

Bay Area Documentary Filmmakers  
Tuesdays 10am-12pm, Mar. 29-May 3, 2022  
NOTE: The April 5 class begins at 9:30am.

Instructor: Michael Fox  
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Bay Area documentary makers are distinguished by their commitment to exposing injustices at home and abroad, unearthing forgotten or buried history, and spotlighting iconoclastic artists of color. This class provides the opportunity to hear how six local filmmakers perceive and do their jobs. Each session features a new or recent film followed by a Q&A with the director(s). We'll focus on the practical, ethical, narrative and aesthetic challenges of making documentaries, from conception through production and postproduction to distribution.

Mar. 29 **Theo Rigby** *Waking Dream* (2018, 53 min)

*Waking Dream* is a short documentary series about young undocumented people with DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) permits. It was funded by ITVS and distributed on IndieLens Storycast's YouTube channel. Theo is in postproduction on the feature doc *Sanctuary Rising*, about the faith-based Sanctuary movement.

Theo Rigby is a S.F.-based director, cinematographer and interactive storyteller, and the founder of iNation Media. He has created stories focused on the U.S. immigrant experience for over a decade. He has a M.F.A. in Documentary Film from Stanford and was an award-winning photojournalist for newspapers and magazines before gravitating to film. His films, which have been nationally broadcast on "POV," showcased in *The New York Times* and screened at festivals around the world, include *Immigrant Nation*, *The Caretaker*, *The Mayor*, *Marathon* and the Student Academy Award-winning *Sin País*. The recipient of an Immigrant Rights Leadership Award from the City of San Francisco and a JustFilms Rockwood Fellow, Theo has received support from the MacArthur Foundation, Tribeca Film Institute, ITVS, San Francisco Foundation, the Emerson Collective and other entities. [Inationmedia.com](http://Inationmedia.com)

Apr. 5 **William Farley** *I Wanted to Be a Man With a Gun* (2022, 88 min)

THIS WEEK'S CLASS BEGINS AT 9:30am AND CONCLUDES AT NOON.

NOTE: THIS FILM CONTAINS GRAPHIC IMAGES AND VERBAL DESCRIPTIONS.

Constructed from the stories of three Bay Area WWII veterans and unseen archival footage, this film provides a unique, disturbing perspective on the war in Europe that has been mostly left out of the historical record, and cuts through our romantic fantasies about war. Music by Beth Custer.

William Farley earned his BFA from the Maryland Institute College of Art and his MFA from the California College of Arts and Crafts. (Read his colorful autobiographical resume: [farleyfilm.com/about](http://farleyfilm.com/about)) His narrative films include *Citizen* (1982) and *Of Men and Angels* (1989), which both premiered at Sundance. His nonfiction films include *In Between The Notes: The Life and Music of Pandit Pran Nath* and *Tribute* (both 1986), *The Old Spaghetti Factory* (2000) and *Plastic Man: The Artful Life of Jerry Ross Barrish* (2015). [farleyfilm.com](http://farleyfilm.com)

Apr. 12 **Tarabu Betsarai Kirkland** *One Hundred Years from Mississippi* (2021, 60 min)  
Mamie Lang Kirkland was seven when her family fled a lynch mob in Ellisville, MS in 1915. After a friend of her father, John Hartfield, went back four years later and was murdered, Mamie vowed never to return to the state. Her youngest son, the filmmaker, grew up hearing her stories but didn't know if they were fact or folklore until in 2015 he discovered an article describing Hartfield's lynching before 10,000 spectators. Mamie was 107 when she and Tarabu began the journey to connect her story to America's legacy of racial violence,  
<https://100yearsfrommississippi.com/>

Tarabu Betsarai Kirkland is a L.A.-based media artist, producer and administrator. His 20 years in public radio included a stint as assistant manager at KPFA, where he co-founded the Third World Media Department and helped establish national training programs for producers of color, and General Manager of L.A.'s KPFA-FM. Tarabu is the author and composer of the musical *Jukebox* starring Danny Glover, playwright and producer of *Ritual of a Bop Solo*, producer of the play *Jungle Bells*, and producer and musical co-director for the NPR drama *Quiet Thunder*. He has written and produced numerous radio documentary projects and video industrials. Tarabu has also served as Director of Programs at A Place Called Home, Managing Director of Great Leap, Inc. and Managing Director of the Black Theatre Artists Workshop.

Apr. 19 **Myra Paci** *Adventures in Peterland: a mystery of love and art* (2022, 77 min)  
Over the course of a decade, the filmmaker chronicles the waxing and waning of her friendship with octogenarian British pathologist and art collector Peter Bullough of Winchester, VA. After Peter is diagnosed with leukemia, Myra urges him to launch a young artists' residency in his home with the art, rare books and medical oddities he's amassed since childhood.  
[www.dandyunclepeterandme.com/](http://www.dandyunclepeterandme.com/)

Myra Paci is a writer/director/cinematographer whose award-winning debut feature *Searching for Paradise*, developed at the Sundance Institute's Screenwriting and Directing Labs and starring Chris Noth and Susan May Pratt, was distributed by Showtime Entertainment. Her short thriller *Girls Night Out* starred Rosario Dawson and was distributed by the Sundance Channel. Her narrative shorts include *Butch Patrol*, *Transeltown* and *XXXtasy: Two Days in the Life of a Saint*. Paci wrote, directed and produced the web series *Bad Muthaz*. She has received fellowships from the Sundance Institute, the S.F. Film Society, National Endowment for the Humanities, the MacDowell Colony and Middlebury Script Lab. Through her production company, SLAP Agency, Paci has created marketing videos for AAA, Kaiser Permanente, Intel, Lending Club, and Schwab. Paci received her B.A. in History from Yale and M.F.A. in Film/Video Production from N.Y.U., and teaches Screenwriting and Directing at S.F. State.  
[theslapagency.com](http://theslapagency.com) [myrapaci.com/index.html](http://myrapaci.com/index.html) [badmuthaz.com](http://badmuthaz.com)

Apr. 26 **Adriana Marchione and Dianne Griffin** *The Creative High* (2022, 75 min)  
Nine local artists open up about the ways in which art is their guidepost through the process and challenge of recovering from addiction. This hopeful film offers a portal into the alternative "high" of creativity through hip-hop, drag performance, punk music, dance, theater and visual art.

<https://thecreativehigh.com>

Adriana Marchione (director) is a filmmaker, dancer and photographer recognized for her work as a movement-based expressive arts therapist and educator. Adriana has taught at the Tamalpa Institute, WHEAT Institute (Canada) and founded her own wellness center in San Francisco. She has presented her creative healing approach, focused on addiction, eating disorders, trauma and grief, at festivals, conferences and treatment centers including South by Southwest, Studio le théâtre du Corps in Paris and Ohlloff Recovery Program. Adriana created *When the Fall Comes* in 2014, a performance project that culminated in a short film based on her story of intimate grief and loss. She has been in recovery from alcoholism for 28 years and was named Artist of the Year by *In Recovery* magazine in 2016. [adrianamarchione.com](http://adrianamarchione.com) [whenthefallcomes.com](http://whenthefallcomes.com)

Dianne Griffin (producer) is an award-winning filmmaker whose work has screened at festivals worldwide, aired on PBS, and been distributed theatrically and on streaming platforms. She directed *White Hotel* (2001), about two women whose documentary project about an HIV research team to Eritrea transforms into an intimate investigation of their own capacities to love, suffer and forgive. *Painted Nails* (2016) follows a Vietnamese salon owner's life-changing journey from small businesswoman to activist. Dianne teaches filmmaking including crowd-funding and social media marketing. [www.diannegriffin.com](http://www.diannegriffin.com) [www.digallmedia.org](http://www.digallmedia.org) [www.paintednailsmovie.com](http://www.paintednailsmovie.com)

May 3 **Kathryn Golden and Ashley James Santos**—*Skin to Skin* (2022, 75 min)

This portrait of community activist and seven-time Grammy nominee John Santos, a “keeper of the Afro-Caribbean flame,” is rich in musical performances. Santos links the rhythms of his ancestors to contemporary struggles against urban gentrification, social inequality and racial injustice. His hands on the skin of the conga peel back the legacy of colonialism while navigating the politics of culture and global migration. One of the world's foremost exponents of Afro-Latin music, Santos, through his mixed Puerto Rican & Cape Verdean heritage, musical storytelling and legendary percussion classes, strives to unite and expand his kaleidoscopic audience. [www.johnsantosmovie.com](http://www.johnsantosmovie.com)

Ashley James and Kathryn Golden are prolific, award-winning documentary makers with a focus on music and dance. In addition to their joint projects, Ashley is a renowned cinematographer and Kathryn is a celebrated editor. Their films include *Kitka and Davka in Concert* (PBS), *Ann Petry and the James Family Letters*, and *John Santos ~ Musica Cosmica*. Kathryn's films include *Moments of Illumination—Lawrence Jordan* and *American Treasure—The Folk Art of Joaquim Miguel Almeida*. Ashley's films include *Gordon Parks—The Man and His Music* and *Bomba—Dancing the Drum*. He was a journalist with The Hartford Times and station manager at Oakland's KTOP/Channel 10 for 12 years. Check out their extensive bios at <https://searchlightfilms.org/>