



## PRESS RELEASE

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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On Saturday, September 8, 2018, 6/15 Green will host a movie night, starting at 8:00 p.m. This event will be free to the public; refreshments may be available for sale. This year, we are screening ***My Brooklyn***. 6/15 Green is a community garden located in the South Slope, at the intersection of Sixth Avenue and 15<sup>th</sup> Street. Nearby subways are the R train at Prospect Avenue, and the F at 15<sup>th</sup> Street or 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue; nearby buses are the 63 on Fifth Avenue and the 67 on Seventh Avenue. **Director Kelly Anderson will be speaking at the event.**

***My Brooklyn*** is a documentary about Director Kelly Anderson's personal journey, as a Brooklyn "gentrifier," to understand the forces reshaping her neighborhood along lines of race and class. *The story begins when Anderson moves to Brooklyn in 1988, lured by cheap rents and bohemian culture.* By Michael Bloomberg's election as mayor in 2001, a massive speculative real estate boom is rapidly altering the neighborhoods she has come to call home. She watches as an explosion of luxury housing and chain store development spurs bitter conflict over who has a right to live in the city and to determine its future. While some people view these development patterns as ultimately revitalizing the city, to others, they are erasing the eclectic urban fabric, economic and racial diversity, creative alternative culture, and unique local economies that drew them to Brooklyn in the first place. *It seems that no less than the city's soul is at stake.*

Meanwhile, development officials announce *a controversial plan to tear down and remake the Fulton Mall*, a popular and bustling African-American and Caribbean commercial district just blocks from Anderson's apartment. She discovers that the Mall, despite its run-down image, is the third most profitable shopping area in New York City with a rich social and cultural history. As the local debate over the Mall's future intensifies, deep racial divides in the way people view neighborhood change become apparent. *All of this pushes Anderson to confront her own role in the process of gentrification, and to investigate the forces behind it more deeply.*

She meets with government officials, urban planners, developers, advocates, academics, and others who both champion and criticize the plans for Fulton Mall. *Only when Anderson meets Brooklyn-born and raised scholar Craig Wilder, though, who explains his family's experiences of neighborhood change over generations, does Anderson come to understand that what is happening in her neighborhoods today is actually a new chapter in an old American story.* The film's ultimate questions become how to heal the deep racial wounds embedded in our urban development patterns, and how citizens can become active in fixing a broken planning process.

6/15 Green is a 501 ( c ) 3 organization, and contributions are tax-deductible. Donations are welcome! Visit [615green.org](http://615green.org) for more information. 6/15 is a proud founding member of the Brooklyn Alliance of Neighborhood Gardens Land Trust (BANG). See [banglandtrust.org](http://banglandtrust.org) for more information.

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