

INUIT RESERVED LAND, NUNAVIK, NORTH OF CANADA

co-directed by GEELA KUMARLUK *directed by* HANNAH WALTI
produced by VOXFILMS

"Inukjuak" is a feature-length documentary project shot in collaboration with the Inuit community of Inukjuak, Nunavik, in the Canadian north.

During the six weeks leading to the 100 year anniversary of Flaherty's "Nanook of the North," which was shot in and around the village, co-director Geela Kumarluk opens up a line of dialogue within her community that freely discusses the present, the past and the future of Inuit.



"Inukjuak" is an exploration of the past, the present, and the future of the Inuit village of Inukjuak.

The film's narrative follows strong voices from the community – including the co-director Geela Kumarluk, Tommy Palliser, a leader of the Unaaq men's association, local co-producer Betsy Epoo, and Charlie Nowkawalk – a founding member of Unaaq and a historian preserving Inuit culture.

Through discussions led by Geela, she unearths her community's past: from the 1950s high arctic relocation to discussing the traumatic experiences of the residential schools and their effect today. These interviews echo those with community leaders working towards change and the youth of Inukjuak's view of the Inuit's past and future. Time spent in Inukjuak visiting community institutions and events highlights the community as a cohesive body, a force to be reckoned with, and the incredible beauty of its land.

Through beauty and pain, Geela leads a film that will draw an accurate and breathtaking portrait of the heightened life of the Inuit community of Inukjuak today.

co-director GEELA KUMARLUK

Geela works as a social worker in Inukjuak, and has been caring for and helping others her whole life –from her younger siblings when she was a child, her brother and sister's children now, and anyone who needs it.

She's a mother of two, and raises her children with care and love. Elements that were lacking in her upbringing due to the traumatic past her family shares with all Inuit who experienced the horror of the residential school system.



director HANNAH WALTI

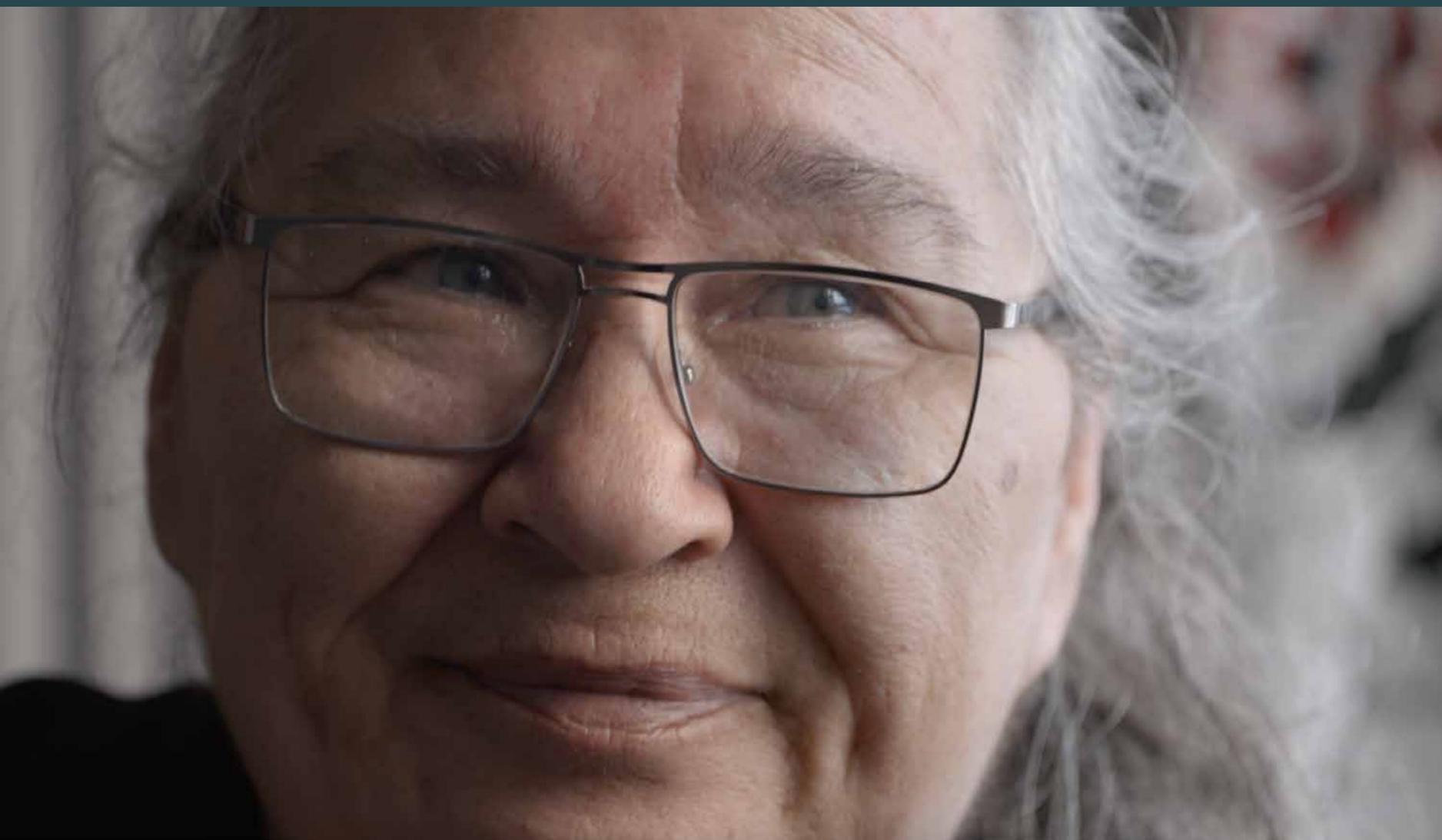
Hannah is a french-canadian filmmaker and journalist living and working in Paris, France. As a director, she believes in exploring and widening her understanding of the world by seeking and telling exceptional stories outside of the mainstream.



a documentary based on INUIT DISCOURSE and COLLABORATION

Geela's insights and search for truth creates an authentic and immersive experience with "Inukjuak." Strong Inuit voices speak on camera in both English and Inuktitut, addressing their community as well as an international audience.

The film narrative was discussed and crafted in collaboration with the local government after a visit by the director to Inukjuak prior to the shoot.



local producer BETSY EPOO

Betsy is a young elder who works at Inukjuak's Elders House. She has an immense impact on the film, as she leads the filmmakers to community members with a desire to share their stories. Her own point of view on the Inuit community, its struggles and hopes, nourished an accurate portrait of the village that struggles to reconcile north and south while fighting for its independence.

the film's ARTISTIC APPROACH

The people and place are shown together as one, and are paradoxically haunted or scarred just as much as they are breathtakingly beautiful.

The moving tableaux and immersive, intimate shots from the discussions and interviews will be blended into a living, breathing organism that will communicate meaning. They will be coloured as close to reality as possible, reflecting closely the north's oblique light that makes the sky so much bigger than the one we see down south, and that bounces on the snow and the shiny cars and dusty roads of Inukjuak.

The sounds of the north, its voices, its winds, will also bring in a life that is so heightened and melodic. These breaths, captured intimately during interviews and loud and clear on the land and during community events, will dictate the film's pace, intertwining each scene from contemplative and slow to fast-paced and bursting with energy and music. The two languages used for interviews and around town –English and Inuktitut– will alternate, to paint an accurate portrait of Inukjuak sound-wise, and that will speak to international audiences as well as to the Inuit community.

"Inukjuak" is created for the big screen and holds educational purposes and entertainment value without being didactic or repetitive. Something unfamiliar that is yet to be known, something in-tensely human and universal.





watch the TEASERS upon request

Located in Brooklyn, New York, VOXFILMS is a female-led independent film, television and digital production company focused on amplifying stories that ignite conversation, influence culture, and propel society forward. We aim to give voice to storytellers outside of the mainstream and capture rich, intriguing experiences that both move and entertain audiences.

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