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## **INDEPENDENT LENS ANNOUNCES BOLD WINTER SLATE OF DOCUMENTARIES BEGINNING JANUARY 3 ON PBS**

*The Flagship ITVS Series Lineup Includes a Look at a Cambodian-American Basketball Prodigy, the NFT Phenomenon, and the California State Prison System, Among Others*

(San Francisco, CA) November 19, 2024—INDEPENDENT LENS, the Emmy® Award-winning PBS documentary anthology series presented by ITVS, today announced its trail-blazing winter lineup of series and features set to make their television premiere beginning January 3, 2025. The programming covers a wide range of topics and cross-sections of the human condition, including incarceration, Indigenous society and culture, the U.S.-Mexico border towns, and the immigrant experience.

"Our INDEPENDENT LENS winter slate celebrates American workers, including civil servants, social media influencers, and a Native American traditional dancer, along with the family ties that bind us," said Lois Vossen, executive producer of INDEPENDENT LENS. "Their lives reflect the diverse fabric of our country."

The winter slate begins with the five-part docuseries "Dallas, 2019," which studies the complexities of society and the human experience, will air as a two-night event on January 3 and 4. On January 6, the NFT (non-fungible token) documentary "Minted" premieres exploring the rise and fall of the digital art market phenomenon, followed by the Lakota family legacy story "Without Arrows" on January 13, and "The Strike" on February 3 about California's Pelican Bay prison. Additional films include "The In Between," a reflection on life on the U.S.-Mexico border, on February 10, and on February 17, "Skin of Glass," which focuses on Brazil's inequality with the unhoused. Continuing on February 24 is the father-son cycling trip doc "Bike Vessel" and "Home Court" on March 24 about a Cambodian-American basketball prodigy.

- **DALLAS, 2019 - January 3 and 4** - A cross section of life in Dallas the year before the pandemic hit, as fault lines emerge between those who follow, make, and battle the law. This five-part series follows the harried lives of city workers, community organizers, and diverse citizens as they confront natural and human-made disasters, a

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struggling school system, and cycles of incarceration. What will the future of Dallas look like?

- **MINTED - January 6** - An insider's look at the rise and fall of the NFT (non-fungible token) phenomenon and how technology transformed the traditional art world, for better and worse. Featuring verité footage and candid interviews with groundbreaking artists—like Beeple, Latasha Alcindor, and Loish— at the center of this phenomenon, “Minted” delves into the complex world of the \$40 billion NFT digital art market.
- **WITHOUT ARROWS - January 13** - After 13 years living in Philadelphia, Delwin Fiddler Jr., a champion grass dancer, embraces indigenous culture by returning to his ancestral home on the Cheyenne River Reservation in South Dakota. Leaving his big-city life behind, Delwin aims to protect his centuries-old Lakota heritage and heal from family tragedy, through his passion for dance.
- **THE STRIKE - February 3** - Told through the stories of the men who bore the brunt of this practice, “The Strike” follows the journeys of a cast of solitary survivors, from their battles with prison administrators to abolish the practice of indefinite isolation to the personal ramifications of decades in confinement. The film showcases the power of organized resistance, weaving together a half-century of criminal justice and personal history into a singular narrative.
- **THE IN BETWEEN - February 10** - Following her brother's death, a filmmaker returns to Eagle Pass, the Texas bordertown where she grew up, to document the places that shaped their family. She finds a treasure trove of his own footage that brings him back to life, sparking a reflection on growing up Mexican American along the U.S.-Mexico border. She rediscovers the beautiful mysteries of their complex hometown.
- **SKIN OF GLASS - February 17** - A journey to reckon with Brazil's harsh inequality begins when filmmaker Denise Zmekhol discovers her father's architectural masterpiece in São Paulo—a 24-story tall modernist icon known as “Pele de Vidro” (Skin of Glass)—is inhabited by hundreds of unhoused people. But after getting to know these occupants, what started as a personal quest became much bigger.

- **BIKE VESSEL - February 24** - Knowing his dad miraculously recovered from three open-heart surgeries after discovering a passion for cycling, filmmaker Eric D. Seals proposes an ambitious idea: Bike together from St. Louis to Chicago. 350 miles. 4 days. On their journey, the two push each other as they find a deeper connection and a renewed appreciation of their quests for their own health and to reimagine Black health.
- **HOME COURT - March 24** - Ashley Chea is a Cambodian American basketball phenom. "Home Court," filmed over three years, is a coming-of-age story that relays the highs and lows of her immigrant family, surmounting racial and class differences, as well as personal trials that include a devastating knee injury. Despite the intensity of basketball recruiting, Ashley's humor shines through, and her natural talent inspires the support of those around her.

All films will also be available to stream on the [PBS app](#) following premiere day. Visit the INDEPENDENT LENS [website](#) for more information.

#### ABOUT INDEPENDENT LENS

INDEPENDENT LENS is an Emmy® Award-winning PBS documentary series. With founding executive producer Lois Vossen, the series has been honored with 10 Academy Award nominations and features documentaries united by the creative freedom, artistic achievement, and unflinching visions of independent filmmakers. Presented by ITVS, INDEPENDENT LENS is funded by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, Acton Family Giving, John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, Ford Foundation, Park Foundation, Wyncote Foundation, and National Endowment for the Arts. Stream anytime on the PBS app. For more visit [pbs.org/independentlens](https://pbs.org/independentlens)

#### ABOUT ITVS

Independent Television Services (ITVS) is the largest co-producer of independent documentaries in the United States. For more than 30 years the San Francisco non-profit has funded and partnered with documentary filmmakers to produce and distribute untold stories. ITVS incubates and co-produces these award-winning titles and premieres them on our Emmy® Award-winning PBS series, INDEPENDENT LENS. ITVS titles appear on PBS, WORLD, NETA, and can be streamed on various digital platforms including the PBS app. ITVS is funded by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, Acton

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