



Marzena Grzegorzczak, Ph.D.

screenwriter, film director, producer, author, scholar

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CITIZENSHIP: USA/EU (Poland)

CV

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Film: screenwriting, directing, film and game development, film production, cinematography, editing, script-doctoring.

Academic: critical theory; semiotics; discourse analysis; comparative literature; visual expression; visual culture; Hannah Arendt; justice; democratic integrity; modern Latin American literature; Latin American and World Cinema; transatlantic relations; post-colonial relations.

| EDUCATION

- **MFA** Film production (focus: directing/cinematography). University of Southern California, School of Cinema-Television, Los Angeles (USA). (2001)
- **PhD** Spanish & Portuguese and Comparative Literature, Stanford University (USA). (1993)
- **BA/MA** Spanish Language and Literature, Eötvös Loránd Tudományegyetem, School of Humanities. Budapest, Hungary. (1986)

| FILM current projects

- **HIJACKING THE TRUTH. WHERE THE LAW ENDS** (documentary feature). In production
- **SEX LIFE OF SAVAGES** (feature film about friendship between Yale anthropologist Bronisław Malinowski and Witkacy). In development.

Screenplay awards:

1. selected by the Academy's Nicholl jury as one of the 100 best screenplays of the year (out of 5050) (<http://www.oscars.org/nicholl/index.html>) (2007)
 2. semifinals of the American Screenwriters Association (2007)
 3. funding from the Polish Institute of Cinema (experts rating:excellent) (2005)
 4. audience award, *Interscenario* festival, Wrocław, Poland (2010)
- **DECEPTICUM™. ABOUT PEOPLE AND OBJECTS.** Multiplatform project (13 part tv series + RPG computer game); received an offer from HBO Europe; declined b/c of copyrights differences. In development.

| FILM past projects (selected)

- **"Faithful"** 16 mm color. 15 mins. (Position: writer/director/co-producer) (2001)
Screenings and awards: Screened at over 70 festivals worldwide, including:
59. MOSTRA INTERNAZIONALE D'ARTE CINEMATOGRAFICA (Venice International Film Festival, Italy, September 2002), Kyoto (Japan, September 2002); Sienna (Italy, November 2003), Mar del Plata International Film Festival (Argentina, April 2003); Hamptons International Film Festival (Hamptons, NY, October 2002; winning film); PLATINUM REMI AWARD for creative excellence 36th WorldFest-Houston International Film Fest (July 2003); FILMMAKER OF THE YEAR (Bioreykjavik, Iceland, 2003), Tomecula Valley Film Festival (CA, September 2003, BEST FILM, JURY PRIZE); Atlanta International Film Festival (April 2002), Seattle International Film Festival (April 2002); New York/Avignon Film Festival (April 2002); Palm Spring International

Film Festival (August 2002); Toronto Film Festival (June 2002, BEST FILM), and **other festivals**.
Television: Canal 22, Mexico (2004), Canal+ Poland (2004)

- **"Desertopia"**. Dir. Meri Pritchett. Beta SP. Los Angeles, 2000 (Position: director of photography). Awards: EMMY AWARD (2001). Screenings: Director's Guild of America, YWBE/PBS Philadelphia; KCET/PBS Los Angeles; IFP New York.
- **"Liv."** 35 mm color. Dir. Edoardo Ponti. 1997. Exec. produced by Carlo Ponti, Robert Altman, Michelangelo Antonioni. (Position: production assistant/grip).
- **"English is for Optimists."** 16 mm black and white film. San Francisco/Atlanta, 1997. (Position: writer, director, editor, co-producer); Screening: Work in Progress Series, Image-Atlanta Independent Film and Video Center, April 1997; Filmfestival der Nationen. Linz, Austria, May 1995.
- **"The Island at the End of the World."** 16 mm. Stanford Film Program. Screenings and awards: Film Arts Foundation Festival, San Francisco, November 1995; Honorable mention for Best Student Film (Category: Experimental Narrative), Atlanta Film and Video Festival, June 1994; Honorable mention, 22. Filmfestival der Nationen. Linz, Austria, May 1995;
- **"Writing."** 16 mm black and white film. Stanford Mass Media Institute. (Position: writer, director, cinematographer, editor), 1995.
- **"Waiting," "Bread," "Trading Doves"** 16 mm black and white films, Polish Television, TVP/Interpress. 1988.

EMPLOYMENT/PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Film

- CEO, Producer, Film Production Company, Nostos Films LLC (2017-)
- Script doctoring/script consulting (ongoing)
- HBO Europe, creative development (2011-12)
- Cooperation with History Chanel, National Geographic (USA)
- Robert Zemeckis Digital Center (Los Angeles) 2000-2002
- Teaching Fellow, School of Cinema-Television, U. of Southern California (2000-01)
- Working on 22 film productions in different capacities
- Winner, Louis Vuitton advertising contest (2004)
- Filmography: 12 short films and 1 tv play (*Art*, J Reza, LA)

Academic

- US Visiting Professor, English Philology (course: screenwriting), Pomeranian Academy, Słupsk (2017)
- Doctoral thesis consulting, University of Lausanne (2007)
- Full Professor, Department of Sociology (specialization: sociology of culture; courses: visual expression), Collegium Civitas, Warsaw (2007)
- Visiting Professor, UCLA, Department of Spanish & Portuguese, (Fall/ Winter 2004/2005)
- Teaching Fellow, School of Cinematic Arts, U. of Southern California, intermediate and advanced cinematography (2000-01)
- Assistant Professor of Latin American Culture and Film, Department of Spanish, Emory University (1994-96; 1997-1999)
- Assistant Professor, University of Oregon, Department of Romance Languages (1993-1994)
- Teaching Fellow, Stanford University (1991-1992)
- Assistant to Professor Ian Watt, Stanford University (1990-91)

FILM AWARDS AND HONORS (selected):

- Received an offer for a limited series DECEPTICUM from HBO (declined) (2013)
- Polish Institute of Cinema screenwriting award for JAR: JEWISH AUTONOMOUS REGION (documentary feature); the highest award ever given; expert rating: excellent; the highest award ever given (2011)

- SEX LIFE OF SAVAGES screenplay, audience award, *Interscenario* festival, Wrocław (2010)
- SEX LIFE OF SAVAGES selected by the Academy's Nicholl jury as one of the 100 best screenplays of the year (out of 5050) (<http://www.oscars.org/nicholl/index.html>) (2007)
- Semifinals of the American Screenwriters Association (2007)
- Funding from the Polish Institute of Cinema (experts rating: excellent) (2005)
- Nominated to Rolex Protégé Programme, Geneva, Switzerland (10 nominated film directors from the entire world) (2004)
- Nominated to Sundance NHK Awards (2003)
- "Women in Film Award" (Los Angeles) (2001)
- FAITHFUL and DESERTOPIA see above
- City of Atlanta, Bureau of Cultural Affairs, Grants for Individual Artists, for postproduction of "English is for Optimists" (1996)

I OTHER AWARDS, COMPETITIVE GRANTS, HONORS (selected)

- Teaching Fellowship University of Southern California, School of Cinema-Television, Intermediate and Advanced cinematography (2000-2001)
- Center for Teaching and Course Development, Course Development Award, Emory University (course title: "Politics and Everyday Life: Authoritarianism and communism through Film," Department of Political Science/Department of Spanish (Summer 1998).
- New Faculty Development Award, Emory University (1998)
- International Travel Grant, Emory University (1998)
- American Council for Learned Societies, Travel Grant for Meetings and Conferences Abroad (1996).
- Emory University Research Council Summer Grant (Summer 1995)
- New Faculty Development Grant, University of Oregon, for research in Cuba (June 1994).
- Josephine de Kármán Dissertation Fellowship (1992-1993)
- Knowles Fellowship for Feminist Studies in Latin America for research in Argentina (Summer 1992)
- Spanish & Portuguese Department Fellowship, Stanford University (1987-1991)
- Fellowship of the Center for International Studies, Stanford University (1991)
- Mellon Foundation Travel Research Grant for Summer Research in Brazil (1988)
- Award of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of Poland, Panama (1987)
- Fellowship at Eötvös Loránd Tudományegyetem, Hungary (1980-1986)
- Fellowship of the Hungarian Ministry of Culture held at University of Havana, Cuba (1984/5)
- Literary Award of the Fundación "Fernando Rielo", Madrid, Spain (1982)

I PUBLICATIONS

Books

- *Semiotic Black Holes, Drifting Paradigms and Justice à Rebours. On the Art of Having Rights on the Periphery of Europe. An Informal System Update* [book in progress].
- *Private Topographies: Space, Subjectivity and Political Change in Modern Latin America*. Palgrave Macmillan, New York, 2005.

Reviews:

- Prof. Kerstin Oloff, Durham U. *Revista Canadiense de Estudios Hispánicos*. 31(2): 378-380. 2007.
- Prof. Ignacio Corona, Ohio State University, *Revista de Critica Literaria Latinoamericana*. 63/64 pp. 358-63. 2006.
- Prof. Eva Lynn Alicia Jagoe, U of Toronto, *Revista de estudios hispánicos*. Oct 2006. 40.3.
- Dr Nadia Sanko, *Mester* (34) 1, UCLA, 2005.
- *Choice*, December 2005.
- Prof. Alberto Moreiras (Duke U); Prof. Roland Greene (Stanford U); Prof. Herbert Lindenberger (Stanford U); Dr Ignacio Ramonet (Le Monde Diplomatique); Prof. Fernando Unzueta (Ohio State University) – book cover 2005.

Academic articles

- On Cuba. Globalization and Sedentary Subjectivity, *Revista Canadiense de Estudios Hispánicos* Vol. 33, No. 2 (2009), pp. 405-422.
- "Agoraphobia and Modernity in Fin-de-siecle Brazil." *Journal of Latin American Cultural Studies* vol. 12/3, 2003.
- "Lost Space: Juana Manuela Gorriti's Postcolonial Geography." *Journal of Iberian and Latin American Studies* vol 8/1, 2002. 55-69.
- "From Urb of Clay to the Hypodermic City. Improper Cities in Modern Latin America." *Journal of Latin American Cultural Studies*, vol.7/1, 1998. 55-73.
- "Ten Best Latin American Films." *Hopscotch* (Duke UP), vol. 1/2. 1998
- Chaotic Live, Formless Traditions: The Wandering Legacy of Witold Gombrowicz." *Gombrowicz's Grimaces: Form, Sexuality, Exile*. Ed. Ewa Ziarek. Albany: SUNY Press, 1998. 135-56.
- dossier on literature in Argentina, electronic literary magazine at University of Minnesota, <http://www.cbc.umn.edu/~ernesto/>
- Spanish version. "Vidas formadas, tradiciones sin forma: el legado argentino de Witold Gombrowicz." Trans. Marta Christophoro. *Revista Azoteas*, Havana, No.1 Invierno del 2001.
- Polish version. *Grymasy Gombrowicza*. Trans. Janusz Marganski. Universitas: Krakow, 2002. 156-182.

Reviews:

- Michael Goddard. *Electronic Book Review*, 7/17/2003
- Angela Brintlinger. *The Sarmatian Review*, Rice University 2000
- Krystyna Lipinska-Illakowicz *Nowy Dziennik*, November 2001
- "Discursos desde el margen: Piglia, Gombrowicz y la estética del basurero." *Hispanamérica* 73, 1996. 15-33.
- Arnaldo Cruz-Malavé. *El primitivo implorante: El 'sistema poético del mundo' José Lezama Lima*. Amsterdam and Atlanta: Rodopi, 1994. In *Revista de Crítica Literaria Latinoamericana* 47, 1998 (book review).
- "Erotyka niepewności" ("The Erotics of Uncertainty"). Adam Phillips, *On Flirtation. Psychoanalytic Essays on the Uncommitted Life*. Cambridge: Harvard UP, 1994. In *ExLibris* (Warsaw) August 1998. 12-13 (book review).

Other publications

- "Spalić Malibu." *Polityka* #44 (2627), November 3 (2007).
- "Seksapil populizmu". *Wprost* # 50, December 14 (2003). 2-74.
- "Koń do skradania się, czyli powrót Clintonów." *Wprost* # 48, November 30 (2003). 96-97.
- "Prawdziwa feministka czy atrakcyjna ofiara? Malarska autobiografia Fridy Kahlo." *Przekrój* (Kraków) (39/1997). 19-20.
- Scott Frost. *Twin Peaks. The Autobiography of F. B. I. Special Agent Dale Cooper. My Life, My Tapes*. Translation from English into Polish. Warsaw: Pegazus (1994). (230p).
- Stanisław Barańczak. "Zbiorowy entuzjazm." ("Collective enthusiasm"). Co-translated from Polish into English with Stuart Friebert. *Practices of the Wind*. (1992).
- "Godzina z Isabel." ("One Hour with Isabel"). Interview with Isabel Allende. In *Literatura na świecie* (Warsaw) 11-12 (220-221) (1989).
- János Pilinszky, selected works. *Literatura na świecie* 1 (210) (1989). 106-125.
- Guillermo Cabrera Infante. "Trzy strute tygrysy." Translation from Spanish *Tres tristes tigres*. *Literatura na świecie* (Warsaw) 5 (202) (1988). 225-266.
- Guillermo Cabrera Infante/Emil Rodrigo Monegal. "Najważniejsze jest słowo". Translation from Spanish, with Dorota Markiewicz. *Literatura na świecie* (Warsaw) 5 (202) (1988). 267-292.
- János Pilinszky. *Dziennik liryka*, translation from Hungarian *Szög és olaj*. Warsaw: PAX (260p.)(1984).

CONFERENCE PAPERS AND INVITED LECTURES (selected)

- Facts, Actions and Reactions. Introduction to screenwriting. Invited lecture. Koźmiński University (Business School) , Warsaw (November 2019).
- "Screenwriting for films and games". Presenter and panel discussant. SCRIPTFIESTA, Warsaw Film School (March 2018)
- "My 10." Invited lecture. Game Design School, Warsaw (October 2017, 2018, 2019)
- "Portraying Malinowski and Witkacy in the Tropics: on the Chronotopic Energy of Film". CHRONOTOPE REVISITED. International Interdisciplinary Conference, Sopot- Gdynia (April 2017)
- "Chronotope and Media". Session chair. CHRONOTOPE REVISITED. International Interdisciplinary Conference, Sopot-Gdynia (April 2017)
- "Reading Visual Media". Conference. Keynote address. University of Lausanne (June 2008).
- "On Currencies. Culture and Economics in post 1980 Latin American Film and Fiction" Latin American Studies Association, panel organizer, presenter and discussant. Montreal (2007).
- "Story telling and the Democratic Changes in Eastern Europe." Invited lecture. Emory University (February 2006).
- "Moll-iere in the Mall: Public Spectacles in Private Places." Invited speaker. Conference: "Negotiating the Streets: New Perspectives on the Hispanic & Lusophone City," University of Bristol, England (July 2004).
- "European Union: its politics and regional economics". Series of university lectures, press, Radio, TV appearances, roundtable discussions. Warsaw, Poland. (March-June 2004).
- "Latin American Film: Transitions and Challenges." Invited lecture. International Film Festival, Mar del Plata, Argentina (April 2003.)
- "Nuovi territori." Invited speaker-discussant. 59. Mostra Internazionale d'Arte Cinematografica (Venice Film Festival), Venice, Italy (September 2002).
- Roundtable discussant. Invited speaker. New York/Avignon Film Festival, New York (March 2002).
- "Politics of Form." Invited lecture. Kyoto Int'l Film Festival, Japan (September 2002).
- "Gridlocked: Urban Rationality and its Lapses." Invited lecture. SUNY Albany (February 2002).
- "Structures in Agitation: On Canudos's Social Body." Latin American Studies Association, Washington D.C., (September 2001) .
- "Private Topographies, Political Transitions." Invited lecture, "Los Angeles/la frontera/Mexico City," Dartmouth College (July 1999).
- "Europe's East Enters the 21. Century," International Symposium. Invited speaker-roundtable discussant. U. of Georgia, Athens (February 1999).
- "La virtud de la posibilidad: ideas y nuevos medios tecnológicos." Invited lecture. XX. Latin American Film Festival, Havana (December 1998).
- "From Melodrama to Allegory. Latin American Cinema." Guest lecture. Emory U, (October 1998)
- "Sedentary Impulses. On Displacement and the Crisis of Metaphor." Latin American Studies Association, (September 1998).
- "Culture and Politics in Cuba in the 1990s", "Nationalisms in the Era of Globalization", "Hispanics in the US. " Invited lectures. University of Warsaw, School of Journalism and Political Science (May 1998).
- "Frame Analysis. Tridimensionality in Film." Invited lecture. U. of Georgia (April 1998)
- "La tierra y las huellas de la memoria." XXXI Congress of Instituto Internacional de Literatura Iberoamericana, Caracas (June 1996).
- "Improper Cities. On Design and Dwelling." American Comparative Literature Association, Notre Dame, (April 1996).
- "Lost Space: Juana Manuela Gorriti's Postcolonial Geography." Midwest Modern Language Association, St. Louis (November 1995).
- "From Urb of Clay to the Hypodermic Needle." Latin American Studies Association, Washington D.C., (September 1995).
- "Building in 1900. A Claustrophobic Tale." Modern Language Association, San Diego, December 1994.

- "Improper Cities." Invited lecture. The J.P. Getty Center for History of Arts and Humanities, Los Angeles (May 1994)
- "Gender Politics in Eastern Europe." Invited speaker. U. of Oregon (April 1994) .
- "The Wandering legacy of Witold Gombrowicz." American Comparative Literature Association, Claremont Graduate Center (March 1994).
- "The Death of Disorder: Organizing Knowledge in Mid-Nineteenth Century Argentina." Invited lecture. Dartmouth College (January 1994).
- "Making Room for Onself: Space and Postcolonial Subjectivity." Invited lecture. Department of Comparative Literature; Department of Spanish and Portuguese, UCLA (February 1994).
- "Feminism in Eastern Europe." Stanford University (March 1994).
- "Organizing the Nation's Knowledge: Theatricality in Domingo Faustino Sarmiento's Facundo." "Literature and Society: Rethinking Tradition," Conference on Spanish and Portuguese Literatures, Columbia University (March 1994).
- "The World as Stage: Space, Creole Subjectivity and Theatrical Emblem in D.F. Sarmiento's trilogy *Civilización y barbarie*." Dept. of Spanish & Portuguese, Stanford (January 1994).
- "Healing the Split: Anzaldúa, Paz and Vasconcelos on Latin American Identity." American Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference, San Diego (May 1993).
- "Brazilian Modernism in the Latin American and European Context." Department of Spanish & Portuguese, Stanford (October 1993).

I TEACHING EXPERIENCE

PhD seminars

- Fable? Fact? Fantasy? Cultural and Political Constructions of Cuban Insularism. UCLA;
- Space, Subjectivity and Nation Building in 19th century Latin America. UCLA.
- Language, Body and Knowledge in Nineteenth-Century Latin America. Emory U.
- Subjectivities. Emory U.
- Ideological Renovations. Emory U.
- Advanced Cinematography, teaching fellow, University of Southern California.
- Space and Subjectivity. U. of Oregon.
- Nationalism and Formation of Subjectivity in Nineteenth-Century Latin America. U of Oregon.

Undergraduate courses

- Screenwriting. Pomeranian Academy, Słupsk (Poland).
- Visual expression. Collegium Civitas, Warsaw (Poland).
- Culture and Politics in Castro's Cuba. UCLA, Emory U.
- Between Private Memories and Public Histories. Latin American Cinema. UCLA.
- Politics and Everyday Life in East Central Europe. Habsburg Legacies and the Post-Communist Present (co-taught with Prof. Hubert Tworzecki), (Political Science/Cinema). U. of Vienna;
- Buenos Aires: Biography of a City. Emory U.
- Latin American Cinema. Emory U.
- Independent Nations/Postcolonial Relations. Writing and Politics in Nineteenth -Century Latin America. Emory U.
- Texts and Contexts. Emory University.
- Modern Hispanic Cultures. Emory U.
- Modern Latin American Literature and Culture. Emory U.
- Survey of Colonial Literature. U. of Oregon.
- Introduction to Literature in Spanish. U. of Oregon.
- Language instruction: First Year Spanish Language, Intermediate Spanish Conversation, Intensive Spanish (summer course), Stanford U.
- Contemporary Spanish-American Novel in Translation, Stanford U.

I PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Interviewing prospective students for Stanford Office for Undergraduate Admissions (2017 - ongoing).
- Reviewer for TEXTOS HIBRIDOS (USA/Chile).
- Member of the Scientific Advisory Committee, CHRONOTOPE REVISITED. International Interdisciplinary Conference, Sopot-Gdynia, Poland (April 2017).
- Consultant for LE MONDE DIPLOMATIQUE (Paris, France) on life/work of Gunter Holzmann, author, recipient of Legion of Honor (anti-nazi fighter, ecologist, anthropologist), Santa Cruz, Bolivia (1999).

I LANGUAGES

- Spanish
- English
- Polish
- Hungarian
- Portuguese
- German (basic)
- French (basic)
- Latin