



# LIVES: *Visible*

**A Film by Michelle Citron**

**Lesbians in a box.** That's how I think of the trove of over 2000 snapshots that are the heart of my film, *Lives: Visible*. The photos were taken by Norma and Virginia who lived together as a lesbian couple in Chicago's East Rogers Park neighborhood for almost 50 years. They died in their 80s leaving behind snapshots of themselves and their friends spanning over four decades, 1936 -1975.

*Lives:Visible* is the second and final film I'm creating using Norma and Virginia's photos. The first film, *Leftovers*, focused exclusively on Norma and Virginia during the last decade of their life when they were cut off from family and friends. *Lives:Visible* expands the story to explore the cultural and historical context of the photographs. *Lives:Visible* uses two cultures – Chicago's vibrant pre-Stonewall lesbian community and the Kodak snapshot – to explore the ephemeral nature of all cultures, even life itself.

I have received generous support from 3Arts.org, who are helping me crowdfund this important film. The 3 Arts Foundation provides a third of the funds raised with a matching grant. I invite you to be part of this film by donating here, <http://3arts.org/projects/lives-visible/>. I would be grateful if you would spread the work by forwarding this email to others who might be interested. There are plenty of goodies for donations including a beautiful "film slide" necklace, dvds and more. Be part of preserving this important story of life before Stonewall.

## About Michelle Citron

Michelle Citron is an award-winning digital and film artist. Her work has been shown at the Museum of Modern Art, the Whitney Museum of American Art, The Walker Art Center, the Museum of Contemporary Art/Chicago, and the American Film Institute, as well as the New Directors, Berlin, London, Edinburgh, Viper, and SeNef film and new media festivals. Her films and interactive narratives are distributed worldwide and are in the permanent collections of over two hundred universities and museums. She has received numerous awards and fellowships including two National Endowment for the Arts Filmmaking Fellowships, a National Endowment for the Humanities Media Grant, and three Illinois Arts Council Artist Fellowships, for digital arts, filmmaking, and screenwriting.

She is the author of the awarding winning book *Home Movies and Other Necessary Fictions* and the films *Daughter Rite*, *Parthenogenesis*, *What You Take For Granted...*, and *Leftovers*, and the interactive narratives *Cocktails & Appetizers*, *Mixed Greens*, and *As American As Apple Pie* (collected at [queerfeast.com](http://queerfeast.com)).



Click Above to see images of Norma And Virginia



Click Above to see a clip



Click Above to see a clip

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