

KEVIN B. LEE

Born 1975 in San Mateo, California , USA

Lives in Lugano, Switzerland

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## EDUCATION

- Master of Fine Arts in Film, Video, New Media and Animation (2015)  
School of the Art Institute of Chicago
- Master of Arts in Visual and Critical Studies (2016)  
School of the Art Institute of Chicago
- Bachelor of Arts in English (1997)  
Bachelor of Arts in Asian Studies (1997)  
Williams College

## UNIVERSITY TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2022 - Locarno Film Festival Professor for the Future of Cinema and Audiovisual Arts  
present Institute of Media and Journalism (IMeG)  
Faculty of Communications, Culture and Society  
Università della Svizzera italiana, Lugano, Switzerland

2020 - Co-Director, Masters Program in Research in Design, Art and Media  
2022 Merz Akademie, Stuttgart, Germany

2017 - Department Leader, Crossmedia Publishing  
2022 Merz Akademie, Stuttgart, Germany

2017 - Professor, Crossmedia Publishing  
2022 Merz Akademie, Stuttgart, Germany

2017 Visiting Lecturer, Department of Theater, Film and Media  
Goethe Universität, Frankfurt-am-Main, Germany

2016 Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Art and Art History  
University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL

Adjunct Lecturer, Department of Film, Video, New Media and Animation  
The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL

## COURSES TAUGHT AND DESIGNED

### Università della Svizzera italiana:

Spring semester 2026

- "Preparing for the Future of Cinema and the Audiovisual "B.A

Winter semester 2025/26

- "Digital Screen Futures: Transformation and Innovation in Cinema and Media" M.A
- "Video Essay for Communications, Culture and Society" M.A

Spring semester 2025

- "Video Essay Atelier" M.A.

- “Festival Economies and Ecologies” B.A.

Winter semester 2024/25

- “Cinema and Audiovisual Futures” M.A.
- “Video Essay for Communications, Culture and Society” M.A.

Spring semester 2024

- “Preparing for the Future of Cinema and the Audiovisual” B.A.
- “Video Essay Atelier” M.A.

Winter semester 2023/24

- “Cinema and Audiovisual Futures” M.A.
- “Video Essay for Communications, Culture and Society” M.A.

Spring semester 2023

- “Video Essay Atelier” M.A.
- “Festival Economies and Ecologies” B.A.

Winter semester 2022/23

- “Cinema and Audiovisual Futures” M.A.
- “Video Essay for Communications, Culture and Society” M.A.

Spring semester 2022

- “Video Essay Atelier” M.A.
- “Cinema Futures” B.A.

#### **Merz Akademie:**

Winter semester 2020/21

- “Research as Production” Graduate project seminar
- “The Perfect Image” Theory and Crossmedia co-project seminar
- “Media Content and Expression: From Music to Critic” Crossmedia colloquium
- “Introduction to Crossmedia Publishing”

Summer semester 2020

- “Screen Stories” Crossmedia studio project seminar
- “Media Innovation and Disruption” Crossmedia colloquium
- “Long Form Media” Crossmedia design course
- “Introduction to Crossmedia Publishing”

Winter semester 2019/20

- “Creative Research and the Video Essay” Crossmedia studio project seminar
- “Introduction to Crossmedia Publishing”

Summer semester 2019

- “21<sup>st</sup> Century Mediascapes” Crossmedia colloquium
- “Sharing Deep Spaces.” Crossmedia studio project seminar
- “Introduction to Crossmedia Publishing”

Winter semester 2018/19

- “Feeling Media Environments.” Crossmedia project seminar
- “Crossmedia Storytelling.” Crossmedia design course
- “Audiovisual Publishing.” Crossmedia design course
- “Introduction to Crossmedia Publishing”

Summer semester 2018

- “Magic Paper.” Visual Communication, New Media and Crossmedia co-project seminar
- “Audiovisual Publishing.” Crossmedia design course
- “Introduction to Crossmedia Publishing”

Winter semester 2017/18

- “Introduction to Crossmedia Publishing”

**Film Akademie Baden-Württemberg, Germany:**

- “Aesthetics of Video Essays.” Two day seminar.

Summer 2020

**Goethe Universität, Frankfurt am Main:**

- “Virality: Social Media Economies and Ecologies.” Media Studies Graduate and undergraduate block seminar (Summer 2018)
- “The Lives of Images.” Media Studies Graduate and undergraduate block seminar

(Summer 2018) **School of the Art Institute of Chicago:**

- “Form and Meaning.” Undergraduate Film, Video New Media and Animation studio course

(Autumn 2017) **The University of Illinois at Chicago:**

- “Documentary Media.” Graduate and undergraduate studio course (Autumn 2017)

**OTHER TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

- 2025 Guest lecture on desktop documentary, MFA Project Tutorial, Stanford University  
Filmmaking seminar, DocLisboa x UnionDocs Center for Documentary Art (UNDO), DocLisboa Film Festival
- 2024 Guest Lecture, Faculty of Media and Communications at University of Singidunum, Serbia
- 2023 Guest Lecture, Zürcher Hochschule der Künste  
Masterclass, Berlinale Talents, Berlin
- 2022 Mentor, University of Hannover  
Masterclass, Blue Cinema in Zurich  
Masterclass, Haus der Schweiz in Milan
- 2021 Guest Artist, HEAD Geneva
- 2020 Guest Lecture, Kent University  
Guest Lecture, Kings College London  
Guest Speaker, Talent Press Sarajevo, Sarajevo International Film Festival  
Guest Lecture, Johns Hopkins University  
Masterclass, Dutch Film Academy  
Guest Lecture, California Institute of the Arts  
Guest Lecture, Northwestern University  
Guest Lecture, University of Minnesota  
Critic Mentor, Berlinale Talent Press
- 2019 Guest Speaker, Berlinale Talent Press Rio de Janeiro  
Instructor, Video Essay Workshop, Charles University, Prague

- Instructor, Desktop Documentary Workshop, Nonlinear Narrative Masters Program, Royal University of the Arts, The Hague
- Critic Mentor, Berlinale Talent Press
- 2018 Instructor, Videographic Film Scholars Workshop  
Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT
- Critic Mentor, Berlinale Talent Press  
Berlinale International Film Festival, Berlin, Germany
- Instructor, Video Essay Workshop  
FAMU, Prague
- 2017 Instructor, Videographic Film Scholars Workshop  
University of Miami at Ohio
- Critic Mentor, Berlinale Talent Press  
Berlinale International Film Festival, Berlin, Germany
- 2016 Head, Cairo International Film Critics Week Workshop for Emerging Critics  
Cairo International Film Festival, Cairo, Egypt
- Critic Mentor, Berlinale Talent Press  
Berlinale International Film Festival, Berlin, Germany
- 2015 Head, Ebert Foundation Young Writers for the Arts Program  
Hawaii International Film Festival, Honolulu, HI
- Critic Mentor, Melbourne International Film Festival Critics Campus  
Melbourne International Film Festival, Melbourne, Australia
- Guest Lecturer, Videographic Film Scholars Workshop  
Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT

## ARTISTIC AND FILMMAKING PRACTICE

### SOLO EXHIBITIONS AND SCREENINGS

- 2025 *Screening of **Afterlives*** at BFI London Film Festival, London, UK  
*Screening of **Afterlives*** at Doclisboa – International Film Festival, Lisbon, Portugal  
*Screening of **Afterlives*** at Stockholm Film Festival, Stockholm, Sweden  
*Screening of **Afterlives*** at Milano Filmmaker Festival, Milan, Italy
- 2024 Retrospective Program at Alternative Film Video Festival, Belgrade
- 2023 Exhibition of Bottled Songs 1-2 at [VOX, centre de l'image contemporaine](#) (Nov. 23.2023 - Feb. 03.2024)
- 2022 Exhibition of Bottled Songs 1-4 at ETC Galerie in Czech Republic  
"Postcards from the Future: Piazza Futura" at Piazza Grande for the Locarno Film Festival  
"Harun Farocki: The Counter-Image" at Artists Film Festival in Tel-Aviv, Israel  
Retrospective Program at Kommunales Kino, Freiburg  
Screening of Bottled Songs 1-4 at One World Romania - International Human Rights & Documentary Film Festival
- Festival  
Screening of Bottled Songs 1-4 at Docudays UA International Human Rights Documentary Film Festival (Ukraine)
- 2020 *Bottled Songs 1 and 2* at True/False Film Fest
- 2016 *The Aesthetics of Analysis: Kevin B. Lee and the Video Essay*, Austria Filmmuseum, Vienna

*The Aesthetics of Analysis*, Other Cinema, San Francisco

#### GROUP EXHIBITIONS AND SCREENINGS

- 2021 *Screen Stories*, Stuttgarter Filmwinter, Stuttgart  
2020 *Media Crossings*, Stuttgarter Filmwinter, Stuttgart  
2019 *Online Imaginaries*, Oodi Central Library and m-cult, Helsinki  
*Politiques de la distraction*, LiveinYourHEAD, Geneva
- 2018 *Algorithmic Superstructures*, IMPAKT, Utrecht  
2017 *Bestiale!*, Museo Nazionale del Cinema, Turin  
*The New Normal*, Ashkal Alwan, Beirut  
2016 *Nightmare of the Exhibition*, PSA, Shanghai  
2015 *Keep the Dream Alive*, GalleryM29, Cologne  
*Vive le Capital*, MAB BANK Gallery, Shanghai  
*Network*, Times Museum, Guangzhou  
2014 *Media Futures*, Sullivan Galleries, Chicago  
2013 *Chinese Realities, Documentary Visions*, Museum of Modern Art, New York

#### AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS

- 2019 Eurimages Creative Lab Project Award  
2018 Sundance Documentary Fund Art of Nonfiction Grantee  
European Media Art Platform / European Media Artists Residency Exchange, m-cult, Helsinki  
2017 Inaugural Artist in Residence, Harun Farocki Institute, Berlin  
2016 New City Film 50: Chicago's Top 50 Film People of 2016 (#12), New City Weekly  
(Article: <https://newcityfilm.com/2016/10/13/film-50-2016/3/>)  
2015 ARTE Creative Newcomer Award European Media Art Festival, Osnabruck, Germany  
(for "Transformers: The Premake")  
2014 New City Film 50: Chicago's Top 50 Film People of 2014 (#23), New City Weekly  
Top ten films of 2014: "Transformers: The Premake," Desistfilm  
Top Documentaries of 2014: "Transformers: The Premake", Sight & Sound Magazine

#### SELECT FILMOGRAPHY AND FESTIVALS

##### *Afterlives*

2025, 85 minutes, digital video

##### *95 Attempts to Know EO*

2023, 5 minutes, digital video

Commissioned for the International Film Festival Rotterdam Critics Choice

##### *Our Focus*

2021, 9 minutes, digital video

Commissioned for "Vive le cinéma! Art & Film" exhibition, Eye Museum and International Film Festival Rotterdam

##### *Orders of Time and Motion*

2021, 20 minutes, digital video

Commissioned for the Arbelos Films Blu-Ray Release of *Sátántangó*

##### *Blob Power* (with Lea Röwer)

2021, 4 minutes, digital video

Commissioned for the 34. Stuttgarter Filmwinter

##### *Bottled Songs 1-4* (with Chloé Galibert-Lainé)

2020, 70 minutes, digital video

International Film Festival Rotterdam

Open City London Documentary Festival

Camden International Film Fest

Kaunas International Film Festival

Stuttgarter Filmwinter

*Once Upon a Screen: Explosive Paradox*

2020, 9 minutes, digital video

Voted the best video essay of 2020 in an international poll conducted by Sight & Sound Magazine  
Open City London Documentary Festival

*To the Lighthouse: Dafoe Vs. Pattinson*

2020, 9 minutes, digital video

Commissioned for the International Film Festival Rotterdam Critics Choice

*Learning Farocki*

Three part video essay series consisting of:

- *Harun Farocki: The Counter Image (2019, 10 minutes, digital video)*

- *Harun Farocki: Lexicon (2019, 15 minutes, digital video)*

- *Harun Farocki: Presented (2019, 11 minutes, digital video)*

International Film Festival Rotterdam

Open City Documentary Festival London

Munich Dok.fest

Curtocircuito International Short Film Festival

*Bottled Songs 4: The Spokesman*

Part of work in progress *Bottled Songs*

2018, 12 minutes, digital video

m-cult Festival, OODI, Helsinki, Finland

Ars Electronica Festival, Linz, Austria

Impakt Festival, Utrecht, Netherlands

Bandits-Mages Festival, Bourges, France

Visite Film Festival, Brussels

*Re-enacting the Future*

2019, 9 minutes, digital video

International Film Festival Rotterdam

Komplexe Bilder (Complex Images) screening series, Cinema REX, Bern, Switzerland

"Crisis, Reality, Ordinary" screening series, Dogmilk

*Reading / Binging / Benning*

2018, 9 minutes, digital video

Selected as the best video essay of 2018 in an international poll by Sight & Sound Magazine

International Film Festival Rotterdam

Moscow International Film Festival

Festival ECRÄ, Rio de Janeiro

Komplexe Bilder (Complex Images) screening series, Cinema REX, Bern, Switzerland

*#movieofmylife*

2017, 2 minutes, digital video

Locarno International Film Festival

*Not Another Camelot*

2017, 7 minutes, digital video

International Film Festival Rotterdam (Critics Choice)

*Occupation*

2016, 9 minutes, digital video

Edge of Shelter, Buchanan Chapel, Chicago

*Right Now Then Wrong*

2016, 7 minutes, digital video

International Film Festival Rotterdam (Critics Choice)

*Transformers: The Premake*

2014, 25 minutes, digital video

Berlinale International Film Festival Critics Week, Opening Night Selection  
Viennale International Film Festival, Vienna, Austria  
International Film Festival Rotterdam, Rotterdam, Netherlands  
European Media Art Festival, Osnabruck, Germany (winner: ARTE Creative Vision Award)  
Hamburg International Short Film Festival, Hamburg, Germany  
True/False Film Fest, Columbia, MO  
Entrevues Belfort Festival International du  
Film  
Busan International Short Film Festival, Busan, South Korea  
NexT International Film Festival, Bucharest, Romania  
Cologne Unlimited Short Film Festival, Cologne, Germany  
San Diego Asian Pacific Film Festival, San Diego, CA

*Chinese Realities, Documentary Visions*

2013, 6 minutes, digital

Museum of Modern Art, New York

## WRITING

### PEER-REVIEWED ACADEMIC WRITING

with Silvia Cipelletti. "Investigating Ecocinema through the Video Essay: Videographic Scholarship as an Environmental Media Studies Pedagogy." *Academic Quarter | Akademisk Kvarter*, nr. 28: 57–64. September 2025

"[Surviving the Future: Video Essays as Exploratory Film Festival Research.](#)" *NECSUS – European Journal of Media Studies*, Spring 2025.

Guest Editor, *Video Essay Dossier on Locarno Film Festival.* *NECSUS – European Journal of Media Studies*, Spring 2025.

"Re-finding Found Footage: Encounters with the Video Essay." In *Found Footage & Collage Films: The Artist's Voice*, ed. César Ustarroz. *Found Footage Magazine*, March 2025.

with, Silvia Cipelletti. "[Investigating Ecocinema through the Video Essay: Videographic Scholarship As an Environmental Media Studies Pedagogy.](#)" *Academic Quarter | Akademisk Kvarter*, nr. 27 :113-29. August 2024

"[Desktop Documentary: From Artefact to Artist\(ic\) Emotions](#)", co-written with Ariel Avissar. *NECSUS\_European Journal of Media Studies*, 12.1, June 7 2023

"Suture Goes Meta: Desktop Documentary and its Narrativization of Screen-Mediated Experience" (with Jiří Anger) article in [Quarterly Review of Film and Video](#), February 21 2022

Medienakteure. Parallele Fragmente" ("Media Agents, Parallel Fragments") chapter published in [Propaganda des Islamischen Staats: Formen und Formate](#) ("The Islamic State: Forms and Formats") ed. Bernd Zywiets, published by Verlag Springer VS. 2020.

"Instrument of Reflection: A Study in Smartphone Filming" published in [Performance Matters Vol. 6 No. 1](#), eds. Lynette Hunter, Alex Lichtenfels, Heather Nolan, John Zibell.

"Decoding or Re-Encoding?" published in Malte Hagener, Vincenz Hediger, Alena Strohmaier (Eds.), *The State of Post-Cinema: Tracing the Moving Image*. Palgrave Macmillan. 2016.

"Active Encounters: A Conversation Between Alejandro Bachmann and Kevin B. Lee," *Found Footage Magazine*, Issue No. 3, 2016. <http://foundfootagemagazine.com/en/issue-3/>

"Conversation with Kevin B. Lee and Eric Faden." In Christian Keathley, Jason Mittel (Eds.), *The Videographic Essay: Criticism in Sound and Image*. 2016. Caboose. <https://www.caboosebooks.net/the-videographic-essay>

"The Audiovisual Essay." [in] *Transition Journal for Videographic Film Studies*, March 2014. <http://reframe.sussex.ac.uk/audiovisualessay/reflections/intransition-1-3/kevin-b-lee/>

"Containing Possibilities: The founding history of dGenerate Films." (Original German title: "Kontraintuitiver Möglichkeitssinn. Die Gründungsgeschichte des Distributionslabels dGenerate films.") In: Lukas Foerster, Nikolaus Perneczky, Fabian Tietke, Cecilia Valenti (Eds.): *Traces of a Third Cinema: The Aesthetics, Politics and Economy of World Cinema (Spuren eines Dritten Kinos. Zu Ästhetik, Politik und Ökonomie des World Cinema)*, Bielefeld: 2013, S. 79-85.

### SELECTED ARTICLES, ESSAYS AND OTHER WRITING

*Afterlives.* *Feature film.* 2025, 85 minutes, digital video

Lee, Kevin B. Editor, *The Future of Survival*. Zürich & Berlin: Diaphanes, 2025.

"[How to Reflect on Desktop Tutorial](#)" published in *Counter Tutorials*, Corinne Mazzoli, Krisis Publishing, May 2024

"[The video essay as an emerging ecocinema practice](#)" , *Wdk magazine*, February 2024

**Issues of the monthly column Poll Position for Sight & Sound Magazine 2023:**

[Poll position: a significant shake-up](#), May 2023

[Poll position: a global cinematic canon](#), June 2023

[Poll position: 'of its time' or 'of all time'?](#), July 2023

[Poll position: canon events](#), September 2023

[Poll position: a speculative syllabus](#), October 2023

[Poll position: an eco cinematic future](#), November 2023

[Poll position: the two top tens](#), December 2023

[Poll position: past masters](#), Winter 23/24

"Critical Spectatorship, Violent Care" for [Rosa Mercedes: Mit Farocki](#), the 6th edition of the Rosa Mercedes Online Journal from the Harun Farocki Institute, September 21 2022.

"How to Make Internet Comedy for Television." *Texte zur Kunst*, 2020

"Purple Sea, A Boundless Expanse." Open City Documentary Festival 2020

<https://opencitylondon.com/news/open-city-documentary-festival-2020-focus-purple-sea-a-boundless-expanse/>

Kino-Perspektiven: Das Video Essay als mediale Kritik. Interviewed by Johannes Duncker. *Filmszene Köln*. June 15 2020. <https://filmszene.koeln/2020/06/15/kinoperspektiven-das-video-essay-als-mediale-kritik/>

"The Best Video Essays of 2017." (co-authored with David Verdeure). *Sight & Sound*, Dec 7 2017.

<https://www.bfi.org.uk/news-opinion/sight-sound-magazine/polls-surveys/annual-round-ups/best-video-essays-2017>

"Critique, Protest, Activism and the Video Essay," Institute for Contemporary Arts, London. March 30 2017:

<https://www.ica.art/whats-on/essay-film-festival-2017-critique-protest-activism-and-video-essay-lecture-performance>

Harun Farocki Institut Residency Blog. January 1 – March 31 2017. <https://residency.harun-farocki-institut.org/>

"What I Learned About Hollywood by Shooting a Guerrilla Documentary About the Next *Transformers* Movie." *Slate*, June 18 2014 <http://slate.me/1ngjOYZ>

"The Gender Gap in Screen Time." *New York Times*, Feb 27 2014.

[http://www.nytimes.com/2014/03/02/movies/awardsseason/cinematics-extracts-statistical-data-from-movies.html?\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2014/03/02/movies/awardsseason/cinematics-extracts-statistical-data-from-movies.html?_r=0)

"The Essay Film: Some Thoughts of Discontent." *Sight & Sound*, Sep 7 2013

<https://www2.bfi.org.uk/news-opinion/sight-sound-magazine/features/deep-focus/video-essay-essay-film-some-thoughts>

"Argo, F—k Yourself." *Slate*, Feb 25, 2013

[http://www.slate.com/articles/arts/culturebox/2013/01/down\\_with\\_argo\\_ben\\_affleck\\_s\\_iran\\_hostage\\_movie\\_is\\_the\\_worst.html](http://www.slate.com/articles/arts/culturebox/2013/01/down_with_argo_ben_affleck_s_iran_hostage_movie_is_the_worst.html)

"Pre-Making a Chinese Hollywood Blockbuster: Transcultural Flows and the Culture of Anticipation in *Transformers: Age of Extinction*." *Incite!* Fall 2014

#### SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2018 "La sideration selon Steven Spielberg," Gabriel Coutagne, *Le Monde*, Feb 11
- 2017 "Medienkritik mit *Transformers*," Andreas Busche, *Der Tagesspiegel*, Feb 2  
„Superstars der Filmkritik. Video-Essayisten – Gute Filme teilen sich mit“, Philipp Bovermann, *Süddeutschen Zeitung*, Jan 4
- 2016 "Desktop Movies," *Cahiers du Cinema*, November  
"Aggregate States of the Moving Image," Volker Pantenburg, "Re-Mediating the Cinematic Experience," Vienna, Oct 7
- 2015 "Film criticism, film scholarship and the video essay," Andrew McWhirter, *Screen*, Autumn  
"From a Voyage to the North Sea to a Passage to the North-West; Journeys Across the

- Contaminated Histories of Art and Film," Miriam da Rosa, Filmforum, Mar 19
- 2014 "The Art Institute of Chicago's Video Collection Is on YouTube." Chicago Tribune, Dec 26
- "Desktop-Arbeit," Simon Rothohler, Merkur, August
- "Transformers: The Premake' makes Chicago critic a filmmaker" Chicago Tribune, Jun 18  
<http://trib.in/1qKawbh>
- "Transforming Phone Video Into Publicity and a Film." The New York Times, Jun 14 <http://nyti.ms/1mdOXjU>

## PROGRAMMING AND PRESENTATIONS

### CURATORIAL AND EVENT PROGRAMMING

- 2025 Co-curator, [Expanded Screens: The Video Essay](#) for the Museum of the Moving Image, New York  
 Curator, "Future of cinema: from Locarno to LA"
- Curator, "Future of Reality," Locarno Film Festival, Locarno,*
- Curator, Key Words for Key Films" exhibition, Museo Nazionale del Cinema Torino,
- Curator, "Les chambres obscures de l'IA #3" (with Johannes Binotto and Evelyn Kreutzer), Jeu de Paume, Paris
- Curator, Screening event in connection with the exhibition "Le monde selon l'AI"*
- 2024 Lead Organizer, USI Cinema Futures Conference "[Future of Survival](#)" at Locarno Film Festival
- 2023 Curator, [Tsai Ming-liang: Moving Portraits](#), Il Rivellino Gallery. [Photos](#), Locarno
- Essay Presentation of works by USI Masters students from the seminars "Video Essays for Ecocinema" and "Video for Communication Culture and Society", Scuola senza frontiere program, PalaCinema
- 2022 "SocialSim" [Hito Steyerl at Rivellino Gallery. Locarno Film Festival](#)
- "Screen Stories Live and Alive," Stuttgarter Filmwinter

- 2021 "Screen Stories." Stuttgarter Filmwinter, Stuttgart
- 2020 The Black Lives Matter Video Essay Playlist. Co-curated with Cydnii Wilde Harris and Will DiGravio  
<https://thevideoessay.com/blacklivesmatter/>  
Presented as a live event at the Open City London Documentary Festival  
Presented as a live event at the Camden International Film Festival
- "Media Crossings." Stuttgarter Filmwinter, Stuttgart
- 2019 "Creating Insights." Symposium on video essays and videographic research. Merz Akademie, Stuttgart
- 2018 "Welcome to the Real World." Lecture series on Crossmedia. Merz Akademie, Stuttgart  
"Critique, Protest, Activism and the Video Essay." Hamburg Documentary Week
- 2017 "Critique, Protest, Activism and the Video Essay." Essay Film Festival, Institute for Contemporary Art, London, UK  
"The Best Video Essays of 2016." Stuttgarter Filmwinter, Stuttgart
- 2016 "The Art of the Video Essay." Chicago Independent Film Critics Circle Festival
- 2013 "Chinese Realities, Documentary Visions." Screening series. Museum of Modern Art, New York

## **MEDIA PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

### **VIDEO ESSAY PRODUCTION AND EDITORIAL**

2007- present Video Essay Producer and Editor  
over 350 + video essays produced, including:

Monographs, video essay series on Asian Cinema, Asian Film Archive, Singapore (2020).  
Editorial consultant for 11 video essays

Fandor Keyframe (2010-2016) 250 video essays Sight &  
Sound (2012-present) 7 video essays Indiewire Press  
Play (2012-2013) 20 video essays Focus Features (2009-  
2010) 10 video essays

Shooting Down Pictures (2007-2010) 53 video essays

### **FILM CRITICISM, WRITING AND EDITORIAL**

Chief Video Essayist, Fandor (2010-2016)

Contributor, Slate (2012-2015)

Contributor, New York Times (2014)

Editor in Chief, Indiewire Press Play (2012)

Contributor, MUBI (2009-2010)

Contributor, Chicago Reader (2005)

Contributor, Senses of Cinema (2004-2005)

### **FILM DISTRIBUTION**

2008- Vice President of Programming and Education  
2014 Dgenerate Films, New York, NY

### **TELEVISION PRODUCTION**

2011 Supervising Producer  
Roger Ebert Presents At the Movies, PBS, Chicago, IL NEW MEDIA

### **BUSINESS PRODUCTION**

2007- New Media Production Manger  
2010 American Management Association, New York, NY

### **COMMUNITY MEDIA AND ACTIVISM**

2007- Community Media Producer  
2008 The Sikh Coalition, New York, NY

2006- Community Media Producer  
2007 Coalition for Asian American Children and Families, New York, NY

## WORKSHOPS, PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLIC LECTURES

- 2025 [“Viewing with Care: Videographic Afterlives of Extremist Media.”](#) American Historical Association Annual Conference in New York.
- “Videographic Criticism as Dissemination: Ideology of Formats, Formats of Ideology.” SCMS Annual Conference in Chicago.
- “Towards a Generative Archival Practice.” Ethics & Aesthetics of Artificial Images (EA-AI) Conference at Università IUAV di Venezia.
- Workshop (with Evelyn Kreutzer, Silvia Cipelletti, Chiara Grizzaffi) “Site-based Videographic Methods for Film Festival Research.” NECS Conference in Lisbon.
- Public talk & screening “AI Film Now” (AI & film). Università della Svizzera italiana (USI), Lugano.
- Talk and screening “Khartoum.” Film Festival Diritti Umani Lugano, Università della Svizzera italiana (USI).
- 2024 “The Generative Afterlives of Problematic Archives” at [“If AI was the answer what was the question, again?”](#) Conference at the Academy of Fine Arts Munich  
Video Essay presentation with Johannes Binotto, Hito Steyerl and Occitane LaCurie “DECODING OR RE-ENCODING?” at [“As we may see: Tracking and tracing the image after Farocki”](#) Conference in Zurich  
Masterclass for the Documentary Summer School/ Masters Program at Locarno77  
“From AI to paper: de-materializing and re-materializing evidence” at the [Synthetic Vision / Images of Power Conference | 27-28 June | Framer Framed](#) in Amsterdam  
Keynote “Navigational Approaches to Essay Cinema” at the Association of Moving Image Researchers [AIM] conference in Porto  
Talk with Johannes Binotto “The Extended Play” at Ausstellungsraum Klingental  
“The Ecology of Science Fiction” at Woche der Kritik in Berlin  
[“Alternative Narratives: Art as Articulated by Tsai Ming-liang”](#) for Berlinale Talents in Berlin
- 2023 “Desktop Videography: Showing the labour of thought” at the annual congress ASLGC/SGAVL, Sull’Orlo del visibile, Literature comparate e visualità  
Video essays made by students of USI on ecocinema at “IN THE WORKS. Makings and unmaking of the Video Essay”, International conference at HSLU in Luzern  
Conversation with Andrea Rizzoli in [The Film Comment Podcast: The Future of Intelligence with Kevin B. Lee](#)  
Speaker for the [Long Night of Dreaming about the Future of Intelligence](#), sponsored by Università della Svizzera italiana and Mercator  
Masterclass on Video Essay as Ecocriticism (with Silvia Cipelletti), USI Documentary Summer School, Swiss Study Foundation and Locarno Critics Academy  
Masterclass with Hito Steyerl, Locarno Critics Academy and BaseCamp Academy  
“Viewing with Care: Digital Afterlives of Extremist Violence” at the two-day symposium [Violence & Visibility in Computational Regimes](#) at the John Cabot University in Rome  
“Meet the Media Guru”, a Keynote presentation at MEET Digital Culture Center in Milan  
“Missing images: on festivals, essay films and untold histories”, a masterclass for L’immagine e la parola in Locarno  
“Future of Film Festivals”, a masterclass with Berlinale Talents in Berlin  
“Landscape of Film Criticism”, a masterclass with Berlinale Talents in Berlin  
“The Spaces of the Video Essay,” Guest lecture at ZHdK, Zurich
- 2022 Mentor at the Videography Conference for the University of Hannover  
Presenter in [ArteVisione22](#) Panel Beyond Data in Milan  
Masterclass at the Locarno Audience Academy  
Conversation with Hito Steyerl “On the Future of Cinema” at the Locarno Film Festival  
Conversation with Rene Vautier at BaseCamp, Locarno Film Festival  
Participation in the “24h talk on the Future of Attention” curated by Raphael Dernbach at BaseCamp, Locarno Film Festival and Twitch  
“Video game aesthetics in Hollywood blockbusters”, Locarno Film Festival masterclass at Blue Cinema in Zurich

- “Tik Tok’s relationship with film festivals”, a masterclass at Haus der Schweiz in Milan  
 “The Spaces of the Video Essay”, a Keynote presentation at Accademia della architettura Mendrisio  
 “Cinema in the Age of Netflix”, Locarno Film Festival L’immagine e la parola in Locarno
- 2021 1.26 “Bottled Songs: Progress.” Document Film Festival, Glasgow, UK  
 1.20 Guest on The Video Essay Podcast  
 1.19 “Desktop Documentary Filmmaking.” Masterclass at Bertha Doc House, London
- 2020 12.11 “Teaching Screen Storytelling in the Era of COVID-19” Alternative Research Forum, Belgrade
- 11.21 Panelist, Singapore Youth Jury and Critics Programme, Singapore International Film Festival  
 11.17 Panelist, [“Investigating Islamism”](#), Center for Investigative Journalism Logan Symposium, University of Goldsmiths  
 10.31 “The Black Lives Matter Video Essay Playlist,” Trump, Television and the Media Conference, London Metropolitan University  
 9.19 “Bottled Songs,” Videograms Days, Kaunas International Film Festival  
 9.15 Panelist, [“The Language of the Essay Film.”](#) London Open City Documentary Festival.  
 8.20 Panelist, [“Nonfiction Vernacular and Collaboration.”](#) BlackStar Film Festival, Philadelphia (online)  
 6.13 “The Unassembled”, Flaherty Film Seminar  
 4.25 “Why Watch Essay Films Online?” Online panel. Docdays UA International Human Rights Documentary Festival.  
 3.7 Conversation with Ra’anan Alexandrowicz. Field Sessions, True/False Film Fest, Columbia Missouri  
 3.5-6 Guest Artist, PRISM Workshop, True/False Film Fest, Columbia Missouri  
 2.26 [“CTRL+ALT+DEL: Leaving the System”](#) Berlinale Talents, Berlinale Film Festival  
 1.25 [“Countering Images”](#), Critics Choice VI closing roundtable, International Film Festival Rotterdam
- 2019 11.21 “Reframing Propaganda with Videographic Analysis.” Territories of Propaganda, INHA, Paris  
 11.8 “Exploring Farocki: Three Videographic Approaches.” Technical University of Braunschweig  
 11.1 Video Essay Presentation, Illuinace Symposium, Prague, Czechia  
 10.7-8 “New Visual Narratives.” Filminteractive Lodz, Poland  
 9.18 “Workers Leaving the Factory in Eleven Decades.” Instituto Moreira Sales, São Paulo, Brazil  
 9.14 “Exploring Farocki: Three Videographic Approaches.” Besides the Screen Conference, São Paulo, Brazil  
 6.20 “Desktop Subjectivity as Videographic Methodology.” Videographic Criticism: Aesthetics and Methods of the Video Essay. Freie Universität, Berlin, Germany  
 6.4 “Publicity and Publication: Reviewing.” Other Ways of Knowing Conference, Leiden University, Netherlands  
 5.16 “Video Essays. Making film heritage visible.” Dok.fest Munich, Germany  
 2.28 “The Filmmaker of Tomorrow, Today.” University of California at Berkeley  
 2.27 “Dreams and Terrors of Desktop Documentary.” Digital Narratives Lab. Stanford University, California  
 2.25 “Dreams and Terrors of Desktop Documentary.” Videographic Scholarship Conference, Oakland University
- 2018 10.5 Workshop, “Media (Text) Rhetoric and Video Essays: Dealing Analytically and Creatively with ISIS videos.  
 [with Chloé Galibert-Lainé and Bernd Zywiets]. Jihadi Audiovisualities Conference, Gutenberg University, Mainz, Germany.  
 9.29 “From Eisenstein to #Screenlife.” Moscow International Experimental Film Festival.  
 9.17 “Bottled Songs.” Andorra Theatre, Helsinki, Finland.  
 9.9 “Future Innovation Summit.” Ars Electronica Festival, Linz, Austria.  
 9.8 “Error, Fake and Failure.” Ars Electronica Film Festival, Linz, Austria.  
 3.31 “Dreams and Terrors of Desktop Documentary.” Theory/Practice: Expanding Scholarship in the Age of Digital Media, Yale University.  
 3.23 “Conversations in Contemporary Art.” Concordia University, Montreal.  
 3.19 “Beyond Filmsplaining: Exploring Gender Dynamics in the Video Essay.” Smith College.  
 3.17 “Transactions and Translations of World Cinema: Videographic Approaches.” Panel Respondent, Society of Cinema and Media Studies Annual Meeting, Toronto.  
 2.20 “Visual Storytelling.” Berlinale Talents, Berlin International Film Festival.  
 2.13 Keynote Address: “Dreams and Terrors of Desktop Documentary.” Film und Fernsehwissenschaftliches Kolloquium, Ruhr-Universität, Bochum Germany.
- 2017 10.21 “Desktop Intervention.” Harun Farocki Academy, Berlin.  
 9.30 “Co-Presence With the Camera.” University of California at Davis.

- 9.28 "A Brief History of Video Essays." University of Miami at Ohio.
- 9.26 "A Brief History of Video Essays." State University of New York at Purchase.
- 9.25 "What Makes a Video Essay Great?" Middlebury College, Vermont.
- 9.22 Keynote Address: "Viewing Under Surveillance." Documentary Symposium, Temple University.
- 9.20 "A Brief History of Video Essays." Columbia University Film Seminar.
- 6.9 "Reformatting and Recontextualizing Content." Deutsches Filminstitut, Hamburg International Short Film Festival, Hamburg, Germany.
- 5.30 "10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Video Essay." Merz Akademie, Stuttgart, Germany.
- 5.16 "Desktop Documentary and Curation." Museum of Contemporary Art (GfZK), Leipzig, Germany.
- 4.23 "Life Navigation." Roaming Assembly Symposium, Dutch Art Institute, Arnhem, Netherlands.
- 4.14 "Martyrs for the Mass." Visual Practices Symposium, University of California, Davis, CA.
- 4.5 "A Brief History of Video Essays." Werkleitz, Halle, Germany.
- 4.2 Keynote Lecture, Videographic Film Studies Workshop. University of Reading, UK.
- 3.30 "Critique, Protest, Activism and the Video Essay." Essay Film Festival, Institute for Contemporary Art, London, UK.
- 3.13 "Light Typing Lecture." University of California, Davis.
- 3.08 "L'Art de l'observateur distrait / The art of the Distracted Observer." École normale supérieure, Paris.
- 3.06 "Post-Cinema." École normale supérieure, Paris.
- 2.06 "The Bottled Songs of Lost Children." Freie Universität, Berlin, Germany.
- 1.14 "Light Typing Lecture." Harun Farocki Institut, silent green, Berlin, Germany.
- 1.12 "Shucking the Oyster Princess: Live Video Essay Cooking Class." Deutsches Filmmuseum, Frankfurt, Germany.
- 1.10 "The Next Big Thing: You Don't Get To 5 Million Facebook Views Without Making a Few Compromises." Goethe University, Frankfurt, Germany.
- 2016 12.10 "Aesthetics of Analysis." Other Cinema, San Francisco, CA.
- 12.8 "Light Typing Lecture." Poetry Theater Festival, Chicago, IL.
- 8.10 "Cultures of Criticism in the Digital Age." Locarno International Film Festival, Locarno, Switzerland.
- 6.22 "Indefinite Visions symposium." Whitechapel Gallery, London, UK.
- 4.19 "Masterclass on video essays." University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria.
- 4.09 "Masterclass on video essays, Next International Film Festival, Bucharest, Romania.
- 2.29 "Videographic Film Criticism and the Video Essay." Harvard University, Cambridge, MA.
- 2.27 "The Art of the Video Essay." Williams College, Williamstown, MA.
- 2.15 "In Reference to Video Essays." Berlin International Film Festival, Berlin, Germany.
- 1.31 "Whose Cinema? Critics Choice." Rotterdam International Film Festival, Rotterdam, Netherlands
- 2015 10.13 "The Art of the Video Essay." University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA.
- 9.22 "Kevin B. Lee and the Video Essay." Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA.
- 8.06 "Video Essay Masterclass." Melbourne International Film Festival, Melbourne, Australia.
- 3.28 "What Farocki Teaches." Society of Cinema and Media Studies Annual Meeting, Montreal, Canada.
- 3.06 "The New Chinese Nonfiction." True/False Film Fest, Columbia, MO.
- 3.17 "Desktop Documentary." University of Sussex, Sussex, UK.
- 3.14 "On the Video Essay." Glasgow International Short Film Festival, Glasgow, UK.
- 3.13 "Desktop Documentary." Glasgow International Short Film Festival, Glasgow, UK.
- 2.13 "Media, Art and Law." Sullivan Gallery, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL.
- 1.30 "The Return of Critics Choice." Rotterdam International Film Festival, Rotterdam, Netherlands.
- 2014 11.26 "Desktop Documentary." Bauhaus University, Weimar, Germany.
- 11.24 "The Next Big Thing: *Transformers: The Premake*, Screen Transformations of the New Desktop Cinema." Goethe University, Frankfurt, Germany.
- 6.07 "The Future of Film Criticism." Seattle International Film Festival.
- 2.26 "Digital Journalism." True/False Film Festival, Columbia MO.
- 2013 4.20 "The Art of the Video Essay." Roger Ebert Film Festival, Urbana-Champaign, Illinois.
- 2012 11.08 "Reflexivity and the Small Form." University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL.
- 4.27 "Teaching Cinema On TV and the Web." Oberhausen International Short Film Festival, Oberhausen, Germany.
- 2010 4.17 "Chinese Independent Cinema." Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, PA.