

AGBU
ARTS

ARMENIANS IN FILM

6 SHORT FILMS

AT LINCOLN CENTER

FEATURING WORKS
BY ARMENIAN FILMMAKERS

2022 FILMMAKERS

GATHERING

Alik Barsoumian, Noah Garabedian,
Gregory Dolbashian

THE TICKET

Kevork Aslanyan

HISHÉ

Anahid Yahjian

ANAHIDE

Arnaud Khayadjanian

250KM

A film based on real events.
Hasmik Movsisyan

STUCK

Nevdon Jamgochian

DEC 6 @7 PM

FRANCESCA BEALE THEATER
AT FILM AT LINCOLN CENTER

144 W 65TH ST
NEW YORK, NY 10023

ABOUT AGBU ARTS

Armenian culture is as deep as its ancient roots, as rich as its mastery of diverse art forms, and as inventive and ingenious as its people. For this reason, AGBU Arts has become a driving force for developing and showcasing Armenian artists and performers while treating audiences to experiences that reveal the transcendent human spirit in the Armenian context.

Central to AGBU Arts' mission is introducing Armenian culture and traditions to audiences worldwide, the biennial **AGBU Sayat Nova International Composition Competition** introduces Armenian musical traditions to composers of all backgrounds; **AGBU Musical Armenia Program** hosts musicians from around the world in Yerevan each summer; **Armenians in Film at Lincoln Center** showcases the work of award-winning filmmakers at one of the country's pre-eminent film presenting organizations; the **AGBU Performing Artists in Concert at Carnegie Hall** gives young Armenian musicians the unique opportunity to perform on one of the world's most famous stages.

Together with AGBU Chapters, AGBU Arts organizes performance and exhibition opportunities around the world to increase exposure of Armenian creatives, at venues such as **Shinjuku Tsunohazu Kumin Hall in Tokyo**, **Caixa Forum in Barcelona**, **Cadillac Shanghai Concert Hall in Shanghai**, **Salle Cortot in Paris**, and through collaborations with institutions such as the **Museum of Modern Art (MoMA)**, the **Weill Institute of Music at Carnegie Hall**, **Centre Pompidou**, the **MET Museum**, and countless others.

For more information, and to support AGBU Arts, visit www.agbu.org/arts

AGBU ARTS CREATIVE TEAM

Anita Anserian, Advisor

Hayk Arsenyan, Director, AGBU Arts

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Stephen Colangelo, Coordinator, Social Media

Giovanni Bernal, Graphic Designer

The **Armenian General Benevolent Union (AGBU)** is the world's largest non-profit organization devoted to upholding the Armenian heritage through educational, cultural and humanitarian programs. Each year, AGBU is committed to making a difference in the lives of 500,000 people across Armenia, Artsakh and the Armenian diaspora. Since 1906, AGBU has remained true to one overarching goal: to create a foundation for the prosperity of all Armenians.

To learn more visit www.agbu.org.

PROGRAM



Gathering

Alik Barsoumian, Noah Garabedian,
Gregory Dolbashian (USA)

A musician's solo evolves into a rhythmic dialogue when his muse is summoned by his sound.



Alik Tamar Barsoumian Bio (Director)

Alik Tamar Barsoumian is an Armenian-American filmmaker based in New York where she directs and produces narrative films, commercials, and documentaries. Alik grew up in the non-profit arts organization her family began in Los Angeles over twenty years ago, which shaped her desire to explore the human experience through storytelling. A graduate of NYU's Tisch School of the Arts

with an MFA in filmmaking, Alik is an IFP Marcie Bloom fellow, a Telluride Film Festival fellow, a Tribeca Film Festival Bloom/Spiegel Fellow, and a participant in the first Her Arts Film Lab. Alik's films have traveled all over the world, from the Toronto Film Festival to Rotterdam, Mumbai, Doha, and Brazil among others. Alik is currently developing her first narrative feature, *Song of Sorrow*, which won Best Graduate Screenplay at the Fusion Film Festival and received the Will and Jada Pinkett Smith Family Foundation Writing Award.



Noah Garabedian Bio (Composer)

Bass player and composer Noah Garabedian seeks the human connection in the collaborative aspects of art, and is informed by folkloric traditions and stories. He holds a BA in Ethnomusicology from The University of California Los Angeles, and a Master's of Music Performance from New York University. Noah has performed and toured with Ravi Coltrane, Jeff "Tain" Watts, Andy Milne, Kris Davis, David

Virelles, Ralph Alessi, Josh Roseman, Nir Felder, and Frank LoCrasto. He is a 2022 Calouste Gulbenkian In View Grant recipient; 2021 Fellow for Creative Armenia/AGBU; 2011 ISB Double Bass Competition finalist; 2007 finalist for the Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz graduate program; 2006 John Coltrane National Scholarship recipient. Additionally, he has received two Arts Envoy grants from the US State Department to perform for the public, teach workshops, and collaborate with local musicians throughout Asia and Central Europe.

In September of 2022 Mr. Garabedian received a Fulbright Specialist Grant to teach music at São Paulo State Music School - EMESP Tom Jobim. In November of 2016, he received the same grant to teach jazz music for one month at Silpakorn University, in Bangkok, Thailand. As an educator Mr. Garabedian currently works with the music outreach program at Jazz At Lincoln Center, Jazz For Young People, as well as with the Stanford Jazz Workshop. In the past he has served as adjunct faculty at NYU, part-time faculty at The New School in New York City, and taught with The Weill Institute at Carnegie Hall.

As a composer and bandleader, Noah has released two albums under his own name, as well as one album as a part of the trio collective, Ember. In October 2020 he premiered a commission from the Peace Resource Center at Wilmington College, entitled "The Tragedy of Hate." His latest quartet album, "Consider The Stars Beneath Us," was released on Outside In Music in October 2022.



Gregory Dolbashian Bio (Choreographer)

Born and raised in New York City, Gregory received his dance training at the Alvin Ailey School, then graduated cum laude from SUNY Purchase dance conservatory. He debuted his own company, The DASH Ensemble, in December 2010 at The JOYCE SoHo. DASH Company performance credits include The JOYCE Theater, Baryshnikov Arts Center, New York Live Arts, Guggenheim

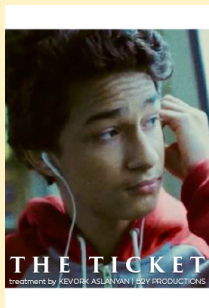
Works and Process Series, Kaatsbaan, Joe's Pub, Central Park Summerstage, Tribeca Film Festival, Venice Biennale in Madison Square Park, Bryant Park Dance Fest, as well as domestic touring all over the U.S. including Dallas, L.A., and North Carolina. Gregory, in partnership with dance education specialist Lindsey Pettus, is also the co-founder of The DASH Academy. He has been commissioned for original works by American Ballet Theater, including exclusive creations for Jeffrey Cirio, Daniil Simkin, and Hee Seo. Ballet commissions also include Atlanta Ballet, St. Louis Ballet, and Ballet Austin. He was the recipient of the highly selective Footprints commission at American Dance Festival, and most recently for Limon Dance Company's newly formed Limon 2. Awards for Choreography include Hubbard Street 2 International Competition, Ballet Austin's New American Talent, and Northwest Dance Project's Pretty Creatives. Commissions for Contemporary/ Rep companies include LA Contemporary Dance Co., Owen/Cox in Kansas City, Dark Circles CD in Dallas, TU Dance in MPLS and Northwest Dance Project in Portland, OR. His collegiate and training program commissions include Juilliard, Princeton, Point Park, LINES Ballet, BODYTRAFFIC Summer Study, MOVENYC YP & S.W.E.A.T programs, NYU, SUNY Purchase, Earl Mosely's Diversity of Dance, University of Minnesota, Fordham/Ailey, Montclair State, and SAM Houston State. Faculty positions include Broadway Dance Center, Gibney Dance, The Martha Graham School, Ballet Hispanico, Dallas Black Dance Theater, and Peridance Capezio Center. Adjunct positions held at SUNY Purchase and The Hartt School. He has conducted multiple masterclasses around the country including Juilliard, NYU, UNCSA, The Hartt School, Ballet

Hispanico, UC Irvine, SUNY Purchase, Point Park, Booker T Washington HSPVA, OCSA and HSPVA in Houston. In addition, Gregory, alongside fellow choreographer Loni Landon, is the co-founder of The PlaygroundNYC, a choreographic initiative that was voted 25 to Watch in 2013 by Dance Magazine.



Victoria Sendra Bio (Director of Photography)

Victoria Sendra (producer/cinematographer) is an associate video producer and videographer at Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, director of photography for Source Material Collective, has worked as an on-stage camera operator in Network on Broadway, and producer at Red Creek Productions. Her work has screened at Cinedans, Nowness, Film at Lincoln Center, Anthology Film Archives, San Francisco Dance Film Festival, The Getty Museum, and REDCAT.



The Ticket

Kevork Aslanyan

“A mother’s love is like no other love to which you can compare.” This is a story that showcases the love that one son carries for his mother. Georgi, 16, has to cross the whole city, using different city transportation, in order to buy a surprise present for his mother’s birthday, but he could afford only one ticket.

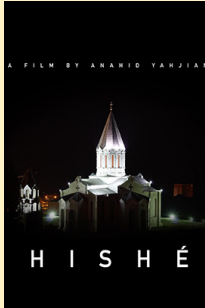


Kevork Aslanyan Bio

Kevork was born in Sofia, Bulgaria to the family of an engineer and an architect. Best parents in the world! He was never good in school and never would be. He started a career as a musician (rhythm guitarist) of a rock-punk-metal band, but soon realized that music is not his thing, or at least that was what the drummer of the band said...

Kevork then went to film school, fascinated by computers and what they can do and became one of those “not that bad feature film editors”. Then again, fascinated by lazy and bad directors made the decision to become one himself and ta-da: Here he is!

He got his BA in Film and TV editing at the National Academy for Theatre and Film Arts in 2009 (Sofia, Bulgaria). In 2012 he finished the London Film Academy as a Writer & Director (London, UK). His director’s debut is the short film GETTING FAT IN A HEALTHY WAY (2015).



Hishé

Anahid Yahjian

Hishé is a meditation on alienation, confusion, grief and the burden of remembering. These four elements frame my relationship with the Nagorno- Karabakh region now more than ever. As an American with

Western Armenian ancestry, I have never quite been able to claim neither ownership over nor full understanding of that "black garden" and its mind - bending history, yet I have nevertheless felt completely spellbound when walking amongst its silent ruins and dark, lush trees. Like a gap in the space - time continuum, this "no-man's land," as I once described it to the uninitiated, is a place where I have often gone and felt myself start to disappear. Now, as I reckon with possibly never being able to return to it within my mortal lifetime, I am drowning under the weight of making sure I never forget it.

This film is an attempt to capture this process, and is comprised of footage and photographs that I and others like me have accumulated in the last 10-12 years of areas in the region where we are no longer permitted to go and ask our questions.



Anahid Yahjian Bio

Anahid Yahjian is an independent writer, director and producer of experimental, documentary and narrative cinema. Her commitment to telling true stories (even if they come from her imagination) was shaped by an early love for visual storytelling that was formalized in college and took flight during her coming of age in Armenia. There, she produced the internationally awarded narrative short *140*

Drams (Camerimage, Clermont-Ferrand 2013), laid the creative groundwork for the feature documentary *Spiral* (IDFA Bertha Fund 2015, Golden Apricot 2017) and shot and directed the viral digital documentary *LEVON: A Wondrous Life* (2013). Since returning to her native Los Angeles, she shot and directed the experimental cine-triptych, *Corpus Callosum* (2014-2016) and directed the narrative science-fiction short *Transmission* (BFI Flare, Vancouver QFF 2019). She was later commissioned by the City of Glendale's ReflectSpace gallery to create the docu-memoir *Hishé* (2021). When not creating her own work, she directs branded content and music videos for clients such as AMC Networks, Amazon Music and Joyful Noise Recordings. Recently, she also supervised post production on televised series and digital content for A24, Netflix, Vice and Spotify. She splits her time between Yerevan, Sofia (her birthplace), Los Angeles (her home), and New York City.



Anahide

Arnaud Khayadjanian

Since her mother's death, Anahide – 17 – is living with her Armenian father. Today, the girl wants to convince him to allow her to get a tattoo.



Arnaud Khayadjanian Bio

Arnaud Khayadjanian is a self-taught movie writer and director. Currently, he is developing his first feature *LITTLE SAVAGE*, based on Benjamin Berton novel, Goncourt Prize in 2000. In 2021, Arnaud directed *ANAHIDE*, an Armenian language short film and *A LONELY NIGHT* with Victor Belmondo in the leading role. In 2020, Arnaud directed *NO MORE HEROES*, a short film about French greasers during

the 60's, written with Maïté Sonnet. In 2018, Arnaud directed his second documentary *WE ARE OUR MOUNTAINS* about the unknown and extraordinary people of Artsakh. In 2017, Arnaud directed *DEAF HEARTS*, a short film broadcasted on French-German channel ARTE and several festivals. In 2015, Arnaud directed *STONY PATHS*, a documentary inspired by the story of his Armenian great-grandparents. The film received the Jury Prize from Ismailia Festival in Egypt, the Best Documentary Prize in Yerevan Film Festival. In 2014, Arnaud directed *BAD GIRL*, a short film selected in 23 international festivals including Oscar Qualifying Uppsala Film Festival, a two-time winner at the Sundance Channel Contest (Vimeo and Jury Prize). *BAD GIRL* has been viewed more than 1.3 million times by streaming, and has been broadcasted on Sundance TV.



250km

A film based on real events

Hasmik Movsisyan

When a sudden war erupts, an 14-year-old boy and his family find themselves in the epicenter of a dangerous situation. Their fate rests on the boy's shoulders who must drive his family 250 kilometers to safety...



Hasmik Movsisyan Bio

Hasmik was born in 1991 in Yerevan, Armenia. At the age of 11 she moved with her family to St. Petersburg, Russia. She entered the medical faculty of St. Petersburg State University, where she received a medical degree and began working as a doctor. In 2017, she decided to follow her passion for film, applied and was accepted to the directing department of Gerasimov Institute of Cinematography (VGIK) to the feature film workshop of Alexander and Vladimir Kott and Anna Fenchenko. During her studies she made 4 films, "Apnea" 2019, "Together" 2021, "Harisa" 2022, and "250km" 2022. These films have received numerous awards at student film festivals.



Stuck

Nevdon Jamgochian

A man from another world is alone in an environment that is livable, if not comfortable. This is a short film about diaspora, rootlessness, and the meaning of home. It has been adapted from a piece performed in Yerevan, Istanbul, Taipei, Bangkok, Guangzhou, and Dakar. The

costume was made in Armenia. The language spoken in the film is Lingwa de planeta.



Nevdon Jamgochian Bio

Nevdon Jamgochian is a writer, artist, and educator currently living in Shanghai, China. He was born in the United States but has lived in Asia, Europe, and West Africa for the last 20 years.

The screening will be followed by a panel discussion with the filmmakers, moderated by Nora Armani, actor, writer, director, and founding artistic director of the SR Socially Relevant™ Film Festival New York.