

LAURA IANCU

b. 1985

Curriculum Vitae

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EDUCATION

MFA in Film and Video Production, University of Iowa, IA, USA, August 2016

MFA in Photography, University of Iowa, IA, USA, May 2013

BFA in Fine Arts, Pedagogy, Ovidius University, Romania, EU, June 2008

BAC in Painting, Queen Maria Art Highschool, Constanta, Romania, EU, June 2004

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2021 – present Assistant Professor, Cinema Production, School of Performing Arts, Virginia Tech

2017– 2021 Instructor of Cinema Production, School of Performing Arts, Virginia Tech

2016 – 2017 Visiting Professor of Film and Media Arts, Syracuse University

2013 – 2016 Instructor of Film and Video, Cinematic Arts, University of Iowa

2012 – 2014 Instructor of Photography, School of Art and Art History, University of Iowa

AWARDS, NOMINATIONS, RECOGNITIONS & FELLOWSHIPS

2025 Jury's Stellar Award 45'th Thomas Edison Film Festival, (Academy Award Qualifying), Hollowgram

2025 Winner Best Experimental - BEST International Film Festival 8.0, Porto, Portugal, Hollowgram

2025 Virginia Center for the Creative Arts (VCCA) Residency

2024 Winner Best Documentary, Berkeley Springs Film Festival, Sweet Press

2024 Best of Video Poetry, Arts + Literature Lab, Madison, WI, I Imagine I Been Science Fiction Always

2023 Winner Best Art Film, Screaming Droid Film Festival, Aberaeron, UK, Feeder

2023 Best of 2023, Grrl Hous Cinema, Berlin, Germany, Feeder

2022 Winner, Fractal Category, Diminuto Festival Internacional de Cine Minimo, Mexico, Feeder

2021 Nominated and advancement to second round for the Princes Grace Award

2017 Special Mention, 12'th Athens Animest Film Festival, Athens, Greece, Feeder

2015 Creative Vision Award, Altered Aesthetics Film Festival, Minneapolis, Minnesota, Fever

2010 Arts Fellowship, School of Art and Art History, University of Iowa, \$18,500

GRANTS

2025 Vibrant Virginia Grant, Center for Economic and Community Engagement, VT, Co-PI,(7%), \$10,000

2025 Faculty-initiated Research Grants (FIRG), AAD, VT, "The Legends of Stone Land", \$1350

2024 Center for Oral History Research Project, Virginia Tech, "Amonate Always", Co-PI (20%), \$2500

2023 Summer Stipend, Center for Humanities, Virginia Tech, "Black Paths", \$4,000

2023 Institute for Society, Culture and Environment, Virginia Tech, "Black Paths", \$6,500

2023 AAD Instructional Innovation Challenge Mini-Grant, College of Architecture, Arts and Design, \$500

2023 Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, Instructional Innovation Grant, \$778

2022 Niles Grant - College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, VT, "Where We Live, \$6,000

2022 Faculty-initiated Research Grants (FIRG), AAD, VT, "Black Paths", \$1,500

2022 New Faculty Mentoring Grant, College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, VT \$1,500

2021 Niles Grant, College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, "The Observatory", VT \$1,500

INVITATIONAL SCREENINGS AND GALLERY EXHIBITIONS

SOLO

- 2022 *Current State*, Terminal Gallery, Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, TN, Curated by McLean Fahnestock
- 2021 *SHO* - vir. screening and Q&A, Rose Library, Emory University w Douglas Kearney, moderator: N. Twemlow
- 2021 *Leave It Open*, organized by the Center of European Union, Transatlantic, and Trans- European Space Studies at Virginia Tech (CEUTTSS), Online Premiere/ moderated Q&A
- 2019 *Featured Artist Screening* and Q&A, Iowa City International Documentary Film Festival, IA
- 2013 *Afterthoughts*, Porch Gallery, Iowa City, IA

GROUP

- 2025 Overture, Warehouse Gallery, Syracuse, NY, curated by Emily Vey Duke
- 2024 Fragments of Worlds Unknown, Second Shift Studio St Paul, MN, curated by Ioana Turcan
- 2024 Youth Pastor is a Narc, Blue Building Studio, Halifax, Canada, Program curated by Emily Vey Duke
- 2023 Waterways, Cinema Reset, video installation, New Orleans Film Festival, Contemporary Arts Center, LA, curated by Rachel Weaver
- 2022 Gathering, Faculty Triennial, curated by Brian Holcombe, Moss Art Center, Blacksburg, VA
- 2021 COOP Gallery Microcinema, Film Festival, Nashville, TN
- 2019 From Future's End, ACinema Woodland Pattern Book Center, Milwaukee, WI, curated by Janelle VanderKelen and Takahiro Suzuki
- 2019 DISIS Faculty and Guest Artists Event, Creative Technologies in Music, the Cube, Moss Art Center, VA
- 2018 Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco, CA, program curated by Kara Herold The End of Things,
- 2018 Front International, Cleveland Triennial for Contemporary Art, Reinberger Gallery, Cleveland Institute of Art, OH, program curated by Jesse McLean and Ben Balcom.
- 2017 An Evening of Poetry Film, Marfa Poetry Festival, curated by Nick Twemlow
- 2013 Electronics Alive, Hartley Gallery, Tampa, FL
- 2012 Command Z, Drewelowe Gallery, Iowa City, IA
- 2011 We never fall apart; we never fall together, Drewelowe Gallery, Iowa City, IA
- 2011 Gnu/New Work, Hillel Gallery, Iowa City, IA

OTHER GROUP EXHIBITIONS (juried)

- 2024 Czong Institute for Contemporary Art (CICA) Museum, "Breath", Gyeonggi-do, Korea, *The Land of Luana*
- 2023 EnTrance: Female Bodies in Digitalscapes, Toplocentrala Gallery, Sofia, Bulgaria

INVITED PRESENTATIONS/ PANNELS

- 2025 Panelist: Engagement Scholarship Consortium International Conference: Bridging Resources to Build Stronger Communities, "Empowering Amonate, Virginia for the Future", Roanoke, VA
- 2023 Co-Presenter: "Mysterious Purple House", VT College of Architecture, Arts and Design Research Forum on Artificial Intelligence in Research, Pedagogy, and Creative Practice, Blacksburg, VA
- 2021 Panelist: New Media Panel - A discussion with creatives selected for Trinidad+Tobago film festival, Moderator Melanie Archer- virtual -
- 2019 Presenter: Horsemint Island, IEI (Information, Expression, and Immersion), hosted by Creativity+Innovation and the Virginia Tech Immersive Audio group, Center for the Arts, VA
- 2018 Panelist: Women/ NB Digital Art at Center for the Arts, Blacksburg, VA

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

2025 SECAC (Southeastern College Art Conference) Annual Juried and Artist Fellowship Exhibitions, Chidlaw Gallery, Art Academy of Cincinnati, gallery video loop, *Hollowgram*

2025 SPE (Society for Photographic Education) Media Festival, Reno, NV, *Half Life*

2025 Besides the Screen Conference, University of Nottingham, Ningbo, China, *Half Life*

FILM FESTIVALS

2025

Thomas Edison Film Festival, TEFF, NJ, USA, Winner Jury's Stellar Award, Experimental Category, *Hollowgram*

Tallgrass Film Festival, Wichita, KS USA, *Hollowgram* (Kansas premiere)

BEAST International Film Festival 8.0, Porto, Portugal, *Hollowgram* - Winner Best Experimental

South Sound Experimental Film Festival, Seattle, WA, Northwest Film Forum, *Hollowgram*

Quantum Intimacies, Millennium Film Workshop in Brooklyn, New York, *Hollowgram*

Feminist Border Art Film Festival, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM, *Hollowgram*

Moviate Underground Film Festival, Harrisburg, PA, *Hollowgram*

Antimatter Film Festival, Victoria, BC, Canada, *Hollowgram*

Union Hall, Amonate, VA, Oral Histories of Amonate

X Festival Video nodoCCS, Caracas, Venezuela, The Amber Gates

Besides the Screen Conference, University of Nottingham, Ningbo, China, *Half Life*

Mirror Mountain Film Festival, Ontario, Canada, *Half Life*

F-VaCE Festival de Videoarte e Cine Experimental, Salamanca, Spain, *Half Life*

Festival Angaelica, The Amber Gates

The Appalachian Film Festival, Huntington, WV, The Good Neighbors

Overture, Warehouse Gallery, group exhibition, SU, Syracuse, NY

Short Stop Film Festival, Iasi, Romania

Single Channel Video Festival, "Resistance", Snakehouse, Burlington, VT, *Half Life*

Big Muddy Film Festival, Carbondale, IL, *Half Life*, The Amber Gates

MicroActs 20' London, UK, Wishfulweed

Boone Docs, North Carolina, NC, Sweet Press

2024

MUFF, Melbourne Underground Film Festival Melbourne, Australia

James River Film Festival, Richmond, VA

Mtn Craft Film Festival, Clarksburg, WV

Mimesis Documentary Festival, Boulder, CO

Suspaustas laikas, Vilnius, Lithuania

Experiments in Cinema, EIC, New Mexico, NM

North Carolina Film Festival, New Bern, NC

Open Air Media Festival, Iowa City, IA

San Diego Underground Film Festival, San Diego, CA

EXPS/SLC, Experimental Series - Salt Lake City, UT

aCinema, aDifferent Program, Milwaukee, WI

Infernal Grove Visualizer, Halifax, Nova Scotia

Braziers International Film Festival, Oxfordshire, UK

The Best of Midwest Video Poetry Fest, Madison, WI

New Music+Technology Festival, Blacksburg, VA

Feminist Border Art Film Festival, Las Cruces, NM

20 Festival Transterritorial de Cine Underground, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Frame + Frequency IX, VisArts in Rockville, MD
VASTLAB Experimental 6, Los Angeles, CA
South Sound Experimental Film Fest, Seattle, WA
The West Virginia Mountaineer Film Festival, Morgantown, WV
Cine Amazonia del Plata, Tigre, Argentina
Berkeley Springs Film Festival, Berkeley Spring, WV,
Odds and Ends Film Festival, Charlottesville, VA
ReWilding Experimental Media Arts Festival, Richmond, VA
XPRMNTL film: anti-festival, London, UK
Hallucinea Film Festival, Thessaloniki, Greece
London Experimental, Peckham Arches, London

2023

AAD's Symposium of Faculty Initiated College Grant Research, Blacksburg, VA
Breath Czung Institute for Contemporary Art (CICA) Museum, Gyeonggi-do, Korea
Experimental Brasil, Rio De Janeiro, Brazil
Antimatter Showcase, Victoria, Canada
ViDEOSKiN iii, Pokhara, Nepal
Screaming Droid Film Festival, Aberaeron, UK
Experimental Series - Salt Lake City (EXPS/SLC), Utah, UT
Wide Open Film Festival, Oklahoma City, OK
Darkroom Film Festival, London, UK
Experimental Superstars, Novi Sad, Serbia
Brainwash Drive-In/Bike-in/Walk-in Film Festival, Oakland, CA
Palm Spring Animation Film Festival, Palm Springs, CA
Experimental Film Guanajuato, Guanajuato, Mexico
Festival Fotogenia, Mexico City, Mexico
NUR box, Alberta, Canada
GRRL HOUS video Art+SciFi, Berlin, Germany
GRRL HOUS Video Art Best of 2023 3-day virtual Screening program
Exhibidora de Cine, Esto Es Para Esto, Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, Mexico
01 NFT | New Media | Experimental | Digital Arts Film Festival, London, UK

2022

Diminuto, International Minimum Film Festival, Mexico City, Mexico
Chapingo Autonomous University International Book, Chapingo, Mexico
Julián Centeya Cultural Center, Buenos Aires, Argentina
Retina Latina Broadcasting Platform, VOD, one month, Peru
24'th Madurai Int. Documentary and Short Film Festival, Madurai, India
Festival Cinema ZERO, Trento, Italy
18 Festival Transterritorial de Cine Underground, Caba, Argentina
Sight and Sound Festival, Oxnard, CA
Istanbul International Experimental Film Festival, Istanbul, Turkey
Experimental Film Guanajuato, Guanajuato, Mexico
Ultra Cinema XI, Chicho, Mexico
International Herb Symposium Film & Photography Festival, online
Postales a Lumière - Itinerant Exhibition of Contemporary Cinema, Caracas, Venezuela
Vezuvius International Film Fest, Campania, Italy
Nanhui Ollin Film Festival, Durango, Mexico
10'th International Video Poetry Film Festival, Athens, Greece

2021

Xprmntl Film Festival, London, UK
San Diego Underground Film festival, San Diego, CA
Fotogenia, Film Poetry & Divergent Narratives Festival, Mexico City, Mexico
Octopus Marquee Independent Film Festival, online
Trinidad+Tobago Film Festival, Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago
ICAT Creativity+Innovation Day, Blacksburg, VA
Altered Aesthetics Film Festival, London, UK
Feel the Reel International Film Festival, London, UK
Crescent City Film Festival, New Orleans, LA
Festival Ecrã, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
Citric Signals Video Network, online
Detroit Shetown Women's Film Festival, Detroit, MI
Screener Short Films, London, UK
Buzz Vicious Underground Film Festival, Amazonas, Brazil
Hallucinea Film Festival, Paris, France
Vinilonga Film Festival, Buenos Aires, Argentina
Mimesis Documentary Festival, Boulder, CO
Midwest Video Poetry Fest, Madison, WI
Darkroom Film Festival, London, UK

2020

London Experimental Film Festival, London, UK
Strangelove Time-Based Media Festival, online
Underneath the Floorboards Visual Arts Festival, London, UK

2019

South Carolina Underground Film Festival, North Charleston, SC
San Diego Underground Film Festival, San Diego, CA
Indie Grits Film Festival, Colombia, SC
Fayetteville Film Fest, Fayetteville, AR
Antimatter [Media Art], Victoria, BC, Canada
Mirror Mountain Film Festival, Ottawa, Canada
Alchemy Film and Movie Image Festival, Hawick, Scotland
Altered Aesthetics Film Festival, Minneapolis, MN
ULTRAcinema, Oaxaca, Mexico
Green Screen Environmental Film Festival, Port of Spain
Trinidad and Tobago Festival Cinemistica, Granada, Spain
CODEC International Experimental Film and Video Festival, San Rafael, Mexico
The traveling tent of The Itinerant Cinema of La Bête Rousse, France
The London Experimental Film Festival, London, UK
Medusa Underground Film Festival, Las Vegas, NV
Colorado International Cannabis & Hemp Film Festival, Denver, CO
Experimental Superstars, Novi Sad, Serbia
Druid Underground Film Festival DUFF, Brooklyn, NY
Femmes Underground International Film Festival, Los Angeles, CA
Bare Bones International Film-Music Festival, Muskogee, OK

2018

London Experimental Film Festival, London, UK
Medusa Underground Film Festival, Las Vegas, NV
Women/ NB Digital Art at the Moss Arts Center, Blacksburg, VA
Vertical Cinema screening series, Iowa City, IA
Indie Grits Festival, Columbia, SC
Experiments in Cinema, Albuquerque, MN
aCinema screening series, Milwaukee, WI
Bare Bones International Film & Music Festival

2018

London Experimental Film Festival, London, UK
Antimatter, Victoria, BC, Canada
Altered Aesthetics Film Festival, Minneapolis, MN
Alchemy Film and Movie Image Festival, Hawick, Scotland
Vertical Cinema screening series, Iowa City, IA
Indie Grits Festival, Columbia, SC
Experiments in Cinema, Albuquerque, MN

2017

Big Muddy Film Fest, Carbondale, IL
Mirror Mountain Film Fest, Ottawa, Canada
Seattle Transmedia & Independent Film Festival, Seattle, WA
8'th edition of Video Art Event, Oradea, RO
Anarchist Film Festival, Montreal, Canada
Altered Aesthetics Film Festival, Minneapolis, MN
Bogotá Experimental Film Festival, Bogotá, Colombia
14'th Iowa City International Documentary Film Festival, Iowa City, IA
12'th Athens Animest Film Festival, Athens, Greece

2016

Avant Edge Film Festival, Chicago
Super 9 Film Fest, Portugal
Like Dot M.O.V.I.E. microcinema, LA, CA
Mirror Mountain Film Festival, Ottawa, Canada
Lima Bean Film Festival, St. Louis, MS

2015

Rabbit Heart Poetry Film Festival, Worcester, MA
Minneapolis Underground Film Festival, Minneapolis, MN
Strange Beauty Film Festival, Durham, NC
Visionaria International Film Festival, Siena, Italy
Tattoo Arts Film Festival, Saskatoon, Canada
Sickest Short Films Festival, New York, NY
Altered Aesthetics Art House Film Festival, Minneapolis, MN
Exploding Cinema, Museum of Cinema, London
Montreal Underground Film Festival (MUFF), Montreal, Canada
Kashish Mumbai International Queer Film Festival, Mumbai, India

FILMOGRAPHY

Legends from the Land of Stone (in progress)
Oral Histories of Amonate (24:00 min, 4K, 2025)
Hollowgram (7:00, 4K, 2025)
Wishfulweed (2:00, 4K, 202)
The Amber Gates (4:00, 4K, 2024)
Half Life (4:00 min, 4K, 2023)
The Land of Luana (14:00 & 15:00 min, 4K, 2023)
Black Paths (65:00 min total, series, 13 videos, 4K, 2023)
Where We Live (21:24 min, 4K, 2022)
The Good Neighbors (13:00 min, HD video, 2022)
Sweet Press (7:00 min, HD video, 2021)
//Current State = True; (4:00 min, HD video, 2021)
Girl, It's You (1:00 min, HD video 2021)
Blues for Martin Sostre (04:00 min, HD video, 2021)
Sinking About You (1:30 min, HD video, 2021)
Level V (9:00 min, HD video, 2021)
Feeder (2:00min, HD video, 2020)
Transmission (10:00 min, HD video, 2019)
Horsemind Island (Video Game, for Mac&PC, 2019)
How to Make a Video Game (10:26 min, HD video, 2019)
Clear (2:00 min, HD video, 2018)
Level IV (15:00 min, HD video, 2018)
Fasterrrr (2:50 min, HD video, 2017)
Exploded View (4:30 min, 360 HD Video, 2017)
Minerals and Buttercups (14 min, HD Video, 2017)
Self(i.e.) (3:44 min, HD Video, 2017)
Perfumes and Caresses (4:50 min, HD Video, 2016)
Rattle (12:00 min, 3D animation HD video, 2016)
Murmur (4:00 min, HD video, 2016)
Level III (7:00 min, HD video, 2015)
Manila Folder (4:15 min, HD video, 2015)
Level II (45:00 min, HD video, 2014)
Blackbox (4:00 min, HD video, 2014)
Fever (2:00 min, HD video, 2013)
Afterthoughts (5 video multi-screen looping installation 2013)
Level I (15 min, HD video, 2012)
Birthtree (87:00 min, SD video, 2012)

COLLABORATIONS

Woman in the Cabinet, Visual Effects supervisor, feature, Dir Craig Webster & Richard Wiebe 2024
SHO, animator and editor 45 minute poetry reading by Douglas Kearney, 2021
I Said Too Much, cinematography, music video Dir Josh Yates (ZeldaJune), 2021
World of Facts, assistant DP, feature, Dir Mike Gibbiser, 2016
Faster, Cinematographer, fiction, short, Dir Nick Twemlow, 2012
The Trapper, Assistant DP, Production Designer, fiction, short, Dir Nick Twemlow, 2011
The Agony and Sweat of the Human Spirit, coDP, fiction, short, Dir J. Damazo and Joe Bookman, 2011
I.Will.Know.You., art director, short Dir Florina Titz, 2011
Orange/Milk, DP, co-director, short, with Dir. Florina Titz, 2010

FILM FESTIVAL JURYING

2025 The West Virginia Mountaineer Film Festival, Documentary Category, Morgantown, WV
2023 Progeny Film Festival, Experimental and Hokie Short Categories, Blacksburg, VA
2020 Progeny Film Festival, Blacksburg, VA
2017 Syracuse Student Film Festival, Syracuse, NY

TEACHING

VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY

- Directing and Writing for the Screen
- Creative and Experimental Documentary
- Fiction Cinema Production
- Introduction to Cinema Production
- Hybrid Forms
- Intermediate Editing
- Experimental Film Techniques
- The Video Essay
- Image Design
- Documentary Filmmaking
- Advanced Video Workshop
- Personal Essay Film
- Intermediate Editing
- Theatre and Cinema Lab

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY

- Cinematic Modes of Production Workshop (Narrative, Experimental, Documentary Forms)
- Senior Project (Production Semester)
- Sound/ Image

UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

- Elements of Photography
- Intermediate Photography
- Modes of Film and Video
- Narrative Filmmaking

RELATED PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

2016 Creative Coordinator, Digital Scholarship & Publishing Studio, University of Iowa, IA
2014–16 Photography Technician/ Equipment Specialist - University of Iowa, Photography Department, IA
2013–15 Videographer for the International Writers Program Residency (IWP), International Writing Program, University of Iowa, IA

EXPERIENCE

PRODUCER/DIRECTOR/EDITOR (VIDEO) | PHOTOGRAPHER / ANIMATOR / DIGITAL COMPOSER / SET DESIGNER / ART DIRECTOR (FILM/THEATRE) | CINEMATOGRAPHER/CAMERA OPERATOR | EQUIPMENT MANAGER | PROFESSIONAL PRINTING. Software: ADOBE -> PREMIERE PRO - PHOTOSHOP – ANIMATE - ILLUSTRATOR - AUDITION AFTER EFFECTS/ FINAL CUT / DAVINCI RESOLVE/ PRO TOOLS / SUBSTANCE PAINTER / AUTODESK 3ds MAX / MAYA / UNITY GAME ENGINE /TOON BOOM / TOUCH DESIGNER / OBS STREAMLABS / AI (Elven Labs, Midjourney, Runway, Kaiber). Cameras: CANON

C100, CANON R5 C, Canon 5D, BLACKMAGIC URSA MINI 4k, BLACKMAGIC DESIGN CINEMA, SONY A7S, ATOMOS MONITORS.