

Alex Rivera

Filmmaker / Digital Media Artist

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Films, Videos, Websites

A ROBOT WALKS INTO A BAR

USA / Short Film / 2014 / Writer, Director, Editor

SELECTED SCREENINGS

- National American Broadcast via ITVS 'FutureStates' series 2014
- Morelia Film Festival, Mexico 2014
- First International Robot Performance Festival of Prague 2014

COLLABORATIONS WITH NATIONAL DAY LABOR ORGANIZING NETWORK

USA / Music Videos / 2013 / Writer, Director, Editor

- Four collaborations with activist organization and artists including Manu Chao, Ana Tijoux, Santa Cecilia, Aloe Blacc
- Over 11 million views though YouTube 2013-2014

SLEEP DEALER

USA/Mexico / Feature Fiction Film / 2008 / Co-Writer, Director, Editor

AWARDS

- Sundance Film Festival *Waldo Salt Screenwriting Award* 2008
- Sundance Film Festival *Alfred P. Sloan Award* 2008
- Berlin International Film Festival *Amnesty International Award* 2008
- Neuchatel International Fantasy Film Festival *Best of Festival* 2008
- Gotham Awards *Nominee, Breakthrough Director* 2008
- Independent Spirit Awards *Nominee, Best First Feature* 2008
- Sundance Film Festival *NHK Award, Best American Screenplay* 2002

SELECTED SCREENINGS

- New Directors / New Films at MoMA and Lincoln Center 2008
- San Francisco International Film Festival 2008
- San Sebastian Film Festival 2008
- Brooklyn Academy of Music, *Selections from Sundance* 2008
- Nantucket Film Festival 2008
- AFI Latin American Film Festival 2008
- Sarajevo Film Festival 2008
- Morelia Film Festival 2008
- Los Angeles International Latino Film Festival 2008

• International festival screenings have taken place in France, Japan, Russia, Ireland, Korea, Brazil, Peru, and many others.

- SLEEP DEALER was released theatrically in over 30 U.S. cities.

LOWDRONE.COM

USA/Mexico / Website / 2005 / Co-Creator with Angel Nevarez

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

- Gallery at CALit2, U.C. San Diego *Drones at Home* 2012
- Commissioned for InSite digital 2005

VISIONES: LATINO ART AND CULTURE

USA/ Documentary / 2005 / Segment Director on Hip-Hop Culture

BROADCAST

- National Broadcast on PBS 2004

SELECTED SCREENINGS

- San Diego Latino Film Festival 2004

THE SIXTH SECTION

USA/Mexico / Documentary / 2003 / Director, Producer, Camera, Editor

AWARDS

- Media That Matters Festival *American Dream Award* 2005
- Guanajuato Film Festival *Best Documentary* 2004
- UrbanWorld Film Festival *Best Documentary* 2004
- Morelia International Film Festival *Best Short Documentary* 2003
- Black Maria Film Festival *Director's Citation* 2003

BROADCAST

- National PBS broadcast P.O.V. 2003

SELECTED SCREENINGS

- Council on Foundations Film and Video Festival 2007
- Human Rights Watch Film Festival, Lincoln Center 2004
- San Francisco International Film Festival 2004

THE BORDERS TRILOGY

USA / Documentary / 2003 / Director, Producer, Camera, Editor

BROADCAST

- Online Premier P.O.V. Web Series: 'BORDERS' 2003

SELECTED SCREENINGS

- Full Frame Documentary Film Festival 2008
- Aurora Picture Show 2008
- Virginia Film Festival 2008
- Galeria de la Raza, *No Distance is More Awesome* 2007
- The Getty Museum, *Surveying the Border* 2005

- THE BORDERS TRILOGY is held in the collections of the University of California, Santa Cruz, Williams College, the University of Texas, Austin, and many others.

LAS PAPAS DEL PAPA

USA/MEXICO / Short Fiction / 2000 / Co-Writer, Director, Editor

AWARDS

- ImageNation Film Festival, New York City *Best of Festival* 2000

SELECTED SCREENINGS

- Cinema Tropical/America's Society 2002
- Mass MOCA 2001
- Taos Talking Pictures 2001
- Cine Las Americas, Austin 2001
- Chicago Latino Film Festival 2001
- Silverlake Film Festival 2001
- Queens Museum of Art 2001
- Brooklyn Academy of Music, *Best of New York Latino Film Festival* 2000
- Sala Luis Buñel, Mexico City 2000
- Cinefestival, San Antonio, Texas 2000
- San Diego Latino Film Festival 2000
- Dallas Video Festival – *Best of Cine Festival* 2000
- New York International Latino Film Festival 2000
- CinemaTexas, Austin 2000
- Antimatter Festival, Victoria, British Columbia 2000
- Vistas Film Festival, Dallas, Texas 2000

CYBRACERO.COM

USA / Website / 1999 / Designer, Writer

- Exhibited as part of Whitney Independent Study program show *Empire/State* 2002

ANIMAQUILADORA / WHY CYBRACEROS?

USA / Mockumentary / 1997 / Director, Writer, Camera, Editor, Animation

AWARDS

- Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center, CineFestival *Best Experimental* 1997

BROADCAST

- National Broadcast on PBS *Independent Lens* 2003
- PBS/WYBE Philadelphia *Through the Lens* 1997

SELECTED SCREENINGS

- International Center of Photography *Only Skin Deep* Exhibition 2003
- Guggenheim Museum *With Charlie Chaplin's 'Modern Times'* 2001
- Telluride Film Festival 1998
- Robert Flaherty Film Seminar: *Memory and Modernity* 1997

PAPAPAPÁ

USA / Documentary / 1995 / Director, Writer, Camera, Editor

AWARDS

- Black Maria Film Festival *Director's Citation* 1996
- Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center, CineFestival *First Work Award* 1996
- Five College Film Festival, Amherst, MA *Best of Festival* 1996
- Chicago Intercom Competition *Silver Hugo* 1995
- New York Expo of Short Film and Video *Silver Award in Documentary* 1995

BROADCAST

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|--------------------------------|----------------------|------|
| • PBS/WNET | <i>Reel New York</i> | 1997 |
| • Planete – European Broadcast | | 1997 |

SELECTED SCREENINGS

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| • Long Beach Museum of Art, <i>Exchange and Evolution</i> | 2011 |
| • Guggenheim Museum, <i>Generation N</i> , NY and Bilbao | 2000 |
| • San Francisco Exploratorium <i>Exploring Boundaries</i> | 1997 |
| • New Museum of Contemporary Art, <i>Roving Eye</i> | 1997 |
| • The Museum of Modern Art, <i>New Documentaries</i> | 1996 |
| • Museum of Contemporary Art, L.A., <i>L.A. Freewaves</i> | 1996 |
| • Robert Flaherty Film Seminar, <i>Landscapes</i> | 1996 |
| • Lincoln Center, <i>New America, New Americans</i> | 1996 |
| • Nuyorican Poet's Café, <i>Video Poetry Night</i> | 1995 |

Collections and Distribution

Alex Rivera's films and videos are held in the permanent collections of:

- The Museum of Modern Art
- The Sundance / UCLA Archive
- The George Eastman Kodak House Archive
- The script for SLEEP DEALER is held in the Library for the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences
- *Papapapá* and *Animaquiladora/Why Cybraceros?* are distributed by Third World Newsreel, Video Data Bank, and Subcine.com. *The Sixth Section* and *Sleep Dealer* are distributed by SubCine.com

Grants, Career Awards, and Honors

Unbound Philanthropy Artist Support	\$15,000	2015
ITVS 'Futurestates' Production Commission	\$50,000	2014
ITVS 'Futurestates' Development Support	\$10,000	2011
Sundance/Sloan Development Support	\$12,500	2009
USA Artists, Media Grantee	\$50,000	2008
<i>Variety</i> , 10 Directors to Watch		2008
Sundance Institute Annenberg Film Fellow	\$25,000	2004
Eyebeam, Artist in Residence		2003
Rockefeller Foundation, Support for documentary work	\$50,000	2003
MacArthur Foundation, Support for documentary work	\$75,000	2003
International Documentary Association, Best Emerging Filmmaker		2003
Taos Talking Pictures Festival, Cineaste Award		2003
Sundance Institute Directing Fellow		2001
Creative Capital Grantee	\$50,000	2000
Jerome Foundation	\$25,000	2000
US/Mexico Fund for Culture	\$25,000	1998
Lyn Blumenthal Fund for Independent Cinema	\$15,000	1998
Rockefeller Foundation Media Fellowship	\$35,000	1998
New York Foundation for the Arts	\$10,000	1998

Selected Participation on Juries

Sundance Film Festival, Sloan Award Jury	2012
'Tales From Planet Earth' at U. of Wisconsin, Madison, Programmer	2012
Cinefestival Narrative Script Competition	2012
Reviewer for National Academy of Science Grants	2012
Asian American Film Festival, Documentary Jury	2011
Austin Film Society, Texas Filmmaker Fund Jury	2010
Sundance Film Festival, Sloan Award Jury	2009
USA Artists, Nominator	2009
Sundance Documentary Fund, Jury	2009
Morelia Film Festival, Mexico, Documentary Jury	2009
Los Angeles Film Festival, Short Film Jury	2008
Rockefeller Foundation, Media Fellows Nominator	2002
Rockefeller Foundation, Media Fellows Jury	1999

Selected Teaching and Lecturing

University of Wisconsin, Madison, Artist in Residence, taught graduate-level seminar	2013
Harvard University, Rothschild Lecturer in the History of Science Department	2012
Rensselaer Polytechnic University, Artist in Residence, taught undergraduate seminar	2001

Lectures and Visiting Artist Engagements

Stanford University, Guest Artist and Lecturer	2015
San Diego State University, Guest Artist and Lecturer	2015
Bowdoin College, Guest Artist and Lecturer	2014
Occidental College, Guest Lecturer	2014
The College of New Jersey, Guest Artist and Lecturer	2014
University of Pennsylvania, Lecturer "Race Across Time & Space"	2014
Dartmouth College, Guest Artist and Lecturer	2014
University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, Guest Artist and Lecturer	2014
University of California, Irvine, Guest Lecturer, School of Law	2014
University of Pittsburgh, Guest Artist and Lecturer	2014
Ramapo College, Guest Artist and Lecturer	2013
Pennsylvania State University, Guest Artist and Lecturer	2013
Princeton University, Guest Artist	2013
Oberlin College, Guest Artist and Lecturer	2013
University of Kentucky, Guest Artist and Lecturer	2013

University of Arizona, Phoenix, Guest Artist and Lecturer	2013
Creative Capital, Artist Advisor	2012
City University of New York, Law School, Guest Lecturer	2012
University of Indiana, Bloomington, Guest Artist and Lecturer	2012
University of Michigan, Guest Artist and Lecturer	2012
Occidental College, Artist in Residence	2011
Williams College, Guest Artist and Lecturer	2011
Rutgers University, Guest Lecturer and Screening	2011
Hamilton College, Guest Lecturer and Screening	2010
Bates College, Guest Lecturer	2010
New York University, Interactive Technology Program (ITP)	2010
University of Kentucky, Louisville, Guest Lecturer and Screening	2009
Bard College, Guest Lecturer and Screening	2009
University of California, Irvine Screening, Guest Lecturer and Screening	2009
Harvard University, Carpenter Center, Guest Artist	2009
San Francisco Art Institute, Guest Artist	2009
Notre Dame University, Guest Lecturer and Screening	2004
Cornell University, Guest Lecturer and Screening	2004
Muhlenberg College, Guest Lecturer and Screening	2004
Ithaca College, Guest Lecturer and Screening	2001
New York University, Latin American Studies Dept., Guest Lecturer and Screening	2000
Pitzer College, Visiting Artist	2000
Brandeis University, Guest Lecturer and Screening	1997
School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Visiting Artist	1997
Northwestern University, Computer Graphics Dept., Visiting Artist	1997
University of California, San Diego, Graduate Arts Seminar, Visiting Artist	1997

Selected Conferences and Panels

Platform Media Summit: Diversifying the Innovation Economy, Featured Presenter	2014
Hemispheric Institute, Encuentro, Montreal, Featured Artist	2014
National Association of Latino Independent Producers Conference, Panelist	2014
Fantastic Fest, Austin, Texas, Panelist	2013
Hemispheric Institute on Performance and Politics, GSI, Los Angeles, Panelist	2013
Drones at Home, UCSD, Panelist and Guest Artist	2012
Sundance Film Festival, <i>Control Factor</i> , Panelist	2012
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, <i>Technologies of Migration</i> , Panelist	2011

University of Arizona, Tucson, <i>Graduate and Professional Symposium on Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian Literature, Language and Culture</i> , Keynote	2011
Tucson, Arizona, <i>Culture Strike</i> , Participant	2011
Opportunity Agenda, <i>Creative Change</i> , Panelist	2011
Lincoln Center, <i>Latin Beat</i> , Panelist	2009
Film Independent, <i>Director's Close-Up</i> , Interview and Case Study	2009
L.A. Museum of Contemporary Art, <i>Guest Lecturer</i> , with OJO	2009
Bric Rotunda Gallery, <i>The Border on Film</i> , Panelist	2009
Sundance Film Festival, <i>Science on Film</i> , Panelist	2009
New School for Social Research, <i>Internet as Playground and Factory</i> , Opening Screening	2009
U.C.San Diego, Gala Fundraiser "Border Series" Inauguration Screening	2009
M.I.T., <i>Race in Digital Space</i> , Panelist	2002
Whitney Independent Study, <i>Empire State</i> , Panelist	2002
Bronx Museum, <i>Bounce</i> , Guest VJ	2002
New Museum, Youth Program Artist	2001
Independent Film Seminar, <i>Digital Flaherty Seminar</i> , Featured Artist	2001
Independent Feature Project, <i>Digital Divide</i> , Panelist	2000
New York International Latino Film Festival, <i>Digital Millennium</i> , Panelist	2000
Guggenheim Museum, <i>Generation Ñ</i> , Panelist	2000
Tijuana Mexico, <i>BorderHack Festival</i> , Featured Artist	1999
Brown University, <i>Latino History Month</i> , Panelist	1998
Hunter College, <i>Immigration Forum</i> , Panelist	1998
Antioch College, <i>State of the Documentary</i> , Panelist	1997

Bibliography

SELECT PUBLISHED INTERVIEWS

Border Control

Malcolm Harris

The New Inquiry

Interview - Alex Rivera

Kay Holt

Crossed Genres Magazine

Science Fiction From Below

Mark Engler

Foreign Policy in Focus

Putting Transnational's to Work: An Interview with Filmmaker Alex Rivera

Carlos Ulises Decena and Margaret Gray

Social Text

SELECT CITATIONS: BOOKS

The Computer in the Visual Arts
Anne Morgan Spalter

Addison-Wesley Professional

States of Emergency Documentaries, Wars, Democracies
Patricia Zimmerman

University of Minnesota Press

Only Skin Deep: Changing Visions of the American Self
Coco Fusco

Harry N. Abrams Company

Routledge Film Guidebook: Science Fiction
Dr. Mark Bould

Routledge

Race After the Internet
Ed. Lisa Nakamura, Chapter by Curtis Marez

Routledge

Latino American Cinema
Scott L. Baugh

ABC-CLIO

Seeing the Light: Exploring Ethics Through Movies
Wanda Teays

Wiley, John & Sons, Inc.

The Routledge Companion To Latino/a Literature
Edited by Suzanne Bost, Frances R. Aparicio

Routledge

Voice and Vision: A Creative Approach to Narrative Film Production
Mick Hurbis-Cherrier

Taylor & Francis US

Chicano Nations: The Hemispheric Origins of Mexican American Literature
Marissa K. López

NYU Press

Run for the Border: Vice and Virtue in U.S.-Mexico Border Crossings
Steven Bender

NYU Press

Paradise Discourse, Imperialism, and Globalization: Exploiting Eden
Sharae Deckard

Routledge

Nation and Migration: Past and Future
David G. Gutiérrez, Pierrette Hondagneu-Sotelo

Johns Hopkins U. Press

The Internet Galaxy: Reflections on the Internet, Business, and Society
Manuel Castells

Oxford University Press

Karma Of Brown Folk
Vijay Prashad

University of Minnesota

Television after TV: Essays on a Medium in Transition
Edited by Lynn Spigel, Jan Olsson

Duke University Press

The Skin of the Film: Intercultural Cinema, Embodiment, and the Senses
Laura U. Marks, Dana Polan

Duke University Press

100 SCIENCE FICTION FILMS : BFI Barry Keith

SELECT CITATIONS: SCHOLARLY ARTICLES

Future Histories and Cyborg Labor: Reading Borderlands Science Fiction After NAFTA, Lysa Rivera, Science Fiction Studies

The Potentiality of the Commons: A Materialist Critique of Cognitive Capitalism from the Cyberbracer@s to the Ley Sinde, Luis Martín-Cabrera, Hispanic Review

The Virtual Realities of US/Mexico Border Ecologies in Maquilapolis and Sleep Dealer
Sharada Balachandran Orihuela & Andrew Carl Hageman, Environmental Communication: A Journal of Nature and Culture

Virtual borders, data aliens, and bare bodies: Culture, securitization, and the biometric state
Javier Durana, Journal of Borderlands Studies

The Future in Labor
Joshua Clover, Film Quarterly

Brothers of the Future: Minority Male Cyborgs and the White Imaginary in Film
David E. Isaacs, inter-disciplinary.net

Razing Arizona: Migrant labour and the 'Mexican avenger' of Machete
Sean Brayton, International Journal of Media & Cultural Politics

Why Do Robots Rebel? The Labor History of a Cultural Icon
Tobias Higbie, UCLA, Recent Work, The Institute for Research on Labor and Employment, UC Los Angeles

Guerra e Paz por Controle Remoto: Diálogos Entre Documentário e Ficção Científica
Igor Silva Oliveira, Universidade Federal de Juiz de Fora

Movilidades posapocalípticas: un nuevo acercamiento a la película de la migración irregular
Arturo Vargas Nomenclatura, Aproximaciones a los estudios Hispanos

Cibertíteres: Sobre um possível discurso marxista nos filmes de Alex Rivera
Alfredo Suppia, Igor Oliveira, Ciberlegenda

Relecturas (cinematográficas) de la migración mexicana
Betina Keizman, Amérique Latine Histoire et Mémoire

Una mirada a las representaciones cinematográficas de las regiones fronterizas en México
Jean Philippe Clot y Heidi Elizabeth Aguilar Pérez, Amérique Latine Histoire et Mémoire

(In)visibilities, (De)humanizations and Globalizations: The Migrant Body in Border Film of the 2000s
Stephany Slaughter, fiar, Forum for Inter-American Research

From The Sixth Section to A Seventh Man: Alex Rivera's Undocumentation
Amy S. Carroll, Tepoztlán Institute for Transnational History of the Americas

Mexican Migrant Civic and Political Participation in the U.S.: The Case of Hometown Associations in Los Angeles and Chicago
Gaspar Rivera-Salgado, Xóchitl Bada, Luis Escala-Rabadán, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, Washington, DC

Latinos in the New South: Transformations of Place
A. Cravey

Political Economy as Subject and Form in Contemporary Art
Alan W. Moore Review of Radical Political Economics

Other Accomplishments and Affiliations

- Sundance Diversity Committee, Member 2012
- Working Films, Board Member 2007 - 2010
- Deep Dish TV, Working Films 2006 – 2009
- SubCine.com, Founder and Director 2000-present

Background and Education

- Born New York City 1973
- Bachelor of Arts, Hampshire College 1995