

Cecilia Aldarondo

*Assistant Professor of Art • Williams College
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FACULTY APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor of Art History and Studio Art
Williams College, Williamstown MA, 2020-present

Assistant Professor of Film
Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs NY, 2015-2019

EDUCATION

PhD, University of Minnesota, Comparative Studies in Discourse and Society, 2012
PhD Minor: Art History
MA, Goldsmiths College, Contemporary Art Theory (with distinction), 2005
MA, University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Gender Studies (with distinction), 2003
BA, University of Florida, English (magna cum laude), 2001

SELECTED HONORS AND AWARDS

2023 Yaddo Artist Colony Residency
2023 Blue Mountain Center Residency (declined due to teaching schedule)
2023 Nominee, Chicken and Egg Breakthrough Award
2022 Sundance Institute/Latinx House Adelante Fellow (Inaugural Cohort)
2022 Nominee, Chicken and Egg Breakthrough Award
2021 Emerging Filmmaker Award, International Documentary Association
2021 New America Fellow
2019 Guggenheim Fellow
2019 DOC NYC '40 Under 40'
2019 Bogliasco Foundation Fellow
2018 MacDowell Colony Fellow
2018 CNN Films | Camden | TFI Fellow
2017 Women at Sundance Fellow
2015 *Filmmaker Magazine* '25 New Faces of Independent Film'
2015 Sundance Institute Documentary Edit and Story Lab
2015 Winner, Paley Center for Media DocPitch
2015 IFP Independent Filmmaker Lab
2015 Firelight Media Documentary Lab Fellow
2015 Roberto Guerra Documentary Fund Award (Inaugural Prize)
2014 MacDowell Colony Fellow

FILMOGRAPHY

***You Were My First Boyfriend (2023, 97 min).* Feature-length hybrid documentary.**

World Premiere, South By Southwest Film Festival 2023
International Premiere, Hot Docs International Film Festival 2023
Opening Night Film, Florida Film Festival 2023
Co-Production with HBO Documentary Films
Pop-Up Magazine Winter Tour, 2020
HBO+ IFP True Stories Initiative Grant, 2018
A&E IndieFilms + Sundance Brave Storyteller Award, 2018
Cinereach Development Grant, 2019

***Landfall (2020, 91 min).* Feature-length documentary.**

World Premiere, Tribeca Film Festival 2020
Co-Production with ITVS, POV, and Latino Public Broadcasting
Executive Produced by Laura Poitras and Charlotte Cook of Field of Vision
Grand Jury Award, Viewfinders Competition, DOC NYC Film Festival
Grand Jury Award for Best Documentary, Florida Film Festival
Best International Feature, Guanajuato International Film Festival
Best Documentary, Milwaukee Film Festival
Best Documentary, Boston Latino Film Festival
Best US Latinx Film, Cinema Tropical Awards
Nominee, Truer than Fiction Award, Film Independent Spirit Awards
Nominee, Cinema Eye Honors Spotlight Award
Jury Honorable Mention, New Orleans Films Festival
Screened at over 30 festivals internationally, including International Documentary Festival
Amsterdam (IDFA), HotDocs Toronto, DokuFest Kosovo, Festival Internacional de Cine
de Costa Rica, DOC NYC, Blackstar, Camden International Film Festival

***Picket Line (2017, 9 min).* Short Documentary.**

Commissioned by Firelight Media and Field of Vision
World Premiere, AFI Docs Film Festival 2017
Screened in '100 Days: A Lens on Resistance' at Metropolitan Museum of Art, July 2017

***Memories of a Penitent Heart (2016, 72 min).* Feature-length documentary.**

World Premiere, Tribeca Film Festival 2016
Co-production of ITVS, POV, and Latino Public Broadcasting
Best US Latinx Film, Cinema Tropical Awards
Special Jury Award, Indie Memphis Film Festival
Best Documentary, Austin Gay and Lesbian Film Festival
Jury Honorable Mention, New Orleans Film Festival

EXHIBITIONS, INVITED KEYNOTES, MASTER CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS

- 2023 'Mirrored Interiors: The Films of Cecilia Aldarondo,' Williams College Museum of Art
- 2021 Distinguished Lecture, Bobby Yan Lectureship in Media and Social Change, Tulane University
- 2021 Visiting Artist, 'Strange Truth' Documentary Series, Haverford College
- 2020 Master Class, 'An Artist's Journey,' Sundance Co//ab
- 2020 Lead Instructor, UnionDocs/University of Virginia Religion, Race, and Democracy Lab Workshop
- 2019 Lead Instructor (with Samara Chadwick) Personal Documentary Workshop, UnionDocs
- 2018 Master Class, Chicken + Egg Pictures Diversity Fellows Retreat
- 2017 Master Class, UnionDocs Summer Laboratory
- 2016 Keynote Lecture, McGill University, 'Why We Remember: HIV/AIDS Media Now'

INVITED PANELS AND INDUSTRY APPEARANCES

- 2022 Chicken and Egg Pictures, 'Expanding the Practice: Reenactments and Recreations'
- 2021 Hot Docs Film Festival, 'Leveraging your Online Premiere'
- 2021 Sheffield DocFest, 'Beyond Story'
- 2021 Sundance Institute, 'Filmmaker Teach-in: Virtual Film Festivals'
- 2021 Chicken and Egg Pictures, 'Awards Season Panel'
- 2020 DOC NYC Film Festival, 'LANDFALL panel with Naomi Klein'
- 2020 Firelight Media, 'Beyond Resilience' Series

INVITED CAMPUS LECTURES AND SCREENINGS

- 2023 Tufts University
- 2022 New School for Social Research
- 2022 Johns Hopkins University
- 2021 Hunter College
- 2021 University of Connecticut
- 2021 Temple University 2020
- 2021 Georgia Institute of Technology
- 2021 Spelman College
- 2021 Colgate University
- 2021 University of Missouri
- 2021 University of North Florida
- 2020 Syracuse University
- 2020 University of California, Los Angeles
- 2020 University of California, Santa Barbara
- 2020 Temple University
- 2020 Amherst College
- 2020 Ryerson University
- 2020 University of California
- 2018 University of Chicago
- 2018 Concordia University

REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

- 'Field Notes: Who are Film Festivals For?' With Eli Horwatt and Sean Farnel. *World Records* Vol. 6, 'The Exceptions.' Jason Fox, Ed. New York: NYU, 2022.
- 'All that Glitters: Reflections on the Not-So-Golden Age of Documentary Storytelling.' With Samara Grace Chadwick. *World Records* Vol. 5, 'Beyond Story.' Alexandra Juhasz and Alisa Lebow, eds. New York: UnionDocs, 2021.
- 'Pasts/Memories of AIDS' Roundtable. *AIDS and the Distribution of Crises*. Alexandra Juhasz, Jih-Fei Cheng, and Nishant Shahani, eds. Invited publication, Duke University Press, 2020.
- 'Archival Interventions: Cecilia Aldarondo and Thomas Allen Harris in Conversation,' *World Records* Vol. 1, 'The Documentary Camera.' Invited publication. New York: UnionDocs, January 2017.
- 'Ephemeral.' *Theorizing Visual Studies: Writing Through the Discipline*. James Elkins, ed. New York: Routledge, 2013.
- 'Yes, there Is a Joseph Wagenbach: History and the Performativity of What Might Be True.' *Performance Research* 16:2, 'Performing Publics': 2011.

NON-REFEREED PUBLICATIONS / SELECTED PRESS

- Carey, Matt. 'Not Victims But Leaders: Oscar Contender *Landfall* examines Puerto Rico at Crossroads After Hurricane María.' *Deadline*, 15 January 2021.
- Hererra, Isabelia. 'Two New Documentaries Give Caribbean Stories the Depths They Deserve,' *The New York Times*, 19 July 2021.
- Mintzer, Jordan. 'LANDFALL: Film Review | Tribeca 2020.' *The Hollywood Reporter*, 30 April 2020.
- 'Where does Independent Documentary Go From Here?' With Robert Greene. *Hyperallergic*, published September 21, 2020.
- 'Three Decades Too Late: The Films of Ana Mendieta.' *Accelerate* Vol. 2, Tang Museum. Saratoga Springs: Tang Teaching Museum, October 2018.
- Review, *Havana Beyond the Ruins: Cultural Mappings After 1989*. *e-misférica* 9.1, 'On the Subject of Archives,' Summer 2012.

SELECTED CONFERENCE PANELS ORGANIZED

- 'Embarrassing Documents,' Visible Evidence XXIII, Montana University, Bozeman MT, August 12-14, 2016.
- Memory Matters: An Encounter Between LAND2 and the Space & Place Collaborative,' Forgetting to Remember/Remembering to Forget, University of Kent, 12-16 September 2008.
- 'El cine cubano post-institucional: premisas, problemas, perspectivas,' Virtual Caribbeans, Tulane University Cuban and Caribbean Studies Institute, 28 February-1 March 2008.
- 'Extra-Factual: Found Footage and Documentary Knowledge.' Visible Evidence XV, University of Lincoln, 4-8 August 2008.

SELECTED CONFERENCE PAPERS PRESENTED

- 'The Cinematic Reliquary: The Films of Ana Mendieta.' Visible Evidence XXIII, Montana University, Bozeman MT, August 12-14, 2016.
- 'Memories of an Entropic Materiality.' Visible Evidence XXII, U. of Toronto, 22 August 2015.
- 'The Sky is Falling: Architectural Ruin and Daily Life in *Habana: arte nuevo de hacer ruinas*.' American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, New York, 22-29 February 2012.
- 'Still-Moving: Photographic Decay as Opportunity,' Visible Evidence XVII, Bogaziçi University, 9-12 August 2010.
- '*The Legacy of Joseph Wagenbach* and the Legislation of Historical Knowledge,' Performance Studies International 16, Ontario College of Art and Design, 9-13 June 2010.

SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

2023 Reviewer, Williams College Art History and Studio Major (with Amy Podmore)
2023 Mentor, Brown Girls Doc Mafia Sustainable Artist Fellowship
2023 Mentor, Firelight Media Documentary Lab
2022-2023 Mentor, Gotham/HBO Documentary Development Initiative
2022 Juror, Brown Girls Doc Mafia Fellowships
2022 Mentor, Firelight Media Documentary Lab
2021 Faculty Panelist, Senior Honors Review, Williams College Art Department
2021 Co-Founder, Independent Documentary Directors
2020 Mentor, Firelight Media Documentary Lab
2019 Advisory Board, UnionDocs Center for Documentary Art
2016 Search Committee, Storyteller's Institute Director, Skidmore College
2017-2018 Assistant Director, John B. Moore Documentary Studies Collaborative, Skidmore College
2017-2018 Advisory Board, John B. Moore Documentary Studies Collaborative, Skidmore College
2015-2018 Advisory Board, Media and Film Studies Program, Skidmore College