



NWR
THE NORTHWEST RENAISSANCE
Poets, Performers & Publishers

Grant-funded Poetry Film “TELL YOUR CHILDREN” to screen at Seattle Transmedia & Independent Film Fest 2017

For people who love independent film, contemporary, original poetry, and fairy tales, myths and legends.

TELL YOUR CHILDREN will screen at the Factory Luxe in South Seattle as part of this year’s Seattle Transmedia & Independent Film Festival. TELL YOUR CHILDREN is a woman-led production based on poetry, filmed in Tacoma, and produced by a local poetry organization. Showing will be at STIFF 2017 on Saturday July 22, 7pm, as part of the “Enthusiastic Short Films” block. Tickets & info at: www.trueindependent.org

TELL YOUR CHILDREN is a series of 4 short films based on poems by Tacoma-local actor and writer, Emilie Rommel Shimkus. 3 live-action and 1 animated film use poetry and magical realism to tell intimate stories of women from myth and fairy tale. Goddesses, a sister of swans, and dancing princesses come to life, their tales rooted in legend and loss. It was also an official selection for the 2017 Port Orchard and GenCon Film Festivals.

Tacoma Local & Crowd-funded Filmmaking

TELL YOUR CHILDREN is a “home-grown” Tacoma film, and a tribute to the beautiful locations and talented filmmakers in The City of Destiny. Not only was it shot on location in Tacoma, but it was partially funded by a Tacoma Artists Initiative Program (TAIP) grant awarded to Rommel Shimkus by the Tacoma Arts Commission and 4Culture through. The rest of the of the funding was obtained with a successful kickstarter campaign.

Artistic Collaboration & Female-led Filmmaking

When Emilie Rommel Shimkus—the creator of TELL YOUR CHILDREN—first began thinking about the project, she intentionally designed it as a collaboration between active and engaged artists and professionals working in the Puget Sound film, theatre, and poetry communities. She noted, “It’s easy to find beautiful, ongoing collaborations between poets and dancers, photographers, textile artists, and even graphics artists... but what about poets and independent, narrative filmmakers?”

Rommel Shimkus also quickly decided that the project should employ as many women as possible in as many roles and key positions as possible. According to the project website (www.poetryshorts.org): “We are so proud to be a female-centric, inclusive, and family-friendly production. That means that all our key crew positions are female, including the creator, producers, directors, director of photography, assistant director, and several other positions. It also means our set and shooting schedule were purposefully designed to accommodate working parents, pregnant mothers, and mothers of infants.”

Producing Partners

TELL YOUR CHILDREN is the inaugural film production of **The Northwest Renaissance: Poets, Performers & Publishers**, a non-profit (501c3) organization with more than 30 years committed to the mission to bring poetry to the communities of the Puget Sound area in Washington State. The film is supported by our producing partners, **The Tacoma Arts Commission** and **4Culture** and by **Zombie Orpheus Entertainment**, who will provide additional distribution venues after film festival submissions.