



# Jon-Sesrie Goff

- After Sherman

Film/Video

**MARCH 13, 2023**

**8:30 PM**

**PRESENTED BY**

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# Jon-Sesrie Goff

## • After Sherman

Beautifully layered, *After Sherman* is a story about inheritance and the tension that defines our collective American history, especially Black history. The filmmaker follows his father, a minister, in the aftermath of a mass shooting at his church in Charleston, South Carolina, to understand how communities of descendants of enslaved Africans use their unique faith as a form of survival as they continue to fight for America to live up to its many unfulfilled promises to Black Americans.

“*After Sherman* serves as both a psalm of thanksgiving and a cry of lamentation for the family legacy he claims—as well as the cultural history he cannot escape.”

—Marshall Shaffer, *The Playlist*

### ABOUT THE ARTIST

**Jon-Sesrie Goff** is a multidisciplinary artist, curator, and arts administrator. With extensive experience in media and film production, Goff has offered his lens to a variety of projects spanning many genres, including the recently released and award-winning documentaries *Out in the Night* (POV, Logo 2015), *Evolution of a Criminal* (Independent Lens, 2015), and *Spit on the Broom* (2019). His first feature length film, *After Sherman*, was released in 2022.

He studied sociology, economics, and theater at Morehouse College (Atlanta, Georgia), completed his BA at The New School (New York, New York), along with an MFA from Duke University (Durham, North Carolina) in Experimental and Documentary Arts. Goff's work as an educator includes Duke University, Villanova University, and Westchester University.

He recently joined the Ford Foundation's Creativity and Free Expression team as a program officer for the foundation's JustFilms program. Previously, he was the executive director of the Flaherty Film Seminar and worked in the Office of Curatorial Affairs at the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture. His personal practice has involved extensive institutional, community, and personal archival research; visual documentation; and oral history interviews in the coastal South on the legacy of Black land ownership and Gullah Geechee heritage preservation. Goff engages with his work from the paradigm of a social change instigator.

*The Jack H. Skirball Series was organized by Jheanelle Brown and Bérénice Reynaud.*