

Althea Wasow

Curriculum Vitae

CONTACT INFORMATION

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EDUCATION

- 9/00-1/06 **Columbia University**, School of the Arts, Film Division, New York, NY
M.F.A. Concentration: Film Directing, Honors
Thesis film: *The Wannabe*
- 9/93-5/97 **Brown University**, Providence, RI
B.A. Concentration: Modern Culture and Media, Honors, *magna cum laude*, Phi Beta Kappa
Thesis: *to be continued: Towards Worldly Interrogations of Modernity and Modernization: Theories of Avant-Garde and Third Cinema and the Case of Soleil Ó (1969)*
- 9/89-6/92 **Stuyvesant High School**, New York, NY
Honors
- 9/90-7/91 **Lycée Fénelon**, Paris, France
American Field Service exchange student. Attained fluency in French.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 6/08 **New York University**, Faculty Resource Network, New York, NY
Participant in Network Summer: *Teaching Visual Storytelling*, a weeklong faculty enrichment seminar.
- 10/07 **Reykjavik International Film Festival**, Trans-Atlantic Talent Campus Program, Reykjavik, Iceland
Selected filmmaker for workshops on international co-productions, short to feature and film case studies.
- 7/97 & 5/98 **Bank Street College of Education**, New York, NY
Participant in New York Department of Education-sponsored course: *Integration of Phonics into a Comprehensive Reading Program*. Additional coursework: *Bookmaking in the Classroom* and *Collaborative Learning Strategies*

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 9/07-Present **Adjunct Professor**, School of Contemporary Arts, Ramapo College in New Jersey, Mahwah, NJ
Design curricula and teach undergraduate courses in Media and Cinema Studies and Digital Filmmaking concentrations of Communication Arts major: *Visual Storytelling*, *World Cinema Movements* and *Writing the Screenplay*.
- 5/08-Present **Instructor**, Bedford Hills Correctional Facility, Bedford Hills, NY
Teach course *Family, Child and Teacher Interaction in Diverse and Inclusive Educational Settings* to incarcerated women who work in prison infant center and family visiting room.
- 9/01-12/01 **Teaching Assistant**, Film Division, School of the Arts, Columbia University, New York, NY
Collaborated with Professor James Schamus to teach undergraduate classical film theory course, *Beginnings to Metz*.
- 8/97-6/99 **Teacher**, Bread and Roses Integrated Arts High School, New York, NY
Taught humanities and English in special education inclusion-model school that integrated art and social justice across the curriculum. Selected to participate in yearlong art project of the New York Council for the Humanities: *Kids Make History*. Coordinated HIV-AIDS education program.

WRITING, DIRECTING & PRODUCING EXPERIENCE

- 3/06-9/06 **Senior Editor & Co-Writer**, *An American Index of the Hidden and Unfamiliar*, New York, NY
Researched and wrote 70 annotations that explain unseen American sites documented in photographs by Taryn Simon. Translated difficult concepts into intriguing and accessible text for national and international audiences; domains included: science, government, medicine, entertainment, the environment, national security and religion. Writing and photographs exhibited at the Whitney Museum of American Art and published by Steidl in accompanying catalog.
- 12/05-1/07 **Producer**, *Not Made in Heaven*, Sarah Bauer & Jen Dietrich, New York, NY
Developed story and wrote narrative treatment for feature documentary on painter Philip Pearlstein. Collaborated with directors to shape project.
*2006 Selection: IFP Spotlight on Documentaries Works-in-Progress
- 1/05-7/06 **Writer & Director**, *The Wannabe*, Columbia University Film Division, New York, NY
Researched, wrote and directed 35mm short film based on the true story of a young man who told another man's crime story as his own and was wrongfully convicted.
*HBO's New York International Latino Film Festival–Best Short Film
- 12/03-12/04 **Co-Producer**, *Rikers High*, Showtime Independent Film & France2, New York, NY
Directed camera crews filming on Rikers Island and in New York neighborhoods. Identified characters and maintained relationships between young men, their families and production team.
*Tribeca Film Festival–New York Loves Film: Best Documentary Feature
- 1/04-5/04 **Assistant Editor**, *Autobiography of Malcolm X Multimedia Study Environment*, Columbia University Center for New Media Teaching & Learning, New York, NY
Conducted content and line editing of written annotations for Manning Marable's online multimedia version of *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*.
- 8/00-5/03 **Producer & Editor**, *The Innocents*, Taryn Simon & the Innocence Project, New York, NY
Collaborated with photographer to develop, shape and complete photography book, documentary film and exhibition that examine systemic failures of the American criminal justice system. Edited foreword, commentary, glossary and interviews with the exonerated.
- 8/99-11/00 **Associate Producer**, *The Mark of Cain*, Alix Lambert, New York, NY
Created campaign and wrote press materials for feature documentary about Russian prisons.
*Aired on ABC "Nightline." Nominated for Independent Spirit Award.

AFFILIATIONS

- 8/00-Present **Co-Founder & Vice-Chair**, The Center for Urban Pedagogy (CUP), Brooklyn, NY
Co-founded and serve as vice-chair of board of directors of nonprofit organization that produces creative education projects about places and how they change. CUP investigates the built environment by facilitating collaborations among advocates, architects, artists, city workers, educators, policy makers, residents and students.
- 12/07- Present **Member**, College Art Association, New York, NY

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS & PANELS

- 3/08 **The Kevorkian Center for Near Eastern Studies**, New York University, New York, NY
Presenter and roundtable discussant: visual culture lecture "Impossible Archives."
- 11/07 **Puerto Rico Fest**, MediaNoche and Sociedad Educativa de las Artes (SEA), New York, NY
Panel discussant: "The Good, the Bad, the Ugly: Representing Puerto Ricans on Film."
- 3/07 **WFW Pacifica Radio**, Washington, DC
Featured filmmaker with *LUNA (Luchando Unidas con Nuestras Amigas)*: "Our Purpose, Our Creativity, Our Legacy."

- 3/07 **National Association of Latino Independent Producers Conference**, Newport Beach, CA
Panel discussant: “HBO Presents The Short Film.”
- 1/06 **Contemporary Arts Center**, Cincinnati, OH
Interviewed by curator Matt Distel for opening night member preview of “Taryn Simon: The Innocents.”
Led public tour of “Taryn Simon: The Innocents.”
- 9/01 **Queens Museum of Art**, Queens, NY.
Featured filmmaker in panel discussion: “Crossing the Line.”

SELECTED SCREENINGS (*The Wannabe*)

- 4/08 **Festival International du Film Panafricain**, Cannes, France
- 2/08 **The Institute of Contemporary Art**, Boston, MA
- 11/07 **Puerto Rico Fest**, Society of Educational Arts, Sociedad Educativa de las Artes (SEA), New York, NY
- 11/07 **Dominican International Film Festival**, Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic
- 11/07 **Asheville Film Festival**, Asheville, NC
- 10/07 **Bronx Academy of Arts and Dance (BAAD!)**, BlakTino Performance Series, The Bronx, NY
- 10/07 **Harlem International Film Festival**, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, NY
- 10/07 **Golden Lion Film Festival**, Mbabane, Swaziland
- 9/07 **LA Shorts Fest**, Los Angeles, CA
- 8/07 **Black Harvest Film Festival**, Gene Siskel Film Center, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, IL
- 7/07 **Cambridge Film Festival**, Cambridge, UK
- 6/07 **Urbanworld VIBE Film Festival**, New York, NY
- 6/07 **San Francisco Black Film Festival**, San Francisco, CA
- 5/07 **Brooklyn Arts Council International Film & Video Festival**, Brooklyn, NY
- 4/07 **WorldFest–Houston International Film Festival**, Houston, TX
- 3/07 **Cleveland International Film Festival**, Cleveland, OH
- 3/07 **Harlem Stage on Screen**, The Gatehouse, Aaron Davis Hall Inc., New York, NY
- 11/06 **Cinemafest Puerto Rico**, San Juan, Puerto Rico
- 10/06 **African American Women in Cinema Film Festival**, New York, NY
- 7/06 **HBO Presents New York International Latino Film Festival**, New York, NY

EXHIBITIONS

- 6/01-10/01 **Queens Museum of Art**, Queens, NY.
Wrote, directed and produced experimental short video *The Whole World Revolved Around Her* featuring artist Wangechi Mutu. Screened in exhibition: “Crossing the Line.”

JURIES & CURATORIAL WORK

- 4/08-5/08 **HBO presents New York International Latino Film Festival**, New York, NY
Judge for narrative and documentary short and feature competition.
- 1/08 **42nd Brooklyn Arts Council International Film and Video Festival**, Brooklyn, NY
Juror for narrative and documentary film and video competition.

8/96-9/96 **African Film Festival**, List Art Center, Brown University, Providence, RI
Organized four-night, 11 film, public film festival. Conceived of festival, secured funding, contacted international film distributors and managed promotion. Screened film prints of directors including Ousmane Sembene (*Borom Sarret*, *La noire de...*, *Camp de Thiaroye*) and Haile Gerima (*Harvest: 3000 Years*).

AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS

2/08 **First Place Award–Narrative Short**, *The Wannabe*, Macon Georgia Film and Video Festival
10/07 **Best Short Film Award–Second Place**, *The Wannabe*, Urban Media Makers Film Festival
5/07 **Jurors’ Choice Award**, *The Wannabe*, Brooklyn Arts Council, (Linkages: Women of African Descent)
5/07 **Recognition of Excellence Award, Acting-Male Lead**, *The Wannabe*, Brooklyn Arts Council
5/07 **Recognition of Excellence Award, Acting-Female Lead**, *The Wannabe*, Brooklyn Arts Council
4/07 **Platinum Remi Award–Best Music**, *The Wannabe*, WorldFest Houston
7/06 **Best Short Film Award**, *The Wannabe*, HBO New York International Latino Film Festival
5/06 **IFP Audience Choice Award (Program G)**, *The Wannabe*, Columbia University Film Festival
5/06 **Best Costume Design Award**, *The Wannabe*, Columbia University Film Festival
4/05 **Panavision New Filmmaker Award**, Panavision
5/04 **James Bridges Development Award for Excellence in Directing Actors**, Columbia University
5/01-5/04 **Festivals Fellowship**, Columbia University
5/97 **Department Prize for Honors Thesis**, Modern Culture and Media, Brown University
5/96-9/96 **Brown Program in Leadership Fellowship**, Swearer Center for Public Service, Brown University
9/95-5/96 **Undergraduate Teaching and Research Award-UTRA Fellowship**, Brown University
9/94-5/97 **Writing Fellow**, Brown University

PROFILES

6/08 *Crime*, Interviewed and photographed by Alix Lambert for book about art and crime.
12/06 *Topic Magazine 10*, Special Portfolio, “Royal Flush–New York’s Creative Downtown Royalty”
4/06 *Urban Latino Magazine*, Art Issue, “Criminal Injustice: The Palladium Murder Case,” by Carmen S. Nieves.

SKILLS & NON-PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Proficient in MS Office and Final Cut Pro.
Fluent French speaker.
Avid participant in long-distance running and cycling events.
Obtaining dual nationality: American (USA) and German (EU).
Extensive travel abroad including: Asia (Bangladesh, India, Malaysia, Nepal, Thailand, Turkey), Australia, Europe (Eastern, Western, Southern, Iceland), Kenya, Mexico and Morocco.

REFERENCES

Available upon request.