



**CHICKEN & EGG PICTURES ANNOUNCES
FOUR NEW GRANTEES OF PROJECT: HATCHED PROGRAM
FOR DOCUMENTARY IMPACT AND AUDIENCE ENGAGEMENT**

NEW YORK, NY (July 8, 2020)—Chicken & Egg Pictures, a leader in supporting women and gender non-conforming nonfiction filmmakers, announced today the four new grantees of their **recently reimagined Project: Hatched program**.

Project: Hatched, announced in January 2020 as Chicken & Egg Pictures' new completion fund, was originally designed to support directors with finishing funds and mentorship as they prepared for the world premiere of a feature-length documentary film. The first Project: Hatched participants (*The Fight*, *Coded Bias*, and *Once Upon a Time in Venezuela*) premiered at the 2020 Sundance Film Festival.

Since the inaugural cohort and due to COVID-19, Chicken & Egg Pictures has reshaped the program to better fit filmmakers' needs in the current documentary film landscape. Four grantees—filmmakers whose premieres have been affected by festival changes—will receive a \$10,000 to \$20,000 cash grant for their impact and audience engagement campaign, join a cohort for peer-to-peer mentorship calls with visiting experts, and set career goals with and receive mentorship from members of Chicken & Egg Pictures' senior creative team.

The new grantees explore themes such as reproductive and criminal justice (*Belly of the Beast*); institutional gender discrimination in science (*Picture a Scientist*); collective trauma and resistance, and economic and environmental justice in Puerto Rico (*Landfall*); and female sexual desire and power (*The Dilemma of Desire*). The directors of previous Project: Hatched grantees *Coded Bias*, directed by Shalini Kantayya, about racial and gender bias in artificial intelligence and *Once Upon a Time in Venezuela*, directed by Anabel Rodríguez Ríos, about a small fishing village and its local democracy, will also join in on the new peer-to-peer mentorship model—creating a new cohort of six filmmaking teams who will share experiences and offer support to their peers.

"This unprecedented moment requires us to innovate as an organization and to reimagine the way our programs support filmmakers," said Program Director Lucila Moctezuma. "Peer mentorship is an instrumental part of our programs, and we know that filmmakers need each other's support in order to navigate this changed industry. Each member of this Project: Hatched cohort is a director seeking to forge new models in the documentary world, engage with their audiences in new ways, and increase the social impact of their films in the digital space."

Project: Hatched is generously supported in part by The New York Community Trust.

NEW PROJECT: HATCHED 2020 GRANTEES

Belly of the Beast

Director: Erika Cohn (UNITED STATES)

When an unlikely duo discovers a pattern of illegal sterilizations in women's prisons, they wage a near-impossible battle against the Department of Corrections.

Belly of the Beast made its world premiere in June 2020 as the opening night film of the Human Rights Watch International Film Festival—Digital. The film has since been profiled in [Documentary Magazine](#), [The Guardian](#), and [The Root](#).

Landfall

Director: Cecilia Aldarondo (UNITED STATES)

Through shard-like glimpses of everyday life in post-Hurricane María Puerto Rico, *Landfall* examines a ruined world at the brink of transformation, spinning a cautionary tale for our times.

An official selection of the 2020 Tribeca Film Festival, Hot Docs International Film Festival, and DOXA Documentary Film Festival, *Landfall* has recently been featured in [The Hollywood Reporter](#), [Filmmaker Magazine](#), among other publications.

Picture a Scientist

Directors: Sharon Shattuck, Ian Cheney (UNITED STATES)

Picture a Scientist chronicles the groundswell of researchers who are writing a new chapter for women scientists.

Picture a Scientist was an official selection of the 2020 Tribeca Film Festival. The film's virtual theatrical run reached 47 theaters across the USA in June 2020, and raised money for two organizations advancing women of color in STEM. The film has been featured in [Science Magazine](#), [Variety](#), and [Salon](#).

The Dilemma of Desire

Director: Maria Finitzo (UNITED STATES)

An exploration of "cliteracy," and the clash between the gender politics and the imperatives of female sexual desire.

The Dilemma of Desire was originally slated to premiere at SXSW Film Festival and went on to screen at the digital editions of Hot Docs International Film Festival, deadCenter Film Festival, and AFI DOCS Film Festival. The film has been reviewed in [Indiewire](#), [The Hollywood Reporter](#), and [Women & Hollywood](#).

ABOUT CHICKEN & EGG PICTURES

Chicken & Egg Pictures supports women nonfiction filmmakers whose artful and innovative storytelling catalyzes social change. We envision an inclusive media industry in which women filmmakers, representing a range of experiences and backgrounds, are fully supported to realize their artistic goals, and to build sustainable and fulfilling careers.

Chicken & Egg Pictures was founded in 2005 by Julie Parker Benello, Wendy Ettinger, and Judith Helfand. Since inception, the organization has awarded over \$8 million in grants and thousands of hours of creative mentorship to over 320 filmmakers. For additional information please visit: <http://chickeneggpics.org/>.

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