

**LAURA PLOTKIN**  
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**EDUCATION**

MFA 1999 Film/Video Production California College of Art  
BA 1993 Film Production/Cinema Studies San Francisco State University *Cum Laude*

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**EDUCATIONAL EMPLOYMENT**

- 2016 Summer-Fuel University of California, Berkeley, *Doc-Filmmaking/Storytelling*
- 08-09 Adjunct Faculty California State University Monterey, *Intro To Documentary*
- 02-09 Adjunct Faculty San Francisco State University Digital Video Intensive, San Francisco, CA. *Classes: Producing/Marketing Documentary Film, Documentary Narrative Story Structure and Interview Techniques*
- 2005 Instructor California State University Monterey, *Creative Process in Film*
- 2003 Instructor California College of Arts, Oakland, CA, *Documentary Shorts*
- 2001 Instructor U.C. Berkeley, Berkeley CA, *Documentary Portraiture*
- 1999 Instructor Graduate Assistant, California College of Arts, Oakland, CA, *Experimental Documentary*

**Visiting Artist Lecture**

- 2007 New College of California, *Constructing Identity*
- 2006 Mills College, Oakland, CA, *Documentary Filmmaking-Developing Story Lines*
- 2005 Yale University, New Haven, CT, *Documentary Filmmaking-Portraiture*
- 1999 U.C. Berkeley, Berkeley, CA, *Documentary Filmmaking-Portraiture*
- 1999 Holy Names College, Oakland, CA, *Documentary Filmmaking*

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**DOCUMENTARY FILM EMPLOYMENT**

2021 *Iskra (Spark)* the rise and fall of Slovenian tech company (consulting producer)  
2018 *MMT - Modern Monetary Theory* (writer /director)  
2013 *Generation Food* global success stories of food security (segment/ director CA)  
2013 *HI-Jew Positive* Jewish identity in today's Warsaw, Poland (segment producer)  
2012 *No Ordinary Life* child prostitutes escaping Indian Brothels (consulting producer)  
2011 *Porch-light Project* series of films on Autism (consulting producer)  
2011 *Edutopia Science Web Series* (consulting producer)  
2008 *IO Media*, UC Fullerton design campaign (scriptwriter)  
2005 *Aforementioned Child* explores the human rights of adoptees (SF producer)  
2004 *Hostage* retraces the hijacking of TWA flight 847 (researcher)  
2003 *Circo Zero* explores an avant-garde circus (director)  
2002 *Whipsmart* investigates and demystifies the world of S/M (director)  
2000 *History of Punk Rock* traces the roots of punk rock (NY producer)  
1999 *Fallen Angel Marvin Gaye* music biography (LA/DP)  
1999 *When Pigs Fly Marianne Faithful* music biography, (LA/DP)

**93-00 Real People Casting – Casting Director**

Owned and operated casting agency focusing on non-actors. Commercials have appeared on national television, magazines and nationwide billboard campaigns. Selected clients include: Sketchers, Levi's, Wells Fargo, Bank of America,

Gap, Blue Cross, Nike, Footlocker, Birkenstock, Kaiser Permanente, Sega and Charles Schwab.

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#### AUTHORED DOCUMENTARY AND NARRATIVE FILMS: PRODUCER/DIRECTOR/WRITER

- 2021 *Green Dress* 1950s female jazz musician starts underground abortion network (R/D Limited TV Series)
- 2021 *Star Child* female physicists discovers particle that could become weaponized (R/D screenplay)
- 2015 *Derby Queen* screenplay adaptation Demon of Derby documentary
- 2015 *Finding Freespace* (comedy screenplay)
- 2012 *Gulabi Gang* explores women's rights organization in India
- 2006 *Murder Triptych* explores a murder in Oakland, CA.
- 2004 *Brain on Chucks* features band-Troublemaker for a Converse spec ad.
- 2002 *Dirt Farmer* Latino metal band Totimoshi's journey back to their Cuban roots.
- 2002 *21* explores racial tension in New York City post 9/11.
- 1999 *Red Rain* chronicles the personal and professional life of a female boxer.
- 1996 *Romania Project* explores post revolutionary Bucharest.
- 1993 *Know What I Mean* three women's lives of differing ethnic backgrounds.
- 1992 *Supreme Concrete Jungle* an experimental film
- 1991 *Beginning is Saying Goodbye* an experimental film

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#### RELATED EXPERIENCES

- 2007-09 **Board Member Film Arts Foundation** San Francisco, CA
- ***Juror for Development, Production and Stand Grants*** evaluate and review filmmaker's application materials, including proposal, treatment, rough and final cuts. (*Funded 2008 academy award nominee*)
- ***Artistic Advisor Fiscal Sponsorship program*** involved in refocusing the program to make it more beneficial to over 200 films in various stages of production,
- ***Education Manager Consultant*** involved in making concrete recommendations to increase the program's formal educational components, mentoring, and peer-to-peer Learning opportunities including new course proposals and providing feedback to revamp existing courses.
- ***FAF Development Committee*** developed new relationships with film companies such as Pixar-Disney and Tippett Studios as donors and educational partners.
- ***Filmmakers Grants Committee*** created guidelines for filmmaker's application, sought out corporate and individual sponsorship to support grants program.
- 02-05 ***Film Frenzy Cinema - Curator***  
Developed, curated and produced a monthly cinema that screened independent films of all genres. Solicit filmmakers nationwide to submit work. Review, evaluate and select films. Create a dynamic and compelling program that screened to hundreds of people each month.

#### AWARDS

- 2015 Gulabi Gang Public Liberty and Human Rights Award, Aljazeera. Qatar
- 2013 Gulabi Gang Amnesty International Award Best Human Rights Award, South Africa
- 2013 Gulabi Gang Amnesty International Award, Warsaw Poland

- 2012 Gulabi Gang Norwegian Golden Chair Award
- 2012 Gulabi Gang Best Film Muhr Asian/African Dubai Int Film
- 2015 Derby Queen Filmmakers International Screenwriting Awards
- 2003 Whipsmart Best Educational Video Cinekink NYC
- 2000 Red Rain Honorable Mention Eveo Film 2000
- 2000 Red Rain Rockefeller Foundation, Nominee
- 2000 Launderland Oakland Creative Arts Fellowship
- 1998 Red Rain Film Arts Foundations
- 1998 Red Rain Pioneer Film Foundation
- 1991 Supreme Concrete Jungle Jury Award, New York Exposition of Film and Video

**JURY**

- 2007 Film Arts Foundation Development/Personal Grants
- 2005 California College of Art Juror Film Finals

**PANELS**

- 2017 IDA Awards Documentary Features
- 2016 IDA Awards Documentary Features
- 2011 IDA Awards Continuing TV Series
- 2006 Yahoo Film, NY, NY Exploring film content on the web
- 2005 California College of Art, Oakland, CA Juror Film Finals
- 2003 Women Film Television Bay Area Documentary Producing
- 2003 Spanganga Gallery, San Francisco, CA Independent Artist Panel
- 2002 LadyFest San Francisco, CA Distribution and Exhibition Strategies
- 2002 LadyFest San Francisco, CA Women Filmmakers Panel

**SELECTED SCREENINGS FILM: *GULABI GANG 2012-2015***

- 2012 Dubai International Film Festival
- 2012 Indian Premiere Our Lives to Live Int. Film Festival, Mumbai, New Delhi Kolkata, India
- 2012 International Premiere – IDFA, The Netherlands
- 2012 Opening Film, Documentary Competition, Norwegian Film Festival world premiere
- 2012 The Norwegian Short Film Festival
- 2012 IDFA - International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam
- 2012 Our Lives To Live 2012 Dubai International Film Festival
- 2013 TIFF - Tromsø International Film Festival
- 2013 Vera Film Festival, Åland
- 2013 Tampere Film Festival
- 2013 Women's Film Festival, Pune
- 2013 Hong Kong International Film Festival
- 2013 Créteil International Women's Film Festival
- 2013 The Norwegian Documentary Film Festival
- 2013 Beldocs
- 2013 Nordic/Docs
- 2013 DOK.fest - München International Documentary Film Festival
- 2013 EDOC - Encounters with the Other Cinema
- 2013 Planete+ Doc Film Festival
- 2013 International Short & Documentary Film Festival of Kerala
- 2013 Dokufest - International Documentary and Short Film Festival, Prizren
- 2013 Tri Continental Film Festival
- 2013 Women Make Waves Film Festival
- 2013 Dharamshala International Film Festival
- 2013 San Francisco International South Asian Film Festival

- 2013 Jean Rouch International Film Festival
- 2013 Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival
- 2013 "Cinema Vérité" Iran International Documentary Film Festival
- 2013 Fast Forward Human Rights Film Festival
- 2014 Mumbai International Film Festival for Documentary, Short and Animation Films
- 2014 Les Rencontres Ciné-voyageur
- 2014 Chalo India - Indian Film Festival Münster
- 2014 New York Indian Film Festival
- 2014 Zurich Film Festival
- 2014 Inconvenient Films - Vilnius International Human Rights Documentary Film Festival
- 2014 Aljazeera International Documentary Film Festival
- 2014 Verzio Human Rights Documentary Film Festival
- 2014 IDFA - International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam
- 2014 Society for Visual Anthropology Film Festival
- 2015 Trento Film Festival
- 2015 Equality Festival

**SELECTED SCREENINGS FILM: *TWENTY-ONE 02-04***

**Domestic**

- Cinematheque San Francisco, CA
- Ann Arbor Film Festival, MI
- Athens Film Festival, OH
- Rafael Film Center, CA
- The Roxie Cinema San Francisco, CA
- Fine Arts Theatre Berkeley, CA
- Alamo Drafthouse Cinema, Austin, TX
- Red Vic San Francisco, CA
- Dallas Video Festival, TX
- UN/Human Rights Festival Irvine, CA
- Virginia Film Society
- Nashville Film Festival, TN
- Florida Film Festival
- Nantucket Film Festival, MA
- Maine Int. Film Festival Portland, ME
- Coast Side Film Night, Half Moon Bay, CA
- Aurora Picture Show, Houston, TX
- Olympia Film Society, WA
- Memorial Screening, New York, NY
- Facets Theatre, Chicago, IL
- Webster University, St. Louis, MO
- Nickelodeon Theatre, Columbia, SC
- Northwest Film Forum, Seattle, WA George Eastman Theatre, Rochester, NY
- Cincinnati Film Society, OH
- Wexner Center, Columbus, OH
- HBO Frame by Frame Yerba Buena Center For Arts, San Francisco, CA
- Cornell Cinema, Ithaca, NY
- Channel Island Indie Film Festival, Ventura, CA
- Honolulu Academy of Arts, HI
- Sidewalk Film Festival, Birmingham, AL
- Red Eye Cinema, Minneapolis, MN

- Lady Fest San Francisco, CA
- San Diego Film Festival, CA
- Woodstock Film Festival, Woodstock, NY
- Black Bear Film Festival, PA
- Tribeca Film Festival, NY
- Arab Film Festival San Francisco, CA
- United Nations Association Film Festival, Stanford, CA
- Winslow Film Festival
- Hawaii Int. Film Festival
- Louisville Film & Video Festival, KY
- Conscientious Projector, Bainbridge Island
- Get Shorty Film Festival, traveling to NY, LA, Chicago
- Austin, Miami, Boston, SF, and New Orleans

#### **International**

- Sao Paulo Int. Festival of Short Film
- SeNef Festival of New Media, Seoul Korea
- European Media Arts Film Festival Osnabruck, Germany
- Pacific Cinematheque Vancouver, BC
- Osnabruck Film Festival Germany
- Cork Int. Film Festival, Ireland
- Pesaro Film Festival, Italy
- Institute of Contemporary Arts London

#### **Television Broadcast**

- HBO: Airing on 9/11/02 for anniversary
- DCTV Washington, DC

#### **SELECTED SCREENINGS FILM: *RED RAIN* 1999-2005**

##### **Domestic**

- San Francisco Festival of Independent Cinema
- Santa Barbara Int. Film Festival
- Honolulu L&G Int. Film Festival
- New York L&G Int. Film Festival
- San Francisco L&G Int. Film Festival
- Philadelphia L&G Int. Film Festival
- Philadelphia Int. Film Festival
- Austin L&G Int. Film Festival
- Michigan Women's Film Festival
- Rhode Island Int. Film Festival
- Milwaukee L&G Int. Film Festival
- Rochester L&G Int. Film festival
- Tampa L&G Int. Film Festival
- Washington DC L&G Int. Film Festival
- Pittsburgh L&G Int. Film Festival
- Chicago L&G Int. Film Festival
- Denver Film Festival
- Los Angeles L&G Int. Film Festival
- Silverlake Int. Film Festival
- Atlanta L&G Int. Film Festival

- Tucson L&G Int. Film Festival
- Seattle L&G Int. Film Festival
- Fresno L&G Int. Film Festival
- Women in the Directors Chair, Chicago
- KPFA Radio Documentary Screening, San Francisco, CA
- Moxie Theater, Santa Monica, CA
- Brisbane Int. Film Festival
- Paris L&G Film Festival
- Seoul Int. Film Festival
- Torino-Italy L&G Int. Film Festival
- Toronto Int. L&G Film Festival
- Victoria, BC Int. Film Festival
- Montreal Int. L&G Film Festival
- Berlin Int. L&G Film Festival
- Sydney Int. L&G Film Festival
- Amsterdam L&G Film Festival
- Brussels L&G Film Festival
- New Zealand L&G Film Festival
- Melbourne Film Festival
- Turin Int. L&G Film Festival
- Ontario Film Festival

#### **Theatrical Exhibition**

- Roxie Cinema, San Francisco, CA
- Fine Arts Cinema, Berkeley, CA
- Parkway Theater, Oakland, CA
- Anthology Film Archives, New York, NY

#### **Television Broadcast**

- Queer TV USA 2006
- WKTE Philadelphia, PA 2005
- Israel Cable Television 2003
- Pride TV Canada 2003
- KQED-PBS San Francisco, CA 2001

#### **EXHIBITIONS**

##### **Museums**

- 2000 *Red Rain*, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, Bay Area Now, Featuring 20 cutting-edge artists from the Bay Area, San Francisco, CA,

##### **Group Film Shows**

- 2006 *Murder Triptych* Evidence is Everywhere: Between Gallery and Cinema San Francisco Cinemateque
- 1999 *Supreme Concrete Jungle* Celluloid Dreams: 33 years of Experimental Filmmaking, San Francisco State University

##### **Mixed Media Group Shows**

- 1998 *Sugar* (dirt, sugar, photos, metal) Nexus Gallery Berkeley, CA
- 1993 *Hysteria* (film, photos, natural objects, music, performance) The Blue House, San Francisco, CA

**PRESS**

- *Loads to Shoot*, Release Print, May 2003

**Curatorial**

- *Film Frenzy Opens with "Weather Underground,"* SF Chronicle April 30, 2004
- *Cinema Alfresco*, East Bay Express, April 29, 2004
- *Frenzied Artsy in the Outdoors*, East Bay Express July 23, 2003
- *Lola Lola Lola*, East Bay Express, November 12, 2003
- *Lola's Film frenzy*, Urban View, September 11, 2002

**Twenty - One**

- *Under Ground Zero*, Killer Movies, September 15, 2003
- *Our Arts Ourselves: Women Show Artsy*, San Jose Mercury News, July 25, 2002

**Twenty - One**

- *Ladies Rule*, San Francisco Bay Guardian July 24, 2002
- *Critic's Choice*, Chicago Reader, July 14, 2002
- *9/11 review*, Flick Philosopher May 9, 2002
- *Revisiting Ground Zero*, Indie Wire, May 5, 2002

**Red Rain**

- *A knock Out Career*, My Prime Time, August, 7, 2002
- *Innovators*, The Advocate, August 14, 2001
- *Out on Film, it's not just for gays and lesbians anymore*, Atlanta Creative, September 30, 2000
- *Take it Like a Girl*, Sight and Sound, February 2000
- *Red Rain*, Uppercut, Fall 2000
- *Red Rain* Variety, July, 2000
- *Prescription Acts As Remedy for Red Rain*, Screen International, May 2000
- *Round 2 take 6*, Jane Magazine, August 2000
- *Hit And Miss*, Metro Source, Summer 2000
- *Red Rain* Los Angeles Weekly, July 16, 2000
- *Local focus behind the lens of three bay area filmmakers*, Urban View 2000
- *Notable Documentaries*, Lesbian News, July 2000
- *You throw Like A Dyke*, Siren, April/May 2000
- *Waiting for Guidi*, Alice Magazine, May 31, 2000
- *The Hericane*, San Francisco Bay Guardian, September 27, 2000
- *Red Rain*, Oakland Tribune, October 10, 2000
- *Red Rain*, Los Angeles Weekly, July 7-13, 2000
- *Doc and Droll*, San Francisco Bay Guardian, June 16, 1999
- *Red Rain*, Venice Magazine, September 1999
- *Movers and Shakers*, Bay Area City Search, June 6, 1999
- *Red Rain*, San Francisco Bay Guardian, June 16, 1999
- *Punch and Gina*, San Francisco Weekly, December 1, 2000
- *Shadow Boxing*, San Francisco Magazine, January 1999
- *Critics Choice*, Chicago Reader, November 12, 1999
- *Documentary Eyes World of Women Boxing*, Oakland Tribune, June 15, 1999
- *Red Rain*, LA Sunday Times, September 16, 1999
- *Fruit Punch*, Time Out New York, June 3-10, 1999
- *Jockbeat* Village Voice June 8, 1999
- *Righteous Babes Rule*, Curve, March 1999
- *Zoom Lens*, San Francisco, Weekly, June 16-22, 1999

- *Cinema Gay: Rock Hudson Superstar e la Boxe Diventa Femmina*, Corriere Della Sera, April 15, 1999
- *La Sport E Il Coraggio*, Torinosette April 16, 1999
- *The Filmmaker and The Rainmaker*, Release Print, October 1998
- *Roxie Premiers Red Rain*, San Francisco Chronicle, November 5, 1998

**Miles Davis**

- *The horns Blow At Midnight*, San Francisco Bay Guardian, September 15, 1999

**INTERVIEWS/MEDIA****Television**

- 2005 World News Now/The Mix ABC New York, NY

**Television**

- 2002 KGO News ABC San Francisco, CA
- 2001 KRON News NBC San Francisco, CA
- 2000 BAY TV ABC San Francisco, CA

**Radio**

- 2002 KFSF San Francisco, CA
- 2001 KCRW San Monica, CA
- 2000 KQED San Francisco, CA
- 2000 KSBX Santa Barbara, CA
- 1999 KPFA Berkeley, CA

**PROFFESIONAL AFFILIATION**

- International Documentary Association
- SF & Global Film Fatales
- Society for Cinema and New media
- Women Film and Television
- College Art Association

**REFERENCES ON REQUEST**