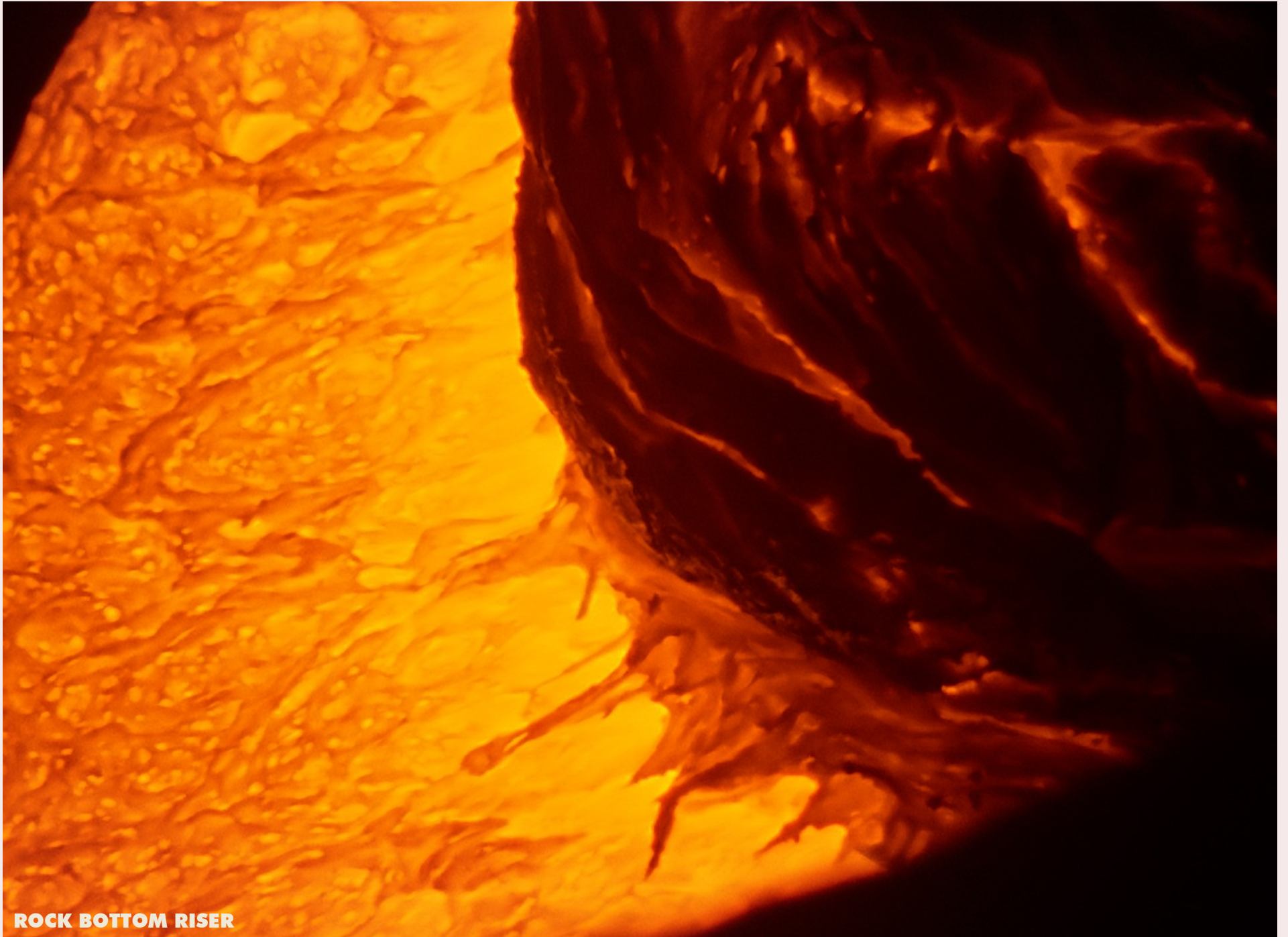


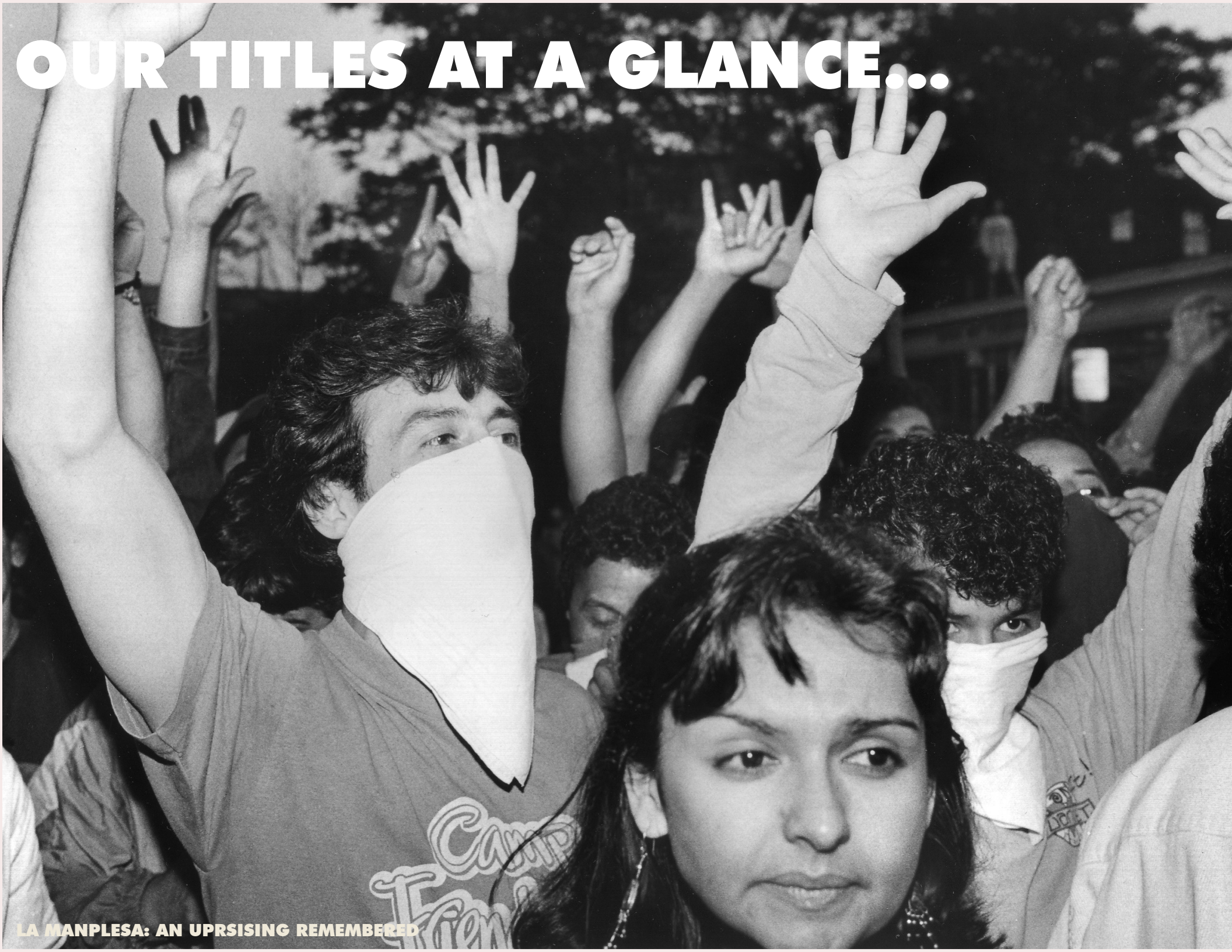
# **CINEMA GUILD 2021-2022**



**ROCK BOTTOM RISER**

# **EDUCATIONAL CATALOG**





# OUR TITLES AT A GLANCE...

LA MANPLESA: AN UPRSISING REMEMBERED

RED CHEF REVIVAL	INDIGENOUS STUDIES	NATIVE AMERICAN	CINEMA STUDIES
WE THE OWNERS	BUSINESS	LABOR STUDIES	ECONOMICS
THE DAWN CHORUS	ENVIRONMENTAL	ANTHROPOLOGY	RELIGION
LIMBO	LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES	INDIGENOUS STUDIES	
THE TWO SIGHTS	ANTHROPOLOGY	CULTURAL STUDIES	CINEMA STUDIES
499	LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES	CINEMA STUDIES	CULTURAL STUDIES
FILM ABOUT A FATHER WHO	AGING	FAMILY RELATIONS	CINEMA STUDIES
SWIMMING OUT TILL THE SEA TURNS BLUE	ASIAN STUDIES	CINEMA STUDIES	LITERATURE
STRANGE NEGOTIATIONS	AMERICAN HISTORY	MUSIC	RELIGION & SPIRITUALITY
THE KITCHENISTAS	BUSINESS	LATINO STUDIES	WOMEN STUDIES
LOS ULTIMOS FRIKIS	MUSIC	CUBAN STUDIES	
SO DEAR, SO LOVELY	ANTHROPOLOGY	MIDDLE EASTERN	
EXPEDITION CONTENT	ANTHROPOLOGY	INDIGENOUS STUDIES	EXPERIMENTAL
THE ACCUSED: Damned or Devoted	ISLAMIC STUDIES	MIDDLE EASTERN	CRIMINAL & LAW
ANY GIVEN DAY	HEALTH	PSYCHOLOGY	CRIMINAL & LAW
LA MANPLESA: an uprising remembered	WOMEN'S STUDIES	EXPERIMENTAL FILM	
A NIGHT OF KNOWING NOTHING	ANTHROPOLOGY	ASIAN STUDIES	WOMEN STUDIES
ROCK BOTTOM RISER	ANTHROPOLOGY	PHYSICAL SCIENCE	ECONOMICS
CANE FIRE	INDIGENOUS STUDIES	CINEMA STUDIES	AMERICAN HISTORY





# RED CHEF REVIVAL

**DVD: \$310 | DSL: \$310 | DVD+BD: \$360 | DVD+DSL: \$465**

**Directed by**  
**DANNY BERISH**

**Subjects:**  
**INDIGENOUS STUDIES**  
**CULTURAL STUDIES**  
**NATIVE AMERICAN**  
**STUDIES**  
**CINEMA STUDIES**

**A long-neglected culinary tradition, Indigenous cuisine is being reclaimed and reinvented by a new guard of chefs from across Canada. Red Chef Revival is a unique and intimate documentary that follows three trailblazing chefs on a cross country journey--from First Nations communities from Northwest Territories to British Columbia--to redefine and reclaim Indigenous cuisine.**

Red Chef Revival features ingredients you won't find in any cookbooks, like bison heart, beaver tail, moose nose, seal and cougar, and goes beyond dishes such as frybread and bannock. Using food as their access point, these chefs discover a new path to reconciliation.



# WE THE OWNERS

**DVD: \$99 | DSL: \$199 | DVD+BD: \$150 | DVD+DSL: \$250**

**Directed by**  
**DAVID ROMERO**

**Subjects:**  
**BUSINESS**  
**LABOR STUDIES**  
**ECONOMICS**

What does it mean to be an owner? In *We the Owners: Employees Expanding the American Dream*, employee owners from New Belgium Brewing, Namasté Solar and DPR Construction answer this important question.

Successfully thriving in the global economy of the 21st century and beyond will require new business models and strategies to enable the American Dream of opportunity and economic prosperity. One model that is an alternative is the employee-ownership model (e.g. ESOP, stock/stock options, cooperatives). *We the Owners* captures stories from the founders and employees from New Belgium Brewing, Namasté Solar, and DPR Construction, sharing the worker's perspectives on shared ownership structures, highly empowering corporate cultures, linked reward and risk incentives, and human-capital innovation models. The film follows as decisions are made on founding the company, expansion, succession, recruitment, and layoffs.

As the companies in the film show, employee ownership comes in a variety of shapes and sizes.





# THE DAWN CHORUS

**DVD: \$295 | DSL: \$295 | DVD+BD: \$350 | DVD+DSL: \$395**

**Directed by**  
**RICHARD KOVITCH**

**Subjects:**  
**Environmental**  
**Studies**  
**Anthropology**  
**Religion &**  
**Spirituality**

**The Dawn Chorus is a global environmental film project consisting of cinematic and meditative scenes of dawn captured on May 3, 2020 – International Dawn Chorus Day – from all over the globe weaved together into a lyrical meditation on the first light and sounds of the day.**

Director's Statement

We gathered contributions from 35 filmmakers in 13 countries – from Cambodia to Italy to Armenia – to piece together this 20-minute film. The film weaves together meditative shots of the dawn of May 3 as observed, in most cases, from our unique lockdown perspectives as a metaphor of rebirth, something many of us are contemplating during this time as we start to imagine what we and the world will look like when we emerge from these crises. From the exotic calls of a Malaysian Night Heron captured in a park in Taiwan to a Muslim call to prayer captured from a rooftop in Cambodia, each shot also has a story to tell, one in which the sounds and sights merge with a felt presence of the individual behind the camera to form an intimate portrait of a moment in time.



# LIMBO

**DVD: \$295 | DSL: \$295**

**Directed by**  
**Alexander L. Fattal**

**Subjects:**  
**Latin-American**  
**Studies**  
**Spanish Language**  
**Indigenous Studies**

**An oneiric journey through Alex's life as a former guerrilla leads to a reckoning with the devil inside of him. He is haunted by a dream of dueling with the devil, a nightmare he can only vanquish with the help of yagé (ayahuasca), a psychotropic medicine administered by a shaman in his indigenous community.**

As both a perpetrator and victim, Alex exemplifies the complexity of the Colombian conflict and the difficulties of simply moving on.

Limbo tells his story in a uniquely fitting form, a truck transformed into a giant camera obscura, a black box in which up and down, wrong and right are not fixed. It is in this confessional, surreal space where we are confronted with life mired between a militant passed and a civilian present. Through its experimental form, the film illuminates life in limbo.





# THE TWO SIGHTS

DVD: \$395 | DSL: \$395 | DVD+BD: \$450 | DVD+DSL: \$495

**Directed by**  
**JOSHUA BONNETTA**

**The Two Sights is an ethnographic marvel of non-fiction filmmaking that thrills the eyes and ears and invites us into the extra-sensory beyond.**

**Subjects:**  
**ANTHROPOLOGY**  
**CULTURAL STUDIES**  
**CINEMA STUDIES**

The first solo feature from Joshua Bonnetta (co-director, *El Mar La Mar*), *The Two Sights* (An Dà Shealladh) explores the disappearing tradition of second sight in the Outer Hebrides of Scotland. As we listen to locals' accounts of haunting experiences—phantom horses, ghost voices and other supernatural phenomena—Bonnetta connects their testimonies with striking 16mm images and a carefully-curated sonic montage of the physical and aural environment of these enchanted islands.







# 499

**DVD: \$395 | DSL: \$395 | DVD+BD: \$450 | DVD+DSL: \$495**

**Directed by**  
**RODRIGO REYES**

**A compassionate through-the-seasons study of a non-profit recycling and redemption center in New York called Sure We Can, and the diverse group of immigrants, homeless individuals and outcasts that work there.**

**Subjects:**  
**CINEMA STUDIES**  
**CULTURAL STUDIES**  
**LATIN AMERICAN**  
**HISTORY**

Sure We Can was founded by Spanish missionary Ana Martinez de Luco in 2007 and has since been a home for people previously living in the rough. As a mother figure, Ana provides guidance to canners and volunteers alike. One of her “sons” is René, a Mexican immigrant struggling to remain sober. Far from home with no prospects of returning, René watches videos of his children back home, as he diligently follows Alcoholics Anonymous’s 12-step program. Eugene and Pierre are also troubled. Once a jazz pianist, Pierre suffers from depression but finds solace and meaning picking up cans. Eugene also struggles with drug addiction.

Forging a surrogate family, Ana, René, Pierre, and Eugene discuss God, physics, loneliness and UFOs while feeding kittens, playing music and recycling, in this artful observational film with touches of magic realism.



# FILM ABOUT A FATHER WHO

**DVD: \$395 | DSL: \$395 | DVD+BD: \$450 | DVD+DSL: \$495**

**Directed by  
LYNEE SACHS**

**Over a period of 35 years between 1984 and 2019, filmmaker Lynne Sachs shot 8 and 16mm film, videotape and digital images of her father, Ira Sachs Sr., a bon vivant and pioneering businessman from Park City, Utah.**

**Subjects:**  
**AGING /**  
**GERONTOLOGY**  
**ANTHROPOLOGY**  
**CINEMA STUDIES**  
**FAMILY RELATIONS**

Film About a Father Who is her attempt to understand the web that connects a child to her parent and a sister to her siblings.

With a nod to the Cubist renderings of a face, Sachs' cinematic exploration of her father offers simultaneous, sometimes contradictory, views of one seemingly unknowable man who is publicly the uninhibited center of the frame yet privately ensconced in secrets. With this meditation on fatherhood and masculinity, Sachs allows herself and her audience to see beneath the surface of the skin, beyond the projected reality. As the startling facts mount, she discovers more about her father than she had ever hoped to reveal.







# SWIMMING OUT TILL THE SEA TURNS BLUE

DVD: \$395 | DSL: \$395 | DVD+BD: \$450 | DVD+DSL: \$495

Directed by  
**JIA ZHANG-KE**

**"An ode to the importance of art that is a work of art itself, Swimming Out Till the Sea Turns Blue is yet another fascinating look at contemporary China courtesy of Jia Zhang-Ke." - *Film Inquiry***

**Subjects:**  
**ASIAN STUDIES**  
**CINEMA STUDIES**  
**LITERATURE**

From master director Jia Zhang-Ke (*Ash Is Purest White*, *A Touch of Sin*) comes a vital document of Chinese society since 1949. Jia interviews three prominent authors—Jia Pingwa, Yu Hua, and Liang Hong—born in the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s, respectively. In their stories, we hear of the dire circumstances they faced in their rural villages and small towns, and the substantial political effort undertaken to address it, from the social revolution of the 1950s through the unrest of the late 1980s. In their faces, we see full volumes left unsaid. Jia weaves it all together with his usual brilliance. *SWIMMING OUT TILL THE SEA TURNS BLUE* is an indispensable account of a changing China from one of the country's foremost cinematic storytellers.





# STRANGE NEGOTIATIONS

DVD: \$295 | DSL: \$295

**Directed by**  
**BRANDON VEDDER**

**“There’s something endearingly earnest and straightforward, but not simplistic, about Bazan as both personality and musician.” - *Variety***

**Subjects:**  
**MUSIC**  
**RELIGION &**  
**SPIRITUALITY**  
**AMERICAN HISTORY**

After renouncing his long-held Christian beliefs and walking away from his critically-acclaimed band, Pedro the Lion, musician David Bazan retreated into a solitary life of touring solo, struggling to rebuild his worldview and career from the ground-up, and to support his family of four. *Strange Negotiations* finds David a decade into his journey, during which he has become a sort of reluctant prophet to Americans reeling from their country’s own crisis of faith highlighted during the 2016 presidential election.



# THE KITCHENISTAS

**DVD: \$295 | DSL: \$395 | DVD+BD: \$345 | DVD+DSL: \$450**

**Directed by**  
**DAVID ROMERO**

**What started as a 7-week nutrition program seven years ago in National City California for women seeking healthier diets, has become a Latina-led movement to raise the health, wellbeing, and resilience of the community.**

**Subjects:**  
**GASTRONOMY**  
**HEALTH**  
**LATINO**  
**WOMEN'S STUDIES**

National City has one of the highest rates of obesity and diabetes in San Diego County and in the state of California, and the program graduates, called “Kitchenistas”, are out to change that, one healthy meal at a time. Now after 18 graduating classes, more than 275 Kitchenistas stay the course to overcome systemic barriers in bringing high-quality food solutions into their homes, schools, and city. Their stories show how women are community builders through healthy food traditions. Not to be underestimated, these women show how a range of small advocacy actions over time lead to big changes.





# LOS ÚLTIMOS FRIKIS

**DVD: \$295 | DSL: \$395 | DVD+BD: \$345 | DVD+DSL: \$450**

**Directed by**  
**NICHOLAS BRENNAN**

**Filmed in Cuba over the course of ten years, *Los Últimos Frikis* tells the story of iconic Cuban heavy metal band Zeus and their three-decade fight to be heard.**

**Subjects:**

**CUBAN STUDIES**

**MUSIC**

**CINEMA STUDIES**

When Zeus formed in the 1980s, rock music was illegal and rockers were derisively called los frikis—the freaks. Fidel Castro’s communist government saw rock and roll as a mortal threat sent by a capitalist enemy. In the face of repression, Zeus rose to infamy as a counter-cultural phenomenon but paid a price. Zeus’s lead singer, Dionisio “Diony” Arce, spent six years in prison at the height of his career. Today, the band is part of the system as an official group within the Ministry of Culture’s Agency of Cuban Rock. As Cuba’s political and social climate once again shifts, the band embarks on a national tour across the island to defend their cultural impact and livelihood—to prove that frikis still have a voice in Cuba.





# **SO DEAR, SO LOVELY**

**DVD: \$250 | DSL: \$250 | DVD+BD: \$300 | DVD+DSL: \$350**

**Directed by**

**DIANA ALLAN**

**Official Selection - Art of the Reel**

**Official Selection - CPH:DOX**

**Official Selection - Toronto Arab Film Festival, Toronto, ON**

**Subjects:**

**MIDDLE EASTERN  
STUDIES**

**ANTHROPOLOGY**

**PEACE & CONFLICT**

In this two-part tour through the streets of Lebanon, a colorful Palestinian cab driver offers offhand insight into the region's fraught political and social climate through boisterous serenades and excitable outbursts.



# EXPEDITION CONTENT

BLU-RAY: \$395 | DSL: \$495

**Directed by**  
**ERNST KAREL &**  
**VERONIKA**  
**KUSUMARYATI**

**An immersive marvel of sonic ethnography, Expedition Content draws on audio recordings made by recent college graduate and Standard Oil heir Michael Rockefeller as part of the so-called Harvard-Peabody Expedition to Netherlands New Guinea in 1961 to study the indigenous Hubula (also known as Dani) people.**

**Subjects:**  
**ANTHROPOLOGY**  
**INDIGENOUS**  
**STUDIES**  
**SOCIOLOGY**

In their nearly imageless film, Karel and Kusumaryati document the strange encounter between the expedition and the Hubula people. The work explores and upends the power dynamics between anthropologist and subject, between image and sound, and calls into question the whole ethnographic project.





# **THE ACCUSED: DAMNED OR DEVOTED**

**DVD: \$295 | DSL: \$295 | DVD+BD: \$345 | DVD+DSL: \$445**

**Directed by**  
**MOHAMMED NAQVI**

**Subjects:**  
**ISLAMIC STUDIES**  
**MIDDLE EASTERN**  
**STUDIES**  
**CRIMINAL & LAW**

**"The Accused: Damned or Devoted" is a modern-day inquisition. Against the backdrop of Pakistan's elections, this film follows the rise of powerful cleric Khadim Hussain Rizvi, on a mission is to preserve the country's blasphemy laws, which prescribe a mandatory death sentence for disrespecting The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) and life imprisonment for desecrating the Holy Quran.**

With millions sympathetic to his goal, Rizvi holds the country under his spell and silences anyone attempting to change the law by condemning them to death. As he pushes for more power, Rizvi decides to run for office in the upcoming general elections, and those accused of blasphemy or those who oppose the blasphemy laws- whether targeted minorities, liberals, and opposing Muslim voices - become the pawns of his ambition.







# ANY GIVEN DAY

DVD: \$350 | DSL: \$350

**Directed by**  
**MARGARET BYRNE**

**Subjects:**  
**HEALTH**  
**PSYCHOLOGY &**  
**PSYCHIATRY**  
**CRIMINAL & LAW**

**Any Given Day provides deeply personal insight into the necessity of caring relationships, especially when life is at its most difficult.**

In 2015, in the midst of widespread defunding of community mental health care programs across the country, in Chicago, the Cook County Jail has become a default treatment center for people living with mental illness.

While investigating the treatment of detainees, filmmaker Margaret Byrne meets Angela, Dimitar and Daniel, participants in a mental health court probation program. Their friendship gives each of them the courage to be seen at their most vulnerable. In turn, Margaret begins to confront one of the most difficult periods of her life, culminating in a hospitalization for depression.



JUSTICE FOR  
GOMEZ AND KING

# **LA MANPLESA: AN UPRISING REMEMBERED**

**DVD: \$350 | DSL: \$350 | DVD+BD: \$400 | DVD+DSL: \$475**

**Directed by  
ELLIE WALTON**

**On May 5th, 1991, people took to the streets of Washington D.C.'s Mount Pleasant neighborhood to protest the police shooting of Daniel Gomez, a young man from El Salvador.**

**Subjects:**  
**AMERICAN HISTORY**  
**CRIMINAL & LAW**  
**LATIN-AMERICAN**  
**STUDIES**

Through testimony, song, poetry, and street theatre, La Manpleza: An Uprising Remembered weaves together the collective memory of one of D.C.'s first barrios, and dives into the roots of the '91 rebellion. As people across the world take to the streets to demand an end to police brutality, the film honors the largely untold stories that have come before us, and explores how artists prompt us to remember what we still have to fight for.





# **A NIGHT OF KNOWING NOTHING**

**DVD: \$395 | DSL: \$395 | DVD+BD: \$450 | DVD+DSL: \$495**

**Directed by**  
**ELLIE WALTON**

**Winner - Oeil d'Or (Best Documentary), Cannes Film Festival**  
**Winner - Amplify Voices , Toronto International Film Festival**  
**Winner - Emerging Cinematic Vision Award, Camden**

**Subjects:**

**ANTHROPOLOGY**

**ASIAN STUDIES**

**WOMEN STUDIES**

**POLITICAL SCIENCE**

Through fictional love letters found in a cupboard at the Film and Television Institute of India, we meet L, a film student writing to her estranged lover while he is away. Gradually we're immersed in the drastic changes taking place at the school and in the lives of young people across the country as they take to the streets to protest widespread discrimination.

In her debut film, Payal Kapadia deftly merges reality with fiction, weaving together archival footage with student protest videos to create a vital tapestry of the personal and the political. With its dreamlike editing rhythms and a revelatory use of sound, A Night of Knowing Nothing is both an essential document of contemporary India and a nostalgic look at youth fighting the injustice of their time.





# ROCK BOTTOM RISER

**DVD: \$395 | DSL: \$395 | DVD+BD: \$450 | DVD+DSL: \$495**

**Directed by**  
**FERN SILVA**

**WINNER - Special Mention, Encounters -**  
**Berlin International Film Festival**  
**Official Selection - Cinéma du Réel**

**Subjects:**

**ANTHROPOLOGY**

**CINEMA STUDIES**

**ECONOMICS**

**PHYSICAL SCIENCE**

From the earliest voyagers who navigated by starlight, to present-day astronomers scanning the cosmos for habitable planets, explorers have long made Hawaii the hub for their searching. Today—as lava continues to flow on the island—another crisis mounts as scientists plan to build the world’s largest telescope on Mauna Kea, Hawaii’s most sacred and revered mountain.

In his dynamic feature debut, Fern Silva examines myriad encounters with an island world at sea. Drawing from subjects as seemingly disparate as the arrival of Christian missionaries and the controversial casting of Dwayne Johnson as King Kamehameha, the film weaves a vital tapestry of post-colonialism and pop culture with cinematic brio and a wry wit. Rock Bottom Riser is an essential document and an exhilarating tour-de-force, a palimpsest that traverses geology, ethnography and astronomy.



# CANE FIRE

**DVD: \$395 | DSL: \$395 | DVD+BD: \$450 | DVD+DSL: \$495**

**Directed by**

**ANTHONY BANUA-SIMON**

**Official Selection - 2021 MoMA Doc Fortnight**

**Official Selection - 2020 Hot Docs International Film Festival**

**Official Selection - 2021 Prismatic Ground**

**Subjects:**

**AMERICAN HISTORY**

**CINEMA STUDIES**

**INDIGENOUS  
STUDIES**

**MEDIA STUDIES**

The Hawaiian island of Kaua'i is seen as a paradise of leisure and pristine natural beauty, but these escapist fantasies obscure the colonial displacement, hyper-exploitation of workers and destructive environmental extraction that have actually shaped life on the island for the last 250 years. Cane Fire critically examines the island's history — and the various strategies by which Hollywood has represented it—through four generations of director Anthony Banua-Simon's family, who first immigrated to Kaua'i from the Philippines to work on the sugar plantations. Assembled from a diverse array of sources—from Banua-Simon's observational footage, to amateur YouTube travelogues, to epic Hollywood dance sequences — Cane Fire offers a kaleidoscopic portrait of the economic and cultural forces that have cast Indigenous and working-class residents as "extras" in their own story.



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