

# TAKING THE PISS

A FILM BY CHRISTINA DOVOLIS & TAVIS PUTNAM



A FILM BY:  
Christina Dovolis  
& Tavis Putnam

WINNIPEG  
FILM GROUP

MANITOBA MUSIQUE  
FILM & ET FILM  
MUSIC MANITOBA

**Logline:**

True tales from the public bathroom.

**Synopsis:**

Despite their pervading image as a bastion of utter grotesqueness, public bathrooms are a necessary community space. In theory, at least, they are a place for everyone. This film celebrates—in equal measure—the shared horror, refuge (and dare we say ecstasy?) of the public bathroom.

**Trailer:**

<https://vimeo.com/1048398543?share=copy>

**Director Statement:**

Like most public spaces in North America, public toilets are not meant to be comfortable. They are meant to tolerate your presence. They are meant to deter unhoused people from spending any amount of time in them at all, and they are meant to be a last resort for anyone else. In an emergency, you will be glad they exist, but beyond that, you will not want to use them. We asked friends and family to recount for us a notable public bathroom experience. Most of the stories provided to us were terrible. But a few were nice. We wanted to make a film that would highlight the absolute indignity of most public bathrooms, without being so lopsided as to disregard their immense cultural value and importance to society at large.





**Directors:**

Christina Dovolis is an interdisciplinary filmmaker and geographer, often working with cutting-edge technologies to explore how our built environments shape community and identity. Hailing from the Midwest, Christina draws inspiration from themes of girlhood and gossip, religious mythologies, and the complexities of urban development. As an educator, Christina is committed to making new media programs more accessible to the public, particularly focusing on empowering women and marginalized groups. She has achieved acclaim for her projects, with presentations at Museum of the Moving Image, Nuit Blanche, Calgary Underground Film Festival, InterAccess Gallery, and more.

Tavis Putnam is a filmmaker, writer, and performer from Treaty 1 Territory: Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. Exploring the squirmy middle ground between comedy and tragedy, his projects have screened at the Vancouver International Film Festival, Festival du Nouveau Cinéma in Montreal, and on the Brooklyn-based platform NoBudge. His debut feature *A Social* was voted “Favourite Film by a Local Filmmaker” by readers of The University of Winnipeg newspaper *The Uniter*, and played to sold out crowds at the Dave Barber Cinematheque in 2022. He holds a Master's of Fine Arts in Film Production from Toronto's York University.



**Cast:**

Jack O'Dwyer  
Tavis Putnam  
Oliver Farkas  
Braden Brickner  
Christina Dovolis  
Tiana Dueck  
Don Bapst  
Dean Dovolis  
Jacqui Sirois

**Key Crew:**

A film by: Christina Dovolis & Tavis Putnam  
Music: Basil No!  
Sound Edit/Mix: George Flores

**Production Info:**

Country of production: Canada

Year of completion: 2024

Format: 35 mm, Digital

Aspect Ratio: 4:3

Duration: 4 minutes, 11 seconds

Genre: Experimental Documentary

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