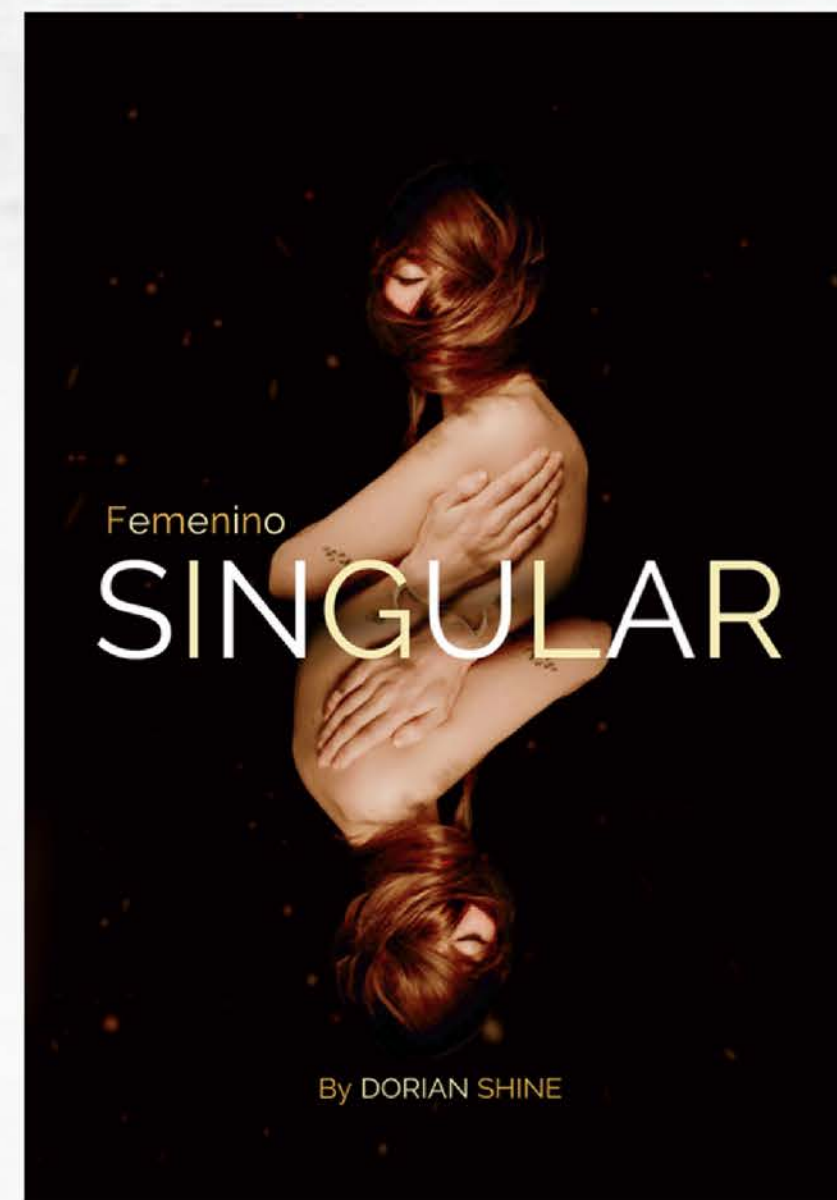


# FEMENINO SINGULAR



A PERFORMATIC DOCUMENTARY

COPRODUCTION:  
ARGENTINA - CANADA

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OTTAWA - CANADA



Femenino

# SINGULAR

## FEMININE SINGULAR

*A 73 minutes documentary portraying 30 Argentinian women.  
An Argentina Canada coproduction*

"This performatic documentary celebrates womanhood, revealing the empowering stories of thirty Argentinian women."

### SYNOPSIS

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Unveiling the essence of femininity, 'Feminine Singular' takes you on a transformative journey into the lives of 30 Argentinian women. Through their unique stories and the captivating power of performance, this documentary explores the depth and singularity of their identities. Experience the celebration of female strength, resilience, and the boundless diversity that shape our understanding of "being a woman."



## THE FILMMAKER: DORIAN SHINE ———

Dorian Shine, a Canada-based artist, beautifully weaves together the rich tapestry of his multicultural origins. With roots spanning North Africa, the Mediterranean metis heritage, and a nomadic spirit, Dorian's artistic perspective is a reflection of his diverse experiences. Having lived, studied, and worked in various countries across four continents, his journey is a testament to the interplay of cultures.

With academic foundations in Theatre and a Master's in Performance Art, Dorian's artistry harmonizes these diverse influences. His portfolio has graced international platforms, notably the Belgrade Theatre Festival and Buenos Aires performance Art Biennale.

Central to his artistic exploration is the embodiment of the human experience through the language of the body. Dorian's focus challenges societal norms and offers a new lens through which to perceive the world. Beyond his artistic endeavors, he's committed to amplifying the voices of the marginalized. This commitment finds expression in his performances, plays, and projects that delve into feminism, gender dynamics, and social justice themes.

Illustrating this dedication is the groundbreaking Resist Film Festival, a brainchild of Dorian's. This venture amplifies the narratives of the LGBTQ+, social justice, and feminist communities, marking his unwavering advocacy for voices often silenced.

His passion for intersectionality and hybrid art forms fuels his endeavor to create new experiences. Through challenging taboos and norms, he's at the forefront of pushing artistic boundaries, igniting conversations that traverse cultural, social, and artistic divides.

## ARTISTIC STATEMENT

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In my artistic journey, I am driven by an unwavering commitment to the feminist cause, sparking a passionate exploration of gender and the social fabric that shapes our identities. As a versatile artist in writing, directing, and performing, I immerse myself in the profound depths of these subjects, seeking to break free from conventional boundaries by creating an art that resonates with the pulse of a contemporary discourse.

In the immersive embrace of Buenos Aires, Argentina, a profound epiphany unfolds through the extraordinary sagas of women, spanning generations and diverse cultural hues. This transcendent encounter births a universal revelation—the essence of femininity defies confines of borders and cultural moorings. This metamorphic odyssey reshapes my perception of womanhood, enkindling a zeal to sculpt an authentic and empathic narrative mirroring these women's lives. Their boundless spirit bequeaths life to the kaleidoscopic "Feminine Singular," a testament to resilience, strength, and unwavering individuality.

Embarking upon "Feminine Singular's" exhilarating expedition, audiences entwine with captivating tales, transcending conventional boundaries through a visual symphony. Bodies become vessels of profound expression, testimonies cascading like emancipating waves. As girls and women, aged 4 to 80, enrapture the camera, magnetic presence blurs personal and collective realms, immersing viewers in the raw splendor of diverse stories, interlacing perspectives into an embroidered tapestry of collective experience. Themes of justice, resilience, diversity, maternity, sexuality, social perception, equality, and more delve into human essence.

Breaking new ground in cinematic expression, "Feminine Singular" pioneers the genre of the performatic documentary—a revolutionary fusion of performance art and documentary filmmaking. Combining evocative performances with intimate interviews, the film creates an immersive experience that dissolves the boundaries between observer and participant. This innovative approach empowers viewers to become active co-creators of the narrative, enriching the emotional landscape and forging a profound personal resonance with the film.

In this evanescent fusion of reality and artistry, "Feminine Singular" unifies in collective introspection, uplifting voices and forging solidarity. Testimonies metamorphose into vessels of empowerment, birthing communal ground and shared experiences.

My hope burgeons that "Feminine Singular" engenders metamorphosis, a catalyst for dialogue, unity, and celebration of shared humanity—nurturing acceptance, reflection, and harmonious coexistence. By highlighting the universality of human experiences and the intricacies of womanhood, the film becomes a universal language of connection and understanding, transcending cultural and geographical boundaries.

Through the prism of the feminine spirit, 'Feminine Singular' captures the enigmatic essence that transcends the ordinary and embraces the extraordinary. Unveil the tapestry of intimate narratives, where each thread weaves a symphony of rebellion, a visual revolution that dares to ignite a world alight with untamed voices and boundless liberation.



# FEATURED CAST MEMBERS

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- Flora Ferrari: Unveiling the skin as a canvas

A young and versatile actress, graces the stage and screen with her captivating performances. Her talent shines in various productions, such as "Los días de la fragilidad" and "Las Oceanicas," where she breathes life into unforgettable characters. In the documentary, Flora talks about how society defines a person, especially a woman, by their skin, and shares a personal story of getting a tattoo as an act of self-expression.



- Romina J. Alves : Nurtured by stories and poetry

Romina found solace and inspiration in the words of her grandmother. These captivating narratives ignited her passion for reading, writing, and the enchanting art of poetry. As a girl of immigrants, Romina's journey was paved with determination and hard work, leading her to pursue her dreams ardently. Today, as a Poetess, Psychoanalyst, and revered Professor, she weaves her poetic verses with the richness of her experiences, offering profound insights into the human soul.



- PhD. Julia Elena Sagaseta: The woman behind the director

Dra. Sagaseta, a seasoned veteran, has carved her name as a trailblazer in the performing arts. As the director of a university master's program, her artistic vision knows no bounds. In the documentary, Julia candidly discusses her roles as a devoted mother and spouse, her love for culture, and her heartfelt concerns for Argentina. The intimate interview unveils her artistic passion, struggles, and triumphs, leaving an indelible mark on the audience.



- Lila Frascara: A singer's journey beyond beauty norms

A young and soulful singer, Lila's musical journey began early in life, studying music, theatre, and dance. Her mesmerising voice reflects emotional richness and elegance. In the documentary delves into her soulful narratives, touching the hearts of viewers with universal joys and struggles. In the intimate interview, Lila talks about her journey of freeing herself from the beauty standards and overcoming struggles as a singer.



- Manuela Mendez: A tale of growth and transformation

Her journey as a young actor showcases her dedication and unwavering spirit. In the documentary, Manuela talks about her desire for earrings as a girl, and how her mother's refusal made her question societal expectations. Her performances have graced various productions, including "Orillera" and "Enrealidad," where she revealed the depth of the human experience. The intimate interview presents an inspiring tale of growth and transformation, revealing the artist within.



- Elizabeth Portella: Womanhood beyond medical challenges

A resilient soul, Elizabeth conquered challenges from a young age, defying *Rokitansky* syndrome, a rare congenital anomaly. Despite facing adversity, she emerged victorious, using her life's journey to inspire others and be a guiding teacher. Elizabeth's portrait reflects her strength and uniqueness, while the intimate interview offers a glimpse into the profound impact of her life's struggles and achievements.

# CAST & CREW

## • DORIAN SHINE : Filmmaker & Creative Visionary



As the driving force behind "Femenino Singular", Dorian seamlessly blended multiple roles to shape the documentary's unique narrative and aesthetic.

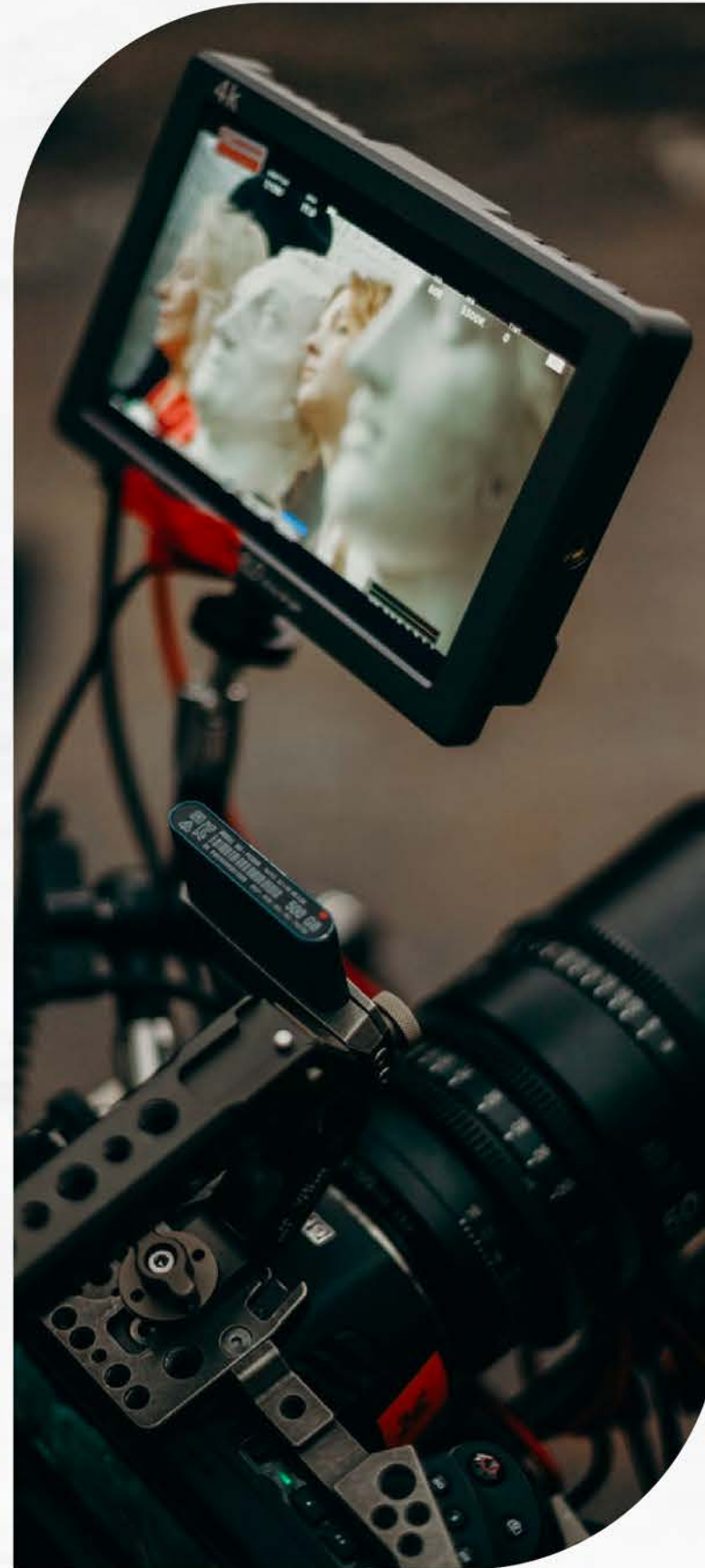
- Cast Selection
- Performance Art Concept Creator
- Director
- Interviewer & Host
- Cinematographer & Director of Photography
- Sound Designer & Audio
- Art Director & Production Designer
- Editor (Sound & Video)
- Music Selection & Integration
- Colorist

## • OLIVER HARRY SHINE: Producer & Multifaceted Contributor



Guided by an artistic passion for storytelling and an unwavering attention to detail, Oliver stands as a cornerstone of "Femenino Singular." Oliver's dedication and expertise span various crucial aspects of the documentary's creation, including:

- Production Management
- Post-Production Supervision
- Legal and Clearances
- Translation, Subtitles & Captioning



## • Featured Singular Women:

Adriana Zarza - Alejandra Ceriani  
Aldana Bocconi - Andrea Trotta  
Andrea De Vega - Carolina Defossé  
Catalina Regla Pouso - Caterina Mora  
Elizabeth Adriana Portella - Fabiana Pouso  
Flavia Daniela Carlucci - Flora Ferrari  
Julia Elena Sagaseta - Julia Nuín  
Laura Denmar - Lila Frascara  
Lupe Nuñez Guthmann - Maga Chimon  
Manuela Mendez - Mara Guthmann  
Maria Florencia Benítez - Maria Zubi  
María Pía Buyayisqui - Marcela Martha Borrilli  
Nilda Rosemberg - Romina J. Alves  
Verónica Gallo - Virginia Benítez  
Violeta Gibaja - Ximena Benítez.

- **Opening Song:** Loli Cosmica - Sagrado Femenino
- **Ing. Sound Mix :** Saber Gueblaoui
- **Narration:** Romina J. Alves

## • Buenos Aires (Argentina) Set :

**Studio:** Estudio Planck - Estudio Flamenco Fabiana Pouso

**Theatre:** Fluvio Guthmann Sala Condé 721

**Church:** Iglesia de Nuestra Senora Del Rosario

## • Canada (Toronto) Crew Unit

**Make up :** Christina Fung

**Actress:** Laura Denmar

**Camera:** Janagan Thanabalasingam

**Studio:** LMA STUDIO



# THEMES OF THE DOCUMENTARY

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"Feminine Singular" is a powerful exploration of themes and messages that delve into the heart of womanhood, gender identity, and the unique experiences of Argentinian, Latina and modern women. Through the medium of art as a conduit for storytelling, the film illuminates the diverse tapestry of female journeys and endeavors to redefine conventional gender narratives. The women featured in the documentary engage in candid conversations about an array of subjects, collectively weaving a compelling and multifaceted narrative. The key themes and messages explored in "Feminine Singular" are intricately connected to the essence of womanhood and the myriad facets of female identity.

## **Feminism and Empowerment**

Explore the diverse expressions of feminism within the Buenos Aires female community, highlighting empowerment and advocacy.

## **Identity and Diversity**

Celebrate the unique identities and experiences of Latina women, embracing their diverse backgrounds and stories.

## **Beauty, Body, and Self-Perception**

Examine the impact of societal beauty standards on women's self-perception and the journey towards body positivity.

## **Resilience and Transformation**

Showcase stories of resilience and personal growth as different women overcome challenges and redefine their paths.

## **Cultural Heritage and Belonging**

Delve into the role of cultural heritage in shaping the identity and sense of belonging for women from different ages and backgrounds.

## **Motherhood**

Explore the exceptional challenges and victories faced by women on their journey through motherhood, reshaping societal norms.

## **Self-Expression and Creativity**

How self-expression and creativity empower women to amplify their voices, reflect on their experiences, and share their unique stories.

## **Sisterhood and Unity**

Showcase the power of sisterhood, solidarity, and unity among women in their pursuit of collective progress.

# EXCERPTS FROM "FEMININE SINGULAR"

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*"My identity as a person is not confined to my face. There is a "me" in every part of my body, in my flesh, in my sexuality, in my history, in my experiences, and in my soul"*

*"When I think about my mother now, I realize she didn't choose to be the way she was. She was shaped by societal norms that she wasn't entirely happy with. She lived in a time and place where being different wasn't easy. The model was imposed on her, and she felt depressed. For me, that model wasn't something I admired or wanted to follow. Instead, I aimed to move in the opposite direction."*

*"Now, I see myself happy, liberated from the submission's closet. Freed of the victim role I once identified with and submitted to for many years."*

*In my workplace, predominantly occupied by men, I must present myself as tough, cold, distant, devoid of any emotional display. I am unable to be emotionally expressive and must remain composed throughout the day. This often leaves me feeling disconnected from my true self, and at times, I lose myself in the process.*

*"To know **the woman**, one must know the story of each woman that this earth has borne and will bear."*

*"It's about knowing that you can be, you are, and you feel like a woman. It goes beyond menstruation and beyond having a child. The feeling of being a woman."*

*I'm 49 years old, and I tell you no to hair dye! I say: No! to anti-aging creams. I say No! to Botox. I'm not willing to get Botox. I'm not going to outline my lips because they wrinkle. I'm not going to lift my cheekbones or get any facial prosthesis. Definitely, I tell you No!*

*"I feel more free when I'm traveling. When I don't have a home where I'd accumulate belongings. When I carry my home on my back. Because everything I have is in my backpack, and I don't need anything else. Moving around, this is my freedom. Choosing where to sleep every night. With whom. How. This is, for me, complete freedom. Some time ago, thanks to using my freedom, I found myself, my center, my being. Not what was shaped and learned from childhood in a specific context and society."*







# FAQZ

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## **What is "Feminine Singular" about, and what makes it unique?**

*"Feminine Singular" is a news genre that is a fusion of performance art and documentary, presenting personal stories of 30 Argentinian women. It's a fresh and transformative cinematic experience, celebrating each woman's unique identity and exploring womanhood, resilience, and diversity in being a woman.*

## **What themes and messages does the documentary explore?**

*Through an intimate lens, the film embarks on a profound exploration of themes that touch the core of the human experience. Through powerful performances and authentic storytelling, it redefines gender narratives and celebrates the essence of femininity, empowerment, and identity. It touches on a wide array of themes that resonate deeply with women, inspiring discussions on womanhood, gender, and the intricate tapestry of life with topics such as identity, femininity, empowerment, and coming-of-age stories. Through powerful performances, the film addresses issues like activism, social justice, body image, motherhood, and the challenges of living outside societal norms.*

## **How did the concept of a "Performatic Documentary" come about?**

*The concept of a "Performatic Documentary" emerged from a profound appreciation for the fearlessness of performance art and the authentic narratives found in documentaries. By breaking down the barriers between the screen and the audience, we invite the viewers to become active partners in shaping the final image. This co-creative aspect empowers the audience to interpret the performances and stories in their own unique ways, fostering a sense of collaboration throughout the filmmaking process. In essence, "Feminine Singular" becomes a collective journey of discovery, where the audience joins us as directors in crafting the emotional and visual landscape of the documentary. This interactive approach mirrors the empowering narratives of the women featured, underlining the boundless creativity and diversity that exist within each individual's story.*

## **How did the co-production between Argentina and Canada enrich the storytelling process?**

*As a filmmaker, Dorian Shine's journey in Argentina marked a pivotal moment of artistic crossroads and self-discovery. Despite being a foreigner, their fresh perspective allowed them to approach the stories of Argentinean women with authenticity and depth. This transformative exploration of womanhood became the heart of "Feminine Singular." Filming in Argentina and then continuing the post-production in Canada offered a new lens, blending diverse cultural influences and creating a multifaceted and universal essence. Editing, sound design, and music composition became a meditative process. Infusing the documentary with transition videos filmed in Toronto, along with a small Canadian crew unit, during the pandemic, added a touch of resilience and innovation to the film's creation.*

## **What message does "Feminine Singular" convey to its audience?**

*Above all, "Feminine Singular" is a heartfelt celebration of womanhood's resilience and uniqueness, where personal stories become powerful testaments of strength. Through the captivating performance art and authentic narratives, the film unveils the intricate layers of identity that make every woman truly herself. In this cinematic odyssey, we honour the untamed spirit of femininity, where each story is a brushstroke in the masterpiece of womanhood.*

## **How does "Feminine Singular" push the boundaries of traditional cinema?**

*"Feminine Singular" ventures beyond the confines of traditional cinema, modestly exploring the uncharted territory of a novel hybrid genre: performatic documentary. Embracing the unvarnished reality of its subjects, the film veers away from formulaic approaches, opting instead for an intimate and authentic portrayal of womanhood, inviting audiences to witness the transformative power of genuine storytelling.*

**How does "Feminine Singular" challenge traditional gender norms?**

*It defies norms by weaving real stories and captivating performances, empowering viewers to question preconceived notions. By challenging stereotypes, the film encourages a more inclusive and appreciative portrayal of womanhood. It embodies the spirit of feminism by using art to empower and amplify the voices of women.*

**How does "Feminine Singular" contribute to the ongoing conversation on gender identity and representation?**

*The documentary aims to make a significant contribution to the ongoing conversation on gender identity and representation by fearlessly exploring and showcasing the diverse narratives of Argentinean women. Through its powerful portrayal of authentic and multifaceted women, the documentary sparks vital dialogues about the need for more inclusive and diverse representations of women in media. By highlighting the unique cultural context of Argentina, the film fosters cross-cultural understanding and empathy, encouraging viewers to question preconceived notions and challenge gender norms. It empowers women by giving them agency over their stories and addresses taboo subjects, breaking down societal barriers and promoting a more open and accepting society. "Feminine Singular" redefines the concept of womanhood, celebrating the rich diversity of women's experiences and challenging narrow definitions of success and beauty. Through education and awareness, the film sheds light on the challenges women face and exposes gender biases, inspiring positive societal change towards a more equitable and inclusive world.*

**How were the women featured in the film selected?**

*Drawing from a network of personal, academic, and professional connections built during Dorian's four-year stay in Buenos Aires. With a focus on authenticity and universality, the filmmaker sought out women from various walks of life, spanning different age groups and backgrounds. The goal was to highlight a wide spectrum of life experiences and perspectives showcasing the multifaceted nature of female identity and to include narratives that resonate with themes of strength, resilience, and self-discovery. Each woman's story became a vibrant thread, skillfully woven together to create a powerful narrative that honours their unique identities.*

**How does the filmmaker's personal journey as a nomad or immigrant and being part of the LGBTQ+ community influence the movie?**

*The documentary "Feminine Singular" weaves a compelling narrative that is enriched by the filmmaker's personal journey as an immigrant in Argentina and Canada. This experience provides a fresh and unfiltered lens through which the captivating stories of Argentinian women are portrayed, allowing for a unique and unbiased perspective. Although the documentary doesn't directly focus on LGBTQ+ topics, the inclusion of the filmmaker's queer and non-binary identity and the involvement of key LGBTQ+ members in the cast and crew speak to the film's commitment to diversity and inclusivity. By embracing various identities and experiences, the film challenges the notion that queer identity is solely related to sexual orientation, expanding the audience's understanding of what it means to be LGBTQ+.*



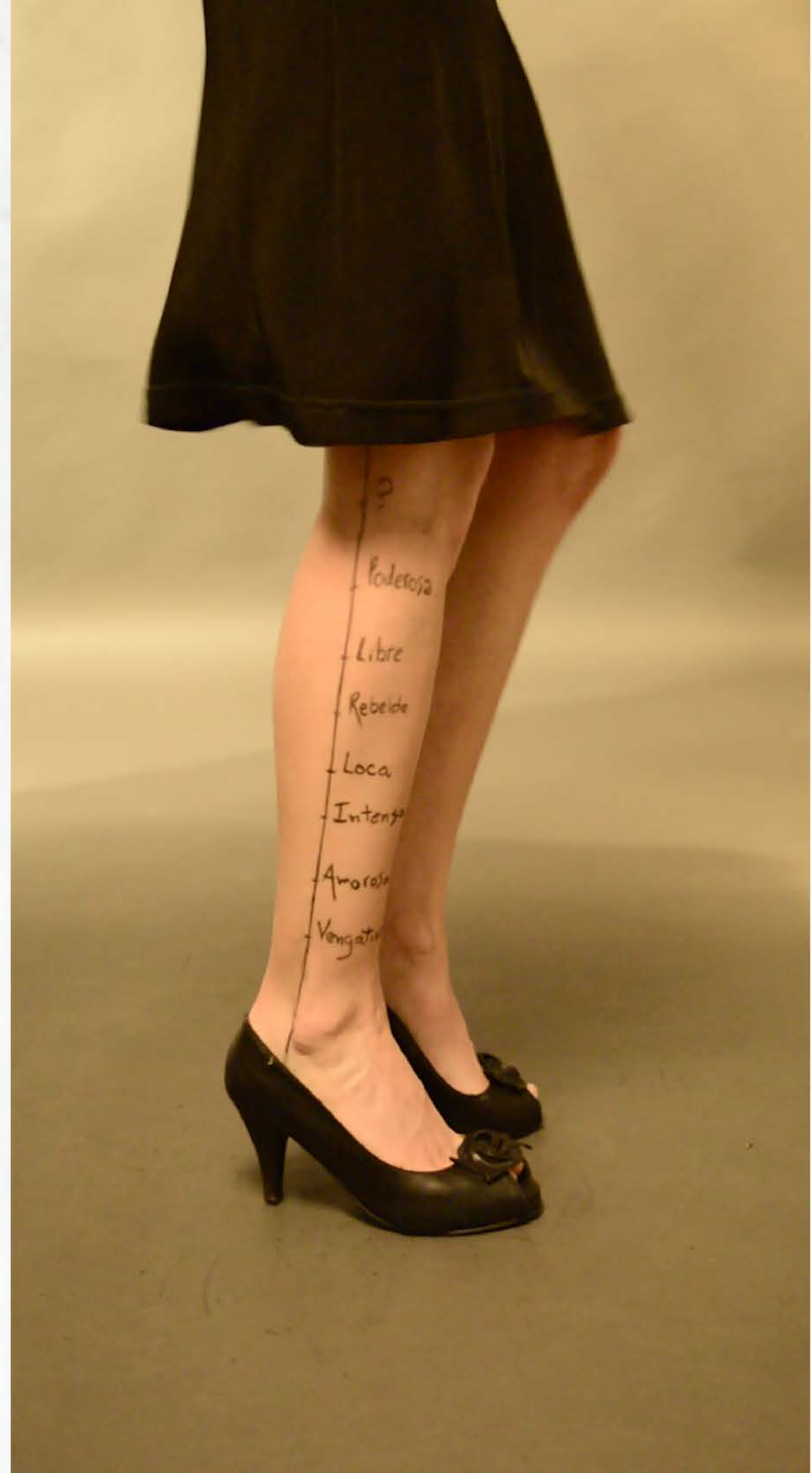
# PHOTO GALLERY

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*"This is not an apple on a chair on the shore"*







# CONTACT INFORMATION

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