

All of Me: Artists + Mothers | maríavelasco press kit



crew and cast

All of Me: Artists + Mothers, 2021
[digital/color/16:9/stereo/15:25/english]

Director: María Velasco

Producers: María Velasco; Bryce Heesacker

Cinematographers: Bryce Heesacker; Maggie Vaughn

Editors: María Velasco; Bryce Heesacker

Music: Bryce Heesacker

In order of appearance:

Ukhona Ntsali Mlandu

Brigid McAuliffe

Ginny Kaczmarek

Sebastian Merrill McAuliffe

María Velasco

Alex Velasco-Crates

Carolina Porras

Adrian Kaczmarek Johnson

screenings

2020 [Female Filmmakers Fuse Film Festival](#)
Los Angeles, CA

2020 [Women in Film and Television](#) (WIFTA)
Short Film Showcase
Best Female Representation Award
Atlanta, GA

2020 [Screen Power Film Festival](#)
London, United Kingdom
Official Selection

2019 Southeastern College Art Conference
University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, TN

press

2019 [Sieg, Stina. Parenthood Can Split An Artist From Their Creativity. In Paonia, They Can Be Reunited. Colorado Public Radio, CO](#)

All of Me | maríavelasco press kit 2



Left to right: Artist Ukhona Mlandu at her Elsewhere studio being interviewed by Director María Velasco; Artist Brigid McAuliffe and son Sebastian Merrill-McAuliffe and Director María Velasco discussing the set up with Cinematographer Bryce Heesacker in the common area at Elsewhere Studios. Opposite page: Alex Velasco-Crates, Brigid McAuliffe, María Velasco, and Ukhona Mlandu during the filming process.

All of Me | maríavelasco press kit 3

synopsis

All of Me: Artists+Mothers features four women whose divergent life circumstances have led them to negotiate their role as mothers and artists very differently. Battling impostor syndrome, juggling the stigma of single parenting, refusing traditional child-rearing roles in a markedly patriarchal world are some of the experiences they share in common, besides arriving at the tiny town of Paonia (Colorado) to spend a few weeks at Elsewhere Studios to make new creative works.

Artists + Mothers
All of Me

All of Me | maríavelasco press kit 4

director María Velasco



“My artistic practice is an opportunity to connect with a community and ask questions about what we take for granted”

MARÍA VELASCO is a Spanish-born artist who has been living and working in the US since 1991. She creates site-specific installations, public art and participatory projects about displacement, gender identity, vulnerability, and the structures of authority that govern our lives. She has exhibited her work nationally and internationally in museums and venues of reputation such as The Soap Factory in Minneapolis, the Contemporary Arts Forum in Santa Barbara, CA, the ARC gallery in Chicago, the Spencer Museum of Art in Lawrence, KS, the Paula Cooper gallery and the Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts, both in NYC. Her work has been exhibited in Spain, Mexico, Argentina, Paraguay, Morocco and Germany.

Velasco obtained a scholarship to further her studies in the U.S. through the Madrid-California Education Abroad program at the Universidad Complutense of Madrid, where she received her B.F.A. and completed doctoral courses. She obtained an M.F.A. from the University of California at Santa Barbara. She is a Professor of Visual Art at the University of Kansas and lives in Lawrence with her eleven-year-old son, Alex, who loves to draw and make art.



“My work involves immersive sound and video installations and emergent technologies that invite viewers to become entangled with art--and each other--in meaningful ways”

cinematographer Bryce Heesacker

All of Me | maríavelasco press kit 5

BRYCE HEESACKER who also works under the moniker F. C. Zuke, is an interdisciplinary artist working in sound, video, installation, computer programming, and interactive media. His works have been performed, screened, and exhibited in the United States, Europe, and Asia and often investigate the psychological systems that humans establish, follow, and promote. His practice thrives in research environments, and is informed by several academic fields, including systems theory, psychology, epistemology, history, music theory and composition, and the digital humanities. He has also served as an Andrew W. Mellon Research Fellow at the Spencer Museum of Art where he coordinated interdisciplinary exhibitions and symposia.

Bryce currently lives in Lawrence, Kansas where he teaches video art, sound art, installation, performance, and interactive art. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Music Composition from the Hixson-Lied College of Fine & Performing Arts in Lincoln, Nebraska and an M.F.A. in Expanded Media from the University of Kansas.

All of Me | mariavelasco press kit 6



artist Brigid McAuliffe

BRIGID MCAULIFFE is the director and co-founder of *Picture Me Here*, a participatory digital storytelling program for refugees and immigrants in the US. She uses art and technology to enrich individuals and strengthen communities.

She teaches New Media at the university and community levels and consult with nonprofits, businesses, and foundations on using digital technologies for effective communication. She has an MFA in Emerging Digital Practice from the University of Denver and a BFA in Photography from Colorado State University. She has exhibited her work internationally and curated *Picture Me Here* exhibits in the US and Nepal.

“I am committed to art that is transformative. I view beauty and impact as reciprocal forces “



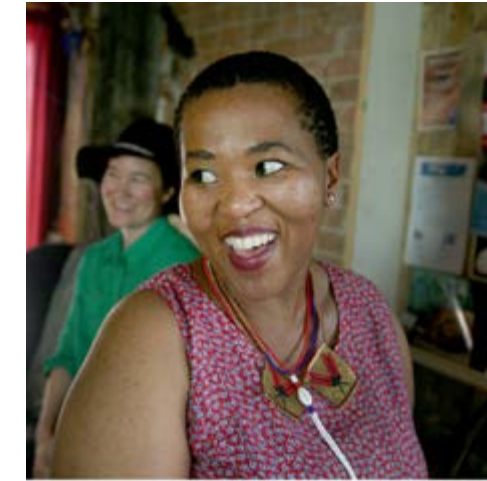
writer Ginny Kaczmarek

GINNY KACZMAREK is a writer, editor, and book reviewer for kids and adults. After earning an BA and an MFA in creative writing/poetry, she served as the poetry editor for Literary Mama and as a reviewer for Kirkus Reviews for several years. She is currently working on a new fiction novel titled 'Secrets of the Wolf Girl'. She is represented by Elizabeth Bewley of Sterling Lord Literistic.

She lives in New Orleans with her family, and occasionally dances in the streets in a wig and tutu.

“I seek out marginalized voices, embrace intersectional viewpoints, and strive to uphold a supportive literary community.

All of Me | mariavelasco press kit 7



artist Ukhona Mlandu

UKHONA NTSALI MLANDU is a queer radical feminist, African Spiritual Healer and Ideas Engineer from South Africa (SA). She is founder of makwande republic retreat and residency with a home base in Goshen Village, Eastern Cape, SA. Her art practice involves site-specific work and writing. Her work is influenced by intersectional, black queer feminist ideas in addition to raising and homeschooling two children.

“Healing is not a destination but a process”

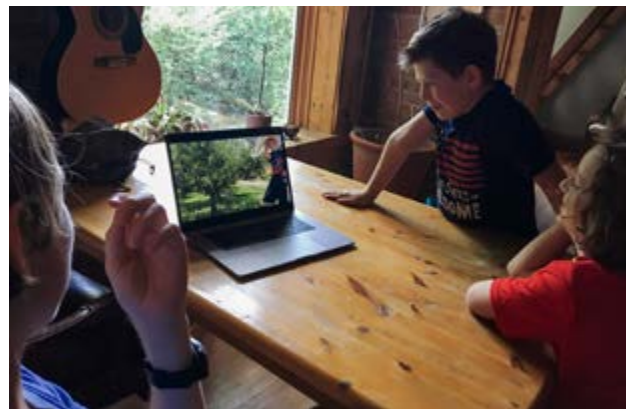
Her performance art piece *ukuzibuyisa: giving myself back to myself* is an inter-generational conversation with her fore-mothers, herself and her daughter about the ways in which womxn are taught to give away or kill parts of themselves for the patriarchal world order to be maintained. The piece is a journey of realization, opting out and cleansing. Its a confrontation of inter-generational trauma and a ritual to end the cycle(s) of abuse.



Alex Velasco-Crates

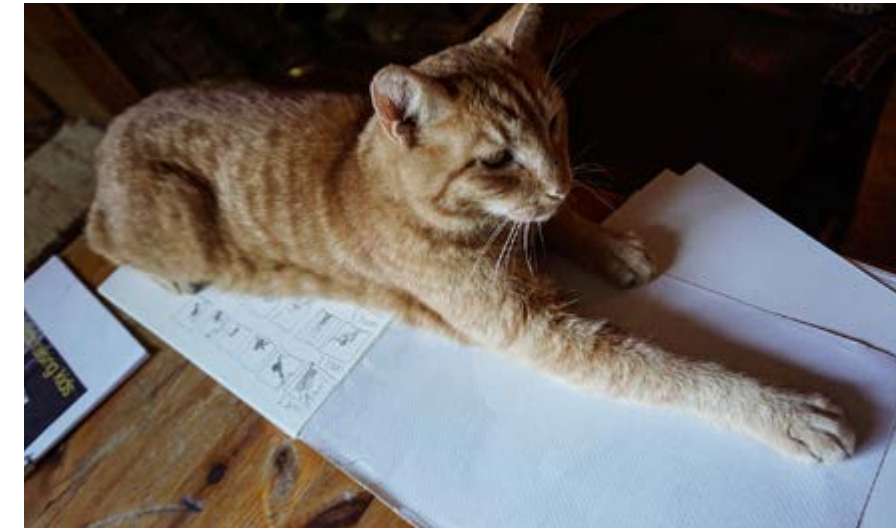


Sebastian Merrill McAuliffe



Adrian and Emery Kaczmarek Johnson

elsewhere kids



Left to right (clockwise): Adrian and Emery Kaczmarek Johnson with Alex Velasco-Crates working on their movie; Reporter, Stina Sieg interviewing María Velasco and son Alex for Colorado Public Radio; Tomatoes The Cat helping at the table; Elsewhere Studios entrance guarded by Silver Man; Elsewhere Studios building viewed from across the street.

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