

NARRATIVE FICTION EXPERIENCE

2007-Present

**Wrote, produced and directed various award-winning fiction films. Full list of films available upon request.*

FANTASTIC (Feature, English)

2012

Producer

Logline: An absurdist, pastel noir that documents events after an artist flees New York and winds up dead in a small town.

- Produced this independent feature, recipient of a **Panavision New Filmmakers Grant**. Hired crew, handled production logistics, secured locations and permits. Worked as on-set UPM for principal photography.
- **World Premiere at the 2016 Berlin International Film Festival**

DETAINED IN THE DESERT (Feature, English/Spanish)

2012

Co-Producer/Director

Logline: Two people on opposite sides of the immigration debate find each other lost in the desert and discover their humanity and the true plight of migrants crossing the Arizona desert.

- Directed and adapted the play to the screen. HD/Narrative, 90 min/Real Women Have Curves Studio
- Premiered at the 2012 Latino International Film Festival
- World Premiered at the 2013 Los Angeles Latino International Film Festival
- Official selection of the 2014 Philadelphia Independent Film Festival
- Official selection of the 30th Chicago Latino International Film Festival
- Official selection of the 2014 Native Women in Film and Television Film Festival
- **Official selection and winner of Best Feature at the 2014 Los Angeles International Women's Film Festival**
- Official selection of the 2014 San Diego Latino Film Festival
- **Recipient of the 2012 Latino Film Fund Grant**

CHILD OF THE DESERT (Short, English/Spanish)

2011

Writer/Producer/Director

Logline: A military mother, who has just suffered the loss of her son, meets an undocumented immigrant in the West Texas desert and befriends him.

- Wrote and directed this film as part of my MFA thesis. Shot on location in El Paso, Texas.
- **Winner of the Best Short Film and Texas Award at the 2012 Oscar qualifying USA Film Festival**
- Official Selection of the 2012 White Sands International Film Festival
- Official Selection of the 2012 Cine Festival Film Festival in San Antonio, Texas
- Official Selection of the 2012 San Diego Latino Film Festival
- Best Director Award at the 2012 Boyle Heights Latina Independent Film Extravaganza
- Winner of the "Award of Merit" in 2012 Accolade Competition
- Official Selection of the 2012 AMC Kansas City Film Festival
- Official Selection of the 2012 Ivy Film Festival at Brown University
- Official Selection of the 15th Annual Cine Las Americas International Film Festival in Austin, Texas
- **Featured in 2017 Variety Magazine and Shadow and Act as part of the Femme Frontera Showcase**

L&M (Short, German)

2010

Writer/Producer/Director

Logline: Shot on location in Cologne, Lisa comes from Berlin to see her girlfriend, Mahfuze, for the weekend. Lisa doesn't know, however, that Mahfuze has something to tell her that will test the very boundaries of their long distance relationship.



- Commissioned by the **IFS Film School** to write and direct a short inspired by Billy Wilder's *People on Sunday*. Filmed on location in Cologne, Germany.

DIGNIFIED (Short, English/Spanish)

2009

Writer/Producer/Director

Logline: Estefana, a young bathroom attendant, stands up for her dignity when it's challenged by yuppie club goers.

- Official Selection of the 2009 Palm Springs Short Fest Market
- Official Selection of the 2010 New Filmmakers Sunset Gower Studios

DOCUMENTARY EXPERIENCE

JULIAN (Feature, English/Spanish)

December 2017-Present

Director

Logline: My 89-year-old grandfather takes a monthly, 17-hour bus trip across the U.S.-Mexico Border to visit his family in the US, who cannot return home. He has done this trip without fail for the past twenty years.

- Currently in post production
- Selected for the inaugural 2018 Sundance Documentary Development Fellowship
- Ford Foundation grant recipient
- Participated in the National Association of Latino Producers' *Doing Your Doc* Lab (May 2014)
- Participated in Film Independent's Hackathon Workshop (October 2014)

FUTBOLISTAS 4 LIFE (Short, Dir: Jun Stinson)

October 2018-April 2019

Impact Producer

Logline: A film about Oakland youth from undocumented families and the healing power of soccer.

- Planning and coordination of film screening events (scheduling, travel, catering, etc.)
- Partner cultivation (national networks, grassroots orgs, etc.)
- ID/outreach to distribution/outreach partners

THE UNAFRAID (Feature, Dirs: Anayansi Prado and Heather Courtney)

October 2018-January 2019

Impact Producer

Logline: The Unafraid is a feature length documentary that follows the personal lives of three DACA students in Georgia, a state that has banned them from attending their top state universities and disqualifies them from receiving in-state tuition at any other public college.

- Planning and coordination of film screening events that led to a national screening campaign implemented by Voto Latino
- Partner cultivation (national networks, grassroots orgs, etc.) that led to funding an impact campaign via Swing Issues Media
- Coordinating media asset development (discussion materials, story database, interviews, academic curriculum)
- ID/outreach to distribution/outreach partners

WHAT COUNTS (Short, Dir: Nicole Newnham)

January 2018-October 2018

Impact Producer

Logline: What Counts highlights the stories and experiences of a growing group of leaders who are taking critical steps to end health disparities among their patients. Spanning a diverse set of geographies and organizations, the film shows what's possible when we reimagine what counts as healthcare.

- Planning and coordination of film screening events (scheduling, travel, catering, etc.)
- Manage online film-based activities and action campaigns



- Lead in training and supporting event hosts in planning/facilitation of film discussions at a special screening hosted by the University of Chicago Medicine
- Partner cultivation (national networks, grassroots orgs, etc.)
- Coordinating media asset development (discussion materials, story database, interviews, academic curriculum)
- ID/outreach to distribution/outreach partners
- Supporting PR team, social media and other digital engagement

BUILDING THE AMERICAN DREAM (Feature, Dir: Chelsea Hernandez)

June 2017-March 2019

Producer and Impact Producer

Logline: In Texas, construction workers face the deadliest conditions in the country. This feature documentary follows three immigrant families who are rising up to seek justice and equality in an industry rife with exploitation.

- Devise initial impact strategy
- Coordinate travel, shoots, organize an impact strategy session at the Ford Foundation offices in NYC
- Outreach to potential partner organizations and provide logistical aid for production and post-production
- Provide logistical support for the film's World Premiere at the 2019 SXSW Film Festival

DOLORES (Feature, Dir: Peter Bratt)

June-November 2017

Grassroots support for theatrical release led by PBS Distribution

Logline: Dolores is a 2017 American documentary directed by Peter Bratt, on the life of Chicana activist Dolores Huerta.

- Outreach to local organizations to support turn-out in the theaters in 10-15 cities nationwide
- Arrange theater talkbacks conversations
- Secure group sales from local organizations
- Set up promotions/ticket giveaways on a national scale

AN UNCERTAIN FUTURE (Short, English/Spanish)

March-June 2017

Co-Director

Logline: In Austin, Texas, two expectant mothers-one undocumented and one US citizen-must contend with increased ICE raids and mounting hostility towards immigrants under President Trump.

- Co-directed and produced a short documentary for Field of Vision and Firelight Media
- Premiered on Fusion TV
- Screened at the 2017 New Orleans Film Festival, 2018 Seattle International Film Festival
- **Winner of the Best Texas Short at the 2018 SXSW Film Festival + Winner of Youth Jury Award at the 2018 Aspen ShortsFest**

IMMIGRANTS FOR SALE

May 2010-May 2011

Story Producer

Logline: This series follows several families who are stuck in the crosshairs of the immigration epidemic, and serves as a deeply intimate and compassionate portrait of the suffering caused by the ill-conceived laws designed to contain it.

- Researched, produced, filmed and edited this ground-breaking social documentary campaign for Brave New Films. The campaign exposed the effects of the for-profit prison system on the immigrant, Latino community. Extensive research, travel and on-location production were integral aspects of the campaign. The Ford Foundation and the Fledgling Fund funded this innovative campaign.
- *Immigrants For Sale* has been featured on **Washington Post, The Nation, Huffington Post, MSNBC, AOL Noticias, Telemundo, RT America, Al Jazeera and UK Guardian.**



EDUCATION

MFA in Film Production/Directing University of California at Los Angeles GPA: 3.9	June 2011
B.A. Latin American Studies/French minor Southwestern University Magna Cum Laude	May 2007
Universidad de Buenos Aires Film Criticism and Theory, Documentary Production	June 2006

AWARDS/AFFILIATIONS

• National Association of Latino Producers (NALIP) member	2011-Present
• HSF/Vicente Fernandez Scholar	2010
• Edie and Lew Wasserman Fellowship	2010
• Carroll Sax Award	2010
• National Hispanic Foundation for the Arts Scholarship	2009
• Hollywood Foreign Press Award	2009
• Stephen Bochco Fellowship	2009
• Phi Beta Kappa member	2007-Present
• Bill Gates Millennium Scholar Alumna	2007-Present

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- **Sundance Documentary Development Fellowship** 2018-2019
Sundance awarded my first feature doc, Julian, with a \$30K grant and yearlong mentorship support. The project was 1 out of 2 projects chosen for this prestigious fellowship.
- **Berlinale Talents Documentary Fellowship** 2018
Berlinale Talents brings 250 selected talents from all over the world (writers, directors, producers, cinematographers, actors, editors, production designers, composers, sound designers, sales agents and distributors, and film critics) together with professionals from the international film industry during the Berlin International Film Festival.
- **Firelight Media Impact Producer Fellowship** 2017
Firelight Media's Impact Producer Fellowship, which launched in February 2017, is the first-ever training program dedicated to mentoring and training impact producers of color in the documentary industry.
- **Trans Atlantic Talent Lab Fellow** 2013
Selected out of a competitive pool of international filmmakers to participate in this week-long Talent Lab as a directing fellow. Pitched a feature length project to producers and attended various seminars, workshops and industry meetings.



- **Film Independent Project Involve Fellow** **2013**
Selected to be one of the thirty filmmakers as part of Film Independent's signature diversity program dedicated to cultivating the careers of filmmakers from communities traditionally underrepresented in the industry. This competitive program selects filmmakers from diverse backgrounds and filmmaking tracks.

NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Served on 2018 SXSW Film Festival panel, *Whose Story? Exploring Filmmaker/ Subject Relationships*
- Served on the 2016-2017 Sundance Feature Film Program's Alumni Diversity Outreach Committee
- Served as a jury member for the 2017 Cine Las Americas Short Documentary Competition, the 2016 San Diego Latino Film Festival Documentary Competition, and the 2015 Milwaukee Brico Film Fund
- Commissioned by the IFS Film School in Cologne, Germany to write, produce and direct an on-location short film, *L&M*, inspired by Billy Wilder's *People on Sunday*
- Selected by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to write a short film on education for the Melinda Gates Storyteller Initiative, as part of a collaboration between UCLA and the Gates Foundation
- Recommended and researched filmmaker candidates for the NHK program at the Sundance Film Institute
- Teaching Assistant in various aspects of film production at the UCLA School of Theater, Film and TV