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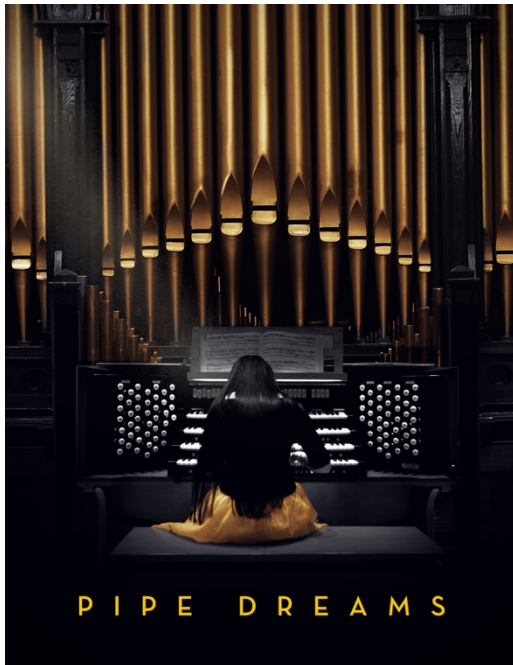
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INDEPENDENT LENS STRIKES A CHORD WITH STACEY TENENBAUM'S *PIPE DREAMS*, SET TO PREMIERE JUNE 22 ON PBS AND PBS.ORG

Documentary Brings Viewers Inside the High Stakes World of Competitive Organ Music



(San Francisco, CA) Tuesday, May 12, 2020 — Filmmaker Stacey Tenenbaum's refreshing and surprising documentary *Pipe Dreams* challenges preconceived notions about this age-old instrument while introducing viewers to a new generation of passionate young organists, and shines a spotlight on the largely unexplored world of competitive organ playing.

Pipe Dreams makes its broadcast debut on *Independent Lens* **Monday, June 22, at 10:00 PM ET** ([check local listings](#)) on PBS and will be available to stream on [PBS.org](https://pbs.org), and the PBS app. Tenenbaum charts the journeys of four ultra-talented organ players in the intense lead up to the Canadian International Organ Competition (CIOC), widely regarded as the Olympics for organ music, attracting virtuosi under the age 35 from all over the world. Competitors grapple with personal pressures and anxieties and push their incredible abilities to the limit.

Held every three years in Montreal, the prestigious CIOC demands the very best from young talent around the globe. Organists featured in *Pipe Dreams* are Yuan Shen, the daughter of China's most famous organist, who believes that in order to win her will must be twice as strong as the strength and stamina of her competition; Alcee Chriss III of Texas, whose unique style and joyful playing is influenced by his musical background with gospel and jazz; Nick Capozzoli of Pittsburgh, who is willing to take big risks through performing obscure, modern music; and competitive newcomer 19-year-old Sebastian Heindl, the youngest person to ever compete in the CIOC, who taught himself to play at age 11 in the same town, Leipzig, Germany, as his idol and namesake Johann Sebastian Bach.

Featuring personal at-home footage as well as a seat at the bench alongside these competitors at the CIOC, *Pipe Dreams* highlights the immense mental and physical discipline that the "king of instruments" demands from these young musicians, how their talents and ambitions are



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reinvigorating the world of competitive organ playing, and ultimately reveals who will come out on top as the winner.

Visit the [Pipe Dreams](#) page on *Independent Lens* for more information about the film.

About the Filmmaker

Stacey Tenenbaum (Director)

Stacey Tenenbaum is an award-winning creative producer and director. In 2014 she founded H2L Productions, a boutique documentary film production company specializing in crafting character driven stories which are shot internationally. H2L Productions' first documentary feature *Art of the Shine*, which Stacey produced, directed, and wrote, was broadcast on the Documentary Channel in the winter of 2018 and on PBS *Independent Lens* in the Spring of 2018. *Pipe Dreams*, a documentary feature about competitive organ players was broadcast on the Documentary Channel in 2019 and will air on *Independent Lens* in 2020. She is currently in development on *Scrap*, a character-driven environmental documentary and *Tough Old Broads*, a film about groundbreaking women. Before turning her attention to film, Stacey worked in factual television for 16 years, producing and co-creating award-winning documentary series such as *The Beat* (CTV) and *In Real Life* (YTV). In 2012, Stacey was nominated for an International Emmy for *In Real Life III*. Stacey is known for her ability to find and connect with great characters around the world. She is passionate about making cinematic films which are filled with humor and heart.

CREDITS

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|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| Directed by | Stacey Tenenbaum |
| Co-Directed by | Van Royko Christina Clark |
| Produced by | Stacey Tenenbaum |
| Editor | Howard Goldberg |
| Director of Photography | Pierre-Etienne Bordeleau |
| Original Music by | Tim Rideout |
| Sound Design | Michel Gauvin |

About *Independent Lens*

Independent Lens is an Emmy® Award-winning weekly series airing on PBS Monday nights at 10:00 PM. The acclaimed series, with Lois Vossen as executive producer, features documentaries united by the creative freedom, artistic achievement, and unflinching visions of independent filmmakers. Presented by ITVS, the series is funded by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, a private corporation funded by the American people, with additional funding from PBS, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, Wyncote Foundation, and the National Endowment for the Arts. For more visit pbs.org/independentlens. Join the conversation: facebook.com/independentlens and on Twitter [@IndependentLens](https://twitter.com/IndependentLens).

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