

b. 2001, Brooklyn, New York, USA

Malachi Parsons is a filmmaker and performance artist working at the intersection of everyday gestures, cross-cultural rituals, and displaced testimonies. Through his hybrid, narrative, experimental filmmaking, production design, and documentary solo-ensemble performance, the body and camera become conduits for ancestral veneration and shared social narratives.

Education

2019-2023 New York University Tisch School of the Arts, BFA in Film and Television
 Graduated with honors
2022 New York University Abu Dhabi, Concentration in Arab Crossroad Studies

Filmography (roles listed in parentheses)

Share This Video, short film, HD video, 3 minutes, 2023 (writer, director, cinematographer, producer, co-editor)
Shepherd, student film, HD video, 6 minutes, 2020 (writer, director, cinematographer, producer, editor)

Live Dance and Performance

Wild Ox Moan, live autobiographical student performance, 10 minutes, 2023 (choreographer, performer)

Works In Progress

SunDowning, experimental documentary short film (writer, director, cinematographer, producer, editor)

Status: Post-Production. Aiming for Winter 2024 festival submission.

Logline: Shadowed by the mortality of his grandfather George's Alzheimer's diagnosis, Director Malachi Parsons creates an unsettled dialogue between the speaker (representing George's dying body) and the addressee (symbolizing George's living memory) using documentary techniques and the classical Arabic poetry genre of self-elegy.

The Worship Seat, sculpture & live site-specific solo-performance (writer, sculpture designer)

Status: Pre-Production. Aiming for Study/Research Award in India 2025.

Logline: The tale of Dina-Bhadri, Indian Dalit folktale heroes who champion ecological stewardship, is symbolically revived through a puja worship ceremony performed for a cyclist enduring a prolonged, meditative ride on a stationary bike sculpture.

Acapella, multi-media ensemble-performance (writer, director, choreographer, performer)

Status: Pre-Production. Aiming for Art and Research Residency 2025.

Logline: When a film crew, rapper, and their entourage attempt to complete the production of a drill rap music video, the bounds of an unspoken algorithm/*algorhythm* fragments their actions, redefine 'Americanness', and reimagine mourning through rap's disobedient, unruly body.

Solo Exhibitions

2024 *Water Buffalo: Collage as Written Testimony*, solo-art exhibition and community event, New York City (artist: Dhanté Bunbury; curator/project manager: Malachi Parsons)

Screenings & Film Festivals (*work screened/presented indicated in parentheses*)

- 2019 Trinity Church, Keep It Reel Festival: Teens Facing Race through Film, Downtown Community Television Center, New York City (*Student Film*)
Red Hook Community Justice Center, JustArts: Photography Program, Brooklyn, NY (*Student Film*)

Grants/ Funding History

- 2024 Kickstarter Crowdfunding, \$7068 for production of *Water Buffalo: Collage as Written Testimony*

Teaching, Workshops & Talks

- 2024 Brooklyn Art Cave, Artist Talk at *Water Buffalo: Collage as Written Testimony* solo art exhibition
Annapolis Film Festival, Artist Q & A in “Black Experience Showcase: Garland Jeffreys: The King of In Between”
- 2022 New York University Gallatin School of Individualized Study, Guest Student Speaker on Gallatin Celebrates 50: Earth Day 2022, “Environmental Racism and Environmental Injustice: Rights, Citizenship, and Activism”

Research

- 2023 Research on the use of water as symbol for environmental mobilization, activism, and protest in Southern African American and Dalit folklore
- 2022 Research on naturalization, cultural identity, and the performativity of citizenship in the United Arab Emirates
Research on exploring the glocality of environmental justice movements on coastal islands and the power of indigenous resurgence
Research on Memory, Power, and Performance in the Construction of Malian Muslim Identity and the performative relationship between African textile dyeing masters and bacteria

Select Work Experience

- 2023 Production Designer, Savannah College of Art and Design Student Film, *Perfect Circle*, Directed by Ned Cooper
Production Designer, NYU Tisch Student Film, *Blood on Canvas*, Directed by Eámonn Wrightstone
Art Assistant, NYU Tisch Student Film, *Maya*, Directed by Nadera Herbert-bey
Production Designer, NYU Tisch Student Film, *Shrink*, Directed by Aliza Jawahar
- 2022 Art Apprentice and Teaching Assistant, NYU Abu Dhabi, Professor Marsha Ginsberg
Set Designer, NYU Tisch Student Film, *Idle Speed*, Directed by Yoni Azulay
- 2021-2022 Video Editor, Brooklyn 45 TV
- 2020, 2022 Production Assistant, Prop Haus Studios, Prop and Set Designer Martha Bernabe
- 2021 Production Designer, City College MFA Student Film, *Ava*, Directed by Ayoub El Jamal
Production Designer, NYU Tisch Student Film, *SEER*, Directed by Tony Wang