

## Alex Rivera

Filmmaker / Digital Media Artist

611 Broadway Suite 836 New York City 10012

alex@alexrivera.com

(212) 253-6273

### Films, Videos, Websites

#### **SLEEP DEALER**

*USA/Mexico / Feature Fiction Film / 2008 / Co-Writer, Director, Editor*

#### **AWARDS**

- |   |  |      |
|---|--|------|
| • Sundance Film Festival                        | <i>Waldo Salt Screenwriting Award</i>      | 2008 |
| • Sundance Film Festival                        | <i>Alfred P. Sloan Award</i>               | 2008 |
| • Berlin International Film Festival            | <i>Amnesty International Award</i>         | 2008 |
| • Neuchatel International Fantasy Film Festival | <i>Best of Festival</i>                    | 2008 |
| • Gotham Awards                                 | <i>Nominee, Breakthrough Director</i>      | 2008 |
| • Independent Spirit Awards                     | <i>Nominee, Best First Feature</i>         | 2008 |
| • Sundance Film Festival                        | <i>NHK Award, Best American Screenplay</i> | 2002 |

#### **SELECTED SCREENINGS**

- |  |      |
|--|------|
| • New Directors / New Films at MoMA and Lincoln Center       | 2008 |
| • San Francisco International Film Festival                  | 2008 |
| • San Sebastian Film Festival                                | 2008 |
| • Brooklyn Academy of Music, <i>Selections from Sundance</i> | 2008 |
| • Nantucket Film Festival                                    | 2008 |
| • AFI Latin American Film Festival                           | 2008 |
| • Sarajevo Film Festival                                     | 2008 |
| • Morelia Film Festival                                      | 2008 |
| • Los Angeles International Latino Film Festival             | 2008 |

• International festival screenings have taken place in France, Japan, Russia, Ireland, Korea, Brazil, Peru, and many others.

• SLEEP DEALER was released theatrically in over 30 U.S. cities.

#### **LOWDRONE.COM**

*USA/Mexico / Website / 2005 / Co-Creator with Angel Nevarez*

#### **SELECTED EXHIBITIONS**

- |   |      |
|---|------|
| • Gallery at CALit2, U.C. San Diego <i>Drones at Home</i> | 2012 |
| • Commissioned for InSite digital                         | 2005 |

#### **VISIONES: LATINO ART AND CULTURE**

*USA/ Documentary / 2005 / Segment Director on Hip-Hop Culture*

#### **BROADCAST**

- |                             |      |
|-----------------------------|------|
| • National Broadcast on PBS | 2004 |
|-----------------------------|------|

#### **SELECTED SCREENINGS**

- |                                  |      |
|----------------------------------|------|
| • San Diego Latino Film Festival | 2004 |
|----------------------------------|------|

## THE SIXTH SECTION

USA/Mexico / Documentary / 2003 / Director, Producer, Camera, Editor

### AWARDS

- |                                       |                               |      |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------|
| • Media That Matters Festival         | <i>American Dream Award</i>   | 2005 |
| • Guanajuato Film Festival            | <i>Best Documentary</i>       | 2004 |
| • UrbanWorld Film Festival            | <i>Best Documentary</i>       | 2004 |
| • Morelia International Film Festival | <i>Best Short Documentary</i> | 2003 |
| • Black Maria Film Festival           | <i>Director's Citation</i>    | 2003 |

### BROADCAST

- |                          |        |      |
|--------------------------|--------|------|
| • National PBS broadcast | P.O.V. | 2003 |
|--------------------------|--------|------|

### SELECTED SCREENINGS

- |  |      |
|--|------|
| • Council on Foundations Film and Video Festival   | 2007 |
| • Human Rights Watch Film Festival, Lincoln Center | 2004 |
| • San Francisco International Film Festival        | 2004 |

## THE BORDERS TRILOGY

USA / Documentary / 2003 / Director, Producer, Camera, Editor

### BROADCAST

- |                  |                              |      |
|------------------|------------------------------|------|
| • Online Premier | P.O.V. Web Series: 'BORDERS' | 2003 |
|------------------|------------------------------|------|

### SELECTED SCREENINGS

- |  |      |
|--|------|
| • Full Frame Documentary Film Festival                   | 2008 |
| • Aurora Picture Show                                    | 2008 |
| • Virginia Film Festival                                 | 2008 |
| • Galeria de la Raza, <i>No Distance is More Awesome</i> | 2007 |
| • The Getty Museum, <i>Surveying the Border</i>          | 2005 |

• THE BORDERS TRILOGY is held in the collections of the University of California, Santa Cruz, Williams College, the University of Texas, Austin, and many others.

## LAS PAPAS DEL PAPA

USA/MEXICO / Short Fiction / 2000 / Co-Writer, Director, Editor

### AWARDS

- |  |                         |      |
|--|-------------------------|------|
| • ImageNation Film Festival, New York City | <i>Best of Festival</i> | 2000 |
|--|-------------------------|------|

### SELECTED SCREENINGS

- |   |      |
|---|------|
| • Cinema Tropical/America's Society                                       | 2002 |
| • Mass MOCA   | 2001 |
| • Taos Talking Pictures   | 2001 |
| • Cine Las Americas, Austin   | 2001 |
| • Chicago Latino Film Festival  | 2001 |
| • Silverlake Film Festival  | 2001 |
| • Queens Museum of Art  | 2001 |
| • Brooklyn Academy of Music, <i>Best of New York Latino Film Festival</i> | 2000 |
| • Sala Luis Buñel, Mexico City  | 2000 |
| • Cinefestival, San Antonio, Texas  | 2000 |
| • San Diego Latino Film Festival  | 2000 |
| • Dallas Video Festival – <i>Best of Cine Festival</i>                    | 2000 |
| • New York International Latino Film Festival                             | 2000 |
| • CinemaTexas, Austin   | 2000 |
| • Antimatter Festival, Victoria, British Columbia                         | 2000 |
| • Vistas Film Festival, Dallas, Texas                                     | 2000 |

## CYBRACERO.COM

USA / Website / 1999 / Designer, Writer

- Exhibited as part of Whitney Independent Study program show *Empire/State* 2002

## ANIMAQUILADORA / WHY CYBRACEROS?

USA / Mockumentary / 1997 / Director, Writer, Camera, Editor, Animation

### AWARDS

- Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center, CineFestival *Best Experimental* 1997

### BROADCAST

- National Broadcast on PBS *Independent Lens* 2003
- PBS/WYBE Philadelphia *Through the Lens* 1997

### SELECTED SCREENINGS

- International Center of Photography *Only Skin Deep* Exhibition 2003
- Guggenheim Museum *With Charlie Chaplin's 'Modern Times'* 2001
- Telluride Film Festival 1998
- Robert Flaherty Film Seminar: *Memory and Modernity* 1997

## PAPAPAPÁ

USA / Documentary / 1995 / Director, Writer, Camera, Editor

### AWARDS

- Black Maria Film Festival *Director's Citation* 1996
- Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center, CineFestival *First Work Award* 1996
- Five College Film Festival, Amherst, MA *Best of Festival* 1996
- Chicago Intercom Competition *Silver Hugo* 1995
- New York Expo of Short Film and Video *Silver Award in Documentary* 1995

### BROADCAST

- PBS/WNET *Reel New York* 1997
- Planete – European Broadcast 1997

### SELECTED SCREENINGS

- Long Beach Museum of Art, *Exchange and Evolution* 2011
- Guggenheim Museum, *Generation N*, NY and Bilbao 2000
- San Francisco Exploratorium *Exploring Boundaries* 1997
- New Museum of Contemporary Art, *Roving Eye* 1997
- The Museum of Modern Art, *New Documentaries* 1996
- Museum of Contemporary Art, L.A., *L.A. Freewaves* 1996
- Robert Flaherty Film Seminar, *Landscapes* 1996
- Lincoln Center, *New America, New Americans* 1996
- Nuyorican Poet's Café, *Video Poetry Night* 1995

## Collections and Distribution

Alex Rivera's films and videos are held in the permanent collections of:

- The Museum of Modern Art
- The Sundance / UCLA Archive
- The George Eastman Kodak House Archive
- The script for SLEEP DEALER is held in the Library for the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences
- *Papapapá* and *Animaquiladora/Why Cybraceros?* are distributed by Third World Newsreel, Video Data Bank, and Subcine.com. *The Sixth Section* and *Sleep Dealer* are distributed by SubCine.com

## **Grants, Career Awards, and Honors**

ITVS 'Futurestates' Development Support	\$10,000	2011
Sundance/Sloan Development Support	\$12,500	2009
USA Artists, Media Grantee	\$50,000	2008
<i>Variety</i> , 10 Directors to Watch		2008
Sundance Institute Annenberg Film Fellow	\$25,000	2004
Eyebeam, Artist in Residence		2003
Rockefeller Foundation, Support for documentary work	\$50,000	2003
MacArthur Foundation, Support for documentary work	\$75,000	2003
International Documentary Association, Best Emerging Filmmaker		2003
Taos Talking Pictures Festival, Cineaste Award		2003
Sundance Institute Directing Fellow		2001
Creative Capital Grantee	\$50,000	2000
Jerome Foundation	\$25,000	2000
US/Mexico Fund for Culture	\$25,000	1998
Lyn Blumenthal Fund for Independent Cinema	\$15,000	1998
Rockefeller Foundation Media Fellowship	\$35,000	1998
New York Foundation for the Arts	\$10,000	1998

## **Selected Participation on Juries**

Sundance Film Festival, Sloan Award Jury		2012
'Tales From Planet Earth' at U. of Wisconsin, Madison, Programmer		2012
Cinefestival Narrative Script Competition		2012
Reviewer for National Academy of Science Grants		2012
Asian American Film Festival, Documentary Jury		2011
Austin Film Society, Texas Filmmaker Fund Jury		2010
Sundance Film Festival, Sloan Award Jury		2009
USA Artists, Nominator		2009
Sundance Documentary Fund, Jury		2009
Morelia Film Festival, Mexico, Documentary Jury		2009
Los Angeles Film Festival, Short Film Jury		2008
Rockefeller Foundation, Media Fellows Nominator		2002
Rockefeller Foundation, Media Fellows Jury		1999

## **Selected Teaching and Visiting Artist Engagements**

Harvard University, Rothschild Lecturer in the History of Science Department	2012
Creative Capital, Artist Advisor	2012
City University of New York, Law School, Guest Lecturer	2012
University of Michigan, Guest Artist and Lecturer	2012
University of Indiana, Bloomington, Guest Artist and Lecturer	2012
Occidental College, Week long Artist in Residence	2011
Williams College, Guest Artist and Lecturer	2011
Rutgers University, Guest Lecturer and Screening	2011
Hamilton College, Guest Lecturer and Screening	2010
Bates College, Guest Lecturer	2010
New York University, Interactive Technology Program (ITP)	2010
University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh, Guest Lecturer and Screening	2010
University of Southern California, screening and class visit with Prof. Henry Jenkins	2010
Colby College, Guest Lecturer and Screening	2010
University of California, Davis, Guest Lecturer and Screening	2010
University of California, Berkeley, Guest Lecturer and Screening	2010
University of California, Santa Cruz, Guest Lecturer and Screening	2010
Trinity University, Guest Lecturer and Screening	2010
Hunter College, Instructor "Master Class"	2009
University of Wisconsin, Madison, Guest Lecturer and Screening	2009
Fordham University, Guest Lecturer and Screening	2009
University of Kentucky, Louisville, Guest Lecturer and Screening	2009
Bard College, Guest Lecturer and Screening	2009
University of California, Irvine Screening, Guest Lecturer and Screening	2009
Harvard University, Carpenter Center, Guest Artist	2009
San Francisco Art Institute, Guest Artist	2009
Notre Dame University, Guest Lecturer and Screening	2004
Cornell University, Guest Lecturer and Screening	2004
Muhlenberg College, Guest Lecturer and Screening	2004
Rensselaer Polytechnic University, Semester-Long Artist in Residence	2001
Ithaca College, Guest Lecturer and Screening	2001
New York University, Latin American Studies Dept., Guest Lecturer and Screening	2000
Pitzer College, Visiting Artist	2000
Brandeis University, Guest Lecturer and Screening	1997
School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Visiting Artist	1997
Northwestern University, Computer Graphics Dept., Visiting Artist	1997
University of California, San Diego, Graduate Arts Seminar, Visiting Artist	1997

## **Selected Conferences and Panels**

University of Iowa, <i>Visions of the Future: Global Science Fiction</i> , Interview and Screening	2012
Sundance Film Festival, <i>Control Factor</i> , Panelist	2012
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, <i>Technologies of Migration</i> , Panelist	2011
University of Arizona, Tucson, <i>Graduate and Professional Symposium on Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian Literature, Language and Culture</i> , Keynote	2011
Tucson, Arizona, <i>Culture Strike</i> , Participant	2011
Opportunity Agenda, <i>Creative Change</i> , Panelist	2011
Lincoln Center, <i>Latin Beat</i> , Panelist	2009
Film Independent, <i>Director's Close-Up</i> , Interview and Case Study	2009
L.A. Museum of Contemporary Art, <i>Guest Lecturer</i> , with OJO	2009
Bric Rotunda Gallery, <i>The Border on Film</i> , Panelist	2009
Sundance Film Festival, <i>Science on Film</i> , Panelist	2009
New School for Social Research, <i>Internet as Playground and Factory</i> , Opening Screening	2009
U.C.San Diego, Gala Fundraiser "Border Series" Inauguration Screening	2009
M.I.T., <i>Race in Digital Space</i> , Panelist	2002
Whitney Independent Study, <i>Empire State</i> , Panelist	2002
Bronx Museum, <i>Bounce</i> , Guest VJ	2002
New Museum, Youth Program Artist	2001
Independent Film Seminar, <i>Digital Flaherty Seminar</i> , Featured Artist	2001
Independent Feature Project, <i>Digital Divide</i> , Panelist	2000
New York International Latino Film Festival, <i>Digital Millennium</i> , Panelist	2000
Guggenheim Museum, <i>Generation Ñ</i> , Panelist	2000
Tijuana Mexico, <i>BorderHack Festival</i> , Featured Artist	1999
Brown University, <i>Latino History Month</i> , Panelist	1998
Hunter College, <i>Immigration Forum</i> , Panelist	1998
Antioch College, <i>State of the Documentary</i> , Panelist	1997

## **Bibliography**

### **SELECT PUBLISHED INTERVIEWS**

*Border Control*  
Malcolm Harris

The New Inquiry

*Interview - Alex Rivera*  
Kay Holt

Crossed Genres Magazine

*Science Fiction From Below*  
Mark Engler

Foreign Policy in Focus

*Putting Transnational's to Work: An Interview with Filmmaker Alex Rivera*  
Carlos Ulises Decena and Margaret Gray

Social Text

**SELECT CITATIONS: BOOKS**

- States of Emergency Documentaries, Wars, Democracies*  
Patricia Zimmerman University of Minnesota Press
- Only Skin Deep: Changing Visions of the American Self*  
Coco Fusco Harry N. Abrams Company
- Routledge Film Guidebook: Science Fiction*  
Dr. Mark Bould Routledge
- Latino American Cinema*  
Scott L. Baugh ABC-CLIO
- Seeing the Light: Exploring Ethics Through Movies*  
Wanda Teays Wiley, John & Sons, Inc.
- The Routledge Companion To Latino/a Literature*  
Edited by Suzanne Bost, Frances R. Aparicio Routledge
- Voice and Vision: A Creative Approach to Narrative Film Production*  
Mick Hurbis-Cherrier Taylor & Francis US
- Chicano Nations: The Hemispheric Origins of Mexican American Literature*  
Marissa K. López NYU Press
- Run for the Border: Vice and Virtue in U.S.-Mexico Border Crossings*  
Steven Bender NYU Press
- Paradise Discourse, Imperialism, and Globalization: Exploiting Eden*  
Sharae Deckard Routledge
- Nation and Migration: Past and Future*  
David G. Gutiérrez, Pierrette Hondagneu-Sotelo Johns Hopkins U. Press
- The Internet Galaxy: Reflections on the Internet, Business, and Society*  
Manuel Castells Oxford University Press
- Karma Of Brown Folk*  
Vijay Prashad University of Minnesota
- Television after TV: Essays on a Medium in Transition*  
Edited by Lynn Spigel, Jan Olsson Duke University Press
- The Skin of the Film: Intercultural Cinema, Embodiment, and the Senses*  
Laura U. Marks, Dana Polan Duke University Press

**SELECT CITATIONS: SCHOLARLY ARTICLES**

- The Potentiality of the Commons: A Materialist Critique of Cognitive Capitalism from the Cyberbracer@s to the Ley Sinde*, Luis Martín-Cabrera, *Hispanic Review*
- The Virtual Realities of US/Mexico Border Ecologies in Maquilapolis and Sleep Dealer*  
Sharada Balachandran Orihuela & Andrew Carl Hageman, *Environmental Communication: A Journal of Nature and Culture*
- Virtual borders, data aliens, and bare bodies: Culture, securitization, and the biometric state*  
Javier Durana, *Journal of Borderlands Studies*

*The Future in Labor*  
Joshua Clover, Film Quarterly

*Brothers of the Future: Minority Male Cyborgs and the White Imaginary in Film*  
David E. Isaacs, inter-disciplinary.net

*Razing Arizona: Migrant labour and the 'Mexican avenger' of Machete*  
Sean Brayton, International Journal of Media & Cultural Politics

*Why Do Robots Rebel? The Labor History of a Cultural Icon*  
Tobias Higbie, UCLA, Recent Work, The Institute for Research on Labor and Employment, UC Los Angeles

*Guerra e Paz por Controle Remoto: Diálogos Entre Documentário e Ficção Científica*  
Igor Silva Oliveira, Universidade Federal de Juiz de Fora

*Movilidades posapocalípticas: un nuevo acercamiento a la película de la migración irregular*  
Arturo Vargas Nomenclatura, Aproximaciones a los estudios Hispanos

*Cibertiteres: Sobre um possível discurso marxista nos filmes de Alex Rivera*  
Alfredo Suppia, Igor Oliveira, Ciberlegenda

*Relecturas (cinematográficas) de la migración mexicana*  
Betina Keizman, Amérique Latine Histoire et Mémoire

*Una mirada a las representaciones cinematográficas de las regiones fronterizas en México*  
Jean Philippe Clot y Heidi Elizabeth Aguilar Pérez, Amérique Latine Histoire et Mémoire

*(In)visibilities, (De)humanizations and Globalizations: The Migrant Body in Border Film of the 2000s*  
Stephany Slaughter, fiar, Forum for Inter-American Research

*From The Sixth Section to A Seventh Man: Alex Rivera's Undocumentation*  
Amy S. Carroll, Tepoztlán Institute for Transnational History of the Americas

*Mexican Migrant Civic and Political Participation in the U.S.: The Case of Hometown Associations in Los Angeles and Chicago*  
Gaspar Rivera-Salgado, Xóchitl Bada, Luis Escala-Rabadán, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, Washington, DC

*Latinos in the New South: Transformations of Place*  
A. Cravey

*Political Economy as Subject and Form in Contemporary Art*  
Alan W. Moore Review of Radical Political Economics

## **Other Accomplishments and Affiliations**

- Sundance Diversity Committee, Member 2012
- Working Films, Board Member 2007 - 2010
- Deep Dish TV, Working Films 2006 – 2009
- SubCine.com, Founder and Director 2000-present

## **Background and Education**

- Born New York City 1973
- Bachelor of Arts, Hampshire College 1995



Alex Rivera (born New York City, 1973) is an American film maker, best known for his films about labor, immigration, and politics. Rivera was born in 1973 in New York City, New York. His father is a Peruvian immigrant and his mother is an American citizen. Growing up as a bicultural youth in New Jersey, he took an interest in the fields of film, digital media, and science fiction. He is well known for his work Sleep Dealer, which premiered in the 2008 Sundance Film Festival. He was awarded the Alex Rivera liked a video 5 years ago. 6:09. Play next. TGE\_LA Eco Party Interviews Alex Rivera how2savefuel.com Part One.mp4 - Duration: 7 minutes, 35 seconds. Alex Rivera. 7 years ago. 165 views. Alex Rivera uploaded a video 7 years ago. 2:46. Play next. Play now. TGE\_LA ECO PARTY at GREEN EXPO 2010 INTRO.mp4 - Duration: 2 minutes, 46 seconds. Alex Rivera. 7 years ago. 35 views. Alex Rivera added 1 video to new 7 years ago. 0:31. Play next. Main Menu About - BIO - RESUMÃ% / C.V. - PRESS IMAGES - CONTACTO Projects - FILMS - WEBSITES - INSTALLATIONS - MUSIC VIDEOS Y MAS WRITING Press TOUR BUY FILMS - SLEEP DEALER - HOME USE - ALL FILMS - FOR EDUCATORS.