

The graphic is a promotional banner for the Conch Shell International Film Fest. It features two main panels for special screenings. The left panel is for 'MADAN SARA' by Etant Dupain, scheduled for Friday, August 26 at 7pm EST. It includes a photo of Etant Dupain (Filmmaker) and Maëlla Kancel (Moderator). The right panel is for 'Devotion' by Dawn Wilkinson, scheduled for Sunday, August 28 at 2pm EST. It includes a photo of Dawn Wilkinson (Filmmaker) and Melanie Nicholls-King (Moderator). In the center is the Conch Shell International Film Fest logo, which consists of a blue conch shell with a yellow film strip ribbon around it. Below the logo, it says 'INTERNATIONAL FILM FEST'. At the bottom center, it reads 'CSIFF2022 Special Screenings presented in partnership with Caribbean Tales Film Festival'. The website 'www.conchshelliff.com' and a QR code are at the bottom left. Logos for CTFE and other partners are visible on the screening panels.

## Conch Shell International Film Fest MADAN SARA & DEVOTION Special Screenings - presented in Partnership with Caribbean Tales Film Festival

Queens, New York - The 2nd Annual Conch Shell International Film Fest (CSIFF2022) is thrilled to announce the special screenings of Haitian director Etant Dupain's MADAN SARA on August 26, 2022 at 7pm EST (followed by a live filmmaker chat led by Maëlla Kancel of Karukerament Podcast). On Sunday August 28, we will screen Canadian-Barbadian film and television director Dawn Wilkinson's DEVOTION at 2pm (followed by a live filmmaker chat led by award-winning actress Melanie Nicholls-King). These special screenings are presented in partnership with Caribbean Tales Film Festival. CSIFF's online festival will take place Friday August 26, 2022 to Sunday August 28t, 2022 on Filmocracy.com (CSIFF2022 Industry Sponsor).

### About MADAN SARA

The women known as *Madan Sara* in Haiti work tirelessly to buy, distribute, and sell food and other essentials in markets throughout the country. The Madan Sara documentary tells the stories of these indefatigable women who work at the margins to make Haiti's economy run. This film amplifies the calls of the *Madan Sara* as they speak directly to society to share their dreams for a more just Haiti.

### Filmmaker Bio

Etant Dupain is a journalist, filmmaker, and community organizer. For over a decade, he has worked as a producer on documentaries and for international news media outlets including Al Jazeera, TeleSur, BBC, CNN, Netflix, PBS, and Vice. Etant founded an alternative media project in Haiti to enable citizen journalists to provide access to information in Haitian Creole for and about internally-displaced people,

aid accountability, and politics. Now, moved by the strength of his mother and the women known as the *Madan Sara* who make Haiti's economy run, he's making his first personal film.

**AWARDS:** Berlin Indie Film Festival - Best Director, Short Documentary; Paris Play Film Festival - Best Documentary Quarter Finalist; Best Istanbul Film Festival-Best Feature Documentary; Caribbean Tales International Film Festival - Best Documentary; London International Monthly Film Festival - Honorable Mention; Athens International Monthly Film Festival - Honorable Mention

### **About DEVOTION**

Filled with despair by the loss of her mother in a car accident, 11-year-old bi-racial Alice finds it hard to accept that her father Grant wants to start a new life. She resents their cozy new bungalow in small-town Ontario and longs for her mum. In Alice's recurring nightmares of the car accident, her dad's drinking is to blame for the crash. This father/daughter story raises a question for each of them: Will Grant take responsibility for what he has done and put Alice's needs before his own? Can Alice find it in her heart to forgive him? The intimacy of 'Devotion' provides a moving portrait of a bi-racial girl's struggle to find her voice.

### **ABOUT DAWN WILKINSON**

Dawn Wilkinson was born in Montreal and raised in Toronto and is a graduate of the University of Toronto and the Canadian Film Centre's Director's Lab and Short Dramatic Film Program. Dawn directed the award-winning feature film "Devotion" and short films: "Instant Dread", "Dandelions", "Wilderness", and "Girls Who Say Yes". Since being awarded the WIFT and DGC Emerging Television Director Award, Dawn has directed many of Canada's top drama series including "Heartland", "Murdoch Mysteries", and "Degraasi" which was nominated for a DGC AWARD for Best Family TV Series, and comedies "Sunnyside" and "Kim's Convenience" which was also nominated for a Best Directing DGC Award. In 2022 Dawn Wilkinson directed the BET+ Original film "Block Party" which is the first ever Juneteenth Family Comedy. The film is the first of its kind to have a theatrical, streaming, and linear release in the same month of its release.

### **AWARDS**

Audience Award at Toronto's Reel World Film Festival in 2005; Best Feature at the San Francisco Black Film Festival's Urban Kidz Program in 2005. In 2008, Wilkinson won the Director's Guild of Canada's Emerging Television Director Award from Women In Film and Television Toronto.

### **ABOUT CONCH SHELL INTERNATIONAL FILM FEST 2022**

CSIFF2022 is an interactive online festival celebrating the unique voice of Caribbean and Caribbean Diaspora filmmakers which is presented by Conch Shell Productions. CSIFF2022 events include live interactive masterclasses, panels, filmmaker chats, special screenings, and more. The festival closes with an award ceremony. To learn more and to order your festival pass, go to: [www.conchshelliff.com](http://www.conchshelliff.com)

### **ABOUT CSIFF Partner: CARIBBEAN TALES FILM FESTIVAL**

CaribbeanTales International Film Festival (CTFF) is an annual event that celebrates the talents of established and emerging filmmakers of Caribbean and African heritage who practice their art across the Caribbean Diaspora worldwide. The event takes place each year in September and is now offering viewership online and in-person experiences. @caribbeantales

**CSIFF Festival Dates:** Friday August 26, 2022- Sunday August 28, 2022

**Time:** On-demand films- 24 hours; For other fest events see website for details [www.conchshelliff.com](http://www.conchshelliff.com)

**Location:** Online <https://festival.filmocracy.com/conchshelliff/>

**How to attend:** Get your fest pass from [www.conchshelliff.com](http://www.conchshelliff.com)

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