

*what's the point of remembering?*

1999

A film by Samara Grace Chadwick

## **Basic Production Info:**

Title: 1999

Official Language: French

Format: HD

Subtitling: Yes

Genre: Documentary

Director: 1st film

Type: Live action

Subtitling language: English

Runtime: 90 minutes

Completion date: November 10th 2017

Current Stage: Post Production

Preselection format: Online screener

Colour: Colour

Aspect Ratio: 16:9 (1.78:1)

Sound: 5.1

### **Screener:**

<https://vimeo.com/237600914>

password: 1999\_90

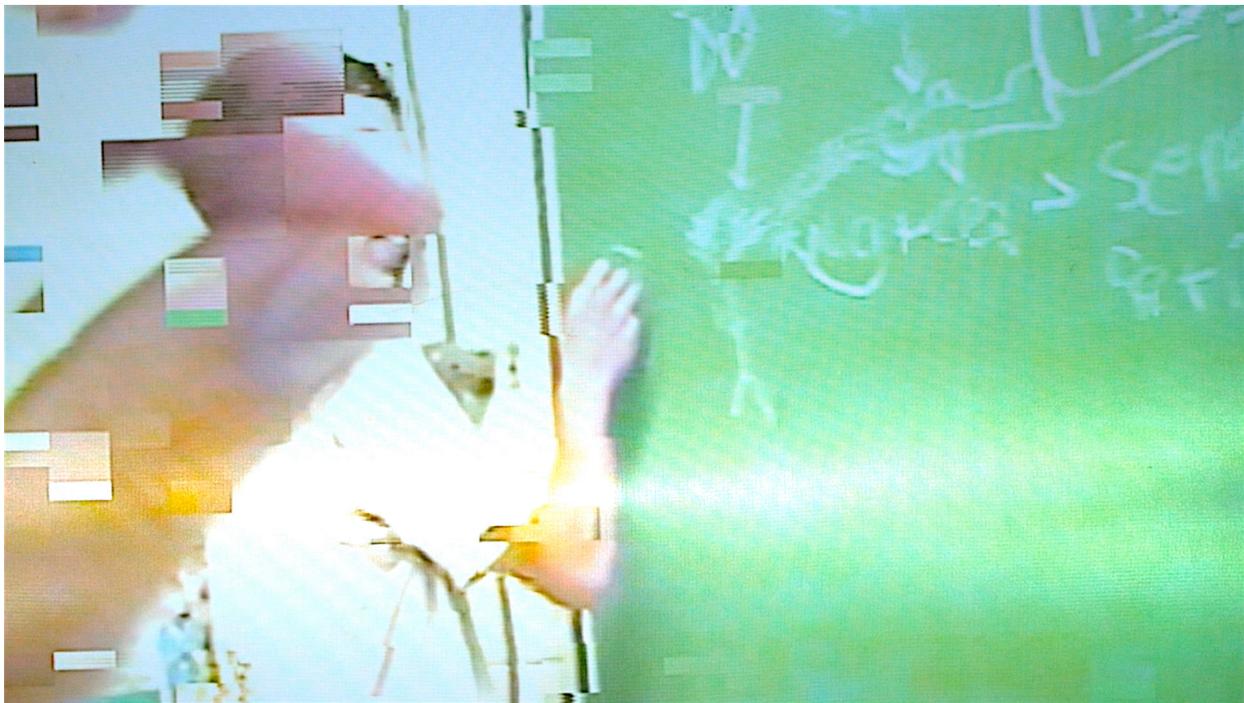
## **Information about the film & team:**

### **Logline (34 words / 180 characters)**

A high school story set in 1999 in my small town, when so many of our teenage friends took their own lives. How does grief still haunt our streets, our archives, and our memories?

### **Synopsis (155 words / 936 characters)**

When death haunts a high school in a small town in the late 1990s, everyone is forever transformed. In this gentle prismatic film, Samara returns to the town she fled as a teen to re-immense herself in the memories still lurking there, in its spaces and within the dusty boxes of diaries, photos and VHS tapes. 1999 is not a ghost story, but the ghosts are palpable at every turn. The snow-covered streets, the school's hallways and lockers are preserved as in a dream. The absences left by the relentless teenage suicides still shimmer with questions, trauma and regret. Samara encounters people who are as breathtaking as they are heartbroken, and, finally, 16 years later, the community strengthens itself by sharing the long-silenced memories. Ultimately the film weaves together multiple voices in a collective essay on how is grief internalized - and how, as children, we so painfully learn to articulate our desire to stay alive.



**Director** : Samara Chadwick

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Samara grew up in Moncton and left at age 16. She earned a PhD in Cultural Studies and has spent over a 15 years working in the field of documentary film across Europe, North- and South America: primarily as a filmmaker, editor, and festival programmer. She currently is a programmer for the Points North Institute and the Camden International Film Festival, and formerly worked with HotDocs, RIDM, and Philip Groening Filmproduktion.

**Producer**: Sarah Spring

Co-founder of Parabola Films, President of the board of Montreal's Rencontres internationales du documentaire de Montréal – RIDM and a long standing board member of the Documentary Organization of Quebec, Sarah has been actively involved in Montreal's vibrant documentary community for the past decade. She wrote and produced her first film in 2007, and is completing production on her eighth feature documentary at the end of 2017. Sarah is committed to encouraging filmmakers whose voice brings an important perspective to social issues while pushing the boundaries of documentary storytelling.

**Producer**: Selin Murat

Co-founder of Parabola Films in Montreal in 2010, Selin Murat has worked in independent documentary film in Canada and abroad for more than ten years, producing award-winning films for international festivals, theatres and broadcast. Living between Montreal and Istanbul, Selin develops international coproductions, programs development initiatives for documentary filmmakers in Turkey and supports ambitious projects from the region. Since 2017, she is on the programming committee of Montreal's documentary film festival, RIDM.

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