

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release:

HOME MADE VISIBLE ANNOUNCES FILMMAKER COMMISSION

Toronto - Friday, February 2, 2018: **Home Made Visible**, an archival project by **The Regent Park Film Festival**, has the pleasure of commissioning seven projects by media artists from Indigenous and visible minority communities across Canada. With critical support from our project partner and artist-run centre, **Charles Street Video**, artists will receive access to production equipment and facilities to bring their works to life. A complete list of commissioned filmmakers is provided below.

Home Made Visible celebrates the domestic histories of Indigenous and visible minority communities by digitizing and archiving their home videos and then reflecting on the stories that they have the power to bring to life. The commissioned projects reflect on how archives shape our relationship to the past, how can we re-frame them to build new histories? And in what ways can this inquiry into familial and community archives connect the vast and varied histories of Indigenous people in Canada and the visible minority communities who have settled here?

“Home Made Visible is a welcome effort that addresses the lack of Indigenous contributions to our public archives. I’m looking forward to being a part of a group of artists and scholars who are enthusiastic about changing the nature of archives to reflect a nuanced Canadian history full of a variety of experiences belonging to people of colour and Indigenous people.”- participating filmmaker Jennifer Dysart (Hamilton, ON)

“This project can expand awareness in a time when we are seeing so much anti-immigrant sentiment...I look forward to co-creating something that re-defines what being Canadian means.” participating filmmaker Maya Bastian (Toronto, ON)

The six commissioned filmmakers were selected by a jury from a nationwide callout. A seventh special curated visual artist was commissioned to compliment their moving image works. All works will premiere at the 16th Annual Regent Park Film Festival, Nov 14-17th, 2018. The works will then tour through library branches across Canada into 2019 with accompanying workshops.

Our commissioned artists are:

Aeyliya Husain is a documentary filmmaker whose work focuses on issues of representation, war, women and photography. She started her career at the National Film Board of Canada and has exhibited her work festivals nationally and internationally.

Jennifer Dysart is a director of short films. She is also a set dresser/decorator, assistant director, a field producer, an archival researcher, and production coordinator. Jennifer was born

in Alberta, raised in BC and has Cree roots from South Indian Lake, Manitoba. She is an archives enthusiast with a deep love of found footage and experimental films.

Lisa Jodoin is a writer/filmmaker working out of Fredericton, New Brunswick. Her short films include *Tracing Blood*, a video poem about Indigenous identity, and *In Search of Laura Fearn*. She recently completed a feature length documentary for the New Brunswick Aboriginal People's Council and the Urban Aboriginal Knowledge Network Atlantic.

Maya Bastian is a writer, a filmmaker and an artist. Her work often explores socio-political themes as they relate to ideas of community and culture. In 2017 she was a recipient of the Al Magee Screenwriter Mentorship and included in Reelworld Film Festival's Emerging 20.

Nadine Arpin is a Two-Spirited Métis filmmaker based in Sioux Lookout, Ontario where her film production company Cedar Water Films is located. Since 2014 she has been producing and directing independent short films which have screened both nationally and internationally.

Parastoo Anoushahpour and Faraz Anoushahpour have worked in collaboration since 2013. Using various performative structures to work in relation to specific sites, their projects explore collaboration as a way to upset the authority of a singular narrator or position.

Melisse Watson is a disruptionist, earthworker and multidisciplinary artist. Through the archiving of activism work done by Black and Indigenous peoples in Tkaronto, and exploring access, gender, conflict, Melisse explores speculative futures and their preparations.

For a full summary of Home Made Visible see below.

This is one of the 200 exceptional projects funded through the Canada Council for the Arts' New Chapter program. With this \$35M investment, the Council supports the creation and sharing of the arts in communities across Canada.

Ce projet est l'un des 200 projets exceptionnels soutenus par le programme Nouveau chapitre du Conseil des arts du Canada. Avec cet investissement 35 M\$, le Conseil des arts appuie la création et le partage des arts au cœur de nos vies et dans l'ensemble du Canada.

www.HomeMadeVisible.ca

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Home Made Visible The Canadian archives are lacking in home movie footage from Indigenous and Visible Minority communities. The first phase of the Project offers free digitization of home movies, while the second phase commissions artists to reflect on how archives shape our shared identities and coexistence on this colonized land.

Regent Park Film Festival Toronto's longest running community film festival. In addition to the annual film festival and Under the Stars: Movies in the park we host year-round film screenings, school programs and workshops, all at no cost.

Charles Street Video (CSV) is a non-profit production, artist-run-center that provides affordable access to equipment and post-production editing facilities for creating videos, films, installations and other media art forms. CSV's ethos is largely focused on encouraging an artisanal, 'do-it-yourself' professionalism.

York University Libraries is the library system of York University consisting of four main libraries and one archive containing more than 2,500,000 volumes. York University Libraries is the stewardship of York's research assets, with a focus on the active selection, storage, preservation, and sharing of its collections.

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