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## Citizen Jane Filmmakers Series: A Conversation with Sara Blecher

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This week on *The Missouri Review Soundbooth Podcast*, as part of our podcast series covering The Citizen Jane Film Festival, we had the opportunity to talk to Sara Blecher, the director of *Ayanda*. The Citizen Jane Film Festival celebrates independent film by independent women and takes place in Columbia, Missouri, every fall. You can find out more information [here](#).

Blecher is a co-founder of CINGA Productions, a South African-based production company that has made numerous award-winning films, documentaries, and series, including *Zero Tolerance* which was nominated for an international Emmy Award. Blecher's debut feature *Otelo Burning* was named one of the top ten African films of the decade by CNN. Blecher's latest movie, *Ayanda*, is the coming of age story of a South African woman who fights to keep her father's auto repair shop open in Johannesburg. *Ayanda* has been distributed in the United States by Ava Durvaney's Array and is currently available on Netflix.



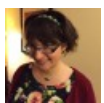
In this podcast, Blecher discusses the difficulties of filming a sex scene, the challenges of being a female film director, and how she created her own version of Johannesburg, among other topics.

For information about *Ayanda*, visit Array's [website](#). Enjoy the interview!

Don't forget about our annual spring [Audio Contest](#), with winners in the categories of fiction, prose, audio documentary, and humor each receiving an award of \$1,000.



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