

# Mira K. Lippold-Johnson

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Austin, TX

MiraLJ.com

612.695.2778

## EDUCATION

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**University of Texas at Austin**, *MFA in Film Production*, GPA: 4.0

**Harvard University**, *A.B. in Linguistics with Honors*, GPA: 3.9, Summa Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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University of Texas

2015-2017

**Lead Teaching Assistant**, Intro to Film Production

*Austin, Texas*

- Managed 6 teaching assistants and the demands of 150 students in the introductory film course.
- Created a curriculum for the “laboratory” half of the largest production course in the department.
- Lectured occasionally on topics ranging from directing to VFX.
- Handled all logistical aspects of the course.
- *Highly valued by the department, held this position for 4 semesters.*

University of Texas

2016-2017

**Summer Session Teaching Assistant**, Intro to Film Production

*Austin, Texas*

- Taught 12 to 18 students in hands-on laboratory section of large lecture course
- In extremely short and intense 5 week session, gave students the skills to take 35mm photographs, use lighting equipment and digital video cameras, edit using Avid MediaComposer, and write and produce well-structured short films.

University of Texas

2016

**Film Camp Instructor**, Middle School Film Camp

*Austin, Texas*

- Taught students ages 9 to 13 all of the basics of film production, from pre-production and story structure to editing and graphics.

## INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

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Go-Valley Productions

2017-Present

**Assistant Editor**, Untitled Michael Brody Documentary Project

*Austin, Texas*

- Manage footage and assets, pulling selects, editing rough scene work, and updating thematic stringouts.
- Maintain and track hundreds of hours of archival footage.
- Provide on-the-fly DIT and color correction services.

University of Texas

2016-2017

**Production Tech Team Proctor**, Moody College of Communication

- Taught and assisted students with technical issues across the board. (Avid MediaComposer, Premiere Pro, AfterEffects, codec conversions, media access issues, etc.)

- Smithsonian Channel 2011-2013  
**Supervisor of Content and Editorial, Digital Media Department** *New York, New York*
- Edited hundreds of short-form videos for digital promotion of the then-unknown cable channel.
  - Managed the creation of video content and editorial scheduling for digital platforms including Roku, AppleTV, iPad, iPhone, and partner sites.
  - Wrote and edited online-exclusive “bonus content” for series like *LA Frock Stars* and documentaries like *9/11: Day That Changed The World*.
  - Wrote copy for editorial promotions across platforms: website, partner sites, Facebook, Twitter.
  - Conceived of and managed the implementation of the Smithsonian Channel for iPad app (which was nominated for Webby and SXSW Interactive awards.)
  - Hired, managed and advised interns and other entry-level positions.
- Bounce: How The Ball Taught The World to Play (Documentary)* 2014-2015  
**Assistant Editor and Associate Producer** *New York, New York*
- Edited hours of verité footage into brief scenes to be incorporated into the final cut.
  - Managed rights and clearances for acquired footage.
- Twin Cities Public Television (PBS) 2008  
**Production Coordinator, Make: Television** *St. Paul, Minnesota*
- Coordinated the production of a new public TV show based on *Make: Magazine*.
  - Researched historical segments, assisted and planned in-field productions and studio shoots, and managed rights and permissions for user-generated content.
- Ross McElwee (Homemade Movies, Inc.) 2007-2011  
**Assistant Editor and Office Coordinator** *Cambridge, Massachusetts*
- Edited sequences for *In Paraguay* (2008) and *Photographic Memory* (2011).
  - Liaised with festivals to coordinate retrospectives of McElwee’s groundbreaking work.
- Harvard Graduate School of Education 2009-2011  
**Video Production Instructor/Staff, Learning Technology Center** *Cambridge, Massachusetts*
- Set up video recording of classroom activities.
  - Instructed graduate students in video production equipment and software.
- Harvard College Library 2010-2011  
**Video Support Staff, Multimedia Lab** *Cambridge, Massachusetts*
- Taught students to use audiovisual software and equipment.
  - Edited and provided graphics for videos used by the Maps, Media, Data and Government Information department, including one project that won “Best of Show” at the 2011 American Library Association conference.
- Flyway Film Festival 2013, 2014, 2015  
**Volunteer Venue Manager** *Pepin, Wisconsin*
- Austin Gay and Lesbian Film Festival 2017  
**Volunteer** *Austin, Texas*

## FILMOGRAPHY - Director

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### **2017 *Bad Things***, fiction short

When her older sister gets unjustly suspended from school, 8-year-old Sue Ellen starts to doubt that brains and hard work are enough to keep her out of trouble. Bad teachers, prejudices, a bully: There are impediments to success. So Sue Ellen takes a drastic step to take control.

*Austin Film Society grant recipient*

### **2016 *The Letter E***, fiction short

A short movie musical about love, meaninglessness, and a 14 year old girl who loves the letter E.

*Bend Film Festival (Special Jury Prize for Originality of Vision), Flyway Film Festival, Women Texas Film Festival, University of Texas Showcase at SXSW*

### **2016 *Bel Air Motel***, documentary short

A five-star review of a budget motel in Austin, Texas.

*Flyway Film Festival*

### **2015 *Burn It To The Ground***, fiction short

A semi-experimental short about a confrontation brought on by a dream.

*Aired on ESPN's Longhorn Network*

### **2014 *Ginny's***, documentary short

Every Sunday in Austin, Texas, hoards of people flock to Ginny's Little Longhorn Saloon for honky-tonk music, cold beer, and three rounds of Chicken Shit Bingo. Mama Ginny, the 80 year old matriarch of the community, retired last year but she returns each and every week to tend to her chickens.

## FILMOGRAPHY - Editor

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### **2018 *June***, fiction short directed by Huay-Bing Law

An immigrant Chinese wife does her best to fit in at her husband's graduation ceremony in 1950s segregated Texas.

### **2018 *Dolly***, fiction short directed by Ching Wang

A moody eight-year-old girl must combat the strange influence a mysterious doll has over her lonely, single father in order to save her little family of two.

### **2015 *The Scar***, fiction short directed by Brittney Shepherd

A trip to the corner store stirs a surprising decision within one little girl.

*Riverrun International Film Festival, Sarasota Film Festival, Oakcliff Film Festival*

## FILMOGRAPHY - *Producing*

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**2017 *Hug it Out*, (Producer)** fiction short directed by Lauren Izard

A surreal tale about the power of young female friendship to overcome even the most magically irrational of fears.

**2016 *Lavoyger*, (Co-Producer)** documentary short directed by Rachel Bardin

El Tule ranch is a private playground for Texas oil barons and powerful politicians like the Bush family. But the manager, Lavoyger Durham, has discovered over 20 bodies of people avoiding a nearby border patrol checkpoint.

*Austin Film Festival, Flyway Film Festival (Best Short Documentary), IFFBoston (Best Short Documentary)*

## FILMOGRAPHY - *Camera*

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**2016 *Lavoyger*, (2nd Camera)** documentary short directed by Rachel Bardin

El Tule ranch is a private playground for Texas oil barons and powerful politicians like the Bush family. But the manager, Lavoyger Durham, has discovered over 20 bodies of people avoiding a nearby border patrol checkpoint.

*Austin Film Festival, Flyway Film Festival (Best Short Documentary), IFFBoston (Best Short Documentary)*

**2017 *Animal Facts Club*, (Director of Photography)** web series directed by Rachel Bardin

A web series based on live puppet shows about the biodiversity of Texas that incorporates documentary, animation, and performance.

**2016 *Game Night*, (Director of Photography)** fiction short directed by Joel Fendelman

When a lonely taxi driver happens upon a football field, he falls into a memory of his past.

*Tribeca Film Festival, Austin Film Festival, Savannah Film Festival, Gotham Film Festival*

**2015 *Shotgun of Faith*, (Camera)** documentary short directed by Brittney Shepherd

A season with Barry Chinn, an ailing Texas cowboy pastor. As the number of literal cowboys in Texas dwindles, can he grow a church based on a way of life that hardly exists anymore?

*SXSW, Oakcliff Film Festival, Sarasota Film Festival, Nevada City Film Festival*

## FILMOGRAPHY - *First Assistant Director*

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**2017 *The Green***, fiction short directed by Sophia Loffreda

When 10-year-old bffs Cherry Cake, Starla, and Franny find a bag of marijuana on the soccer field after practice, they decide it must be a gift from the soccer gods; selling the stuff may be their last chance to do something BIG together before their team gets broken up for good.

*Rhode Island International Film Festival (Best Student Film), New York Television Festival, Lost River Film Festival*

**2016 *Mosca***, fiction short directed by Lizette Barrera

A wayward teen returns to her hometown to reconnect with someone, against her aunt's wishes.

*Distributed by HBO, Women Texas Film Festival, Austin Film Festival, Flyway Film Festival, San Diego Latino Film Festival, Cine Las Americas Film Festival, Maryland Film Festival, Oak Cliff Film Festival*

## AWARDS

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### *Academic*

John E. Mankin, Texas Cable & Telecommunications Association Endowed Scholarship

University of Texas Graduate School Recruitment Fellowship

Phi Beta Kappa

Summa Cum Laude, Harvard University

Thomas J. Watson Memorial Scholarship

### *Film*

*Austin Film Society Grant Recipient (Director/Writer/Producer, Bad Things)*

*Special Jury Prize for Originality of Vision, Bend Film Festival (Director, The Letter E)*

*Best Short Documentary, Flyway Film Festival (Camera/Co-Producer, Lavoyger)*

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

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**Editing** (FCP 7, Premiere Pro, Fully Certified in Avid MediaComposer)

**VFX and Graphics** (Highly skilled in Adobe Creative Suite including After Effects, Animate, and Photoshop)

**Programming** (Experience with C, Perl, PHP, R, HTML5/CSS3/Javascript)

**Photography** (35mm/120mm still, Super 16mm motion, Canon/Nikon DSLRs, Arri Alexa, Sony A7 & FS series)

**Producing** (Budgeting/scheduling/breakdowns on Celtx and MovieMagic)

**Project Management** (Filemaker Pro, Basecamp, Trello)

**Analytics** (HootSuite, Facebook Analytics, Google Analytics)

**Language** (Basic Spanish and French)