
Nicole Teeny

Curriculum Vitae
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OVERVIEW:

I graduated in 2009 from New York University with two BFA's in Dramatic Writing and Film/Television Production. I am a filmmaker, storyteller and designer.

I am primarily a **filmmaker**. My first feature documentary is called ***Bible Quiz***, a coming of age documentary about a teenage girl competing in Bible memory competitions in order to win the love of a boy. The film premiered at the 2013 *Slamdance Film Festival* where it won the Sparky Grand Jury Award for Best Documentary before playing at over 25 festivals and winning "Best Documentary" at *United Film Festival San Francisco*, *Spokane International Film Festival*, and *Big Muddy Film Festival*, and winning "The Audience Award" at *Tacoma Film Festival*, and *Big Muddy Film Festival*, and winning "Most Promising Filmmaker" at *Chagrin Documentary Festival*, and *Big Muddy Film Festival*. The film is playing internationally with *Sundance Channel* and domestically is being distributed by *Slamdance Video* theatrically spring 2014 along with DVD, online and cable. The film was selected as part of the US State Department Program *American Film Showcase* which chooses a few films as ambassadors of American culture and life.

I also direct short films such as ***Special Report: Real Zombies in Brooklyn*** which won the *Zed Fest* Grand Jury Award and played at festivals around the world before garnering over 60,000 views online. I created the film "The Writer" as part of a collaborative documentary video installation "**Labour in a Single Shot**" with the late film master Harun Faroki which has shown internationally in museums and galleries.

I also direct/produce videos for clients like Stryker, Project Kids Worldwide, Saturday Morning Breakfast Comics (SMBC), MIT, Gig Harbor Film Festival, Fidelity Investments.

My other career is a **designer**. I work as a **graphic designer** and a **set designer**.

I set design in the art department on films. I have designed for clients such as *Microsoft Office*, *Miller High Life*, *Little Caesars*, and *MTV*; art directed feature films like *SXSW's In Our Nature* and Cartoon Network's ***Contest***; and worked in the art department on major pictures and TV shows like ***White Collar***, ***Veronika Decides to Die***, and ***Harold***.

I also graphic design props and graphics for films along with treatments, presentations and mood boards for clients like *McDonalds*, *Dove*, *Del Taco*, *Verizon Wireless*, *Celebrix*, *Hershey's* and others.

Additional, I am a **glassblower** and member of the *MIT Glass Band*. We invent glass instruments and compositions. Performances have been at the *Fuller Craft Museum*, the *MIT Museum* and at *Urban Glass* this spring.

I also am collaborating at MIT in the Media Lab on **holographic art**, where I have a piece on display.

EDUCATION:

New York University

- B.F.A. Dramatic Writing – January 2009
- B.F.A. Film/Television Studies – January 2009

FAMU Film School

- Semester Study Abroad Program – Fall 2006

University of California

- Summer Seminar in Acting – Summer 2003

Tacoma School of the Arts

- High School Diploma – May 2004
 - Emphasis on Writing, Theater
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AWARDS, GRANTS & RESIDENCIES:

GOVERNMENT

- 2014-2015 American Cultural Envoy/Film Ambassador – US State Department (American Film Showcase, for film BIBLE QUIZ)

ARTIST RESIDENCIES

- Virginia Creative for the Creative Arts (VCCA) - Artist Residency - August 2014
- Brush Creek Foundation for the Artst - Artist Residency - March 2015
- Berlinale Talent Campus - Talent - February 2015
- New York Mills Arts Retreat - June 2015

AWARDS FOR *BIBLE QUIZ* (documentary I directed, produced, shot, co-edited):

- 2013 Grand Jury Sparky Award for Best Feature Documentary - *Slamdance Film Festival*
- 2013 Grand Jury Award for Best Documentary - *United Film Festival San Francisco*
- 2014 Grand Jury Award for Best Documentary - *Big Muddy Film Festival*
- 2014 Silver Doc SplIFFY Award for Best Documentary - *Spokane International Film Festival*
- 2013 Local Audience Choice Award - *Tacoma Film Festival*
- 2014 Audience Award - *Big Muddy Film Festival*
- 2014 Most Promising Filmmaker - *Spokane International Film Festival*
- 2013 Emerging Filmmaker Award - *Chagrin Documentary Film Festival*

AWARD FOR *SPECIAL REPORT: REAL ZOMBIES IN BROOKLYN* (hybrid fiction-nonfiction short film I co-made)

- 2011 Grand Jury Award - *Zed Fest*, Hollywood, CA

PLAYWRITING AWARDS:

- New South Young Playwrights Award (for “Queen of the Arctic Nile”) - *Horizon Theatre*

ARTIST AWARDS/GRANTS:

- *Artist Trust* GAP Award/Grant
- Tacoma Arts Commission Grant
- MIT Council for the Arts (together with Sunny Jolly)

OTHER AWARDS:

- *Spoonflower* Fabric Design Winner
 - *Cinereach* Reach Film Fellowship Finalist
 - *NYU Tisch School of the Arts* Trustee Scholarship
 - *Miss Pierce County* Scholarship
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FILM DIRECTOR/PRODUCER OVERVIEW

FILMS DIRECTED & PRODUCED:

Major Works:

- ***Bible Quiz*** – 76 min – feature documentary (*see following description*)
- ***Special Report: Is Williamsburg Dead?*** – 3 min – hybrid fiction/non-fiction (*see following description*)
- ***Labor in A Single Shot (collaboration with Harun Farocki, MIT, Goethe Institute)***
 - The Origamist*** – 2 min – experimental documentary
 - The Writer*** – 2 min – experimental documentary
 - Militarized Rush Hour*** – 2 min – experimental documentary

Selected Works:

- ***Bread & Butter*** – 8 min – experimental documentary
- ***Flow On Through*** – 16 min – documentary – RDI Cambodia, WorldBank
- ***The Bronx Uncovered*** – 4 min travel documentary – Lonelyplanet.tv
- ***Kat & Eis*** – web series – 4 min – episode director
- ***The Dramz*** – reality TV pilot – 4 min – episode director – Lifetime TV
- ***Vysoký Muž Tance*** – 6 min – 35mm silent film – FAMU International Festival (work-in-progress)
- ***The Animal Inside*** – short documentary – Cinereach Reach Finalist (work-in-progress)
- ***RAMPed Up: A Vegemetary*** – food documentary (work-in-progress)

Selected Undergraduate Films Directed/Produced/Edited:

- ***Billy, Bikes & Sacrifice*** – 10 min – short film based on the play
- ***Broken Birth*** – 2 min – 16mm short film
- ***The Sip of Desire*** – 3 min – 16mm short film
- ***Tiggy*** – 5:00 min – documentary
- ***Threads in Time*** – 2 min – experimental documentary

Video Films for Hire:

- ***Fidelity Investments*** – various projects (ranging 30 seconds to 10 min) - web landing videos, corporate video
 - ***SMBC BAH Fest 2013*** – 93 min – Comedic faux Ted Talks filmed at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)
 - ***SMBC BAH Fest 2014*** – 93 min – Comedic faux Ted Talks filmed at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)
 - ***Project Kids Worldwide Promo*** – 6 min – NGO promo for website & screening
 - ***Gig Harbor Film Festival Promo*** – 2 min – Promo for website & screening
 - ***Stryker Gap Balancer*** – 6 min – medical instrument promo/informational
 - ***MIT Glass Lab*** - videographer for Glass Maestro Lino Tagliapietra's collaboration with MIT
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BIBLE QUIZ: (a feature documentary)

Director, Producer, Camera, Additional Editor

OFFICIAL FILM FESTIVAL SELECTION & SCREENINGS

- *Slamdance Film Festival*
- *Newport Beach Film Festival*
- *Waterfront Film Festival*
- *Slamdance on the Road – Paramount Theater – Austin, TX*
- *AMFM Fest*
- *Royal Oak Film Society*
- *Slamdance on the Road – IFC Center, New York*
- *Free Methodist Bible Quiz Nationals*
- *Local Sightings Film Festival*
- *Kansas International Film Festival*
- *Ellensburg Film Festival*
- *Tacoma Film Festival*
- *Chagrin Film Festival*
- *Churches Making Movies Film Festival*
- *New Orleans Film Festival*
- *Laughlin International Film Festival*
- *Northwest Filmmaker's Film Festival*
- *United Film Festival – San Francisco*
- *St. Louis International Film Festival*
- *Cinema St. Louis Cinema for Students*
- *Gideon's Flame Film Festival*
- *Indie Memphis Film Festival*
- *Virginia Film Festival*
- *Santa Cruz Film Festival*
- *Oxford Film Festival*
- *Spokane International Film Festival*
- *Big Muddy Film Festival*
- *American Documentary Film Festival*

DISTRIBUTION – RELEASE IN SPRING 2014

- Domestic Distributor: *Slamdance Video & Virgil Films*, 9+ theaters across USA, Netflix, Amazon, DVD, iTunes, etc.
- International Distributor: *Sundance Channel International*: Territories: Latin America, Benelux, France, Eastern Europe (pending), Spain/Portugal/Andorra, Asia, Germany and others pending
- Education: Self distributing and Outreach plan for US educational market

SELECTED PRESS CLIPPINGS:

- “instantly lovable” - The Hollywood Reporter
 - “smart, funny and disarming”, and “an unpredictable pleasure” - Los Angeles Times
 - “vulnerable and charming” - LA Weekly
 - “empathetic inside out perspective on a little observed youth subculture” - Wall Street Journal
 - “Another Doc that wowed!” - Huffington Post
 - “Easily one of my favorite documentaries of all time”- Roboapocalypse
 - “heartbreaking honest...stuck with me like no other film this year...A film that people will remember for years to come.” - San Francisco Bay Guardian
 - “quirky and funny” - SLUG Magazine
 - “the greatness of the film is the questions it raises” - Truth On Cinema
 - “real and honest” - Christian Post
 - “the competition is as high-octane as any sports event!” - Pentecostal Evangel
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SPECIAL REPORT: REAL ZOMBIES IN BROOKLYN:

(a short film, hybrid fiction/non-fiction)

Co-Director, Co-Producer, Co-Editor, Actor/Host

Views & Award

- Over 60,000 viral YouTube views
- *Zed Fest*: Grad Jury Winner

Film Festival Selection

- *Atlanta Horror Film Festival*
- *Bare Bones International Film Festival*
- *South African Horror Film Festival*
- *Buffalo Scream Film Festival*
- *The Fargo Fantastic Film Festival*
- *Faux Film Festival*
- *Zed Fest Hollywood*

LABOUR IN A SINGLE SHOT: “The Writer”

(a collaborative video installation of experimental documentaries)

Filmmaker

A collaboration/workshop across 15 cities worldwide curated by late, legendary experimental filmmaker Harun Farocki and Antje Ehmann. Creative parameters were: Documentary, shot in a single frame, 2 minutes, Investigate an aspect of labour

Exhibitions of “The Writer”:

Essen, Germany – Museum Folkwang (*August 16-September 28, 2014*)

Boston, USA – Mills Gallery, Boston Center for the Arts (*September 19-November 30, 2014*)

Web catalogue – labour-in-a-single-shot.net

WRITER

Staged Theater & Opera

- *Queen of the Arctic Nile* – Playwright, *New South Youth Playwrights Festival/Horizon Theater*
- *Auspicious Misgivings* – Multi-media Operetta, SCAN-48 (NYU) *48 hour theater festival*
- *Billy, Bikes & Sacrifice* – Operetta co-writer, *Gallatin Theater Festival*
- *Billy, Bikes & Sacrifice* – Operetta co-writer, *Goldberg Theater Festival*

Commission Writing

- *The HubScout Manual* – Commissioned Humor Novel – 124 pages
- *Simply Sirena Production House* – copywriter, all English Literature

Unpublished Writing

- *The Pearled Castle* – feature screenplay
- *Oddi's Not a Freak* – feature screenplay
- *Once upon a time in Peru* – feature screenplay

HOLOGRAM ARTIST & RESEARCHER

Installation “Falling Up” at MIT

- Holographic Installation in MIT Media Lab elevator
- collaboration with Sunny Jolly, PHD Engineering candidate
- receipt of MIT Council for the Arts Grant

“Holopraxnioscope” at MIT

- Combining holograms and early pre-film animation techniques (phenakistoscope, praxnioscope, zoetrope, etc.)
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GRAPHIC DESIGNER & DRAFTSMAN

I began graphic designing for film props and set dressing while working as a set designer. This led to be hired for graphic designer outside of the film industry for logos, photo retouching, packaging, wedding/party invitations, mood boards, treatments for national commercial agencies and presentation graphics for a Fortune 500 company.

PRESENTATION GRAPHICS & TREATMENTS

I have designed presentations for the following clients directly or through *McGuffin Films*, *Assembly Films* or *Django Media*

- *Fidelity*
- *McDonald's*
- *Dove Nutrium*
- *Dove Chocolate*
- *Del Taco*
- *Land O'Lakes*
- *Papa Johns*
- *Verizon Wireless*
- *Whiskas*
- *Donatos Pizza*
- *Gorton's Fish Sticks*
- *Direct Energy*
- *Celebrex*
- *Compound W*
- *Me-Ality*
- *AARP*
- *North Carolina Lottery*
- *Bob Evans*
- *Jif Peanut Butter*
- *Hersey's*
- *Fauquier Health*

DRAFTING

- *Madienform* at *Macy's* Kiosks
- *WPLJ Daily Dish* radio show booth redesign

PHOTO RETOUCHING

- *Serge Nivelles Studio*
- *One Kings Lane*
- *M.A. Y.O.* Fashion retouching

LOGO DESIGN

- ***Camp Rolling Hills*** – Musical
- ***Lip Locked*** – Chap-stick & Natural Body Products
- ***How to Fail*** – Book Cover

FILM PROPS & GRAPHICS

- ***In Our Nature***– *SXSW*
 - ***Contest*** – *Cartoon Network*
 - ***The Music Never Stopped*** – *Sundance*
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PRODUCTION SET DESIGNER

This ultimate “maker” job requires invention, design and MacGyvering. Working with the director, I conceptualize and design a physical space and create props, draft a set plan, design a palette and “look”. Then, I lead a team to build the set, rig special effects and decorate the set. This position requires inventing structures on-the-fly, carpentry, mechanics, sewing, crafting and design skills, knowledge of technology/computers, sewing and the ability to make almost everything.

FILM & COMMERCIAL PRODUCTION DESIGNER

- **Boys in the Hall** – Historical Sports Docuseries – *FOX Sports* – starring Tom Brokaw
- **ResMed “Sleep Symphony”** – Commercial – *Creative Group/MSL*
- **Daily Dish** – Talk Show Pilot – *MPE/WPLJ/Manhattan Place TV*
- **Microsoft Office 2010** – Commercial – *Traffik Film Works* – 6 million YouTube View
- **Oral B** – Commercial – starring Sheri Shepherd
- **Little Caesars** – Commercial – *McGuffin Films*
- **Dress Barn ‘Style Squad’** – Commercial – *Creative Group/MSL*
- **Adidas ‘Soccer Dream’** – Commercial – *Site4View, World Cup*
- **Miller High Life ‘Paintball’** – Commercial – *Saatchi & Saatchi*
- **MTV ‘Vote 2008’** – 4 PSA’s – *mtvU*
- **National Gold Council/ Amsale** – Commercial – *Creative Group/MSL Agency*
- **Magnet Communications** – 3 Commercials – *Unseen Line Films*
- **How to Greet the Dead** – Short Experimental Film – *YouOffendMyFamily.com/Toyota*
- **Ocean City** – Web series – *ValDean Entertainment* – starring Al Thompson
- **Into the Rose Garden** – Short Film – starring Chase Coleman
- **Father’s Day** – Short Film – *ComedyCentral.com*
- **Split** – Short Film – *Derby City Productions* – starring Keith Powell
- **Lucid** – Short Film
- **Halcyon Days** – Short Film
- **Turbines** – Short Film
- **Autumn’s Audition** – Short Film
- **Office Romance** – Short Film
- **Hayden** Music Video – *LICK Studios*

THEATER SET DESIGNER

- **Zwei Bruder** – *Under St. Mark’s Theater* – playwright/comedian David Smithyman
- **The Invitation** – *Under St. Mark’s Theater* – *Goldberg Horror Festival* – playwright Donna Ostrawsky

ART DIRECTOR

- **In Our Nature** – feature film – *Cinedigm* – starring John Slattery, Jenna Malone, Zach Gilford, Gabrielle Union
- **Contest** – feature film – *Cartoon Network* – starring Kenton Duty and Mary Beth Peil
- **AMC Channel** – promo – *AMC*
- **Tractor Supply** – commercial – *Red Car*

INTERIOR DESIGNER

- **One Kings Lane** – Print – *onekingslane.com* Luxury Interior Design Magazine
- **Green Depot** – Retail Design Displays – *Marjam Building Supplies*
- **Sprague Trailer House Family Room and Kitchen** – a family home interior makeover
- **Katheryn Warzak’s Bedroom Design** – interior design client

ASSISTANT ART DEPARTMENT COORDINATOR

- **White Collar Season 2** – TV Series – *USA/FOX Studios*
- **Veronika Decides to Die** – Feature Film – *First Look* – starring Sarah Michelle Gellar
- **Harold the Film** – Feature Film – starring Cuba Gooding Jr., Spencer Breslin, Chris Parnell, Rachel Dratch
- **Life in Flight** – Feature Film – *Plum Pictures* – starring Patrick Wilson, Amy Smart
- **The Music Never Stopped** – Feature Film – starring J.K. Simmons, Cara Seymore
- **Style Network ‘Dress For Success’** – Commercial – *Style Network*
- **St. Jude’s Hospital ‘Mathaton’** – Commercial – *St. Jude’s* – starring Chris Brown, Mylie Cyrus
- **Tim Brando** show promo – Promo – *CBS Sports / Suite Spot*
- **Ikea ‘How To’** – Promo – *Olgvli / Suite Spot*
- **Iam’s Pet Food** – Print Ad / Commercial – *Saatchi & Saatchi*
- **Kraft Food** – Commercial – *Howdini*

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

- ***Boardwalk Empire*** – TV series – *HBO* – Martin Scorsese, Terence Winter – starring
- ***An Invisible Sign*** – Feature Film – *Silverwood* – starring Jessica Alba and Chris Messina
- ***Kitchen Nightmares*** – TV Reality Series – *FOX Studios* – Gordon Ramsey
- ***Opportunity Knocks*** – TV Reality Series – *ABC Studios* – Ashton Kutcher
- ***The Bachelorette*** – TV Reality Series – *ABC Studios*
- ***The Undocumented*** – Documentary – *PBS Independent Lens*
- ***The Weather Underground*** – Documentary Feature – Academy Award Nominated – *PBS*
- ***The Universal Language*** – Documentary Feature – Sam Green
- ***Determined to Dance*** – Documentary short – *Groundswell Media*
- ***Holly Brook*** Music Video – *Curious Pictures*
- ***Ciao Water*** – Commercial – *Curious Pictures*
- ***Activia Yogurt*** – Commercial – *Simply Sirena, Code Films*
- ***Roxy Willinsky Show*** – WGA writers-strike webseries

GLASSBLOWING:

- *MIT Glass Lab* member
- *MIT Glass Band* member, seeking to use glass' material properties to create new sounds & invent new instruments.
Performances: *MIT Museum, Fuller Craft Museum* and at *MIT CAST* *marathon concert*.
My instruments: ***Glass Kazoo, Glass Bonophone, Glass Glove***, and ***Glass Güiros*** (played 3 different ways).

INTERNSHIPS

- ***Late Night with Conan O'Brien*** – Late Night TV Show – Costume Intern
- ***Esperanto Filmoj*** – Alfonso Cuarón's Company – "Pan's Labyrinth" & "Children of Men" – Development Intern
- ***Rudo Y Cursi*** – Feature Film – Director Carlos Cuarón – Production Intern
- ***Buck -The Buck Brannaham Documentary*** – Feature Documentary – Sundance Winner – Editing Intern
- ***Jet Lag: Verso La Casa Blanca*** – Italian TV episode – Editing Intern
- ***Year of the Nail*** – Feature Film – director Jonás Cuarón – Production Intern
- ***Young Playwrights, Inc.*** – founder Stephen Sondheim

SPEAKING & TEACHING EXPERIENCE

TEACHING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANT:

In undergrad I was a TA (Technical Assistant/Teacher's Assistant) to the following film professors and classes:

- Wendy Bednarz – *Sight & Sound Film* (16mm film & lighting)
- Jason Lucero – *Sight & Sound Film* (16mm film & lighting)
- Nicholas Tanis – *Language of Film* (film theory)
- Lynne Saches – *Media Mavericks* (experimental film)
- Nicholas Tanis – *Sight & Sound Film* (16mm film & lighting) (substitute)

Filmmaker Q&As

- Director Q&A at over 20 film festivals.

SCREENWRITING WORKSHOP IN CAMBODIA:

Co-taught a screenwriting workshop to the NGO media team *RDI Cambodia* who were making the first Khemi kids show, a *Sesame Street*-style educational program.

SPEAKER PANELS:

- *Artist Trust* – Grant Panel and Selection Committee 2013
- *Slamdance Film Festival* – Additional Programmer 2014
- *IndieMemphis* – Girls On Film 2013
- *NYU Tisch School of the Arts* – How to Freelance in Film 2011
- *Twitch Film* – Slamdance Panel