

AMAZONIA

A videotape by Nandini Sikand



Experimental, 2001, USA
8 min, Video, Color/B&W

Credits

Director/Producer: Nandini Sikand
Script : Chandana Sikand
Cinematography/Editing: Nandini Sikand
Music: Deep Parekh



Synopsis

Amazonia is a filmic poem, which looks at the myth of Amazonian women who are said to have cut off their right breast to become better archers. This collaboration with Sikand's sister, a breast cancer survivor, is an exploration of their lives as urban warriors and the prevalence of breast cancer. *Amazonia* explores the scar tissue formed after such a battle, a battle that can sometimes empower us past the destruction. In *Amazonia*, the geography of the human body is likened to that of a city, to the alleyways, the sewers and manholes that form a tenuous, but almost incestuous connection. It is within the walls of this pulsing city, that this battle takes place.

Though our bodies may be asymmetrical, we continue about our lives. Slowly, the almost imperceptible scars are absorbed into the geography of the whole. And as we begin to reassemble ourselves, we become our own myths.

Director's Biography

Nandini Sikand is a filmmaker based in New York City. Her previous films, *Don't Fence Me in* and *The Bhangra Wrap* have screened extensively at various festivals. She has been awarded grants from The Jerome Foundation and New York State Council on the arts for her work. She is a Ph.D candidate in Cultural Anthropology in New York and a classical Indian dancer.

Festivals

Immaginaria Film Festival, Experimental Competition Award
New York Asian American International Film Festival
Belo Horizonte International Short Film Festival
Los Angeles Artwallah Festival
Bilbao International Documentary and Short Film Festival
Cinema Paradise Film Festival
Women of Color Film Festival, CA

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