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Filmmaker Wins Honorable Mention for Film "Temptation" in International Art Contest Only Trini Filmmaker Honored

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

(Charlotte, North Carolina, January 1, 2021) – **Willie Singh, an emerging filmmaker and owner of Willsworld Production in San Juan, Port of Spain, was awarded Honorable Mention in the Engage Art Contest this month for his short film "Temptation."** The 2019-2020 contest welcomed entries from all of North America and featured four arts categories. **He is the only Trini filmmaker honored this year.**

The Engage Art Contest is a **juried competition** for original visual art, music video, film, and performing arts. All entries used the topic of the spiritual battle as described in Ephesians 6:10-20 and related verses. Jurors are experts in the field of the arts they judged. Winning entries have been reviewed at least a dozen times by the end of the comprehensive process, all without the jurors knowing who the artist is (called **blind jurying**). **Artworks are judged on artistic quality and their ability to communicate**, with winners receiving cash prizes as well as other support.

Singh explains that "Temptation" is about "a soon-to-be father with financial trouble, who is tempted to choose the easy way out by taking something that does not belong to him. His temptation manifests as an internal and mental struggle, reminding us that 'the greatest battle is fought in the mind. This film illustrates the core of the spiritual battle in a way that almost everyone can relate to, but from its inception, it tested my own limits and faith."

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This is the second two-year cycle for the Engage Art Contest, with another slated to begin accepting entries in April 2021. Funded by art appreciators and philanthropists Bill and Linda Bantz of North Carolina, Engage Art reintroduces artists to an evergreen source of inspiration—the Holy Scriptures. Through Engage Art, this generation of artists can follow in the footsteps of great artists like Bach and Chagall to contribute a contemporary take on the grand story shared in the Bible.

While Singh played many roles in the films creation, including writer, director, producer, casting director, screenplay, visual effects, sound design/effects and editing, video editing, and cameraman, he was joined by:

- Christopher Anthony Din Chong from the full-service communications firm he founded, C.R.E.A.T.E., the Forward Ever Foundation, and 3Line Studios.
- Marlon Pinder, producer of several short films and currently developing his first feature-length film.
- A capable cast of actors, assistants, and musicians: Cheldon Knights, Scott McDonald, Shivana Khan-James, Nabil Creatyve Vfx, Vinod Panavilla, Rosanna Lutchmie, vocalist Giselle Benois and keyboardist Jordan Boodjarrat.

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