



LIVING QUECHUA

Directed by [Christine Mladic Janney](#)

2014, 18 min, United States, Quechua, Spanish and English with English subtitles

Original Shooting Format, Aspect Ratio, and Film Sound: HD

Screening Formats Available: MOV and MP4

Contact:

Third World Newsreel

545 8th Avenue, Suite 550, New York, NY 10018

(212) 947-9277 x 10, tw@tw.org

Trailer: <http://vimeo.com/569173345>

Film's Website: <https://tw.org/catalog/pages/responsive/cpage.aspx?rec=1537&card=price>

LIVING QUECHUA



SYNOPSIS

Living Quechua

Runasimiwan Kawsay/Viviendo con el quechua

An uplifting journey through a diverse network of Quechua speakers and students in New York City, one Peruvian woman's mission to revive her indigenous language becomes an inspiration for a historically marginalized community.

Elva Ambía Rebatta's first language is Quechua, but when she left her town in Peru as a young woman to find work in the United States, speaking Spanish and English became critical for her to survive. While Quechua—a language indigenous to South America—continues to be spoken around the world as a result of such migration stories, UNESCO and other initiatives recognize it as an endangered language. Now in her seventies, Elva decides to help cultivate a Quechua-speaking community in New York City. Runasimiwan Kawsay (Living Quechua) follows Elva through the challenges and successes of trying to keep Quechua alive.

El idioma nativo de Elva Ambía Rebatta es el quechua, pero cuando era joven y tuvo que salir de su pueblo en el Perú para buscar trabajo en EEUU, hablar el español y el inglés resultó crítico para sobrevivir. Aunque el quechua—un idioma indígena de sudamérica—aún es hablado alrededor del mundo como resultado de estas historias de migración, la UNESCO y otras iniciativas lo reconocen como un idioma en peligro. Ahora, con más de setenta años, Elva decide cultivar una comunidad quechuahablante en la ciudad de Nueva York. Runasimiwan Kawsay (Viviendo con el quechua) sigue a Elva tras los desafíos y éxitos de intentar mantener el quechua como idioma vivo.

SCREENINGS, FESTIVALS & AWARDS

- Award of the Festival Director, International Film Festival ETNOFILM Čadca (Slovakia)
- Margaret Mead Film Festival, New York
- Society for Visual Anthropology Film Festival, Washington DC
- Antropofest Film Festival, Prague, Czech Republic
- May Sumak: Quichwa Film Showcase, New York
- San Diego Latino Film Festival, San Diego
- Chicago Latino Film Festival, Chicago
- EthnoCineca Ethnographic and Documentary FilmFest, Vienna
- The Americas Film Festival of New York, New York
- Smithsonian Folklife Festival, Washington DC
- Balboa Park Centennial Celebration, San Diego
- Aboriginal Pavilion of the Pan-American Games, Toronto

- Cine + Más San Francisco Latino Film Festival, San Francisco
- Festival Internacional del Cortometraje, Buenos Aires
- International Festival of Ethnological Film, Belgrade
- DOCUPERU Film Festival, Lima
- FICWALLMAPU, Festival Internacional de Cine Indígena de Wallmapu, Temuco, Wallmapu
- Göttingen International Ethnographic Film Festival, Göttingen, Germany
- Culture Unplugged Film Festival, online
- International Film Festival ETNOFILM Čadca, Slovakia
- Cine Kurumin: Indigenous International Film Festival, Salvador, Brasil
- Viscult Film Festival of Visual Culture, Joensuu, Finland

BIOGRAPHY OF DIRECTOR AND PRODUCER



Christine Mladic Janney is an anthropologist, award-winning documentary filmmaker, multimedia producer, and educator. Her films tend to feature stories related to human rights, indigenous languages, activism, migration, the experience of women, and everyday life in the US and Latin America. Her 2014 film *Runasimiwan Kawsay (Living Quechua)*, a documentary about Peruvian language activist Elva Ambía's efforts to keep Quechua alive in New York City, premiered at the Margaret Mead Film and Video Festival in NYC and was screened at over 30 film festivals and community events around the world. The film won the Award of the Festival Director at the 19th International Film Festival ETNOFILM Čadca (Slovakia) in 2016. Christine holds a PhD in Sociocultural Anthropology from New York University, as well as an Advanced Certificate in Culture and Media and an MA in Latin American and Caribbean Studies. She is currently based in Chicago, Illinois and teaches media anthropology and Latin American Studies courses at various universities.

STILLS & CAPTIONS

