

Benjamín A. Schultz-Figueroa
Curriculum Vitae

Film Studies Program
Seattle University

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EDUCATION

- 2018 **Ph.D.** University of California, Santa Cruz
Film and Digital Media Department
Designated Emphasis: History of Art and Visual Culture
Dissertation: *The Celluloid Specimen: Moving Image Research of Animal Life*
Committee: Karen Barad, Martin Berger, Oliver Gaycken, Jennifer Horne,
Shelley Stamp (chair)
- 2011 **M.A.** The New School
School of Media Studies
Graduate Thesis Film: *The Green and the Blue*
- 2008 **B.A.** Bard College
Department of Film and Electronic Arts
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PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2018 **Assistant Professor** Seattle University
English Department
Film Studies Program
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AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2018 **First Place Student Writing Award**, Society for Cinema and Media Studies
Awarded for: "B. F. Skinner's Project Pigeon: Rendering the War Animal Through
Optical Technology"
- 2017 **Chancellor's Dissertation Year Fellowship**, UC Santa Cruz
- 2016 **Arts Division Dissertation Fellowship**, UC Santa Cruz
- 2016 & 2015 **Arts Dean's Fund for Excellence**, UC Santa Cruz
- 2016, 2014 & 2013 **Florence French Scholarship**, UC Santa Cruz
- 2015 **Film and Digital Media Fellowship**, UC Santa Cruz
- 2014 & 2013 **University of California Regents Fellowship**, UC Santa Cruz
- 2011 **Fine Cuts: 32nd Annual Invitational Film Show**, The New School
- 2010 & 2009 **School of Media Studies Scholarship**, The New School
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PUBLICATIONS

Book Chapters

- “The Celluloid Specimen: Animal Origins for the Moving Image.” In *Viscera, Skin, and Physical Form: Corporeality and Early Cinema*, edited by Jan Olsson, Marina Dahlquist, Valentine Robert and Doron Galili. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2018. **[peer reviewed]**
- “Trinh T. Minh-ha (1952-).” In *Independent Female Filmmakers: A Chronical through Interviews, Profiles, and Manifestos*, edited by Michele Meek. Routledge, 2018.

Journal Articles

- “From Lab to Classroom: Animal Testing and Educational Film.” *Film History* 30.4 (Winter 2019). **[peer reviewed]**
- “B. F. Skinner’s Project Pigeon: Rendering the War Animal Through Optical Technology.” *Cinema Journal* 58.4 (Summer 2019). **[peer reviewed]**
- “Hybrid Metaphors: Animals, Language, and Media.” Translated by Carli Luca and Filippi Massimo. *Liberazioni – Rivista di critica antispesista* V, no. 18 (September 2014): 10–31.
- “Glitch/Glitch: (More Power) Lucky Break and the Position of Modern Technology.” *Culture Machine* 12, (February 18, 2011): 1–14. Special issue on “The Digital Humanities: Beyond Computing, edited by Federica Frabetti. **[peer reviewed]**

Art Journalism

- 2018 “In Conversation: FEMEXFILMARCHIVE,” *The Brooklyn Rail*
- 2016 “In Conversation: Trinh T. Minh-ha,” *The Brooklyn Rail*
- 2015 “In Conversation: Irene Lusztig,” *The Brooklyn Rail*
- 2014 “Life in the No-Go Zone,” *The Brooklyn Rail*
- “Videoland: Movie Culture at the American Video Store- Review,” *Film Comment*
- “Always in the Present Tense: An Interview with Kevin Jerome Everson,” *The Brooklyn Rail*
- 2013 “Affective Numbers: Chris Marker and Pierre Lhomme’s *Le Joli Mai*,” *The Brooklyn Rail*
- “Upside Down Cameras and Other Wonders” *The Brooklyn Rail*
- 2012 “Boiling Blood: Giallo Fever! at Anthology Film Archives,” *The Brooklyn Rail*
- “Scissor Speculations” *The Brooklyn Rail*
- “Narratives of Isolation: An Interview with Jacqueline Goss,” *The Brooklyn Rail*
- “Rare Atmospheres: An Interview with Michael Robinson,” (with Jesse Malmed) *Bad at Sports*
- “Counter Projections: Paul Sharits at Greene Naftali Gallery,” *The Brooklyn Rail*
- 2011 “Postcard from the Avant-Garde,” (with Aily Nash) *The Brooklyn Rail*
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CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & INVITED TALKS

Panels Organized

- 2018 “Operating in the Open: Operative Images in Public Discourse” (Co-Chair)
Visible Evidence XXV
Indiana University, Bloomington, IN
- 2016 “Documentary Intelligence” (Chair)
Visible Evidence XXIII
Montana State University, Bozeman, MT

Papers Presented

- 2018 “Bird Brained Bombs: Rendering the War Animal Through Optical Technology”
Visible Evidence XXV
Indiana University, Bloomington, IN
- “Owning the Evidence: The Lasting Controversies of Early Primatology Filmmaking”
History of Science Society Annual Meeting 2018
Sheraton Seattle, Seattle, WA
- 2017 “From the Lab to the Classroom: Psychology, Animal Testing, and the Educational Film”
Histories of Movie and Media Distribution Conference
Ryerson University, Toronto, Canada
- “Life Repeated: Animals and Film as Experimental Bodies”
Society for Cinema & Media Studies Conference
Fairmont Chicago Millennium Park, Chicago, IL
- 2016 “The Evaluative Gaze: IQ Testing, Primatology, and the Films of Robert Yerkes”
Visible Evidence XXIII
Montana State University, Bozeman, MT
- “Celluloid Specimens: Animal Origins for the Moving Image”
International DOMITOR Conference
Filmhuset, Stockholm, Sweden
- 2015 “The Celluloid Specimen: Moving Image Research of Animal Life”
Science & Justice Speaker Series
UC Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, CA
- “A Behavioral Eye: The Films of Neal E. Miller”
Visible Evidence XXII
University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada

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“Ideas in the Flesh”
Screen Studies Conference
University of Glasgow, Glasgow, Scotland

2013 “Hybrid Metaphors: Animals, Language, and Media”
Being Beyond Boundaries
Kingston University, Kingston, United Kingdom

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor, Seattle University

Courses Taught: Science Fiction Film
Film Theory
Animals and Film
Science and the Cinema
Film History

Graduate Student Instructor, UC Santa Cruz

Courses Taught: Film Genres: Science Fiction
Film Genres: Horror
Special Topics: Animals and Film

Teaching Assistant, UC Santa Cruz

Courses Assisted: Photography Now
American Film, 1960-Present
Film Authors: Feminist Ethnographic Authorship
American Film, 1930-1960
Introduction to Television Studies
Introduction to Film Theory and Criticism
Introduction to Film Studies

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Student Researcher, UC Santa Cruz

2016 *Imperfect Machines: Mind, Body, and Simulation*

Facilitator: three-day UC-wide workshop on science, medicine, and film.

Feminist Media Histories: An International Journal

Managing editor: academic peer-reviewed media studies journal, published quarterly by UC Press.

2014 *Medical Simulations*

Production assistant: experimental documentary on the use of robotics in medical training.

FILMS, VIDEOS AND MEDIA

- 2017 *We Will Not Be Ignored!: A List of Demands for Puerto Rico*, (multimedia website)
- 2016 *Ideas in the Flesh*, 19 minutes (multimedia lecture)
- 2013 *Reno Reenacted*, 2 minutes (video)
- 2012 *Far and Away the Road Goes Winding*, 6 minutes (video)
Heaven is a Place on Earth, 4 minutes (video)
Strangelove, 3 minutes (video)
Casual Constructions, 4 minutes (video)
- 2011 *New York City Bridge*, 6 minutes (video)
The Green and the Blue, 14 minutes (video)
And They Watched the World All Around, 9 minutes (16mm)
- 2009 *Good Guy/Smart Woman*, 5 minutes (found footage)
Discontinuity, 8 minutes (video)
- 2008 *Surveillance and Spectacle* (multimedia installation)
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EXHIBITIONS AND SCREENINGS

- 2016 “Shapes, Colors, Contours”
UC Santa Cruz Graduate Conference, Santa Cruz, CA
- 2015 “Imperfect Machines: Screening Non-Normative Bodies”
UC Santa Cruz Center for Documentary Arts and Research, Santa Cruz, CA
- “25th Annual Screen Studies Conference”
University of Glasgow, Glasgow, United Kingdom
- 2013 “Subway Series Finale”
Anthology Film Archives, New York, NY
- “CKTV”
The 9th Shanghai Biennale Shanghai, China
Brooklyn Academy of Music, New York, NY
Cleopatra’s, New York, NY
- 2012 “Pool Party”
Microscope Gallery, New York, NY

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“Filmideo”
Index Art Center, Newark, NJ

2011 “International Puerto Rican Heritage Film Festival”
The Poet’s Den, New York, NY

“Digital Arts Festival”
National Academy of Art, Sofia, Bulgaria

“Critical Bands”
Harvestworks, New York, NY

“Ende Tymes”
Outpost Artists Resources, New York, NY

“BOS Film Festival”
Microscope Gallery, New York, NY

“32nd Annual Invitational Film Show”
The New School, New York, NY

“Migrating Forms Film Festival”
Anthology Film Archives, New York, NY

2009 “Palimpsests”
The Artistry, Portland, OR

“I Want to See All My Friends at Once”
Helsing Junction, Portland, OR

“Sign Languages”
The Artistry, Portland, OR

CURATORIAL WORK

2017 “We Will Not be Ignored!: A List of Demands for Puerto Rico”
<<http://www.now-journal.com/puertorico/>>
Now! A Journal of Urgent Praxis, Online

“Sovereign Science: Race, Anthropology, Medicine, and the Body”
Wednesday Night Cinema Society, Santa Cruz, CA

2016 “*Pilots in Pajamas* Screening and Roundtable Discussion”
Center for Documentary Arts and Research and the Socialism and Post-Socialism Research Cluster,
Santa Cruz, CA

2014 “Medical Cinema”

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Echo Park Film Center, Los Angeles, CA

“Undergraduate Screening Series”
¡Film Club!, Santa Cruz, CA

2013 “Two Bestiaries”
Wednesday Night Cinema Society, Santa Cruz, CA

2010 “Fourth of July: Raucous Caucus”
Basilica Hudson, Hudson, NY

2009 “The Speculative Frontier”
Light Industry, New York, NY
Little Mountain Studios, Vancouver, Canada
Le Voyeur, Olympia, WA
Northwest Film Forum, Seattle, WA
Jinx Art Space, Bellingham, WA
Artists’ Television Access, San Francisco, CA
Show Cave Night Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Greymalken Center for Experimental Living, Portland, OR

2008 “Animanimal/Mammal/Manimal”
Light Industry, New York, NY
Artists’ Television Access, San Francisco, CA

SERVICE

2015-2017 Visual & Media Cultures Colloquium, Programmer, UC Santa Cruz
2012-2017 Wednesday Night Cinema Society, Co-Curator, UC Santa Cruz
2015 Center for Documentary Arts and Research, Event Programmer, UC Santa Cruz
2013-2015 Department Steward—UAW 2865, UC Santa Cruz
2013-2014 ¡Film Club!, Supervisor, UC Santa Cruz

NON-ACADEMIC WORK

2010-2011 **Museum Educator**
Museum of the Moving Image, New York, NY
2010-2011 **Volunteer Coordinator**
Migrating Forms Film Festival, New York, NY
2008-2010 **Curator’s Assistant**
Light Industry, New York, NY

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2008-2009 **Assistant to the Director**
The Film-Makers' Cooperative, New York, NY

2008-2009 **Editorial Intern**
Film Comment Magazine, New York, NY

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Society for Cinema and Media Studies

DOMITOR The International Society for the Study of Early Cinema

History of Science Society