



16TH PATOIS NEWORLEANS
INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS
FILM FESTIVAL

© MARCH 25-29, 2020 ©

#STILLHERE

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE INDIGENOUS LAND AND AFRICAN BURIAL GROUNDS

PATOIS wishes to acknowledge the Indigenous peoples on whose land the Festival is taking place. A place the Choctaw referred to as Bulbancha, meaning ‘Many languages spoken there.’ We acknowledge the African burial grounds of upon which the City of New Orleans stands—of the blood, flesh, and bones of Black people used to build the city. A geography of violence marked by sites, sounds, and symbols of settler colonialism, racial slavery, and its afterlife.

We stand in solidarity with Indigenous peoples locally and globally, Black liberation struggles throughout the Diaspora, and with anti-imperialist and anti-fascist resistance movements, recognizing that the decolonization of Indigenous land—be it in New Orleans, Palestine, Lesotho, Mexico, or the Philippines—is central to all movements for liberation.

THE PATOIS COLLECTIVE IS:

Festival Directors

Zandashé Brown

Zaferhan Yumru

Members

Jordan Flaherty

Jason Foster

jazz franklin

Shana M. griffin

Kristina Kay Robinson

Zac Manuel

ADDITIONAL STAFF:

Poster Artwork: **Karla D Rosas**

Volunteer Coordinator: **Ashana Bigard**

ABOUT PATOIS

Founded in 2004 by artists and activists in New Orleans, PATOIS has premiered hundreds of powerful social justice-oriented films from around the world while highlighting brilliant local filmmakers and vital grassroots organizations. PATOIS is dedicated to nurturing New Orleans' human rights community, supporting the work of organizers and organizations involved in these struggles, and providing a forum for artistic expression of local and international issues. In addition to the film festival in spring, PATOIS hosts a variety of community screenings, workshops and organizing events through the year.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS, FEATURED ORGANIZATIONS, AND PARTNERS, INCLUDING:

Antenna/Paper Machine, ANTIGRAVITY Magazine, Emily Ratner, Gallery of the Streets, Innocence Project New Orleans, Jane Place Neighborhood Sustainability Initiative, Jewish Voice for Peace - NOLA, Katherine Cecil, Melissa Weber, Neighborhood Story Project, New Orleans Film Society, PUNCTUATE, Shotgun Cinema, The Broad Theater, and WHIV.

A special thank you to Threshold Foundation and Alternate ROOTS for their support and solidarity.

THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 7 PM - OPENING FILM

WAGING CHANGE

DIR: ABBY GINZBERG | USA | 2019 | DOC | 61 MIN

Waging Change shines a spotlight on the challenges faced by restaurant workers trying to feed themselves and their families off tips by intertwining stories of individuals such as Wardell Harvey of New Orleans with the growing movement to end the tipped minimum wage. Featuring Saru Jayaraman, Lily Tomlin, Jane Fonda and Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, the film documents the movement to raise the federal tipped minimum wage for restaurant servers and bartenders and end sexual harassment.



Post-film discussion with Peabody award winning director Abby Ginzberg, and Saru Jayaraman, President of One Fair Wage, Co-Founder of the Restaurant Opportunities Centers United (ROC United), and Director of the Food Labor Research Center at the University of California, Berkeley.

FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 7 PM - INDIGENOUS RESISTANCE

L'EAU EST LA VIE (WATER IS LIFE): FROM STANDING ROCK TO THE SWAMP

DIR. SAM VINAL | 2019 | USA | DOC | 24 MIN | ENGLISH

Follow water protector Cherri Foytlin as she leads us on a no nonsense journey of Indigenous resistance to the Bayou Bridge Pipeline (BBP) in the swamps of Louisiana.



WARRIOR WOMEN

**DIR. CHRISTINA D. KING & ELIZABETH A. CASTLE
USA | 2018 | DOC | 63 MIN | ENGLISH**

In the 1970s, with the swagger of unapologetic Indianness, organizers of the American Indian Movement (AIM) fought for Native liberation and survival. Warrior Women is the story of Madonna Thunder Hawk, one such AIM leader who shaped a kindred group of activists' children - including her daughter Marcy - into the "We Will Remember" Survival School as a Native alternative to government-run education. Today, both are still at the forefront of Native issues. This film explores what it means to navigate a movement and motherhood and how activist legacies are passed down and transformed from generation to generation in the context of colonization that meets Native resistance with violence.



Post-screening discussion featuring filmmaker and guests, including producer/director Elizabeth Castle and activist Madonna Thunder Hawk.

SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 12.30 PM

LA MAMI

**DIR. LAURA HERRERO GARVIN | MEXICO, SPAIN | 2019
DOC | 82 MIN | SPANISH W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES**

“Men are only good for two things: for nothing, and for money,” Mami warns the dancers and hostesses. Laura Herrero Garvin’s brilliant observational documentary plays out like a narrative film that allows its audience to be a fly on the wall at Mexico City’s famous Cabaret Barba Azu. After having worked for more than 40 years in nightlife herself, Doña Olga, or La Mami, keeps watch over the dressing room night after night while also being a tough-loving confidante and protector of the club’s dancers.



SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 2 PM

SAUDI RUNAWAY

**DIR. SUSANNE REGINA MEURES | SWITZERLAND | 2020
DOC | 88 MIN | ENGLISH & ARABIC**

In Saudi Arabia, the government, a.k.a. men, control the lives of women. Women cannot leave their house and be in public without a male guardian. And what do you do when home is prison?

Muna is a young, fearless woman who is sick of being controlled by the state and her family. She has no chance but to marry a man she never met, the next chapter of her without free will. As her wedding day approaches, she decides to escape. Muna secretly documents every moment of her claustrophobic existence using her cell phones, often filming through her hijab. She also uses her camera as her personal diary, giving us intimate access to her innermost thoughts. Will her plan to escape succeed?

Premiered at the most recent Sundance Film Festival, Saudi Runaway is a very rare, first-hand account of a Saudi woman’s life, and escape. Every year, hundreds of Saudi women try to escape the country, some succeed and many face prosecution upon retrieval. This will be the second screening of the film in the U.S.



SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 4 PM

OVERSEAS

**DIR. SUNG-A YOON | PHILIPPINES | 2019 | DOC
90 MIN | TAGALOG, ILONGGO, ENGLISH**

In the Philippines, women get deployed abroad to work as domestic workers or nannies. In order to do so, they frequently leave their own children behind, before throwing themselves into the unknown. In one of the many training centers dedicated to domestic work that can be found in the Philippines, a group of trainees are getting ready to face both homesickness and the possible abuses lying ahead. During role playing exercises, they alternatively play both the roles of the employee and that of the employers. Bordering on fiction, *Overseas* brings to light the question of modern servitude in our globalized world, while emphasizing these women's determination, their sisterhood, and the strategies they find to face the ordeals that awaits them in the near future.



SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 6 PM - PATOIS SHORTS

AFRONAUTS

DIR. NUOTAMA BODOMO | USA | 2014 | NARRATIVE | 14 MIN

It's July 16, 1969: America is preparing to launch Apollo 11. Thousands of miles away, the Zambia Space Academy hopes to beat America to the moon in this film inspired by true events.



T

DIR. KEISHA RAE WITHERSPOON | USA | 2019 | NARRATIVE | 14 MIN

A film crew follows three grieved participants of Miami's annual T Ball, where folks assemble to model R.I.P. t-shirts and innovative costumes designed in honor of their dead.

Winner of the Golden Bear for Best Short Film at the 2020 Berlinale Film Festival.



SEEING SOUNDS

DIR. JASON FOSTER | USA | 2019 | DOC SHORT | 3 MIN

Seeing Sounds is a hybrid of portraiture, environmental photography and Super 8 film that explores the space that the main subject lives and/or works in. **Director Jason Foster will be in attendance for a post-film discussion!**



-SHIP: A VISUAL POEM

DIR. TERRANCE DAYE | USA | 2019 | NARRATIVE | 13 MIN

A black boy learns contradicting lessons of manhood and masculinity on the day of his cousin's funeral. **Winner of Best U.S. Narrative Short Film Award at 2020 Sundance Film Festival. Director Terrance Daye will be in attendance for a post-film discussion!**



SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 12.30 PM

FEAR NO GUMBO

**DIR. KIMBERLY RIVERS ROBERTS | USA | 2016 | DOC
90 MIN | ENGLISH**

10 years after *Trouble the Water*, New Orleans native and award-winning filmmaker Kimberly Rivers Roberts returns to an evolving post-Katrina New Orleans which battles abandonment, corruption, and gentrification to confront “culture vultures” on camera. Driven by the desire to protect her family, friends, and community members from misleading cultural projects initiated in the city, Roberts demands answers from New Orleans leaders and citizens. This film is an intimate, yet aggressive conversation from citizens of a city left behind. It begs answers to questions that many New Orleanians still ask today.



Post-film discussion with director Kimberly Rivers Roberts.

SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 1 PM

MOTHER, I AM SUFFOCATING. THIS IS MY LAST FILM ABOUT YOU

**DIR. LEMOHANG JEREMIAH MOSESE | LESOTHO, QATAR,
GERMANY | 2019 | DOC | 76 MIN | SESOTHO, ENGLISH**

The wastelands and crowded streets of an African country are traversed by a woman bearing a wooden cross on her back. She is followed by sellers, beggars and passerbys, outraged voices, pity and curious glances. Parallel to her, among a herd of sheep, a lamb toddles its way from the far away mountains into the heart of the city only to find itself dangling, skinned and headless, on a butcher’s shoulder. In the meantime, under the scorching sun, in a roofless house, a woman is persistently knitting a garment, unwinding a thread coiled over her son’s face.

‘Mother, I am Suffocating. This is My Last Film About You’, is a symbolic social-political voyage of a society, spiralling between religion, identity and collective memory.

A self-taught filmmaker, Jeremiah Lemohang Mosese’s prolific work has been largely inspired by the country he grew up in, Lesotho.



SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 3 PM

MAFAK (SCREWDRIVER)

**DIR. BASSAM JARBAWI | PALESTINE | 2018
NARRATIVE FEATURE | 108 MIN**

When Ziad returns home after 15 years in an Israeli prison, he is hailed as a hero, with high expectations to settle back quickly into work and love. But instead, Ziad is lost in a world he barely recognizes, unable to distinguish reality from hallucination and haunted by memories. 'Screwdriver' (Mafak) immerses us in a distinctly Palestinian story while addressing the universal trauma of reintegration after incarceration.



Post-screening discussion featuring Jewish Voices for Peace, American Muslims for Palestine, and Ubuntu Village.

SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 6 PM – CLOSING FILM

THE FIRST RAINBOW COALITION

**DIR. RAY SANTISTEBAN | USA | 2019 | DOC
55 MIN | ENGLISH**

In 1969, the Chicago Black Panther Party, led by the charismatic Fred Hampton, began to form alliances across lines of race and ethnicity with other community-based movements in the city, including the Latino group the Young Lords Organization and the working-class young southern whites of the Young Patriots. Finding common ground, these disparate groups banded together in one of the most segregated cities in postwar America to collectively confront issues such as police brutality and substandard housing, calling themselves the Rainbow Coalition.



Post-screening discussion featuring director Ray Santisteban and local and national Black Panther movement veterans.

PATOIS EVENTS

ABOLITION IS A VERB

OPENING NIGHT RECEPTION

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25 @ NEIGHBORHOOD STORY PROJECT, 6 - 8 PM

kai lumumba barrow and **jazz franklin** of Gallery of the Streets will perform excerpts from their new visual opera, [b]REACH: Adventures in Heterotopia, a postmodernist trip into Black radical imaginaries.

CARTOGRAPHIES OF VIOLENCE: BLACK DISPLACEMENT, CONFINEMENT, AND DISPOSABILITY IN LAND-USE PLANNING, HOUSING POLICIES, & URBAN DEVELOPMENT

LECTURE & COMMUNITY DISCUSSION

THURSDAY, MARCH 27 @ NEIGHBORHOOD STORY PROJECT, 5 - 6 PM

Beginning with the formation of New Orleans and its cartographies of violence, this lecture will examine the historical formation of racialized violence in housing policies, land-use planning, and urban development in the city. The talk will explore racial ordinances and restrictive covenants, slum clearance, redlining, urban renewal, public housing, and the privatization of public services through policies and practices of displacement, disposability, confinement, and punishment. Using the DISPLACED Project as a point of reference, this talk aims to narrate the spatialization of race and gender in housing policies, while mapping strategies of possibilities and actions for change.

The lecture is led by **Shana M. griffin**, a feminist activist, independent researcher, applied sociologist, artist, and creator of the DISPLACED Project: displacedneworleans.com

GEOGRAPHIES OF BLACK DISPLACEMENT

WALKING TOUR

SATURDAY, MARCH 28TH @ NEIGHBORHOOD STORY PROJECT, 10 AM - 12 PM

Tracing the geographies of black dislocation, containment, displacement, and disposability in land-use planning, housing policy, and urban development, this walking tour starts with the formation of New Orleans as a carceral landscape of unfree labor and reproductive control built on the body, flesh, bones, and blood of African captives and their descendants-- and as a colonial enterprise rooted in the genocide and the thief of native lands. The walking tour begins in the historic French Quarter and moves through Bienville Basin (formerly the Iberville Public Housing Development and landmark site of Storyville), and ends in the historic Tremé community at Congo Square. The tour is led by **Shana M. griffin**.

IMAGE, SOUND, AND REVOLUTION

VIDEO INSTALLATION

THURSDAY, MARCH 26 - SUNDAY, MARCH 28TH @ GALLERY A, 12 - 4 PM

Image, Sound, and Revolution juxtaposes diverse perspectives on the black experience through three independent experimental vignettes. Curated by **jazz franklin**.

What Does The Water Taste Like?

Film by **Juliana Kasumu**, 7min

Prompted by intimate conversations, ocean-made cyanotypes and archival footage, Kasumu questions the production of identity as it relates to her own personal affiliations as a British-Nigerian. Demonstrating the complex ways in which the past and present remain in constant dialogue. Focussing on issues regarding the geographic entanglements of “foreign” identity and the cultural mobility of knowledge throughout history, this exhibition encourages viewers to consider the manner in which identity and displacement are part of the generational immigrant experience from the cradle, across the Atlantic ocean and then finally to the grave.

The Silence When Black Women Die

Film by **Chris Ivey**, 11 min

An excerpt from We Are Here, an ongoing four-channel video installation that addresses racism and spirituality through personal narratives from various interviewees in Cape Town; Johannesburg; Charlottesville, W. Va.; New Orleans; London; and Pittsburgh. “The Silence When Black Women Die” featured in this installation include point-of-view interviews during the Charlottesville nazi attack that claimed the life of Heather Heyer, and a section called “The Silence When Black Women Die” where a Pittsburgh woman recounts the unsolved murder of black women in Pittsburgh over the last four years.

Nothing Faster You Can't Walk To

Film by **Ryan Clarke**, 15 min

An audio-visual mixtape of 1960's Treme 16mm footage on Fat Tuesday in musical dialog with upriver sister culture, Detroit. Youtube rips of Super Sunday bounce shakedowns collapse beside voice memos of 2016 Mardi Gras on Orleans Avenue before diving underwater into Drexicya's nautical afrofuturist rememory of a city populated by the unborn children of pregnant women thrown off slave ships who adapted to breathe underwater in their mothers' wombs. Not too unlike the denizens of New Orleans. This piece is a second line for them-us.

PATOIS NEW ORLEANS INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS FILM FESTIVAL

PATOISFILMFEST.ORG

**ALL FILM SCREENINGS AT THE BROAD THEATER
636 N. BROAD ST, NEW ORLEANS**

**WITH OTHER EVENTS AT THE NEIGHBRHOOD STORY PROJECT
2202 LAPEYROUSE ST, NEW ORLEANS**

**TICKETS: \$10, OR \$6 WITH PATOIS MEMBERSHIP
FESTIVAL PASS: \$55, OR \$45 WITH PATOIS MEMBERSHIP**

FACEBOOK.COM/PATOISFILMFESTIVAL

INSTAGRAM @PATOISFILMFEST

#PATOIS2020

#STILLHERE