

Teens lead the way forward in 'No Go Backs'



*Still photo from Stanya Kahn's 2020 short film "No Go Backs," shot on Super 16mm film. Courtesy of the Wexner Center for the Arts*

## Stanya Kahn's quietly gorgeous, contemplative short film is now premiering in the Wexner Center galleries

About a year and a half after Los Angeles filmmaker Stanya Kahn finished her fast-paced, experimental 2017 documentary, "Stand in the Stream," she found herself at a friend's house in the Eastern Sierra mountains, staring out a window, watching the snow fall. And in that moment, the vision for her next film flooded her mind all at once.

Earlier that night Kahn had been lying in bed, aimlessly browsing Twitter on her phone and getting angrier and angrier with each scroll. Then she came upon a clip of congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez. "She was describing elements of the Green New Deal and concerns about young people, and she was being very pointed and clear and intense. And it was a tiny salve on the mounting fury I was feeling," Kahn said recently by phone from California. "I shut off the phone, and I was lying there looking out the window, thinking about young people needing to abandon so much of what they have had to inherit in order to figure out a new way to be in the world."

