

SOWJANYA KUDVA

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EDUCATION

Temple University

MFA, Film & Media Arts (2019)

Concentration: Screen & Comics Writing

Award: 3-year Future Faculty Fellowship

University of North Carolina School of the Arts

BFA, School of Filmmaking (2003)

Concentration: Editing & Sound

TEACHING & ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Instructor

- *How to Script Comics*, Center for Documentary Studies, Duke University (Fall 2019)
- *Making Comics*, Temple University (Summer 2018)

Teaching Assistantships

- *Screenwriting I*, Temple University (Fall 2018, Spring 2018)
- *Introduction to Film Analysis*, Temple University (Fall 2018, Fall 2017)
- *Media Arts II*, Temple University (Spring 2018)
- *Editing & Sound*, University of North Carolina School of the Arts (Summer 2001)

Academic Conferences

- Scholars of Color Conference, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA (April 2019)
Paper: *What-You-See-Is-What-You-Get: the limitations and potential of word-processing*
- Race/Sex/Power Conference, Roosevelt University, Chicago, IL (April 2018)
Paper: *Artificial Intelligence narratives as a tool for building an intersectional imaginary*

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Freelance/Independent Filmmaker, sowjfilms.com, Various cities (2003-present)

- Write, direct, produce, and edit documentaries, narratives films, music videos, television, event videos, sizzle reels, branded content, non-profit campaign videos, fundraising videos, etc.
- Screened work at a variety of films at festivals, conferences, events, and on media outlets.
- *Selected Clients*: IBM, Condé Nast, Vogue, Vanity Fair, GQ, WIRED, YouTube, Etsy, Royal Bank of Scotland, Piperlime, UC-Berkeley School of Law, Converse, NFL, NAPL, One Glass Video, Center for Story-Based Strategy, Southerners On New Ground

Senior Producer, Independent Television Service (ITVS), San Francisco, CA (2015-2016)

- Produced and edited documentaries to market the PBS television series, *Independent Lens* and *POV*. Documentaries were distributed through strategic media partners.
- *Selected Partners*: The Atlantic, The Nation, The Washington Post, NPR News, KQED News, Salon, PBS Newshour

Senior Producer, WIRED, San Francisco, CA (2013-2015)

- Built and managed in-house video studio and post-production suites; managed budget for all video production and studio equipment.
- Directed, produced, and edited original videos, event/marketing videos, and animations.
- Collaborated with other departments to pitch and develop video strategy.
- Managed video staff and contracted from personal network of freelancers to produce content.
- Oversaw hiring, training, and professional development of staff.
- Developed branded content to represent WIRED at conferences and external media events.
- *Selected Clients*: 9/11 Museum, Disney/Pixar, Ducati, Edward Snowden, Oculus Rift, Questlove, Frog Design, Pinterest, Dropbox, Oakley, AutoDesk, The Hydrous, Acura
- *Awards* (2015): Society of Publication Designers Award: *How to Listen Now with Guest DJ Questlove*; Society of Publication Designers Award: Issue Trailers; D&AD Golden Pencil, December 2014 Issue Trailer; (2014): Vimeo Staff Pick, *Behind the Scenes w/ Edward Snowden*

Video Producer & Event Coordinator, MMA Group, Los Angeles, CA (2005-2006)

- Coordinated large-scale events for fashion shows, art auctions, weekly musical residencies, music festival parties, and brand parties.
- Introduced video into the agency's marketing repertoire.
- Pitched, produced, and edited videos for clients.
- *Selected Clients*: Museum of Contemporary Art - Los Angeles, Otis College of Art & Design, Coachella Music Festival, Motorola, Myspace, Quiksilver, DKNY, Harajuku Lovers, XBOX

Video Editor, Various Television Post-Production Houses, Los Angeles, CA (2003-2009)

- Lead assisted, online edited, and offline edited broadcast and reality television productions for Freemantle Media, 51 Minds Production, 3Ball Productions, WPT Entertainment.
- Managed a team of assistant editors and coordinated with producers, writers, and editors to finalize shows for broadcast.
- Collaborated with executives to prepare episodes for weekly broadcast.
- *Channels*: NBC, VH1, The Travel Channel, Oxygen

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS & SCREENINGS

Producer/Director/DP/Editor

- *All of Us*, educational documentary short
 - (2013): Human Rights Film Festival, UNC-Greensboro; Activists Mobilizing Power Conference, Reed College; Queer Intersections Panel, The New School; NOI Films Event, New Organizing Institute; Bayard Rustin Symposium, Bayard Rustin Center, Guilford College; Better Together Cohort Gathering, Freedom Center for Social Justice; (2012): Southeastern Women's Studies Association Conference, UNC-Greensboro; Self-Organized, Motorco
- *Marry the Movement*, promotional short, Producer: Southerners On New Ground
 - (2013): Published on Colorlines, The Nation, The National Gay & Lesbian Task Force, The Human Rights Campaign, and The Huffington Post

Video Editor - Narrative, Documentary, Television

- *Waking Hour*, narrative short, Producer/Director/Actor: Nava Mau; Producer: Chloe Webster
 - (2019): Outfest Fusion LGBTQ People of Color Film Festival, Inside Out: Toronto LGBT Film Festival, Reel-Out Charlotte, Queer Women of Color Film Festival, Trans|Lations: Seattle Transgender Film Festival, Hella Gay Short Film Fest, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, Encuentro: Reconstructing Our Health, QFest: Houston International LGBTQ Film Festival, North Carolina Gay and Lesbian Film Festival, Visible Festival de Cine, Trans Stellar Film Festival
- *Sprint*, two narrative shorts within a stage production, Producer: Nana Duffuor, *Lesson 1*; Director: Nurie Mohamed, *Lesson 5*; Director: Angela Baxter
 - (2019): Queer Women of Color Film Festival, World Afro Day; (2019, 2018): National Queer Arts Festival
- *Jose and Mr. Ramos*, documentary short, ITVS
 - (2016): Published on NPR and NewsRoom; PBS Online Film Festival
- *Sophie and Ben*, documentary short, ITVS
 - (2016): Published on PBS's Independent Lens, NPR, The Atlantic, and KQED; American Film Showcase
- *Be Still*, narrative short, Director: Karrie Crouse
 - (2010): Slamdance Film Festival, Austin Film Festival, Memphis Film Festival
- *The Culinary Freak*, television pilot, JARS Productions
 - (2010): Picked up by Gersh Agency
- *Farewell, My Subaru*, documentary short, Director: Jason Ensler
 - (2008): Premiered on BoingBoing

- *What I Love About Dying*, narrative short, Director: Silas Howard
 - (2006): Sundance Film Festival
- *Rondro*, documentary feature, Director: John Roberts
 - (2004): Cine Noir Film Festival, Closing Night Film

Video Editor - Music Video

- *Into the Depths*, (2011) Director: Will Joines; Premiered on Pitchfork
- *Heaven in Stereo*, (2011) Director: Will Joines; Premiered on Spin
- *Sparkle in the Dark*, (2011) Director: Will Joines; Premiered on AllMusic
- *Getaway Driver*, (2010) Director: Will Joines; Premiered on MTVU; MTVU Top 5
- *Obsessed with You*, (2008) Director: Will Joines; Premiered on MTVU
- *Hollywood Smile*, (2007) Director: Locke Webster; Premiered on LOGO TV; LOGO Top 10

VOLUNTEER & LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Mentor & Panel Moderator, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA (2016-2019)

- Worked with queer-, people of color-, and women-led student organizations to moderate panels, organize workshops, and support students in extracurricular and professional pursuits.

Mentor & Guest Speaker, BAYCAT, San Francisco, CA (2014-2016)

- Volunteered as a guest speaker and creative mentor for students at BAYCAT, a nonprofit that offers free media education to low-income youth, and helps place graduates in media jobs.
- Coordinated the hiring of a BAYCAT graduate in the Social Media department at WIRED.

Assistant Programmer, OUTFEST & AFI Film Festivals, Los Angeles, CA (2005-2006)

- Wrote summaries of festival submissions and discussed choices with the selection committee.

SKILLS

- *Teaching*: Canvas; Blackboard
- *Professional*: Budget Management; Project Management; Managing & Supervising; Brand & Marketing Strategy; Event Production; Pitching; Stakeholder & Community Engagement; Public Speaking; Hiring & Professional Development; Teaching & Curriculum Design
- *Creative*: Producing; Directing; Cinematography; Video & Sound Editing; Supervising Story Editing; Post-Production Supervising; Music Supervising; Sound Design; Sound Recording
- *Software*: (*Video*) Adobe Premiere; Final Cut Pro; AVID; Adobe Photoshop; Adobe AfterEffects; (*Writing*) Final Draft; Highland; Scrivener; Microsoft Office Suite; Google Suite; (*Project Management*) Trello; Asana; Slack