



ILY2 Presents

Earthlings

A Film by Steven Doughton

A Screening & Conversation

One Night Only

November 6, 2023

Cinema 21

Portland, Oregon

ILY2 is pleased to present a screening of *Earthlings*, a film by Portland-based writer and director, Steven Doughton on November 6 at 7:15pm at Cinema 21. The screening will be followed by a live conversation between Doughton, *Earthlings* writer Jonathan Raymond, *Earthlings* actor and Executive Producer Luis Chávez, Brooklyn-based film writer Nolan Kelly and artist Patricia Vázquez Gómez.

Based on the short story "The Suckling Pig" by Portland writer Jonathan Raymond, *Earthlings* follows a small group of strangers from vastly different cultural backgrounds who share a singular meal and evening together. Actor Luis Chávez and director Todd Haynes serve as Executive Producers for the film.

On *Earthlings*, Doughton writes "I've always been drawn to dialogue-rich movies, in which dramatic shifts in plot or character can hinge on a single thread of conversation. So when I read Jon Raymond's story 'The Suckling Pig,' its cinematic possibilities struck me immediately. In it, a group of people with almost nothing in common spend an intimate evening together which they will never forget. I want to place the audience directly within the disquieting situation of a dinner party among strangers, thereby allowing them to experience the struggles of the characters as they try to relate to one another across a well-appointed table and a vast sea of cultural and political differences. The audience should discover (as the characters themselves do) that these five people have secrets and depths they rarely share with anyone."

Tickets for *Earthlings* are available now at [Cinema21.com](https://cinema21.com). Tickets are \$15 and all proceeds from ticket sales go to the Oregon Worker Relief Fund.

Luis Chávez - Actor, Executive Producer

Luis Chávez is an indigenous, non-binary, Mexican born immigrant actor. Throughout their career they have accrued over 40 TV & Film credits. Their first opportunity as a TV series regular came in 2008 in the show "Crash," based on the Academy Award winning film, opposite legendary actor Dennis Hopper. Luis has collaborated with well-respected and Oscar Award winning talent such as Kim Basinger in the thriller "While She was Out," Adrien Brody in the comedy "High School" and Sandra Bullock & Billy Bob Thornton in the political drama "Our Brand is crisis."

Last year Luis played opposite Christoph Waltz & Willem Dafoe in Walter Hill's western "Dead for a Dollar," which premiered at the prestigious Venice Film Festival. This September, Luis portrayed their first non-binary character on screen in the action film "Muzzle" with Aaron Eckhart.

Luis' latest film, elevated thriller "Deadland," to be released this November, premiered at the 2023 SXSW Film Festival. In this story, Angel, a Mexican- American border patrol agent, encounters a Stranger (Luis Chávez), a haunting entity who is instrumental in helping Angel find closure with his own family trauma.

Steven Doughton - Director/Producer

Steven Doughton is a writer and director from Portland, Oregon, whose films have played at MoMA, The Viennale, Anthology Film Archives and Marianne Boesky Gallery in New York. He has directed music videos for Aphex-Twin and Stephen Malkmus and has shot music videos for Iggy Pop, Pavement, Blonde Redhead, and Alen Vega. In 1986 Doughton and artist David Wojnarowicz collaborated on the short film "Around Clown." Doughton's films are part of the permanent collection of the Museum of Modern Art in New York. In 2011, he wrote and directed the feature film *Buoy*.

Patricia Vázquez Gómez - Artist

Patricia Vázquez Gómez (she/her) works and lives between the 2 sides of the border dividing Mexico and the US. Her art practice investigates the social functions of art, the intersections between aesthetics, ethics and politics and the expansion of community based art practices. She uses a variety of media to carry out her research: painting, printmaking, video, exhibitions, music and socially engaged art projects. The purpose and methodologies of her work are deeply informed by her experiences working in the immigrant rights and other social justice movements. Her work has taken life at the Portland Art Museum, the Reece Museum, the Paragon Gallery, the Houston Art League, and the Linnfield Gallery, but also in other spaces as apartments complexes, neighborhoods, community based organizations and schools. She is the recipient of the 2013 Arlene Schnitzer Visual Arts Prize and has received support from the Ford Foundation, Regional Arts and Culture Council (RACC), the Portland Institute of Contemporary Art (PICA), the Oregon Community Foundation, METRO and the National Endowment for the Arts. Patricia teaches at the undergraduate and graduate levels at Portland State University. Her work can be explored at <https://www.patriciavazquez.art/>



Nolan Kelly - Critic, Filmmaker, and Creative Writer

Nolan Kelly writes about technology, politics, and perspective in film and literature. An alumnus of The New School's Lang College for Media Studies, his writing has appeared in Bookforum, Senses of Cinema, No. 3 Magazine, Public Parking, Cinema Skyline, Hyperallergic, and The Brooklyn Rail. A portion of his undergraduate thesis, "On Selection and Synthesis in New Media" was published in Columbia's Journal of Art Criticism in 2019. In 2022, he was appointed senior arts editor of Pollinate.

Jonathan Raymond - Novelist and Screenwriter

Jonathan Raymond is an American writer living in Portland, Oregon. He is best known for writing the novels *The Half-Life* and *Rain Dragon*, and for writing the short stories and screenplays for the films *Old Joy* (2006) and *Wendy and Lucy* (2008), both directed by Kelly Reichardt. He also wrote the screenplays for *Meek's Cutoff* (2010), *First Cow* (2019) and *Showing Up* (2022) and was nominated for a Primetime Emmy for his teleplay writing on the HBO miniseries, *Mildred Pierce*.

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Founded in 2020, ILY2 takes an experimental approach to working with emerging and mid-career artists to produce exhibitions, editions, projects, and fair presentations. The team grounds the program and its focused support of artists in decades of gallery, advisory, collections, and curatorial experience. ILY2's 1,660 sq. ft. gallery is located in Portland's Pearl District.

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