

NIKKI CELIS

Montreal, QC, Canada

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AWARDS

- 2024** **Canada Council for the Arts**
"Explore and Create: Concept to Realization" grant
Collaborator & Screenwriter
- 2023** **Canada Council for the Arts**
"Explore and Create: Research and Creation" grant
Collaborator & Screenwriter
- 2018** **Alberta Magazine Publishers Association**
Emerging Writer Award, 2017-2018
Nominated for non-fiction memoir "SPAM"

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- 2025** **"WARAK AN ULO"**
Narrative Essay | Literary Non-Fiction | Approx. 235 words (1 page)
Paid and published by Looseleaf Print Distro
Independent publisher
- 2024** **"On Romanticizing Home"**
Narrative Interview | Literary Non-Fiction | Approx. 3240 words (13 pages)
Paid and published by ISSAY! (2024, Issue #3)
Arts & Culture periodical with editorial review
- "Born to Be White"**
Narrative Essay | Literary Non-Fiction | Approx. 4,300 words (17 pages)
Paid and published by ISSAY! (2024, Issue #2)
Arts & Culture periodical with editorial review
- 2023** **"Montreal Artist Chien Champion on Designing Nike Bagel Dunk Box"**
Feature Interview | Literary Non-Fiction | Approx. 554 words (2 pages)
Paid and published by Complex Canada (2023)
Arts & Culture periodical with editorial review
- "The Market"**
Memoir | Literary Non-Fiction | Approx. 3,030 words (13 pages)
Paid and published by ISSAY! (2023, Issue #1)
Arts & Culture periodical with editorial review
- "Are We Asian Enough?"**
Narrative Interview | Literary Non-Fiction | Approx. 1,890 words (7 pages)
Paid and published by ISSAY! (2023, Issue #1)
Arts & Culture periodical with editorial review
- 2021** **"SPAM" (REVISED)**
Narrative Essay | Literary Non-Fiction | Approx. 2500 words (9 pages)
Revised and republished online by Sticky Rice (2021)
Arts & Culture periodical with editorial review
- 2017** **"SPAM"**
Narrative Essay | Literary Non-Fiction | Approx. 3200 words (13 pages)
Paid and published by FreeFall (2017, Issue XXVII.II)
Peer-reviewed literary magazine
- "dirtsong: A Conversation with Fred Leone of Black Arm Band"**
Feature Profile | Literary Non-Fiction | Approx. 570 words (2 pages)
Paid and published by Arts Commons Magazine (2017, Winter Issue)
Arts & Culture periodical with editorial review
- 2015** **"Life as a First Nations Person in Calgary's Hardcore Scene"**
Feature Profile | Literary Non-Fiction | Approx. 1443 words (6 pages)
Paid and published by VICE (2015)
Arts & Culture periodical with editorial review

STATEMENT

Nikki Celis (aka Nikki Anchovy) is an award-nominated Bicolano writer, cultural critic, and radio host based between Calgary and Montreal.

From editorials and interviews to memoirs and screenplays published in ISSAY!, VICE, the Calgary Herald, Complex, and more, his work focuses on peripheries—examining the intersections of culture, art, and identity among Filipinos and other BIPOC diasporas.

On the side, he hosts The SQUAT Show—sharing Filipino and Southeast Asian hardcore, punk, and alternative music every month on CKUT 90.3 FM in Montreal, as well as SQUAT PRESENTS: NO WEIGHTS on NI0.AS.

AFFILIATIONS

2025 - Present

NI0.AS® Radio

NO WEIGHTS Radio Host

2025 - Present

Ka Collective

Member

2024 - Present

Radyo Kapwa | CKUT 90.3 FM

SQUAT Show Radio Host

2023 - Present

Centre Kapwa

Organization Member

2022 - Present

Sticky Rice Magazine

Contributor & Lifestyle Editor

2015 - 2018

FreeFall Magazine

Online Editor & New Media Designer

EDUCATION

Royal Roads University | 2019

BA in Professional Communication

**Southern Alberta Institute
of Technology | 2018**

Print and Online Journalism Diploma

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EXHIBITIONS

- 2024** **Sorsogon: Homecoming - Group Exhibition**
Likhaan 2024 | Bankers Hall, Calgary | November 14–16, 2024
Photography series
- 2016** **I Am Calgarian - Solo Exhibition**
OutLoud YYC | The GRAND, Calgary | March 16, 2016
Photography series commissioned by OutLoud YYC and Tourism Calgary

PROJECTS

- 2025** **ANG MERKADO**
Screenplay & Production | Short Film | Directed by NOFAC3
Claymation film based on Nikki Celis' semi-fictional memoir, "The Market." With support from Canada Council for the Arts.
- SQUAT PRESENTS: NO WEIGHTS**
Radio Host & Curator | NI0.AS Internet Radio | 2025 - Present
Showcasing punk, hardcore, and alternative music from the Philippines, the diaspora, and Southeast Asia.
- 2024** **THE SQUAT SHOW**
Radio Host & Curator | CKUT 90.3 FM | 2024 - Present
Amplifying punk, hardcore, and alternative sounds from the Philippines, its diaspora, and Southeast Asia—with support from Radyo Kapwa.
- Sorsogon: Homecoming**
Photography + Multimedia Series | 2024 - Present
Archiving and documenting the lives of people in Sorsogon, Bicol, Philippines.
- 2022** **Perennials (2022)**
Film Editor | Short Film | Directed by Hannah Polinski
Official Selections:
- Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival (2022)
 - Minikino Film Week: Bali International Short Film Festival (2023)
 - 8th Sinema Akhir Tahun (2023)
 - Korean Film Festival Canada (2023)
 - Le Festival de cinéma de la ville de Québec (2023)
 - Grande rencontre des arts médiatiques en Gaspésie (2023)
 - White River Independent Film Festival (2023)
 - Mighty Niagara Film Festival (2023)
 - Seattle Asian American Film Festival (2024)
- 2016** **I Am Calgarian**
Photography + Web Series | March 2016
Commissioned and funded with the support of OutLoud YYC, Tourism Calgary, and the Junos 2016 Host Committee.

MEDIA COVERAGE

- 2021** Vancouver Sun, "Canadian activist Jim Wong-Chu honoured with Google Doodle" (January 28, 2021)—references my 2016 article on Jim Wong-Chu in The Georgia Straight
- 2018** CanadianFilipino.net, "Reflections on Spam, canned meat, earn writer Nikki Celis nod at Alberta Magazines conference" (March 16, 2018)

ART FAIRS

- Tabling Artist | Likhaan 2024**
Bankers Hall, Calgary
November 14–16, 2024
- Tabling Artist | Future Archipelago**
The Hive Cafe, Montreal
September 14, 2024

Tabling Artist | KAGAT Zine Fair
Shift Space, Montreal
July 27, 2024

READINGS

"The Market"
ISSAY! Vol. #1 Launch
Loophole Coffee Bar, Calgary
August 31, 2023

ARTIST PANELS

"MAKE ART YOUR WEAPON"
Panelist | Likhaan 2024
Bankers Hall, Calgary
November 16, 2024

"BEING DIY"
Panelist | KAGAT Zine Fair
Shift Space, Montreal
July 27, 2024

REFERENCES

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