



5900 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 800, Los Angeles, CA 90036  
1825 Three Kings Dr., Park City, UT 84060  
321 W 44th Street, Suite 805, New York, NY 10036

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**Media Contact:**  
Spencer Alcorn  
310.360.1981  
spencer\_alcorn@sundance.org

## **Over \$1 Million to Nonfiction Storytellers: Sundance Institute Announces Documentary Fund Grantees and Art of Nonfiction Fellows, Projects**

**Works Include Feature Documentaries, Web Series, Virtual Reality and Transmedia Projects;  
Topics Include Police Violence, Natural Disasters, Income Inequality, Family Legacy, Trans Rights**

**Frederick Wiseman, Khalik Allah, Cynthia Wade, Joshua Oppenheimer, Kirsten Johnson,  
Matthew Heineman and Lynette Wallworth Among Recipients**



*(L-R) People's Republic of Desire, Credit: Jinyang Cheng; Mudflow, Credit: Michael Crook; United Skates, Credit: Chris Vanderwall.*

**Los Angeles, CA** — Sundance Institute has awarded over \$1 million to documentary projects and artists at the forefront of global nonfiction storytelling, whose subjects and forms reflect the inclusive range of the Institute's mission.

Subject matter ranges from police violence, natural disasters and income inequality to family legacy, trans rights and education in the developing world. Works originate in 10 countries on six continents, and teams include Academy Award® winners and nominees (**Frederick Wiseman, Cynthia Wade, Rebecca Cammisa, David France, Matthew Heineman**), a Guggenheim Fellow (**Julia Bacha**) and a MacArthur Fellow (**James Longley**) alongside first-time filmmakers and creators (including **Tim Hawkins, Dyana Winkler, Yu Gu, Mike Milano, Sandra Salas, Hope Litoff, Damon Davis** and **Sabaah Jordan**).

The Institute's Art of Nonfiction Initiative expands its reach with a second cohort of Fellows and a first group of projects. The initiative provides targeted creative and financial support for filmmakers or projects exploring inventive artistic practice in documentary story, craft and form.

“From our Stories of Change partnership through to our Art of Nonfiction Initiative, the storytellers we support with our documentary fund concern themselves with compelling narratives about the contemporary world,” said **Tabitha Jackson**, Director of the Sundance Institute Documentary Film Program, “and also with artful and evocative ways of depicting the human experience. Whether examining complex governmental and political systems or illuminating the intimate textures of everyday life, these projects and their artists elevate the ways in which stories can be told.”

The works have been funded at various stages, including Development, Production, Post-Production and Impact (designed to develop a project’s audience engagement campaigns) through the first half of 2016; grantees also include New Frontier projects, which support innovators on new story platforms. New this year, the Bertha Foundation Fellowship supports projects that expose injustice and illuminate issues at the intersection of storytelling, law and activism.

The Institute has a long history and firm commitment to championing documentaries. Recent films supported by the Institute include *Cameraperson*, *Hooligan Sparrow*, *Newtown*, *Audrie and Daisy*, *The Cinema Travellers* and *Weiner*. More information is available at [sundance.org/documentary](http://sundance.org/documentary).

The Sundance Institute Documentary Film Program is made possible by founding support from Open Society Foundations. Generous additional support is provided by Skoll Foundation; the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation; Ford Foundation; The Charles Engelhard Foundation; Robert Rauschenberg Foundation; Arcus Foundation; The Rockefeller Foundation; Bertha Foundation; The Kendeda Fund; Discovery Channel; Genuine Article Pictures; Time Warner Foundation; Cinereach; CNN Films; National Geographic; Patty Quillin; Compton Foundation; SundanceNow Doc Club; Joan and Lewis Platt Foundation; the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation; Code Blue Foundation; Joy Family Foundation; PBS; and WNET New York Public Media.

## **DEVELOPMENT**

### ***Cleveland*** (United States)

**Directors:** Michael Milano and Orlando Bagwell

**Producer:** Amanda Pike

*Cleveland* is a feature documentary about the city's defining role on the American cultural and political landscape during the Obama presidency. Amidst an economic resurgence, this rust-belt town hopes to regain some of its historic stature, but a brutal string of police killings brings federal oversight and unearths decades of injustice. *Cleveland* goes behind the front lines in the battle over policing, and examines the use of deadly force from the perspectives of both perpetrators and victims.

*Sundance Institute | John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation*

### ***Get Up Stand Up*** (United States)

**Director:** Rameen Aminzadeh

**Producer:** Fisher Stevens

After back to back non indictments of the officers responsible for the deaths of Michael Brown and Eric Garner, a group of young, diverse, criminal justice advocates, organizers and formerly incarcerated artists ban together and set out on an epic journey to break a "Fixed System". Fueled by their personal experiences with the so called "Justice System" and traumatic life changing events, Justice League NYC members dedicate every waking moment of their lives to demanding justice, uplifting the voices of those whose dreams have been stolen and applying pressure to bring about reform.

### ***Ma Liang's Time Machine*** (China)

**Director:** Yang Sun

**Producer:** S. Leo Chiang

When Chinese artist Ma Liang realizes that his father Ma Ke, an accomplished Peking Opera director, is suffering from Alzheimer's disease, he invites his father to collaborate on his most ambitious project to date—a haunting, magical, autobiographical stage performance featuring life-size mechanical puppets called "Papa's Time Machine." Through the creation of this play, Ma Liang and Ma Ke confront the challenges of aging and repercussions from the Cultural Revolution. They struggle to close the gap in their relationship before time runs out and memories are lost forever.

***Oceti Sakowen (working title) (Seven Council Fires)*** (United States)

**Director:** Cody Lucich

**Producers:** Ben Alex Dupris and Heather Rae

In the shadow of the largest political occupation in Native American history, thousands of earth guardians descend on the international stage of Standing Rock, North Dakota to cut off the head of the "black snake" they call the Dakota Access Pipeline.

***XY Chelsea*** (United States, United Kingdom)

**Director:** Tim Hawkins

**Producer:** Julia Nottingham

Soldier, trans woman and prisoner, Chelsea Manning has launched an appeal against the U.S. Military, challenging a 35-year sentence given after she disclosed almost 700,000 U.S. military and diplomatic documents. Incarcerated in an all-male military prison in Kansas, she is also undergoing hormone replacement therapy to transition to the female gender she has identified with all her life. This is a fight for Chelsea's identity: her character, her integrity, and her humanity. Told from Chelsea's perspective, through an intimate prison diary, *XY Chelsea* will provide an unique view of one of the most important stories of the 21st century and an ongoing legal battle that has implications for us all.

## **PRODUCTION**

***A Woman's Work*** (Canada, United States)

**Director:** Yu Gu

**Producers:** Elizabeth Ai and Yu Gu

Football and feminism collide in this feature documentary that follows three former NFL cheerleaders and the class-action lawsuits they brought against their teams.

*Sundance Institute | Rockefeller Foundation Impact Fund*

***Casting JonBenet*** (Australia)

**Director:** Kitty Green

**Producers:** Scott Macaulay and Kitty Green

An artful exploration of the legacy of America's most sensational child-murder case, the unsolved death of six-year-old American beauty queen JonBenet Ramsey.

***Even When I Fall*** (United Kingdom)

**Directors:** Sky Neal and Kate McLarnon

**Producer:** Elhum Shakerifar

*Even When I Fall* tells the story of Nepal's first and only contemporary circus, set up by survivors of child trafficking.

***Hispaniola*** (Dominican Republic, Canada, United States)

**Directors:** Michèle Stephenson and Joe Brewster

**Producers:** Jennifer Holness, Joe Brewster, and Michèle Stephenson

In 2013, the Dominican Republic Supreme Court stripped citizenship from individuals born in the country of Haitian descent. *Hispaniola* intimately follows the lives of several families affected by the decision, reflecting larger questions of imposed borders, citizenship, statelessness, and racial identity.

***I Am Not Your Negro*** (United States, France)

**Director:** Raoul Peck

**Producers:** Rémi Grellety, Raoul Peck, and Hébert Peck

In *I Am Not Your Negro* Raoul Peck envisions the book James Baldwin never finished - a radical narration about race in America, using only the writer's original words.

***Untitled Jennifer Laude Documentary*** (United States)

**Director:** PJ Raval

**Producers:** Marty Syjuco, Sara Giustini, and Kara Magsanoc-Alikpala

Grassroots activists in the Philippines are spurred into action when a local transgender woman is found dead in a motel room with a 19-year-old U.S. marine as the leading suspect. As they demand answers and a just trial, hidden histories of U.S. colonization come bubbling to the surface.

*Sundance Institute | Arcus Foundation Fund*

***Obstinate*** (Afghanistan)

**Director:** Sahra Mosawi

**Producer:** Nicole Levinge

When a 23-year-old Afghan woman, Khatera, confronts the will of her family and the traditions of her country to seek justice for years of sexual abuse from her father, she sheds light on the faulty Afghan judicial system and the women it rarely protects.

***Recovering Irma*** (United States)

**Director:** Sandra Salas

**Producer:** Sandra Salas

A soul-searching road trip winds its way across geography and generations, memories and mysteries probing for answers to the difficult question: "How do you end domestic violence?"

*Sundance Institute | Kendeda Fund*

***Survivors*** (Sierra Leone, United States)

**Directors:** Arthur Pratt, Anna Fitch, Banker White and Barmmy Boy

**Producers:** Banker White, Anna Fitch and Samantha Grant

Through the eyes of Sierra Leonean filmmakers, *Survivors* presents a portrait of their country during the Ebola outbreak, exposing the complexity of the epidemic and the sociopolitical turmoil that lies in its wake.

*Sundance Institute | Rockefeller Foundation Impact Fund*

***Sweetheart Deal*** (United States)

**Directors:** Elisa Levine and Gabriel Miller

**Producer:** Peggy Case

*Sweetheart Deal* follows four heroin-addicted women living on Seattle's Aurora Avenue, an infamous stretch of highway lined with cheap motels and lost souls. Desperate to escape the street, they accept the help of Gray Cloud – a seemingly kind, ponytailed man in his 60s. Inside his battered RV he nurses broken birds back to health. And, he explains, he can fix broken women too. As the story unfolds, we learn that his generosity does not come without a cost.

***Sylvia and Marsha*** (United States)

**Director:** David France

**Producers:** Laura Teodosio and Kimberly Reed

The origin story for the trans movement comes to light as the mysterious cold case of Marsha P. Johnson, moribund for decades, gains traction with the NYPD. Will bringing closure for the founder of the trans rights movement help stop a record-breaking crime wave against trans women of color?

*Sundance Institute | Arcus Foundation Fund*

***This is Congo*** (United States)

**Director:** Daniel McCabe

**Producers:** Geoff McLean, Alyse Spiegel, Daniel McCabe

An unfiltered look into the history of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the lives of three characters surviving one of the most recent cycles of conflict.

## **POST-PRODUCTION**

***32 Pills: My Sister's Suicide*** (United States)

**Director:** Hope Litoff

**Producer:** Beth Levison

She's beautiful, artistic, loved—and can't stand to be alive. *32 Pills: My Sister's Suicide* traces the fascinating life and mental illness of my sister, New York artist and photographer Ruth Litoff, and my struggle to come to terms with her tragic suicide.

***Angels Are Made of Light*** (United States)

**Director:** James Longley

**Producer:** Joslyn Barnes

*Angels Are Made of Light* is an observational documentary that takes the viewer on a journey into the heart of Afghanistan, following children and teachers in a public school in Kabul over three years at the formal end of U.S. Military involvement.

***City of Ghosts*** (United States)

**Director:** Matthew Heineman

**Producer:** Matthew Heineman

This is the story of a new type of warfare: a battle over ideas, over hearts and minds, over clicks and views.

***EX LIBRIS - New York Public Library*** (United States)

**Director:** Frederick Wiseman

**Producer:** Frederick Wiseman

The New York Public Library is the dominant cultural and democratic institution in the City of New York. Libraries throughout the U.S. find they must simultaneously sustain their traditional activities, and develop new programs related to the digital revolution all at once. This is the first time permission has been given to make a documentary about this important, vast and complex institution.

***Fly Away*** (United Kingdom)

**Director:** Lucy Cohen

**Producer:** Julia Nottingham

When a father took his own life, time stood still for his wife and seven children. As they piece together fragments of a broken past, questions of memory, identity and love must be faced before they can embrace the future.

***Ghost Hunting*** (Palestinian Territories/France/Switzerland/Qatar)

**Director:** Raed Andoni

**Producer:** Palmyre Badinier

To free himself from the demons from his incarceration, the filmmaker assembles an eclectic group of Palestinian ex-prisoners. From an empty yard and fragmentary memory, they give rise to the famous Israeli interrogation center, and release the ghosts in their midsts.

***The Infiltrators*** (United States)

**Directors:** Alex Rivera and Cristina Ibarra

**Producers:** Alex Rivera and Cristina Ibarra

*The Infiltrators* is a docu-thriller that tells the real -- and surreal -- story of a group of immigrants in America who got themselves apprehended by Border Patrol to 'infiltrate' secretive, for-profit detention centers and help other immigrants get free.

Sundance Institute | John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

***Mudflow*** (United States)

**Directors:** Cynthia Wade and Sasha Friedlander

**Producer:** Tracie Holder

*Mudflow* is the story of a community's response to one of the biggest man-made environmental disasters in the world -- a giant, unstoppable mud volcano in Indonesia -- as experienced by three families who lost their homes to the mud and are banding together to rebuild their lives.

***People's Republic of Desire*** (China)

**Director:** Hao Wu

**Producer:** Hao Wu

China's super-rich and dirt-poor never cross paths in real life, yet in popular virtual showrooms they band together to worship their favorite online stars. In this digital universe where everything seems possible, a karaoke singer, a poor migrant worker and a rags-to-riches comedian seek fame, fortune and human connection, but find the same promises and perils online as in their real lives.

***United Skates*** (Australia / United States)

**Directors:** Dyana Winkler and Tina Brown

**Producers:** Dyana Winkler and Tina Brown

*United Skates* follows an underground subculture growing inside our country's last standing roller rinks. Through the eyes of two unassuming leaders, Reggie and Phelicia battle in a racially charged environment to save a community and culture still undiscovered by the American mainstream before it disappears.

***Untitled Missouri Film*** (United States)

**Director:** Rebecca Cammisa

**Producer:** James B. Freyberg, Larissa Bills

*Untitled Missouri Film* is an environmental justice story of two communities in St. Louis who are mobilizing themselves to get answers. One community is adjacent to an out-of-control, underground landfill fire that is moving towards a legacy nuclear waste site, and the other is experiencing high rates of cancer possibly due to ionizing radiation poisoning from the same nuclear waste source buried there since the 1940s.

***Whose Streets*** (United States)

**Directors:** Damon Davis and Sabaah Jordan

**Producers:** Flannery Miller and Jennifer MacArthur

*Whose Streets?* is an intimate portrayal of the Ferguson story told by the people who lived it.

*Sundance Institute | John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation*

***Women Leaders of the First Intifada*** (Brazil/United States)

**Director:** Julia Bacha

**Producers:** Rula Salameh and Rebekah Wingert-Jabi

In the spring of 1988, a clandestine network of Palestinian women emerged to lead a vibrant nonviolent social movement that put the Palestinian people on the map. Their identities have remained hidden... until now.

**IMPACT**

Awarded to a project for its audience engagement campaign.

***Newtown*** (United States)

**Director:** Kim A. Snyder

**Producers:** Maria Cuomo Cole and Kim A. Snyder

Joining the ranks of a growing club to which no one wants to belong, a cast of characters within Newtown, Connecticut interconnect, weaving an intimate story of resilience and tracing the aftermath of the worst mass shooting of schoolchildren in American history, the traumatized community and their new sense of purpose.

*Sundance Institute | Kendeda Fund*

**SPOTLIGHT AWARD**

Spotlight Awards serve as a prize for best pitch at select international forums in the Global South.

***Hatim's Dreams*** (Uganda)

**Director:** Matthew Bishanga

**Co-Director/Producer:** Nathan Magoola

A tenacious 13-year old child in rural Uganda, Hatim Sebanja, who suffers from sickle-cell anemia, embarks on a journey to Kampala, the big city, to compete in a robotics competition despite the odds stacked against him.

### ART OF NONFICTION FELLOWS : YEAR TWO

*In partnership with Cinereach*

Artist-based support including an unrestricted grant and a year-long slate of activities and encounters designed in response to particular creative needs.

**Khalik Allah** is a New York-based filmmaker and photographer. His previous film, *Field Niggas*, premiered at the 2015 True/False Film Festival and has played over 50 film festivals, schools and universities around the world. Of the film, Richard Brody of *The New Yorker* wrote, "director Khalik Allah revitalizes the genre of observational filmmaking". Khalik chosen as one of *Filmmaker Magazine's* 25 New Faces of Independent Film in 2015. He is currently in-production on his next film, *BLACK MOTHER*.

**Kitty Green** is an award-winning Australian filmmaker. Her independent feature documentary, *Ukraine Is Not A Brothel* premiered at the Venice Film Festival in 2013 and screened at IDFA, Hot Docs, SXSW and over 50 film festivals internationally. Her short film, *The Face of Ukraine: Casting Oksana Baiul* won the Non-Fiction Jury Prize at Sundance Film Festival in 2015. Kitty has just completed post-production on her second feature, *Casting JonBenet*.

**Kirsten Johnson** has worked as both a documentary director and cinematographer, committing herself to human rights issues and visual creativity. Kirsten directed *Cameraperson*, which premiered at the 2016 Sundance Film Festival, played as the Closing Night film at New Directors/New Films, and went on to win nine jury prizes at festivals around the world. The film has been nominated for Best Documentary by the 2016 Gotham Awards. Her short film *The Above* premiered at 2015 New York Film Festival.

**RaMell Ross** is a Rhode Island and Alabama based artist whose work has focused on the contemporary Historic South. He was part of *Filmmaker Magazine's* 2015 list of 25 New Faces of Independent Film. RaMell's large format photography, published in outlets such as *The New York Times* and *Oxford American*, has received international recognition, and he was recently awarded a 2016 Aaron Siskind Individual Photographer's Fellowship. He is currently in-production on the feature film *Idiom (Hale County this Morning, This Evening)* while a Professor of Practice at Brown University.

**Brett Story** is a writer and nonfiction filmmaker based in New York. Originally from Canada, Brett holds a PhD in Geography from the University of Toronto, and was the recipient of the Documentary Organization of Canada Institute's 2014 New Visions Award. Her most recent feature documentary, *The Prison in Twelve Landscapes*, is currently touring festivals internationally and will be broadcast on PBS's *Independent Lens* in 2017. Brett is currently in development on her next project, *The Hottest August*.

### ART OF NONFICTION FUND (NEW)

Project-based recognition of work by artists pushing the formal boundaries of creative nonfiction.

***Bloody Nose, Empty Pockets*** (Development)

**Directors:** The Ross Brothers

**Producers:** The Department of Motion Pictures, Matt Sargeant, Chere Theriot

The Ross Brothers are a documentary filmmaking team whose works have been featured at museums and festivals throughout the world. Their work has been supported by the Sundance Institute, the Rooftop

Filmmaker Fund, Cinereach, The San Francisco Film Society and the late Roger Ebert. In the fall of 2016 they were voted one of the Ten Documentary Filmmakers of the Decade by the Cinema Eye Honors. Their credits include the award winning films *45365*, *Tchoupitoulas*, *Western*, and *Contemporary Color*.

***Caniba*** (Production)

**Directors:** Lucien Castaing-Taylor and Verena Paravel

**Producer:** Sensory Ethnography Laboratory

Lucien Castaing-Taylor and Verena Paravel collaborate as anthropologists, artists, and filmmakers in the Sensory Ethnography Laboratory, based in Cambridge, USA, at Harvard University, and in Paris, France. Their work conjugates art's negative capability with an ethnographic attachment to the flux of life. Most of Castaing-Taylor and Paravel's collaborations are in film, video, and installation. Their latest film *Leviathan* was released theatrically in 2013, and won awards at over twenty film festivals around the world.

***Realm of Satan (Working Title)*** (Development)

**Director:** Scott Cummings

Scott Cummings is a New York-based filmmaker. His work has screened at MOMA, IFF Rotterdam, CPH:DOX, BAMcinemaFEST, Visions du Reel, Chicago Underground Film Fest, and more. His 2014 film *Buffalo Juggalos* won the Grand Jury Prize at the 2014 AFI Fest and received the Cinema Eye Honors for Outstanding Achievement in Short Nonfiction Filmmaking. He was named one of Filmmaker Magazine's 25 New Faces of Independent Film in 2014.

***Untitled*** (Development)

**Director:** Joshua Oppenheimer

**Producer:** Signe Byrge Sørensen

Joshua Oppenheimer's debut feature, *The Act of Killing* (2014 Academy Award Nominee for Best Documentary), was named Film of the Year in the 2013 by the Guardian and the Sight and Sound Film Poll, and won 72 international awards. His second film, *The Look of Silence* (2016 Academy Award Nominee for Best Documentary), premiered at the Venice Film Festival, where it won five awards, including the Grand Jury Prize and the critics award (Prix FIPRESCI). Since then, *The Look of Silence* has received 72 awards internationally. In 2014, Joshua was awarded a MacArthur Fellowship.

***Untitled*** (Development)

**Director:** Amanda Rose Wilder

**Producer:** Chris Boeckmann

Amanda Rose Wilder's debut feature *Approaching The Elephant* was named one of 2014's best unreleased films by Film Comment and Indiewire and one of 2015's best films by The New Yorker and The A.V. Club. The film was nominated for a Gotham for Best Documentary and Indie Spirit's Truer Than Fiction Award, and received the Emerging Cinematic Vision Award at Camden Film Festival and the Maysles Brothers Award at Belfast Film Festival.

## **STORIES OF CHANGE CONTENT FUND**

The Stories of Change (SOC) Content Fund, supported by the Skoll Foundation, encourages the development and production of compelling storytelling to catalyze positive change on urgent social issues. The SOC Content Fund provides grants to feature-length, short, and episodic documentary and scripted film projects; and immersive and interactive storytelling platforms.

***Accidental Anarchist*** (Post-Production)

**Directors and Producers:** John Archer and Clara Glynn

**Social Entrepreneur/Organization:** Independent Diplomat

A look at how the contemporary system of governments and capitalism is failing to solve problems like inequality, global warming and political instability, and one man's belief in a solution: Anarchism. From Spain to Kurdistan, "Independent Diplomat" Carne Ross pursues this belief.

***Awavena*** (Development)

**Director:** Lynette Wallworth

**Producer:** Nicole Newnham

**Social Entrepreneur/Organization:** The Sociocultural Association of Yawanawá

A virtual-reality immersive artwork that travels the viewer/visitor to the Amazonian forest home of the Yawanawa people.

***Cross My Heart*** (Development)

**Director:** Kip Oebanda

**Social Entrepreneur/Organization:** Visayan Forum Foundation

A scripted episodic crime series about a college student who tries to find his missing sister he suspects has been the victim human trafficking.

***Francis*** (Production)

**Director:** Judy Korin

**Producers:** Zoë Adams and Cori Shepherd Stern

**Social Entrepreneur/Organization:** Basic Needs

Based on the true story of Francis Pii Kugbila, a husband, father and teacher in northern Ghana, this VR project addresses the importance of global mental health treatment..

***Kailash Satyarthi Project*** (Production)

**Director:** Pankaj Johar

**Social Entrepreneur/Organization:** Kailash Satyarthi

A short documentary about the child labor activist and Nobel Peace Prize winner and the battle to end child slavery.

***Logs of War*** (Production)

**Directors:** Anjali Nayar and Hawa Essuman

**Producer:** Steven Markovitz

**Social Entrepreneur/Organization:** Global Witness

With a network of dedicated citizen reporters and mobile technology, seasoned Liberian activist Silas Siakor determines to change the status quo of big business by fighting for local communities.

***Namati Film Project*** (Development)

**Director:** Jerry Rothwell

**Social Entrepreneur/Organization:** Namati

A feature documentary about legal practitioner Sonkita Conteh, who trains a team of "barefoot lawyers" that fight to overturn unjust land sales agreements and restore the environmental integrity of their land.

***Orphans of the Land; Children of the Sea*** (Development)

**Director:** Garth Cripps

**Advisor:** Jerry Rothwell

**Social Entrepreneur/Organization:** Blue Ventures

The first installment of a documentary series about the Vevo of southwest Madagascar --one of the world's last truly traditional fishing people and how overcoming the odds to protect their corals reefs and seafaring way of life.

***Racial Terror in America: A History in Three Acts*** (Production)

**Co-Directors:** Joe Brewster and Michèle Stephenson

**Interactive:** Kat Cizek

**Social Entrepreneur/Organization:** Equal Justice Initiative

An interactive film trilogy that tells the story of how our present day lived experiences of racial violence and discrimination reflect a long insufficiently acknowledged history of white racial oppression. The trilogy connects the impact of today's structural oppression on communities of color in America with the legacy of slavery and white supremacy.

### **BERTHA FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIP (NEW)**

*In partnership with Bertha Foundation*

A new Fellowship for documentary filmmakers offers a coordinated network of financial, creative, legal, and strategic resources to inspire more effective engagement across the disciplines of storytelling, law and activism.

***The Hard Stop*** (UK)

**Director:** George Amponsah

**Producers:** George Amponsah and Dionne Walker

The racially charged police killing of Mark Duggan in August 2011 ignited the worst civil unrest in recent British history. Duggan's closest friends, Marcus and Kurtis, take us on a tour of their insulated world, which we pass everyday but never really see.

***Untitled Jennifer Laude Documentary*** (United States)

**Director:** PJ Raval

**Producers:** Marty Syjuco, Sara Giustini, and Kara Magsanoc-Alikpala

Grassroots activists in the Philippines are spurred into action when a local transgender woman is found dead in a motel room with a 19-year-old U.S. marine as the leading suspect. As they demand answers and a just trial, hidden histories of U.S. colonization come bubbling to the surface.

***Obstinate*** (Afghanistan)

**Director:** Sahra Mosawi

**Producer:** Nicole Levinge

When a 23-year-old Afghan woman, Khatera, confronts the will of her family and the traditions of her country to seek justice for years of sexual abuse from her father, she sheds light on the faulty Afghan judicial system and the women it rarely protects.

### **NEW FRONTIER**

A cross-programmatic initiative to identify and foster independent artists and creative technologists innovating the art and form of story at the convergence of diverse forms of creative expression; and to build a community of collaborators across diverse disciplines to push the boundaries of story.

***America in Transition*** (United States)**Director:** André Pérez

*America in Transition* is a web series, interactive documentary, and community engagement campaign that takes a real look at social change from the perspective of trans people in marginalized communities. Director André Pérez founded the Trans Oral History project seven years ago, motivated by the isolation he felt growing up in a military family in Virginia. Join this journey across the country to document real life for a two-spirit educator, a suicidal veteran, a woman living with HIV and more.

*Sundance Institute | Arcus Foundation Fund*

***CareForce*** (United States)**Creator:** Marisa Morán Jahn in collaboration with Yael Melamede

*The CareForce™* is a transmedia public art project, web series, and mobile studio (the CareForce One™) that amplifies the voices of America's fastest growing workforce — caregivers. Initiated by Studio REV- (lead artist, Marisa Morán Jahn) in collaboration with Oscar and Emmy-winning filmmaker Yael Melamede (SALTY Features), the *CareForce™*'s goal is to spark the public imagination around caregiving relationships. Join the *CareForce™* for hands-on workshops, exhibitions, dance sessions, and pit-stops at museums, parks, libraries, worker centers, transit stops, and public spaces across the U.S.

*Sundance Institute | Rockefeller Foundation Impact Fund*

***Flux*** (Denmark, United States)**Creator:** Suvi Andrea Helminen

How much of our gender identity is shaped by culture and how much by nature? This is an eternal question which never ceases to intrigue. *Flux* is an interactive and personalized web documentary in development that will allow users to explore how gender identities are constructed. It is a journey into an alternate society where gender is negotiated and chosen instead of being defined by sex. Fluidity rules! Nothing is definite. *Flux* is an intimate encounter with gender-fluid people, a path to self-discovery, and the seed for a collective movement of imagining change.

*Sundance Institute | Arcus Foundation Fund*

***Queerskins*** (United States)**Director:** Illya Szilak**Producer:** Katy Morrison & Oscar Raby

A diary found in a box of belongings offers a devoutly Catholic mother living in rural Missouri a second chance to know the estranged son she has lost to AIDS. Combining an interactive art installation with a virtual space and award-winning online narrative, this project offers a baroque, magical realist journey through loss, remembrance, desire and fantasy that will challenge user conceptions of love, faith and redemption.

*Sundance Institute | Arcus Foundation Fund*

**Sundance Institute**

Founded in 1981 by Robert Redford, Sundance Institute is a nonprofit organization that provides and preserves the space for artists in film, theatre, and new media to create and thrive. The Institute's signature Labs, granting, and mentorship programs, dedicated to developing new work, take place throughout the year in the U.S. and



internationally. The Sundance Film Festival and other public programs connect audiences to artists in igniting new ideas, discovering original voices, and building a community dedicated to independent storytelling. Sundance Institute has supported such projects as *Beasts of the Southern Wild*, *Fruitvale Station*, *Sin Nombre*, *The Invisible War*, *The Square*, *Dirty Wars*, *Spring Awakening*, *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder* and *Fun Home*. Join [Sundance Institute](#) on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#).

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