

**Los Angeles Filmforum presents:  
Adrift: Alejandro Alonso Estrella  
Online, Sunday Sept 25 – Wednesday Sept 29, 2021**

Los Angeles Filmforum is the city's longest-running organization dedicated to weekly screenings of experimental film, documentaries, video art, and experimental animation. 2021 is our 46<sup>th</sup> year. [www.lafilmforum.org](http://www.lafilmforum.org)

**Conversation: Live Q&A with Filmmaker and Programmers on Tuesday Sept 28, 7 pm**

*Adrift* is a residency program curated by Bahía Colectiva in collaboration with LA Filmforum where filmmakers connect with audiences and other practitioners by sharing a virtual archive of the process materials behind their film and video works. The materials showcased may include: texts, images, sounds, music, research notes, drawings, sculpture, found objects, film references, food recipes, news reports, text messages, accidental encounters, inspirations, conversations, arguments, dreams, etc. Existing in virtuality, *Adrift* is a borderless space for community building and broadening collective knowledge between filmmakers, artists, curators and enthusiasts.

We are excited to announce Alejandro Alonso Estrella as our artist in residence this week. His work meditates on the ideological constructs of nationhood, homeland and access. Through experimentation with form and visual language he trifles with territorial limitations to reflect on alternative Cuban futures and reimagine the past. The archive of unseen materials will be accessible through *Bahía Colectiva's* [online platform](https://bahia colectiva.com/). <https://bahia colectiva.com/> The film screening and discussion on the exposed archive will be streamed through LA Filmforum's website.

Programmed by Bahía Colectiva.

**Screening:**

**Total Runtime: 77 mins**

**The Project**

Cuba, 2017, Digital, Color, Sound, 60 min, Los Angeles Premiere

A filmmaker is banned from filming at an old school turned into dwellings. Over the years, he decides to remake *The Project*. Exploring his memory, he puts together a movie about denial, the image impossibility and the breakup of a social, artistic and personal project. (A.A.E.)

**El Hijo del Sueño**

Cuba, 2016, 16mm, B&W, sound, 9 min, Los Angeles Premiere

My uncle Julio César left for the United States during the Mariel Exodus in 1980. For the next 15 years he unsuccessfully tried to reunite with our family, until he contracted AIDS and disappeared without any

trace. The letters and postcards that served as a bridge between him and our family, have become my compass to his memory. (A.A.E.)

## **Home**

Cuba, 2019, 16mm, B&W, sound, 8 min, Los Angeles Premiere

The people of Cuba have been condemned to wander, moving within the limits of an idea. Every building, street and tree are modified in a constant cycle. The new images aspire to be definitive, with the hope of revealing the most intimate memory, the first home. (A.A.E.)

## **Biographies:**

**Alejandro Alonso Estrella** (1987, Cuba) graduated in Documentary Direction from Escuela Internacional de Cine y Televisión (EICTV). His short documentaries have won awards at many festivals. *The Farewell* (2014) had its world premiere at IDFA. *Duel* (2016) was premiered at Cinema du Réel; it won the prize for the best short film at the 32 Film Festival of Mar del Plata and for the best short film at the 58 Festival of Poppoli. His first feature documentary, *The Project* (2017), premiered at Visions du Réel and was awarded the FIPRESCI Prize at DOK Leipzig. *Terranova* (2021) won the Ammodo Tiger Short Award in Rotterdam. During 2017 and 2019, coordinated the Alternative Cinema Master programme at EICTV.

**Bahía Colectiva** is a community of filmmakers who collaborate in cinematic practice and curation. In collectivity, we share our learnings, our inspirations, our successes, and our losses. Together, we experiment with cinematic languages and dismantle dominating modes of production. We look for forms of resistance through our exchange and the communal dissection of socio-political issues, and aim to take part in the work towards demarginalizing independent, essayistic and experimental cinema. Our work is driven by a process of questioning and centers on themes including, but not limited to: borders, immigration, trees, memory, ghosts, demons, forensics, ancestral connections, landscapes as protagonists, physical and virtual realities, the dark web, land vs territory, exile, decoloniality, gender, our mothers, our grandmothers and waves.

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Los Angeles Filmforum screenings are supported by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors through the Los Angeles County Department of Arts & Culture, the Department of Cultural Affairs, City of Los Angeles, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Mike Kelley Foundation for the Arts, the California Community Foundation, the California State Relief Fund, and the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences. We also depend on our members, ticket buyers, and individual donors.

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Memberships available, \$40 Student \$75 Individual, \$125 Dual, or \$225 Silver Nitrate

Contact us at [lafilmforum@yahoo.com](mailto:lafilmforum@yahoo.com)

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