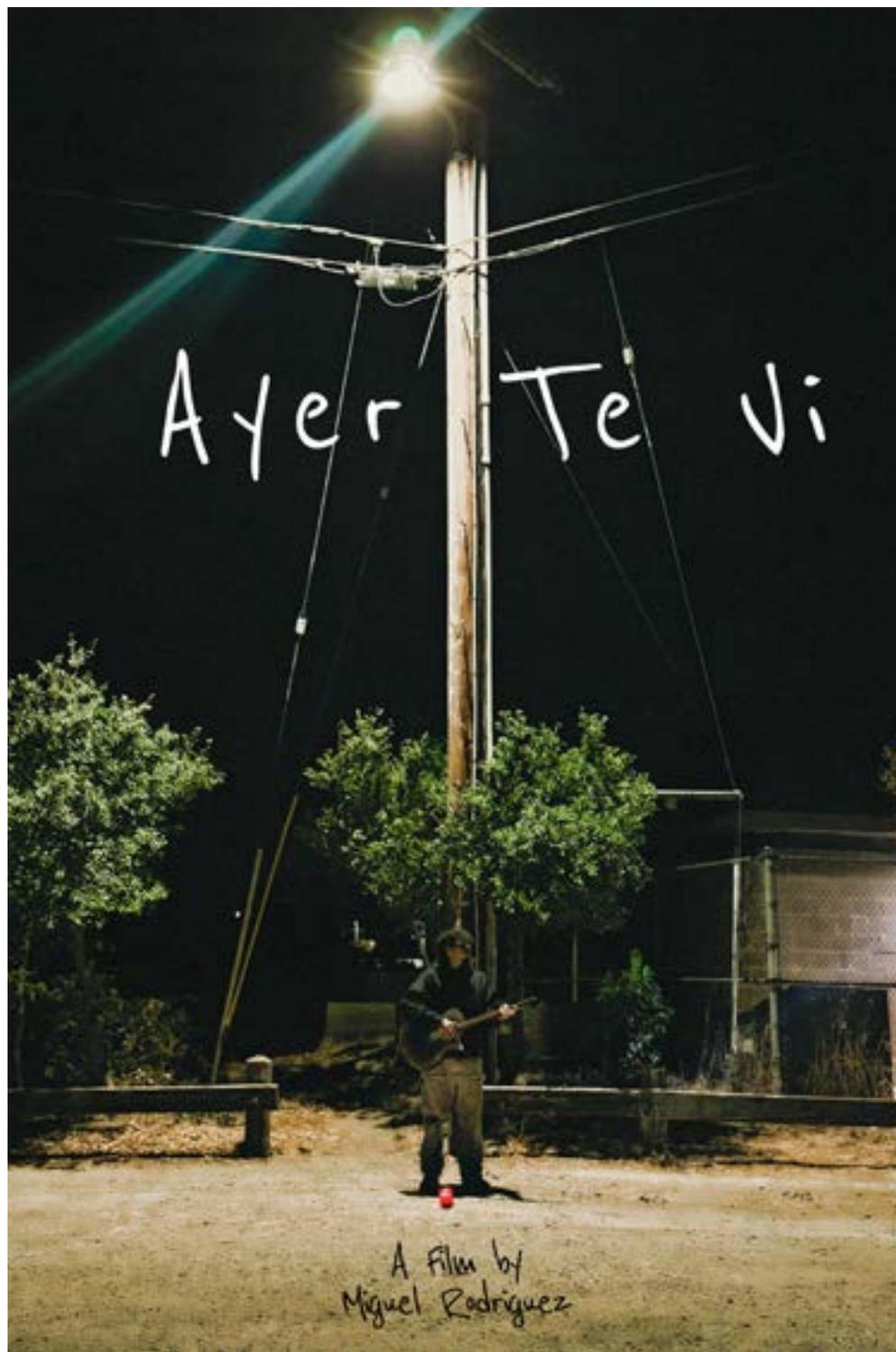


CAFILM EDUCATION

FILMMAKERS GO TO SCHOOL



A Film by
Miguel Rodriguez

CURRICULUM GUIDE
GRADES: 9-12

FILMMAKERS GO TO SCHOOL



ABOUT THE FILM

Ayer te Vi
Miguel Rodriguez | US 2025 | 18 min |
Grades 9-12

A young musician struggles to finish a song as grief, memory, and a mysterious presence begin to blur the line between the real and the surreal.

“Todo acto de creacion es acto de amor.” Every act of creation is an act of love.
 “La vida sigue.” Life goes on.

IMPACT

“Ayer Te Ví explores the quiet grief of losing someone who’s still alive, and the constant presence of mortality. It’s a deeply personal story drawn from my own thoughts and experiences, where music and film become ways to survive and express what words can’t. I hope students feel the weight of the silence, the grief, the moments of hope, and the tension between the past and present. But more than anything, I hope the film serves as a reminder that creating and holding onto what we love can help us keep going. Even when life feels overwhelming, when we’re drowning in its beauty and chaos, it too shall pass. Keep spreading love and art.” Director, Miguel Rodriguez.

ABOUT THE FILMMAKER

Miguel Rodriguez is an independent writer, director and musician living in San Rafael, California.



VIEWING GUIDE: FROM RHYTHM TO STORY: HOW BEATS BUILD MEANING

How to Use this Thinking Routine:

The film you are about to watch tells its story without dialogue. Meaning is carried through beats. A beat is a unit of meaning - a moment where something shifts, even if nothing is said. In this film, beats replace dialogue with moments of dream, memory, action, pause, repetition, and creation. While viewing, track the film the way a musician composes a song - beat by beat.

TRACKING THE BEAT WHAT YOU SEE & WHAT YOU HEAR	
<p>Opening Beat Setup & First Impressions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How does the opening shot provide a mood-setting visual? What the film promises in tone, world, or conflict through imagery and sound. 	
<p>Development Beats Escalation & Discovery</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How does the film build tension or emotion? What is the personal truth, conflict, or main idea that is emerging? 	
<p>Backstory or Context</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How does the film provide information or clarify the present? What symbolic visuals represent past moments or more context? 	
<p>Key Beat Development, Shift, or Complication</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the turning point, challenge, or shift in thinking? Can you identify a moment where the film shifts emotionally, narratively, or visually? 	
<p>Moment of Insight</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the “aha” moment or realization? How does the film provide the viewer with a shift toward new understanding about the situation? 	
<p>Ending Beat Resolution & Resonance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the concluding insight or what do we now understand? What is the audience left thinking or feeling? 	
<p>Final Image</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is there a symbolic closing shot that echoes or resolves the theme? What lasting impressions is the audience left with through imagery and sound? 	

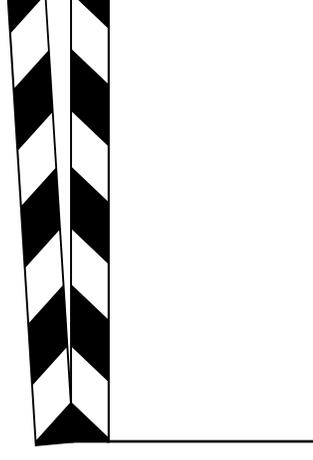
DIRECTOR'S CUT NOTES THE BEATS THAT RESONATE

How to Use this Thinking Routine:

Art is how we keep time with our hearts. In Ayer Te Vi, beats are more than moments in the plot. They are the beats of creative struggle, the beats of memory and love, the beats of time moving forward, and the beats that turn experience into art. The beats don't explain the film, they reveal how the film breathes. This film asks why we make art when life hurts, changes, or keeps going on without us. These Director's Cut Notes ask you to consider and comment on how effectively those beats function together across the film and will become an exit artifact for the filmmaker.

Beat Coherence How the Beats Work as a System Looking at the film as a whole, consider the overall rhythm or pattern you experienced. What does this rhythm communicate emotionally or thematically without words?	Music as Structural Beat What specific observation did you make about how musical beats shaped pacing, tone, or emotional shifts? Share one way you think the music could be emphasized, restrained, or allowed more space to strengthen its role as the film's spine.	Visual Beats as Language Think about how framing, repetition, or movement carries story information. Is there any point where the rhythm softens or blurs? Give the filmmaker a suggestion about focus, duration, or sequencing.	Beats of Creation & Beats of Survival How do the beats of this film parallel the act of making something, the act of remembering, or the act of staying alive? What does the film suggest about why rhythm matters when words are unavailable.
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Your Note to the Filmmaker			
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Final Director's Note

- If this film were entering a new cut, the single most important beat-level adjustment to consider would be . . .
- Why this adjustment could strengthen the film's overall pulse.
- Hint: Your final note should focus on rhythm, not story changes.