

**Los Angeles Filmforum presents**  
***Manu – A Visual Album***  
**Wednesday, November 29, 2023, 7:30 pm**  
**At 2220 Arts + Archives**

Los Angeles Filmforum is the city's longest running organization dedicated to weekly screenings of experimental film, documentaries, video art, and experimental animation. 2023 is our 48th year. [www.lafilmforum.org](http://www.lafilmforum.org)

**In person: Bryan Senti and Alexandra Cuesta in conversation with Madison Brookshire and Nate Sloan**

**US Premiere!**

**The film will be preceded by a short performance by Bryan Senti**

**Dedicated to Bérénice Reynaud**

*Manu, A Visual Album* is an experimental documentary by Alexandra Cuesta born as an accompanying piece for the record *Manu* by composer Bryan Senti. Senti's record is a self-voyage that searches and explores his Latin American ancestry through the complexities of weaving Indigenous sounds with Western Classical influences. A meditation on landscape, the film is also constructed as a voyage, visually inhabiting the diverse geographies of the Ecuadorian territory: coast, highlands, and Amazon, the director's country of origin.

Shot on 16mm film in black & white and color and moving through various textures, portraits, territories, and visual rhythms, the film reflects on memory and hints at remembrances of shared experiences. Intertwining documentary and visual poetry, *Manu, a Visual Album* is also a document of remote locations in Ecuador currently on the verge of disappearance due to climate change and increasing violence. These last remains of the past hold an inherent nostalgia and a sense of surrender, which speaks about the region's historical and colonial mandates and the sociopolitical implication of the complicated legacy in Latin America.

**Bryan Senti** is a BAFTA winning first-generation Latin American composer, violinist / multi-instrumentalist, and producer. His debut crossover LP, “*Manu*” was released on the French independent, Naïve (Believe) in 2022 and the accompanying remix record featuring artists such as Grammy award winner Toumani Diabaté and electronic music innovator Kaitlyn Aurelia Smith was released summer of 2023. His recent collaborations include numerous projects for Dustin O’Halloran and Peter Gregson for Deutsche Grammophon. His film and tv career began with Michael Almereyda’s “*Experimenter*” which premiered at Sundance in 2015 and since then he has composed for multiple films and tv shows including the BAFTA winning series “*Save Me*” (2021) by Lennie James. Most recently he scored the BBC musical, “*Mood*” by Nicole Lecky which earned him a BAFTA award for original music. Bryan is a graduate of Yale University and Carnegie Mellon. <https://bryansenti.com/>

**Alexandra Cuesta** is an Ecuadorian MacDowell Colony Fellow and Guggenheim Award-winning experimental filmmaker and visual artist living in Quito, Ecuador. Her poetic films and

videos combine experimental film traditions with documentary practices and often comment on social diasporas and displacement

**Nate Sloan** is a musicologist and performer who researches jazz, classical, and popular music, and teaches at the University of Southern California Thornton School of Music. He co-hosts the *Vulture* podcast [Switched on Pop](#) and has written about music for the *New York Times* and other publications. The New York Film Festival, Fronteira Festival, Guggenheim Museum, MOCA Museum of Contemporary Art, Open City Film Festival, Viennale Int'l Film Festival, Palacio Nacional de Bellas Artes, Oberhausen, FiD Marseille, Anthology Film Archives, among others. She has an M.F.A. in Film and Video from Cal Arts.  
<https://cargocollective.com/alexandracuesta>

**Madison Brookshire** lives in Los Angeles, where he makes films, paintings, and performances. His work invites viewers to become aware of perceptual processes and the sensuous experience of time. He frequently collaborates with musicians and composers, such as Ezra Buchla, LCollective, Laura Steenberge, Mark So, and Tashi Wada. More: [madisonbrookshire.com](http://madisonbrookshire.com)

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### **Screening:**

#### ***Manu: A Visual Album***

Film by Alexandra Cuesta, Music by Bryan Senti, Produced by April Cuneo Senti  
2023, 16mm on digital, color & b&w, sound, 61 minutes

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This program is supported by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors through the Los Angeles County Arts Commission, the Department of Cultural Affairs, City of Los Angeles, and the Mike Kelley Foundation for the Arts. We also depend on our members, ticket buyers, and individual donors.

Coming soon:

Nov 30 - Thurs - Abstraction and Eviction: Films by (and about) Harry Smith with live score by Will Epstein, Dave Harrington, and Photay

Dec 3 - So Much I Want To Say: A Glimpse Into Palestinian Erasure - Screening + Lecture , at Human Resources

Dec 8 - Raphael Montañez Ortiz: Chopping Up the Classics, at the UCLA Film & TV Archive

Dec 10 - Hayoun Kwon: Virtually Real, at 2220 Arts + Archives

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

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

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