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# DEAF CROWS COLLECTIVE

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Deaf Crows Collective is pleased to announce the production of a short film, *Fable Deaf*, filming July 25 - August 7, 2021 at the Soundstage at Saskatchewan Production Studios. This is the first film produced in Western Canada with an all Deaf cast of four: a Deaf Elder (Allard Thomas), a Deaf child (Oscar Grodecki), and two Deaf immigrant actors (Fatima Nafisa and Netflix *Black Summer* actor Mustafa Alabssi). The crew includes hearing and deaf working together. This film brings the arts and Deaf communities together in a mentorship collaboration, training our young Deaf artists in various aspects of filmmaking and performance, and providing opportunities for them to gain skills and knowledge about potential future jobs in the film industry.

The film is a fable, set in a surreal landscape, reflecting Deaf cultural experiences and the inner worlds of Deaf people. The film is a partnership project with Moxie Films based here in Regina, Saskatchewan. Since 2016 the creative team has collaborated on various projects under the auspices of Deaf Crows Collective, a well established arts collective that has produced a number of highly successful projects both in Regina and across Canada, including *Deaf Crows* (theatre play), *Nay's Story* (ASL poetry and puppetry hybrid performance), *The Deaf Forest* (art installation), and *Apple Time* (devised theatre play).

In our work together, we are posing questions such as: What is a Deaf film? How is a film made by a Deaf crew, director, and actors? How can we work with hearing artists while maintaining the integrity of our Deaf culture and language? How can we adapt our own method of collective creation to the practice of filmmaking? How can we weave new mythologies for new, ever more multicultural Deaf generations?

This film is possible thanks to funding from Canada Council of the Arts and partnership with Saskatchewan Filmpool Cooperative.

For more information, please contact:

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