for you. Immediately follows our Resistance/Resilience shorts block and tickets for that block can be purchased online.

**IN PERSON ONLY MAY 6, 11 AM, ARK LODGE CINEMAS**

## OPENING NIGHT PARTY

Join us after the films for an epic party at The Royal Room! Featuring a performance by local burlesque legend MOSCATO SKY, dancing, light snacks, and community connection!

Available to all pass holders and Opening Night ticket holders

**IN PERSON ONLY MAY 6, 11 PM, THE ROYAL ROOM**

## CENTERPIECE ARTIST SPOTLIGHT: SIMON(E) JAIKIRIUMA PAETAU



Simon(e) Jaikiriuma Paetau is a Colombian-German interdisciplinary artist. Their works are located between cinema, video installations, and performance and explore queer decoloniality. In this special program we review more than ten years of the multifaceted audiovisual work of Simon(e) Jaikiriuma Paetau, from one of their first short films, *Mila Caos* (2011), to their most recent film, *Aribada* (2022). Jaikiriuma Paetau's cinema is difficult to categorize since it moves in hybrid and indefinite spaces between narratives similar at times to that of Almodóvar's most memorable films, as well as taking from experimental documentary cinema and performance. Simon(e) Jaikiriuma Paetau creates a vividly colored universe where anything is possible, directing and engaging with their characters in a way that gives them a voice and agency. Each work selected as part of this program features strong characters who aren't afraid to look back at whoever is paying attention in a game of confrontation with the camera and the audience.

**IN PERSON AND ONLINE, MAY 4, 7:30 PM PST, THE BEACON CINEMA**

## TRANSLATIONS TRAILBLAZER AWARD CEREMONY ISABEL SANDOVAL

Since TRANSlations is turning 18 this year, to celebrate our coming-of-age, we have created the TRANSlations Trailblazer Award, honoring the long history of trans representation on the big screen, and those artists within the film community whose work continues to inform, inspire, and challenge a new generation of filmmakers to keep fighting for their art.

For our inaugural recipient, there really was no other choice than Isabel Sandoval, one of the most fearless and impactful filmmakers of her time. From her feature films *Senorita* and *Lingua Franca*, to her directorial work on series like *Under the Banner of Heaven* and *Tell Me Lies*, Sandoval has blazed a path for herself both inside and outside of the studio system. In doing so, she has brought visibility, inspiration, and incredible filmmaking to our world.

Isabel will join us in-person to accept her award during our Opening Night Celebration on Friday May 5th at the Ark Lodge Cinemas in Columbia City. Then she'll be back on Saturday May 6 to screen and chat about her works, the short film *SHANGRI-LA* (2021) and the feature length film *LINGUA FRANCA* (2019).

Please join us in celebrating her amazing talent, and help TRANSlations turn 18 with a bang (and probably some confetti)!

**IN PERSON AND ONLINE MAY 5, 6 PM PST, ARK LODGE CINEMAS**



## TEA TIME WITH THE DUCHESS

You bring the crumpets, we'll bring the tea! The Duchess of Grant Park, AVA DAVIS is joining us at 11 AM every day of TRANSlations 2023 to 'spill the tea' as we discuss festival films, current events, and bring on a surprise guest or two. Get your day started right with Tea Time with The Duchess, stream on our YouTube or Facebook!

### Hosted by Ava Davis aka The Duchess of Grant Park

Ava Davis, Sundance Fellow and known as the Duchess of Grant Park, is a trans actress, producer, and writer living in Atlanta, Georgia. She is also an advocate for increasing trans and queer representation, especially that of black and other minorities. She founded her production company, Studio Vosges, in 2019 with the expressed purpose of telling the stories of queer and trans (GSM) black, brown, and beige people. She hosts the talk show, The Ava Davis Show, on you42.com.

She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Comparative Literature, with a focus in art history, film, and creative writing, from the University of Georgia, and has made Atlanta her home, along with her partner, two standard poodles, one Bengal cat, and one Russian ragdoll cat. She has acted in, written, and produced several short films, including Feast, The Decision, and the short film The Duchess of Grant Park, about a trans woman who claims the Grant Park neighborhood of Atlanta as her duchy.

Ava Davis' stage credits include Alice in Wonderland, The Laramie Project, It's A Generational Thing, Stuck, and Locked. In addition, she has performed with the One Minute Play Fest, including a special performance in collaboration with the Queens Theater in New York City to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Pride. She also performs sketch comedy and collaborates with Critical Crop Top. She is currently working to produce and secure financing for her first feature film, The Waltz.

**MAY 4-7 @ 11 AM PST STREAMING VIA FACEBOOK & YOUTUBE**



## CLOSING: TRANS THROUGH TIME

The theme of this year's TRANSlations is Trans Through Time, a celebration of trans cinema over the years, and the work of trans artists that deserves rediscovery. This block is composed of work from some of our jurors, current independent filmmakers, plus archival pieces kept safe inside the walls of the UCLA/Outfest Legacy Project. In its 18-years of existence, TRANSlations has become one of the largest trans-focused film festivals in the world, uplifting voices of new generations of artists for almost two decades. This coming of age program acknowledges the stories of those who came before. As a way of celebrating the past, present and future of our community, TRANS THROUGH TIME rescues and revalues some of these stories while also selecting more contemporary pieces told from a personal perspective by artists who challenge the canons of traditional cinema.

**IN PERSON AND ONLINE MAY 6, 9 PM PST, ARK LODGE CINEMAS**

### ARTLESS MEDIA: FILMMAKER PANEL

Join Georden West and Grace Byron in conversation with Lead Programmer Anto Astudillo on their newest works, breaking into the industry, and trans representation.

**Georden West** (*they/them*) A multimedia artist exploring the speculative openings of archival silence. Named one of Filmmaker Magazine's 2022 "25 New Faces of Independent Film," West challenges traditional notions of preservation to offer a fresh perspective on the interplay, interdependence, and entanglement of queer histories. Their debut feature film, PLAYLAND, premiered at 2023 IFFR and their short film, PATRON SAINT, won gold at the 46th Student Academy Awards.

**Grace Byron** (*she/her*) A writer from Indianapolis based in Queens. Her writing has appeared or is forthcoming in the Baffler, LARB, and Screen Slate. She tweets @emotrophywife.

**Russell Sheaffer** (*he/him*) is a visual artist and producer whose work revels in queer abstraction. He produced Josephine Decker's THOU WAST MILD AND LOVELY, Daniel Laabs' JULES OF LIGHT AND DARK, Grace Byron's series TRANS MONOGAMIST, and Georden West's PLAYLAND. He is the founder of the San Diego-based production company Artless Media.

"We screened Grace Byron's series TRANS MONOGAMIST at TRANSlations in 2020 (in some of the first days of lockdown) and it was such a beautiful, welcoming experience. I'm thrilled to be coming back to the festival - in person this time!"

**VIRTUAL ONLY MAY 7, 12 PM PST,  
STREAMING VIA FACEBOOK**



## ANHELL69

*Theo Montoya, 2022, Colombia, 74 min.*

*Spanish with English subtitles*

What makes a film a trans film? A story? A character? The people behind the film? Anhell69 invites the audience to meditate on this question. In this personal poetic journey, Theo Montoya shares an intimate portrait of real life experiences of a young group of friends who are part of the queer scene in Medellín, Colombia. The film moves through dreamlike and nightmarish sequences following the script of a vampire movie that never came to fruition due to the passing of the film's protagonist - Camilo Najar (21) - AKA "Anhell69". Inspired by the history of Colombian cinema, neo-noir, and punk rock aesthetics, the film shares a unique worldview of a generation that might be changing the current paradigms of a society with a long track of pain and violence.

*Content warnings: Blood, graphic violence, depiction and description of drug use.*

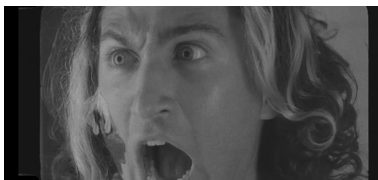
## SCREENS WITH COMPANION PIECE

## PAPERGIRL

*Jack Warren, 2023, USA, 5 min.*

A gripping experimental voyage of gender dysphoria and euphoria through the metamorphosis of one's skin turning to paper.

*Content warnings: Blood*



**MAY 6, 10 PM, ARK LODGE CINEMA**  
**VIRTUAL THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES**  
**RUN TIME: 79 MIN**



## KENYA

*Gisela Delgado, 2022, Mexico, 90 min.*

A poignant and heartfelt story of resilience, community, and activism during a few years in the life of Kenya Cuevas, a sex worker and trans rights activist in Mexico City. We meet Kenya after she witnesses the death of her friend Paola at the hands of a client.

Closely following Kenya through these intimate moments, she welcomes us into her inner world. She deals with the death of her friend and the threat of violence against trans women in Mexico City, while fighting for a better world for herself and her sisters. A beautifully raw tribute to the life of Paola and Kenya's continuing work advocating for trans rights and for her community.

*Content warnings: Transphobic violence, transphobic language, dead naming character, misgendering, death, graphic images, needles*

**VIRTUAL ONLY THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES**

**RUN TIME: 90 MIN**



## KOKOMO CITY - OPENING NIGHT

*D. Smith, 2023, USA, 73 min.*

Directed by two-time Grammy nominee D. Smith, *KOKOMO CITY* takes up a seemingly simple mantle: to present the stories of four Black, transgender, sex workers in New York and Georgia. Shot in striking black and white, the boldness of the realities of these women's lives and the earth shattering frankness they share complicate this enterprise, colliding the everyday with cutting social commentary and the excavation of long-dormant truths.

Accessible for any audience; unfiltered, unabashed, and unapologetic, Smith and her subjects smash the trendy standard for authenticity, offering a refreshing rawness and vulnerability unconcerned with purity or politeness.

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## SCREENS WITH COMPANION PIECE

### AN AVOCADO PIT

*Ary Zara, 2023, Portugal, 19 min.*

*Portuguese*

Larissa, a trans woman, and Cláudio, a cis man, meet one night on the streets of Lisbon. Two people, with two vastly different realities, come together to dance their differences away till morning light.

*Content warnings: Vulgar language*



**IN PERSON ONLY MAY 5, 9 PM, ARK LODGE CINEMAS  
RUN TIME: 92 MIN**





## LINGUA FRANCA - ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

*Isabel Sandoval, 2019, USA/Philippines, 95 min.*

*English, Tagalog, and Russian with English subtitles*

In this engrossing drama, undocumented Olivia spends her days taking care of Olga, a Russian-Jewish grandmother in Brighton Beach, Brooklyn. When the man she's secretly paying for a green-card marriage backs out, she becomes involved with Olga's grandson Alex, a handsome but troubled young man who doesn't realize she is trans. The winsome Olivia, played by director Isabel Sandoval, draws viewers into this story of love and survival as a transgender woman trying to live her life with joy and strength.

*Content warnings: Nudity, smoking, explicit sexual situations*

### SCREENS WITH COMPANION PIECE

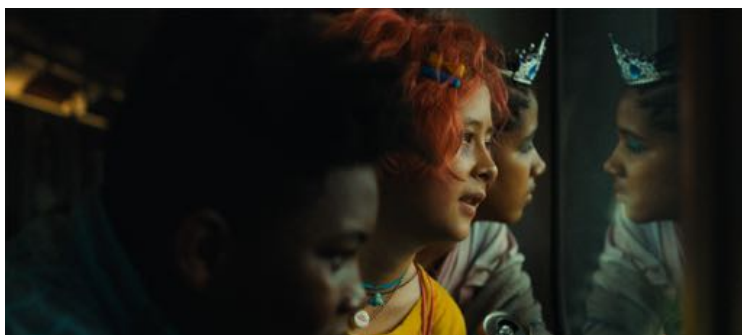
## SHANGRI-LA

*Isabel Sandoval, 2021, USA, 10 min.*

It's California, during the Great Depression. A woman is confiding her most intimate thoughts in a church confessional, while the man on the other side listens silently and intently. But this is no ordinary religious ritual seeking salvation. The woman — a second generation Filipino farmhand — is rapt in roleplay reverie, her sensuous words aimed at her white American lover, during a historic period when such interracial relationships were forbidden by state law. The confession box transforms into a romantic time machine, ecstatic and melancholic, traveling into alternate futures. She manifests as multiple, dazzling women, and they can love freely.

**IN PERSON ONLY MAY 6, 6 PM, ARK LODGE CINEMAS**

**RUN TIME: 105 MIN**



## SOFT

*Joseph Amenta, 2022, Canada, 87 min.*

Soft provides an organic look into a tumultuous preteen experience. It starts out as a fantastical and free-spirited journey of three queer best friends who are destined to take over the summer. However, their plans of adventure quickly go awry as they become enthused by the Toronto nightlife scene, and a quick turn of events leads to the caregiver of one of the tweens to go missing. As a coming-of-age film, Soft reminds us that while youth is glowing, beautiful, and curious, no one of any age is exempt from confronting the woes of family dynamics, friendship, security, identity, and morality.

*Content warnings: Vulgar language, implied violence, non-explicit sexual situations*

## SCREENS WITH COMPANION PIECE



## I IDENTIFY AS ME

*Tina Colleen, Monick Monell, 2021, USA, 10 min.*

"I Identify as Me" is a character-based, experimental short film that highlights Trans, gender-diverse people, and masculine-presenting women who are Black and Brown. Each character's intersectional experiences connect us with common themes of their gender expressions outside of social norms, self-exploration, and affirming their true selves. Characters shed light on the reality of violence that can be inflicted due to someone's race, gender, and sexuality. Despite these systematic and social challenges, the characters reaffirm that acceptance and self-love are the paths forward.

*Content warnings: Vulgar language*

**MAY 6, 4:30 PM, ARK LODGE CINEMAS  
RUN TIME: 97 MIN**



## **SOMETHING YOU SAID LAST NIGHT - OPENING NIGHT**

*Luis De Filippis, 2022, Canada/Switzerland, 96 min.*

Vacationing with the family can be one of the biggest challenges when you are still in the process of finding your autonomy. This is the case for Ren, an aspiring writer in her twenties who has been recently fired from her job and decides to spend a few days with her sister and her parents at a lake house. Ren's inner world is constantly disturbed by outside forces and characters who don't see her for who she is. This debut film by Luis De Filippis stands out for her work directing actors and writing. It is a film that is limited to a small and sometimes claustrophobic physical space, but that investigates the vast complexities of intra-family relationships from a trans perspective. It will remain fresh in the audience's mind for many years to come.

*"Something You Said Last Night is about love, embarrassment, shame, failing to see people even as they stand before you, and learning how to be an adult while still being your parent's child. I'm so excited for the world to see what happens when trans women tell our own stories. Something You Said Last Night is a universal story, but it is also a film by the dolls, for the dolls" - Luis De Filippis*

**MAY 5, 7 PM, ARK LODGE CINEMAS**  
**VIRTUAL SCREENING IN WASHINGTON STATE ONLY**  
**RUN TIME: 96 MIN**



## SUMMER WITHIN

*Summer Minerva & Adam Golub, 2023, USA, 83 min.*

Summer Minerva, an independent researcher, multidisciplinary artist, public speaker, and educator from Staten Island takes us on a journey to southern Italy to connect with her ancestry. On this journey she discovers the Femminielli, an ancient folkloric third gender, and those who are keeping the Femminielli traditions alive and well in Napoli. Life affirming community and power is found as this identity has existed and been accepted for centuries.

This is a trans story about discovering one's trans ancestry, weaving together personal, familial, and historical narratives. We watch as Summer learns about her ancient queer lineage and finds a greater sense of home in the process.

## SCREENS WITH COMPANION PIECE

## UNCOVERED GIRL

*Paola Molina, 2022, Peru, 41 min.*

In recognition of two hundred years of the proclamation of Peru's independence, six trans women rehearse to characterize an iconic character in Peruvian history, the Tapada Limeña. This is juxtaposed with the present fight for rights for trans women and sex workers in a city that tries to make them invisible.

*Content warnings: Non-explicit sexual situations, discussion of sexual assault*



**VIRTUAL ONLY THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES**

**RUN TIME: 124 MIN**



## TRAVESTI ODYSSEY (TRAVESÍA TRAVESTI)

*Nicolás Videla, 2021, Chile, 96 min.*

*Spanish*

Performance and protest collide in this film that documents the final show of the Cabaret “Travesía Travesti” (Travesti Odyssey), which coincides with the social outburst in Chile on October 18th, 2019. Amid the uprising, Anastasia struggles to reunite the former members of a fractured cast, but Maraca, her best friend, does not want to continue with the play. Amnesia, a filmmaker and the last remaining artist in the company, embarks on a cinematic journey through footage and interviews of a group of friends who, behind the glitter, feathers, and beads, reveal their historical disputes and the complexities of friendship, inheritance, and collectivity in this patriarchal system.

The narration of the film moves almost seamlessly between personal, documentary, and fictional cinema, integrating the theatricality of drag shows and the physicality of postdramatic live performances. Travesty Odyssey is a piece that marks a unique aesthetic movement of gender, political, and culturally dissident groups in Chile.

*Content warnings: Vulgar language, nudity, depiction of sexual violence*

**VIRTUAL ONLY THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES**

**RUN TIME: 96 MIN**

The poster features a collage of images with a halftone texture. At the top, a person's legs in a white sweater and black skirt are shown. Below, a person's face is partially visible. A large, stylized blue and white plaid pattern dominates the center. At the bottom, a person's profile is shown. The background is a mix of pink and blue.

MAY 4/7

2023

Seattle Trans  
Film Festival

18th Annual

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## TRANS THROUGH TIME

The theme of this year's TRANSlations is Trans Through Time, a celebration of trans cinema over the years, and the work of trans artists that deserves rediscovery. This block is composed of work from some of our jurors, current independent filmmakers, plus archival pieces kept safe inside the walls of the UCLA/Outfest Legacy Project. In its 18-years of existence, TRANSlations has become one of the largest trans-focused film festivals in the world, uplifting voices of new generations of artists for almost two decades. This coming of age program acknowledges the stories of those who came before. As a way of celebrating the past, present and future of our community, TRANS THROUGH TIME rescues and revalues some of these stories while also selecting more contemporary pieces told from a personal perspective by artists who challenge the canons of traditional cinema.



### **BEHIND EVERY GOOD MAN** (c. 1967)

*Nikolai Ursin, 1967, USA, 8 min.*

Produced several years before the historic Stonewall uprising for LGBTQ rights in 1969, director Nikolai Ursin's gently-activist short provides an illuminating glimpse into the life of an African-American trans woman. In strong contrast to the stereotypically negative and hostile depictions of transgender people as seen through the lens of Hollywood at the time, the subject of Ursin's independent film is rendered as stable, hopeful, and well-adjusted.

### **TRANS** (c. 1994)

*Sophie E. Constantinou, 1994, USA, 9 min.*

Henry, a trans man, muses about the narrow definitions of gender, femininity, sexual politics, and the joy of wearing a suit.

### **THE RIDE** (2000)

*Bill Basquin, 2000, USA, 9 min.*

Sexual suggestion, intimate bravado, and emotional ambiguity underlie this meditative adventure story where the up-for-discussion gender of a small town cab driver is the focal point of conversation.

### **AT LEAST YOU KNOW YOU EXIST** (2011)

*Zackary Drucker, 2011, USA, 16 min.*

Created inside an archeology of the uptown New York City apartment inhabited by legendary performer/drag queen Mother Flawless Sabrina, *At least you know you exist* (2011) is a site-specific exploration of a fixed space where everything is in a state of change.



Known as Jack to those close to him, he lived in the same apartment at 5 East 73rd Street for more than 45 years—a crowded, unwieldy place that fiercely pronounces his rejection of conformity. In this 16mm film, totemic mystical objects act as a collection of mysterious sculptures in different states of mutation, and rich layers of feverish history interface with a new vision of transgender performativity. Navigating the real and the unconscious, oscillating between documentary and myth narrative, Zackary Drucker weaves a fluid, parallel text of these two divergent lives, exploring a legacy being passed from a lost generation towards the future.

## **GOLDEN GOLDEN (2016)**

*Eric E.R. Cho, 2016, USA, 14 min.*

Two broke San Bernardino 20-somethings make their way to Los Angeles to learn about their own secret desires, via a fortune teller's crystal balls. Through different settings and musical genres, space opens for their desires and love for one another to run free. Golden Golden was featured in Trans History in Objects: Trans Video Store, a special MOTHA (Museum of Trans History and Art) exhibition.

## **PIRATE BOYS (2018)**

*Pol Merchan, 2018, USA, 13 min.*

Kathy Acker's writing, and a seminal portrait of her taken by intersex photographer Del LaGrace Volcano, provide a lens through which to explore trans subjectivity and the queering of cinema. Pol Merchan's hybrid documentary fluidly moves from the documentation of the punk era to a more performative exploration of gender.

## **A TRANS WITH A MOVIE CAMERA (2018)**

*Frances Arpaia, 2018, USA, 13 min.*

A non-narrative cine-essay that collaboratively explores potential for trans-feminine representation in film.

## **RESUME AT THE POINT OF INTERRUPTION (2022)**

*dana washington-queen, 2022, USA, 8 min.*

This experimental documentary follows Black individuals, including the artist, as they intuit and improvise their way through the world. In the chapter on Washington-Queen, we see the queer nonbinary photographer receive hormone replacement therapy and meditate on themes of gender, difference, constraint, and freedom.

**MAY 6, 9 PM, ARK LODGE CINEMAS**

**AVAILABLE VIRTUALLY MAY 4-7**

**TOTAL TIME: 98 MIN**



## ARTIST SPOTLIGHT: SIMON(E) JAIKIRIUMA PAETAU

Simon(e) Jaikiriuma Paetau is a Colombian-German interdisciplinary artist working between film, video installation, and performance, dealing with queer decoloniality.



### MILA CAOS

short film

*Simon(e) Jaikiriuma Paetau, 2011, Cuba/Colombia, 18 min.*

Every weekend at an illegal drag show in a suburb of Havana, Sebastián, a 17 year old Cuban teenager, transforms into »Mila Caos«. He suffers from his mother's indifference and dreams that one day she will see him on stage.

### POSH

short film

*Simon(e) Jaikiriuma Paetau, 2012, Germany, 22 min.*

Posh is a film about RONIQUÉ XXX a Berlin based artist and scientist experimenting with life as an extraterrestrial in human form. She writes, composes and performs her own invention of sound called Hard Sci Fucking' Funk. She witnesses a murder and transforms into a mutant femme-fatale avenger.

### TRYING TO FORGET YOU

short film

*Aérea Negrot, Simon(e) Jaikiriuma Paetau, 2019, Germany, 8 min.*

"In the middle of the night, a broken hearted finds music in the arms of beautiful strangers."

### ARIBADA

experimental short film

*Simon(e) Jaikiriuma Paetau, Natalia Escobar in collaboration with Zamanta Enevia, 2022, Colombia/Germany, 30 min.*

*Embera-Chami with English Subtitles*

In Aribada, the scintillating color and dreamlike imagery of Colombia's coffee region become a vivid landscape—a space between documentary and mythology, where Las Traviesas, a group of trans women from the Emberá people share knowledge and reinvent rituals. Here, Aribada, a half-jaguar, half-human monster awakens to the formation of their utopic alliance informed by the power of their jais (spirits).

**IN PERSON ONLY, MAY 4, 7:30 PM, THE BEACON CINEMA**

**TOTAL TIME: 78 MIN**

## MILA CAOS

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short film

*Simon(e) Jaikiriuma Paetau, 2012, Germany, 22.min.*

Posh is a film about RONIQUÉ XXX a Berlin based artist and scientist experimenting with life as an extraterrestrial in human form. She writes, composes and performs her own invention of sound called Hard Sci Fucking' Funk. She witnesses a murder and transforms into a mutant femme-fatale avenger.

## CRUISING IN HIGH HEELS

documentary

*Simon(e) Jaikiriuma Paetau, 2014, Germany, 47 min.*

'Cruising in High Heels' is a film about two apocalyptic sissies between Bogota, Berlin and Cartagena. One is a dancer, the other a Filmmaker. What starts as a documentary about a dancer, transforms slowly into a performance for film. The performances they create play with the in-between, male female, and the appropriation of spaces and expectations projected onto them. Jair says to Simon: "Look, my friend Victoria Beckham, when she has the flu, she puts on high heels, puts on make-up, makes herself look amazing and the flu goes away. This is achieving such self-knowledge that a flu goes away with lipstick and high heels."

## TRYING TO FORGET YOU

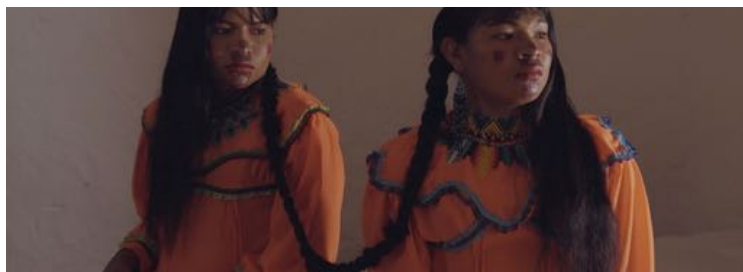
short film

*Aérea Negrot, Simon(e) Jaikiriuma Paetau, 2019, Germany, 8 min.*

"In the middle of the night, a broken hearted finds music in the arms of beautiful strangers."

**ONLINE VERSION OF THE PROGRAM, SHOWS MAY 4-7**

**TOTAL TIME: 95 MIN**



## ARTIST SPOTLIGHT: ISABEL SANDOVAL

This year we are honoring Isabel Sandoval with our inaugural TRANSLations Trailblazer Award. Join TRANSLations as we screen our 2020 Opening Night Film LINGUA FRANCA for the first time in person!



### LINGUA FRANCA

*Isabel Sandoval, 2019, USA/Philippines, 95 min.*

*English, Tagalog, and Russian with English subtitles*

In this engrossing drama, undocumented Olivia spends her days taking care of Olga, a Russian-Jewish grandmother in Brighton Beach, Brooklyn. When the man she's secretly paying for a green-card marriage backs out, she becomes involved with Olga's grandson Alex, a handsome but troubled young man who doesn't realize she is trans. The winsome Olivia, played by director Isabel Sandoval, draws viewers into this story of love and survival as a transgender woman trying to live her life with joy and strength.

### SCREENS WITH COMPANION PIECE

#### SHANGRI-LA

*Isabel Sandoval, 2021, USA, 10 min.*

*English*

It's California, during the Great Depression. A woman is confiding her most intimate thoughts in a church confessional, while the man on the other side listens silently and intently. But this is no ordinary religious ritual seeking salvation. The woman — a second generation Filipino farmhand — is rapt in roleplay reverie, her sensuous words aimed at her white American lover, during a historic period when such interracial relationships were forbidden by state law. The confession box transforms into a romantic time machine, ecstatic and melancholic, traveling into alternate futures. She manifests as multiple, dazzling women, and they can love freely.

**Filmmaker Isabel Sandoval will join us for a post-screening Q&A.  
IN PERSON ONLY, MAY 6, 6 PM, AT ARK LODGE CINEMAS  
TOTAL TIME: 78 MIN**

## SHORTS PROGRAMS

**ACTS OF TRANSITION** (114 MIN.) VIRTUAL ONLY

**RESISTANCE / RESILIENCE** (103 MIN.) ARK LODGE CINEMAS

MAY 6, 11:00 AM

Sponsor: Seattle Pride

Featuring panel with artist, actor, and activist DANIEL SEA.

**FUZZY FEELING** (80 MIN.) ARK LODGE CINEMAS & VIRTUAL

MAY 6, 1:30 PM

**EM(POWER)MENT** (94 MIN.) ARK LODGE CINEMAS & VIRTUAL

MAY 6, 2:00 PM

Sponsor: BECU

**BODY-ODY-ODY** (96 MIN.) ARK LODGE CINEMAS & VIRTUAL

MAY 6, 3:45 PM

Sponsor: C89.5

**THE TIES THAT BOND** (94 MIN.) ARK LODGE CINEMAS

MAY 6, 6:45 PM

Sponsor: Cascade Media

**SEXUAL HEALING - 18+** (85 MIN.) THE BEACON CINEMA

MAY 6, 8:00 PM

# NEVER NEUTRAL



NEWS  
★ ARTS ★  
MISCHIEF

Exclusively at  
[thestranger.com](http://thestranger.com)

theStranger

A collage of newspaper pages from SGN (Seattle Gay News) with various headlines and photos. The background is a solid magenta color.

# READ THE RAINBOW

IN PRINT EVERY FRIDAY SINCE 1974

**SGN**

SEATTLE'S LGBTQIA+ NEWS & ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY

Pride will find a way.

PRIDE 2021

INTO THE

PRIDE 2021

DOJ WILL RELIGIOUS

WILLIAMS' CASE

BLAZE

ARSON

TO BE MY OWN BOSS

A collage of various photos from the Seattle gay community, including drag queens, couples, and social events.

# SEATTLE GAY SCENE

YOUR DAILY GAY IN SEATTLE

[SEATTLEGAYSCENE.COM](http://SEATTLEGAYSCENE.COM)

## ACTS OF TRANSITION

Barbara Hammer said it best when she stated, “radical content deserves radical form.” In this stunning display of poetic and personal films, we come to a deeper understanding of the radical possibilities of the moving image.



### LIVING LESSONS IN THE MUSEUM OF ORDER

*Malic Amalya, 2023, USA, 20 min.*

A beautiful and haunting film examining the oppressive connections between the San Francisco entertainment industries of Alcatraz and SeaWorld.

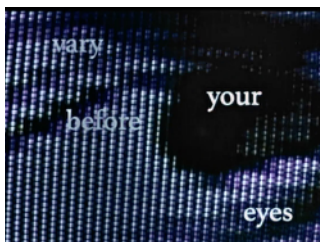
*Content warnings: Graphic content, dead animals*



### LEMON LIME

*Mara Ramirez, 2022, USA, 4 min.*

A compelling dialogue between sound and animation that meditates on experiencing gender outside the binary.



### DEVELOPING

*Dani W., 2022, USA, 3 min.*

A stunning collage of digital and photochemical abstraction that ruminates on the connections between the language of analog film development and hormone replacement therapy.



### 001 COOKIE BUTTER

*Judebird Dennis, 2023, USA, 33 min.*

An exploration of the multitude of intersectional identities- familial, racial, and trans- in today's society. In a personal, experimental essay, Ordinary begs the question, “Have your eyes really seen (me?).”





## THIS PHYSICAL WORLD

*L. Kinsler, 2022, USA, 13 min.*

Through performance and play, this film examines how language, personal experiences, and gender expectations shape our perception of self-worth and identity.

*Content warnings: Nudity*



## BORN WITH AN EXTRA RIB

*stefa marin alarcon & LILLETH, 2023, USA, 41 min.*

*English & Spanish*

A mesmerizing performance that combines elements of opera and mythology to dissect themes of diaspora and dysphoria.

*Content warnings: Nudity*

**VIRTUAL ONLY THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, SHOWS MAY 4-7**

**TOTAL TIME: 114 MIN**

## RESISTANCE / RESILIENCE

True stories of trans people at the forefront of resistance against dominant power structures, and the resilience they've built with their communities.



### HOUSE OF TULIP

*Dir. Cydney Tucker, 2022, USA, 25 min.*

House of Tulip follows two Black trans activists as they run for office and work to build Louisiana's first housing refuge that provides residency solely for trans and gender non-conforming residents. Their journeys highlight the dangerous yet beautiful reality of what it means to be Black trans women in the deep South.

*Content Warnings: Discussion of transphobic violence, discussion of racial violence*



### MINORITY WITHIN A MINORITY/ VEHÁDAT VEHÁDAGA SISTE

*Xia Torikka, 2022, Finland, 10 min.*

*Sámi with burned in subtitles*

Ritni Pieski wishes it was easier for Sámi queer youth to grow up in their community. In this short film, Pieski addresses the lack of representation and information about queer people and rights within the Sámi people.



### GOLDEN VOICE

*Mars Verrone, 2022, Cambodia, 18 min.*

*Central Khmer, English*

A transgender man returns to the village where he survived the genocide of Pol Pot and the Khmer Rouge regime in the late 70s. Upon his return, he finds other men like himself and family within the LGBTQ+ community.

*Content Warnings: Implied violence, discussion of racial violence*



### HOLD ON TO ME

*Te Shima Anusha Brennen & Rajvi Desai, 2022, USA, 5 min.*

Hold On To Me is an ode to Mother LaTravious, a Black trans matriarch, who hopes her community of Black and Brown sisters will be safe, happy, and brimming with potential.



## ORDINARY

*Atlas O Phoenix, 2022, USA, 11 min.*

An exploration of the multitude of intersectional identities- familial, racial, and trans- in today's society. In a personal, experimental essay, Ordinary begs the question, "Have your eyes really seen (me?)."



## LAST CALL

*Drew de Pinto, 2021, USA, 3 min.*

Interviews and archival film act as a specter of memory, fantasy, and futurity. This film holds space for three queer San Francisco institutions facing the reality of the global pandemic.



## UNCOVERED LIVES

*Kai Wharton, 2022, Australia, 14 min.*

Filmmaker Kai Wharton searches for ways to help other transgender Australians seeking gender-affirming care. Through intimate interviews with trans people, Kai uncovers a loving and powerful community committed to making healthcare more accessible.



## VIRAL OCEANS / OCÉANOS VÍRICOS

*Kevin Magne, 2021, Chile, 15 min.*

*Spanish*

Three Chilean performance artists living with HIV carry out poetic action seated in ritual where flame and ocean transform and regenerate, calling attention to the treatment of queer and trans people living with HIV in Chile.

Featuring panel with artist, actor, and activist **DANIEL SEA**.

**IN PERSON ONLY, MAY 6, 11 AM, ARK LODGE CINEMAS**

**TOTAL TIME: 103 MIN**

## FUZZY FEELING

Featuring plant performance art, public bathroom mishaps, full face prosthetics, banana costumes, and voguing gas tank fairies (try saying that three times fast!) These films are brimming with the sweet and absurd to bust your gut and warm your heart!



### RO & SHIRELLE

*Adelina Anthony, 2023, USA, 8 min.*

On the journey from NorCal to SoCal, two friends search for safe places to rest, fill up on gas, and relieve themselves; but sometimes going to the bathroom in peace can be the hardest thing to accomplish.

*Content warnings: Vulgar language, discussion of transphobic violence, bugs, references to defecation and urination, unsanitary bathroom, homophobic slur*



### GOING AWAY

*Morgan Sullivan & Noah Schamus, 2022, USA, 6 min.*

When Benji's romantic feelings for his best friend Luna are accidentally revealed on the night of Luna's going away party, the two must reconcile what this means for the future of their friendship.



### RECKLESS SPIRITS

*Vee Hua, 2022, USA, 12 min.*

A gender-fluid Latine performance artist and a neurotic Asian American therapist follow a series of uncanny circumstances into a world of chakras, spirits, and cult leader fanaticism.

*Content warnings: Vulgar language*



### FUNNY FACE

*Jude Hope Harris, 2022, USA, 15 min.*

A country singer travels home to take care of his sister as she recovers from facial feminization surgery. There, he meets her girlfriend for the first time and the two of them bond over family history, love, and an incredibly chaotic in-home nurse.

*Content warnings: Blood, vomiting, references to surgery, misgendering, transphobic language*



## GROOMSPERSON

*Benji Welmond, 2023, USA, 15 min.*

July and Sylvia stumble into a high-end boutique to buy a groomsman outfit and every possible thing that can go wrong, does.

*Content warnings: Misgendering*

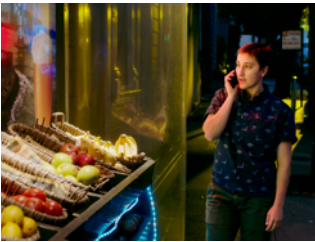


## DILATING FOR MAXIMUM RESULTS

*Nyala Moon, 2022, USA, 14 min.*

A wacky, irreverent comedy about a Black trans woman who tries to dilate for the first time in four years in order to hook-up IRL with her online boyfriend.

*Content warnings: Implied sexual content*



## (IN)CONVENIENCE

*Alexandra Greenspan, 2022, USA, 11 min.*

A short film about a mini-mart cashier, a guy in transition, and a box of tampons.



## TANK FAIRY

*Erich Rettstadt 雷利, 2021, Taiwan, 9 min.*

A gas tank delivery fairy brings sass, stilettos, and a healthy dose of glitter to a lonely ten-year-old who dreams of dance and drag.

**MAY 6, 1:30PM, ARK LODGE CINEMAS**  
**VIRTUAL THROUGHOUT THE WORLD**  
**TOTAL TIME: 80 MIN**

## EM(POWER)MENT

Trans power now! Watch as the narratives and documentaries showcase individual and community empowerment.



### SHIPPING THEM

*Ryan Rox, 2022, USA, 15 min.*

A nonbinary daydreamer yearns for the life of the girl next door, but soon finds out the grass isn't always greener on the other side.

*Content warnings: Nudity, vulgar language*



### ANARRIÊ

*Neto Astério, 2023, Brazil, 14 min.*

*Portuguese*

Renan and Alana rehearse for their Quadrilhas Juninas, a dance that portrays a meeting between youth, old age, and the popular cultures of northeastern Brazil.



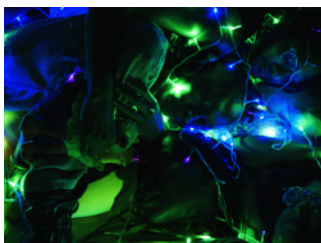
### BUNNY DECIDES TO GO

*Vusala Hajiyeva, 2022, Azerbaijan, 16 min.*

*Azerbaijani*

An intimate documentary about a trans woman's isolation and decision to leave her home country of Azerbaijan in pursuit of a safer life. Using the metaphor of a rabbit, that comes from her nickname "bunny," she presents her relationship with her family, country, music, and protest, intercut with home videos.

*Content warnings: Discussion of transphobic violence*



### KIM, PEOPLE ARE DYING

*Sepand Mashiahof, 2022, USA, 8 min.*

As we travel through a vibrant and strange realm accompanied by the music of Beast Nest, we are reminded that friendship can save us in even our strangest, hardest, and darkest moments.

**MAY 6, 2 PM, ARK LODGE CINEMAS**  
**VIRTUAL THROUGHOUT THE WORLD**  
**TOTAL TIME: 94 MIN**



## ART AS MEANS OF BREATH

*Celi Mitidieri, 2023, USA, 6 min.*

Community leader and artist Yoleidy Rosario-Hernandez explores the connections between art and ancestry in the journey to find zirsself.



## EPILOGUE

*Yasha Maria Lelonek, Dahyo Coleman, 2022, USA, 8 min.*

A young trans woman blends documentary, dance, poetry, and drama to represent her emotions around her changing body, relationships, and self-worth.

*Content warnings: Blood, nudity*



## THE DOOR SHE OPENED

*Richard O'Connor, 2019, USA, 3 min.*

One weekend, Dee's parents took her to her aunt Yaya's house, giving her the opportunity that no one else would: the chance to be herself in a safe, loving space.

*Content warnings: Nudity*



## SEAN DORSEY DANCE: DREAMING TRANS AND QUEER FUTURES

*Lindsay Gauthier, 2022, USA, 10 min.*

This profile of trailblazing transgender choreographer and activist Sean Dorsey features powerful dance sequences to reinforce the fact that trans, gender-nonconforming, and queer people are strong, wise, powerful, beautiful, and visionary artists and leaders.



## LADY LOS ANGELES

*Antonia Crane, 2023; USA; 15 min.*

A young Latinx trans woman skateboards through Los Angeles trying to make her rent in this stylish short.

*Content warnings: Explicit sexual situations*

## BODY-ODY-ODY

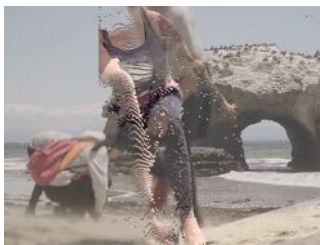
Embodying our trans experiences, celebrating the different ways we give love to all of our bodies!



### THE ALEXANDER BALL

*Jessica Magro, 2022, Australia, 29 min.*

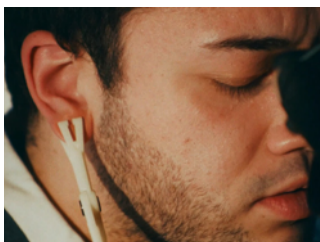
The Alexander Ball follows Ella Ganza and indigenous people from the Meanjin ballroom scene as they prepare for one of the biggest events of the year. Brimming with fierceness, defiance, and pride, these moments show what it means to be unapologetically, authentically fabulous.



### OCEANIC: QUEERING THE OCEAN

*Micha maya cardenas, Cynthia Ling Lee, Gerald Casel, Susana Ruiz and Huy Truong, 2022, USA, 6 min.*

Oceanic: Queering the Ocean is a love letter to nature and to the self. By using movement to embody the nuances of climate change, it is reinforced that we are climate and we are changing.

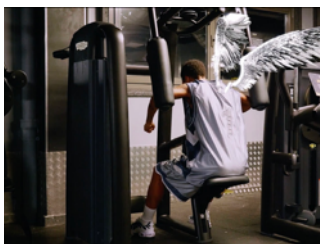


### PIERCING

*Nathaniel Gualtieri, 2022, USA, 7 min.*

Adrian has his masculinity called into question after piercing his ear to impress his crush. The insecurity that stems from the confrontation forces Adrian to stand up for himself and accept the consequences that come with defending his masculinity.

*Content warnings: Implied violence, blood*



### LES SPORTS X-TREM

*Gio Ventura, 2023, France, 19 min.*

Les Sports X-trem is a cinematic poem about muscle worship and boxing that uses sports training as an analogy for relationships that blur the line between friends and more than friends.

*Content warnings: Needles, blood, implied violence*





## WHO AM I BECOMING?

*Payton Royce, Odu Adamu, 2022, USA, 12 min.*

Who am I Becoming? is a self-portrait of actor Payton Royce as he looks back on his life from childhood to his transition. Royce's own video diaries alongside home movies and interviews with family offer a glimpse into the life of a man who uses his voice to speak his truth and support others in celebrating who they are.

*Content warnings: References to surgery, hospitals*



## IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE

*Sam Marques, 2021, Portugal, 2 min.*

In the Middle of Nowhere is an animated conversation between three nonbinary people dissecting the nuances of their identities. This film uses animation to deconstruct ideas of gender and confront the societal ideals imposed on each of us.

*Content warnings: Depiction of animated genitals*



## THE RIGHT TO JOY

*Jay Melena, Tim Kressin, 2022, USA, 20 min.*

The Right to Joy is a first-hand account of recovery from a near-fatal cougar attack that left cyclist S.J. Brooks dead and Izzy Sederbaum hospitalized with severe injuries.

*Content warnings: Blood, discussion of animal attack and death resulting, discussion of bodily injuries, depiction of bodily injuries in hospital.*



## INNER DAWN

*Riven Ratanavanh, 2022, USA, 2 min 30 sec.*

A powerful and evocative film performance that chronicles the journey of a queer, Asian, transmasculine individual as they bravely expose their heart and body in the spotlight.

**MAY 6, 3:45 PM, ARK LODGE CINEMAS**

**VIRTUAL THROUGHOUT THE WORLD**

**TOTAL TIME: 96 MIN**

## THE TIES THAT BOND

These shorts capture a variety of relationships and how they shift over time throughout moments of discovery, transition, love, and growth, and are dedicated to the bonds that bring us closer to our heritages, our communities, and to ourselves.



### MY LIFE AT THE BEGINNING

*Ana Puentes Margarito, 2022, Spain, 15 min.*

*Spanish with English Subtitles*

Rome is nine years old and his favorite place is the lap of his father, Rodolfo. As his extended family gathers to celebrate New Year's Eve, the truth about Rome's identity comes to light.



### NI AQUÍ / NI ALLÁ

*Ley Comas, 2021, USA, 15 min.*

*Spanish and English.*

A personal documentary that centers on a conversation between filmmaker Ley Comas and their mother about their gender identity. The conversation traces Ley's physical and psychological journey to becoming themselves while struggling to find a middle ground with their family.

*Content warnings: Needles, misgendering, transphobic language*



### A DRIVE TO TOP SURGERY

*Raven Two Feathers, USA, 2022, 11 min.*

In a powerful and evocative continuous take of video, we accompany a young transgender person and their family on the journey to their top surgery.



### STILL THE ONE

*Taisiya Zaretskaya, 2023, USA, 3 min.*

An animated conversation between trans man Les, his husband, and their two children about love, support, and the strength of their family throughout Les's transition.



## AUTOFICTION

*Katie Lambert, 2022, United Kingdom, 18 min.*

A fight before a concert causes Chris and Hannah to reconcile their romantic relationship and reflect on their values.

*Content warnings: Vulgar language*



## PAPA & PAPI

*Jonathan von Büren, 2022, Germany, 10 min.*

*German with English subtitles*

A portrait of a loving family: a father who transitioned after giving birth, his husband, and his two sons.



## LOVE HEIST

*Stella Alfjaro, 2023, USA, 5 min.*

A villa near the ocean, a wealthy French fiancée, and an unexpected spark. Neighbors Cesar and Eden must ponder if love is the answer to all of their questions.



## PERENNIAL

*Naomi Cubero, 2021, USA, 15 min.*

A trans woman helps a preteen girl navigate her first period as they both discover what it means to "become a woman."

*Content warnings: Blood, non-explicit sexual content, misgendering*

**MAY 6, 6:45 PM, ARK LODGE CINEMAS**  
**VIRTUAL THROUGHOUT THE WORLD**  
**TOTAL TIME: 94 MIN**

## SEXUAL HEALING (18+)

Experience these powerful films that delve into the diverse ways we discover and embrace our trans bodies and desires.



### **1 (800) SC4ND4L ext. 3Y3Z**

*Moonyeka, 2022, USA, 9 min.*

First Developed at Black Box Weathermxn at On The Boards. This work utilizes biomythographic performance practices that center a Manananggal, an Aswang spirit. These demonized creatures can sever at its waist and disembody as a choice. In reverence to 1970s public access TV, Moonyeka and collaborators use hotline numbers as an autofictitious device to channel the first media recorded protest of sex worker rights in France in 1975. Moonyeka and collaborators time travel to

1975 and beyond using "moneyshot" tableaux and green screen magic. The soundscore is inspired by the 8 day occupation in a church of Lyon.

When we occupy the churches  
You are scandalized  
Religious bigots!  
You who threatened us with hell  
We have come to eat at your table  
At Saint-Nizier

– Protest song penned by sex workers during the strike

*Content warnings: Implied sexual situations*



### **THREE THINGS MY MOTHER NEVER TOLD ME**

*lisa g, 2000, USA, 5 min.*

This punk stop-motion animation from 2000 draws us into the power of queer sex and queer storytelling.

*Content warnings: Explicit sexual situations*



### **SASHA**

*Serghei Chiviriga, 2022, Romania, 13 min.*

*Romanian with English subtitles*

A young snail grapples with the world's bewildering chaos and the enigma of their own body. Thrust into a quest for personal discovery, they must unlock the truth about their sexual identity through a bizarre and unexpected confrontation with their other half.

*Content warnings: Explicit sexual situations*

**MAY 6, 8 PM, THE BEACON CINEMA**  
**VIRTUAL THROUGHOUT THE WORLD**  
**TOTAL TIME: 85 MIN**



## REFLECT. CONNECT. REBUILD

*ScumTrus, 2023, USA, 8 min.*

Spell 4 spell- a meeting outside time lets long distance lovers play with plants, pain and pleasure. Building a pressure that eases their reality.



## PAIN DULCE

*Ramses Rodstein, 2018, USA, 8 min.*

A kinky breakfast between two xicanx nonbinary trans lovers, this erotic BDSM film will leave you both hungry and horny.

*Content warnings: Explicit sexual situations*

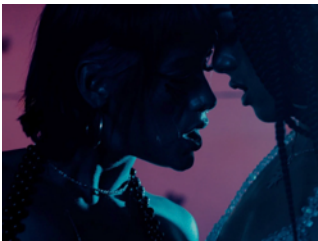


## LIKE A BUTTERFLY

*Maximus Skaff, 2021, USA, 13 min.*

A pink and poetic world of translove and ecstasy.

*Content warnings: Explicit sexual situations*



## RICO RICO

*Maximus Skaff, 2021, USA, 14 min.*

Community, joy, dancing, and ecstasy play out in a community space on a beach in Puerto Rico.

*Content warnings: Explicit sexual situations*



## RUPTURED

*Max Disgrace, 2021, London, 15min.*

After a night on the town, Lina is haunted by erotic hallucinations in this genre-bending short that re-envision mainstream horror tropes through a queer lens.

*Content warnings: Explicit sexual situations, Implied violence*

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