

# **If From Every Tongue it Drips**

Sharlene Bamboat

Press Kit

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# IF FROM EVERY TONGUE IT DRIPS, 2021

Video, 68 minutes. Canada / Sri Lanka / UK

Digital Video with embedded animated English captions.



Poster Design: Rupali Morazaria



Video still from *If From Every Tongue it Drips*.

## SHORT SYNOPSIS

*If From Every Tongue it Drips* is a film that uses the framework of quantum physics to explore the ways that personal relationships and political movements at once transcend and challenge time, space, identity and location. The film follows the lives of a couple living in Batticaloa, Sri Lanka, one of whom writes Rekhti, a form of 19th century, Urdu, queer poetry; the other, the camera operator. As their personal lives unfold on camera, the lines between rehearsal and reality, location and distance, self and other dissipate and reinforce one another. Simultaneously, through poet and camera operator's daily lives, interconnections between British colonialism, Indian nationalism and the impact of both on contemporary poetry, dance and music in South Asia is revealed.

## PRINCIPLE CAST & CREW

Director/Producer	Sharlene Bamboat
Performer	Ponni Arasu & Sarala Emmanuel
Camera Operator	Sarala Emmanuel
Sound	Richy Carey
Edit	Muhammad Nour Elkhairy
Captioning Collaborator	Emilia Beatriz

Trailer

<https://vimeo.com/576909791>

## LONG SYNOPSIS

**If From Every Tongue it Drips** is a hybrid-documentary film that uses the framework of quantum physics to explore the ways that personal relationships and political movements at once transcend and challenge time, space, identity and location. The film follows the lives of a couple living in Batticaloa, Sri Lanka; Ponni writes Rekhti, a form of 19th century, Urdu, queer poetry; the other, Sarala, the camera operator. As their personal lives unfold on camera, the lines between rehearsal and reality, location and distance, self and other dissipate and reinforce one another. Simultaneously, through poet and camera operator's daily lives, interconnections between British colonialism, Indian nationalism and the impact of both on contemporary poetry, dance and music in South Asia is revealed.

*If From Every Tongue it Drips* explores both literal and figural translation as multiple ways of looking, embedded within the filmmaking process, which was conducted through a call and response exchange of sound, text and image between Montreal, Batticaloa and the Isle of Skye.

The film process included working with Glasgow-based Collective Text to integrate captions into the film.

## **DIRECTOR BIOGRAPHY**

Sharlene Bamboat (1984, Pakistan) is a moving image and installation artist based in Tio'tia:ke/Montreal. Her practice often engages with translation, history and music, uncovering sensory and fractured ways of knowing. Film Programmer Jemma Desai states of her work, "[Sharlene's] ongoing interest [lies in] the many ways that popular culture can be politicised, as well as the sensuous possibilities of its reclamation." Sharlene regularly collaborates with artists, musicians and writers to animate historical, political, legal, and pop-culture materials. Her most frequent collaborator is Alexis Mitchell. Her work has exhibited internationally, including: International Film Festival Rotterdam (Netherlands), Art of the Real (NYC), Mantiq of the Mantis (Lahore), the Sharjah Film Platform (U.A.E.), Mercer Union (Toronto) and Henry Art Gallery (Seattle).

## **FILMOGRAPHY**

Bugs & Beasts Before the Law (2019, 33 m., Canada / Germany / UK)

Video Home System (2018, 20 m., Canada)

Special Works School (2018, 28 m., Canada / Germany / UK)

The Wind Sleeps Standing Up (2017, 12 m., Pakistan / Canada)