

PRESS RELEASE

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**ANNOUNCING 2022 CITYVISIONS:
MFA SHOWCASE OF SHORT FILMS
SVA Theater, 333 West 23rd Street, NYC
JUNE 20, 2022**

*Presenting 11 Fiction and Documentary Thesis Films Produced in the MFA Program
in Film at the City College of New York*

The City College of New York presents the 24th edition of Cityvisions, the annual international showcase of new thesis films from its MFA Program in Film. This year, Cityvisions will be held on Monday, June 20 at the SVA Theater in Chelsea, NY, beginning at 4 pm. It ends with an award ceremony at 8 pm.

“The MFA program at the City College of New York is one of the most diverse and international film schools in the world, which makes Cityvisions a truly international film festival, showcasing innovative work by promising filmmakers from around the globe,” states MFA Program Co-Director Andrea Weiss. This year, the 11 films being showcased represent work by directors from 9 different countries, including from Ecuador, Spain, Morocco, Colombia, Turkey, Nepal, Mexico, China and the U.S.

The Cityvisions 2022 line-up is a diverse mix of fiction and nonfiction work. Short documentaries include, among others: “Dear Audrey,” a young woman’s search for a once famous, now long forgotten woman artist, and “The Baton,” in which the filmmaker sets out to finish his mother’s film in her native Colombia as a way of coming to terms with loss. Short fiction films include, among others: *CUANACAQUILITL (Dandelion)* about two teenage girls coming of age and facing unwanted pregnancy in a small town in Mexico; *The Monk and The Rebel*, set in rural Nepal, in which a Buddhist monk meets a Maoist rebel who tests his strongly held beliefs; and *Couscous, Hand-Rolled, With Olives*, the story of a young man caught between two worlds.

The longest running and most established public film school in New York City, the MFA Program in Film at the City College of New York is a small, boutique

two-year program focusing on independent filmmaking. We are a culturally diverse filmmaking community, with ready access to the finest talent, locations, and production facilities of New York City. Unlike other film schools, we equally emphasize documentary and fiction filmmaking genres as vehicles for original storytelling that reflects the human experience.

Previous thesis films from CCNY's MFA program have gone on to win, in Student Categories, four Oscars, six Oscar nominations, as well as four Emmys. MFA films have also been invited to prestigious film festivals including Sundance, Cannes, Berlin, Edinburgh, Moscow, Munich, Venice, and South by Southwest.

This year's Cityvisions Film Festival jury is comprised of three prominent film industry professionals: Daresha Kye, co-producer/director of the award-winning film *Chavela*, whose new film *Mama Bears* recently premiered in the SXSW Film Festival; Phil Bertelsen, an Emmy and Peabody winning producer/director who recently was a director on the six-part series "Who Killed Malcolm X"; and Wendy Lidell, Senior Vice President at independent art house film distributor Kino Lorber.

Admission to Cityvisions 2022 is free. For more information about the event, films and filmmakers, please visit: <http://ccny-cityvisions.org/>.