

RIAN BROWN-ORSO

www.rianbrown.com / www.theforeignershome.com

EDUCATION

University of California, San Diego, MFA/Filmmaking, 2000

Massachusetts College of Art and Design, BFA/Filmmaking, 1994

FILMOGRAPHY and SCREENING HISTORY

2017 *THE FOREIGNER'S HOME* vimeo.com/237927972

Co-Director, Co-Producer, Co-Editor. Key Animator.

A feature documentary film about author Toni Morrison.

Funded by Ford Foundation *Just Films* and Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Fellowship

Distributed by *The Video Project*, San Francisco. Streaming on Kanopy and Amazon Prime

- 2018 World Premiere Rotterdam International Film Festival (IFFR)
January 26th, January 28th
- 2018 Miami International Film Festival March 12th
- 2018 Cleveland Museum of Art, April 14th
- 2018 Ashland International Film Fest, Oregon, April 14th
- 2018 International Documentary Film Festival Millennium Film Festival,
Brussels, March
- 2018 DC International Film Fest, April 26th, 28th
- 2018 BAM Cinematek, New Voices in Black Cinema
Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM) April 28th
- 2018 Harlem International Film Festival, May 3-6th
- 2018 Oberlin College, Apollo Theater May 25, 26th
- 2018 Indie Memphis Film Festival, June 19th
- 2018 BFI London Film Festival British Film Institute, South Bank, London,
June 12th
- 2018 Lo Schermo dell'Arte Festival at the Uffizi Gallery
Florence Italy, June 25th
- 2018 New Hope Film Festival, Pennsylvania, June 28th
- 2018 Greater Cleveland Urban Film Festival, Sep 24th
- 2018 Montreal International Black Film Festival, Sep 29th/Awarded Best Mid-
Length Documentary
- 2018 Santa Fe Independent Film Festival, Oct 18th and 20th
- 2018 Citizen Jane Film Festival, November 3rd
- 2018 Middlebury College, Clifford Symposium,
- 2019 LA Hammer, Los Angeles, January 16th
- 2019 Brooklyn Museum of Art, New York, NY January 5th
- 2019 Cinema on the Bayou Festival, January 23rd

- 2019 Toronto Black Film Festival, February 15th
- 2019 Columbia University, March 5th
- 2019 Boston Museum of Fine Arts, May 3,4,5 and 8th,
- 2019 Wexner Center for the Arts, Columbus, OH May16th
- 2019 Cleveland Cinematheque Nov 3rd
- 2020 National Gallery of Art, Washington D.C January 19th
- 2020 Ursuline College, Cleveland, OH Feb 7th
- 2020 Apollo Theater, Oberlin College, Feb 26th, 2020

2015 *100 SECOND CHANCES* <https://vimeo.com/107824730>

Co-producer. Storylens short documentary film

Official Selection:

- 2017 Vasakh International Documentary Film Festival, Lahore, India
- 2015 Cleveland International Film Festival.
- 2015 Official Selection and finalist for Creators League Prize, ShortList Film Festival, Los Angeles.
- 2015 Official Selection, Impugning Impunity/ALBA Human Rights Documentary Film Festival, New York.

2015 *SAFE AT HOME* <https://vimeo.com/112206671>

Co-producer. Storylens short documentary film

2015 *MORE FOOD. LESS HUNGER* <https://vimeo.com/119974232>

Co-producer. Storylens short documentary film

2015 *RAISE THE ROOF* <http://www.polishsynagogue.com>

Associate Producer. Trillium Studios Production

Feature documentary film about building a Polish Synagogue

Nationwide screening on PBS.

Official Selection:

- 2014 Atlanta Jewish Film Festival
- 2015 Philadelphia Jewish Film Festival
- Toronto Jewish Film Festival
- National Center for Jewish Film, Boston
- Jewish Film Festival Berlin
- Festival de Cinema Jueu de Barcelona
- Berkshire Jewish Film Festival
- San Francisco Jewish Film Festival
- San Diego Jewish Film Festival
- Haifa International Film Festival
- Haverford College
- UK Jewish Film Festival
- Vancouver Jewish Film Center

Warsaw Jewish Film Festival
 Cleveland Jewish Film Festival
 Pickford Film Center
 Tucson Festival of Films
 Jewish International Film Festival, Australia
 Sonoma County Jewish Film Festival
 Calgary Jewish Film Festival
 Salt Lake Jewish Arts Festival
 Calgary Jewish Film Festival
 UK Jewish Film Festival
 Long Beach Jewish Film Festival
 2016 Spertus Institute
 Palm Beach Jewish Film Festival
 Denver Jewish Film Festival
 Naples Jewish Film Festival
 Annapolis Film Festival
 Cherry Hill Volvo Jewish Film
 Festival Farthest North Jewish Film Festival
 Furth Jewish Film Festival, Germany
 Seattle Jewish Film Festival
 The Pittsburgh Jewish Film Forum
 Washington Jewish Film Festival

2012 *INTO THE SCRUM* <https://vimeo.com/44960002>

Director, Producer, Writer, Editor, Cinematographer

2019 Kenyon College, Gambier, OH
 2017 Rubicon Cinema, Akron, OH
 2016 Cleveland Cinematheque
 2016 Hedge Gallery, Cleveland, OH (Fandom 261)
 2013 Basilica Hudson, New York.
 2013 Wexner Center for the Arts, Columbus, OH.
 2013 Portland Oregon Women's Film Festival, (POWFest).
 2013 Athens International Film Festival (Audience Award, Best Short Doc)
 2012 Ursuline College, Cleveland, OH.

2011 *BLUE DESERT~Towards Antarctica* <http://www.rianbrown.com/blue-desert>

Co-Director, Co-Producer, Co-Editor, Cinematographer with Geoff Pingree
 Multi-channel digital video projection, shot on National Geographic Explorer on the
 Antarctic Peninsula.

2017 Granary Art Center, Ephraim UT
 2016 Anchorage Museum of Art, Anchorage, AK
 2016 Cleveland Cinematheque
 2015 Apollo Theater Faculty Exhibition, Oberlin College.
 2013 Newseum, Washington D.C.

- 2012 Apollo Theater Gala Celebration, Oberlin College.
 - 2012 Ingenuity Festival, Cleveland, OH.
 - 2012 Baron Gallery, Oberlin College.
 - 2011 Laconia Gallery, Boston, Massachusetts.
 - 2011 Within the Landscape, University of Akron.
- 2007 *RUGBYLOVE X 4* <http://www.rianbrown.com/rugbylove-x-4>
 Director, Producer, Editor, Cinematographer
 Four channel digital video projection commissioned by MOCA, Cleveland, 2007
- 2009 Milano, Athina: International Video Art, Athens, Greece.
 - 2007 Cleveland Museum of Contemporary Art, "Side by Side".
 - 2007 University of California, Davis.
 - 2007 7. Stock Gallery, Dresden Germany.
- 2005 *BREADCRUMBS* <http://www.rianbrown.com/breadcrumbs>
 Director, Producer, Writer, Editor, Cinematographer
 Original new work commissioned by Allen Art Museum.
 Three channel video installation with sound
- 2005 Allen Memorial Art Museum, "Trace Elements".
- 2003 *DEATH OF THE MOTH* <http://www.rianbrown.com/death-of-the-moth>
 Director, Producer, Writer, Editor, Cinematographer
 Sound Composed by Tom Lopez
- 2019 Oberlin College Conservatory of Music
 Performed with full live orchestra, Warner Concert Hall, December 5th
 - 2018 Worthington Yards, *Destruction of the Species* exhibition
 - 2017 Rubicon Cinema, Akron, OH
 - 2016 Cleveland Cinematheque
 - 2004 Victoria Film and Video Festival, Canada.
 - 2004 Massachusetts College of Art
 - 2003 Suffolk University, Boston, MA
 - 2003 Oberlin College, Finney Chapel with live performance by Oberlin
 Contemporary Music Ensemble
- 2001 *THE SETTLER* <http://www.rianbrown.com/the-settler>
 Director, Producer, Writer, Editor, Cinematographer.
 Official Selection:
- 2017 Rubicon Cinema, Akron, OH
 - 2016 Cleveland Cinematheque
 - 2003 Duke University
 - 2002 UCLA Hammer Museum of Art
 - 2002 Film Festival de Cannes
 - 2002 CAL State, Northridge
 - 2002 American Film Market (AFM)

- 2002 NAPTE
- 2002 New York International Film and Video Festival
- 2001 New York International Film and Video Festival
- 2001 Shorts International Film Festival
- 2001 Cinema and Television International Multimedia Market
- 2001 Cleveland Institute of Art

1999 *PRESENCE OF WATER* <http://www.rianbrown.com/presence-of-water>

Director, Producer, Writer, Editor, Cinematographer

Official Selection:

- 2017 Rubicon Cinema, Akron, OH
- 2016 Cleveland Cinematheque
- 2011 Convivium 33 Gallery, Josaphat Hall.
- 2004 Kent State University.
- 2002 Joiner Center, University of Massachusetts.
- 2001 Cleveland Institute of Art.
- 2001 Shorts International Film Festival, NYC.
- 2000 Nashville International Film Festival.
- 2000 Women in the Directors Chair, Chicago
- 2000 Oberlin College
- 2000 Zygote Press, Cleveland, OH.
- 1999 New York Expo of Short Film and Video at the New School for Social Research.
- 1999 Independent Film Channel 2000, Finalist.
- 1999 Angelika Film Center, New York.
- 1999 Ann Arbor Film Festival
- 1999 Bar Harbor Film Festival.
- 1999 Media One Roadrunner Digital Film Festival.
- 1999 Massachusetts College of Art and Design.
- 1999 University of California, San Diego.

1994 *SACA UNA FOTO/ HIEROPHANT* <http://www.rianbrown.com/saca-una-foto>

Director, Producer, Writer, Editor, Cinematographer

- 1999 Los Angeles Municipal Gallery.
- 1998 University of California, Santa Barbara.
- 1995 Zeitgeist Gallery.
- 1994 Harvard Film Archive.
- 1994 Massachusetts College of Art and Design.

INVITED SOLO and GROUP EXHIBITIONS and SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

April 24 - May 22, 2020

Group exhibition at Ursuline College Wasmer Gallery, *"Self Portraits: Artists Respond to COVID-19"*

Sept 6-9th 2019

Invited guest speaker at Film School Network conference in Lucca, Italy,
"Teaching Experimental and Non-Fiction Animation"

August 9th 2019

CINE-X Worthington Yards, Curator of Experimental Films and Performance

July 15th 2018

CINE-X CAN Triennial, Curator for of Experimental Films and live music series

Nov 9-Dec 21 2018

Palimpsest: Hand Painted Animations and Video Projections by Rian Brown
Solo exhibition of new works at The Sculpture Center, Cleveland, OH

May 2018

A Drift, a Dream, sponsored Refugee Services Collaborative
78th Street Studios, Cleveland, OH

May 2017

Films by Rian Brown and Stan Brakhage,
Rubicon Cinema, Akron, OH

March 2016

Fire and Ice: The Films of Rian Brown
Cleveland Cinematheque
Cleveland, OH

May 2015

Invited curator. *Rooms to Let*,
Cleveland, OH.

May 2014

Invited video Installation artist. *Rooms to Let*,
Cleveland, OH.

Jan 2014

Films by Rian Brown at Mass Art Film Society,
Massachusetts College of Art.

Nov 2014

Films by Rian Brown at Art Talks at Snow College,
Ephraim, Utah.

Jan 2013

Water Ways, original devised multimedia theater piece,
Cleveland Public Theater, Cleveland, OH.

Aug 2012

Ms. Miss Mrs. 21st Century Expressions of the Second Sex,
Ursuline College Wasmer Gallery, Cleveland, OH.

Apr 2012

Cross-Listed,
Baron Gallery, Oberlin College.

Apr 2011

Ms. Miss Mrs. 21st Century Expressions of the Second Sex,
Convivium 33 Gallery at Josaphat Arts Hall, Cleveland, Ohio.

Jan 2011

Intersections,
Zygote Press, Cleveland, OH.

Dec 2010

Water, Memory and the Lens,
Invited guest Artist to The Studio Gallery and Lyceum, Oberlin, OH.

Oct 2009

Paper in Motion, guest curator
Morgan Art of Papermaking Conservatory, Cleveland, OH.

Mar 2007

Side by Side,

- Artist lecture titled, Side by Side – Face to Face
Museum of Contemporary Art, Cleveland, OH.
- Oct 2006 *Trace Elements, New Work at Oberlin,*
Allen Memorial Art Museum, Oberlin, OH.
- Sep 2003 *Mediated Nature* ;An exhibition of visual, sonic and interactive art,
HERE HERE Gallery and Performance Space, Cleveland, OH.
- Feb 2002 *Traces and Lines: Western Ave: A multimedia installation,*
SPACES Gallery, Cleveland, OH.

GRANTS AND AWARDS

- 2019 Grant-in-Aid, Oberlin College
- 2019 SPACES Urgent Art Fund, Cleveland, OH
- 2017 Ohio Arts Council Individual Excellence Award
- 2016 Artist Residency Montello Foundation
- 2015 Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Fellowship
- 2015 Ford Foundation *Just Films* Fellowship
- 2014 Nord Family Foundation grant
- 2012 Grant-in-Aid, Oberlin College
- 2012 Powers Travel Grant
- 2011 Ohio Arts Council, Individual Excellence Award
- 2009-10 Teaching Grant, Oberlin College
- 2007-8 Research Status Fellowship, Oberlin College
- 2007 Powers Travel Grant
- 2006 Residency at Headlands Center for the Arts, Sausalito, CA
- 2003 Powers Travel Grant
- 2002 Ohio Arts Council Individual Artist Grant
- 2000 Grants in Aid, Faculty Research and Development, Oberlin
- 1999 Best Documentary Film *Media One Digital Film Festival*

BIBLIOGRAPHY AND REVIEWS

- 2020 CAN Journal, March 22, Art from a Distance: Oberlin College Prof. Rian Brown-Orso
<http://canjournal.org/2020/04/art-from-a-distance-oberlin-prof-rian-brown-orso/>
- 2019 Anthropology News, December 16, 2019, Review of The Foreigner's Home, Thinking with Disaster by Shahram Khosravi
<https://www.anthropology-news.org/?book-review=thinking-with-disaster>

- 2019 Middlebury Campus, Thursday November 7th, The Foreigner's Home Explores Morrison's Vision of Otherness.
<https://middleburycampus.com/40014/arts-academics/the-foreigners-home-explores-morrison-s-vision-of-otherness/>
- 2019 CAN Journal, "Artist/Artist Interview with Rian Brown and Eva Kwong
<http://canjournal.org/2019/05/artist-artist-rian-brown-orso-and-eva-kwong/>
- 2018 Anisfield-Wolf Book Awards, "New Toni Morrison Documentary, "The Foreigner's Home," Explores The Meaning Of Belonging", by Karen Long April 12, 2018. <http://www.anisfield-wolf.org/2018/04/new-toni-morrison-documentary-the-foreigners-home-explores-the-meaning-of-belonging/>
- 2018 CAN Journal, Collective Arts Network, "The Foreigner's Home: Oberlin Filmmakers Rian Brown and Geoff Pingree's New Documentary on Toni Morrison and the Role of Artists as Chroniclers, Curators, and Critics of the Soul of Humanity" by Jimi Izreal.
<http://canjournal.org/2018/03/foreigners-home-oberlin-filmmakers-rian-brown-geoff-pingrees-new-documentary-toni-morrison-role-artists-chroniclers-curators-critics-soul-hu/>
- 2015 The Cleveland Scene, "Rooms to Let" Housing Exhibition Returns , to Slavic Village This Weekend" May 14, 2015.
 The Cleveland Plain Dealer, "Artists will transform vacant Slavic Village houses in second-annual Rooms to Let exhibition"
http://www.cleveland.com/arts/index.ssf/2015/05/40_artists_will_transform_va_ca.html. May 12, 2015.
- 2013 The Plain Dealer, Cleveland Public Theater, Oberlin College Water Ways,
http://www.cleveland.com/musicdance/index.ssf/2013/01/water_ways_revie_w.html The Cleveland Scene, Water Ways, Jan 30, 2013.
<http://www.clevescene.com/cleveland/deep-water/Content?oid=3142250>
 The Examiner, Jan1, 2013, Water Ways Presented by Cleveland Public Theater <http://www.examiner.com/article/water-ways-presented-by-cleveland-public-theatre>.
- 2012 Apollo Theater/Cinema Studies Program Historic Renovation Project Oberlin Alumni magazine,
- 2012 Plain Dealer, Sept. 20, 2012.
http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2012/09/apollo_theatre_in_oberlin_reo_p.html
- 2011 The Cleveland Scene, April 6, 2011,
 Convivium 33 celebrates Art of Local Women
<http://www.clevescene.com/cleveland/ladiesroom/Content?oid=2437192>

- 2011 Boston Globe, Critics Picks, November 16, 2011.
- 2007 Museum of Contemporary Art, Cleveland, "Side by Side" Exhibition catalog, ISBN 1880353-35-0.
- 2005 Hirsh, Jennie, "Trace Elements, New Work at Oberlin", Allen Memorial Art Museum. ISBN N651.7.B67 2005.
- 2005 Foskett, Shannon, University of Toronto
Cyberman and The Settler as Filmic Representations of Humanity" AS/SA No. 14, 2004.
- 2005 Szczerba, Lisa. New York University, 2005.
"The Aesthetics of Self-Representations: Portrayals of Pregnancy and Childbirth in Autobiographical film, Self-Portraiture, and Literary Autobiography" Doctoral Dissertation.
<https://www.inter-disciplinary.net/ptb/mso/hid/hid4/Szczerba%20paper.pdf>
- 2001 Washington, Julie. Arts and Entertainment writer,
"Experimental filmmaker focus on settings".
The Plain Dealer, *Arts and Life*, Saturday Dec 20th, 2001

PUBLICATIONS

- 2005 "Trace Elements, New Work at Oberlin"
Allen Memorial Art Museum. ISBN N651.7.B67 2005
Interview with curator, Stephen Borys.
- 2001 "Southern California as a Futuristic Landscape",
Allen Memorial Art Museum, Oberlin College. Volume LII Num 2.

TEACHING AND PROFESSIONAL WORK

- Feb 2020- current Lead Video Designer for Cultural Resources, LLC
- 2000-2007 Assistant Professor of New Media Oberlin College
- 2007-current Associate Professor of Cinema Studies and Oberlin College.
- 2015 Associate Producer for *Raise the Roof*. Trillium Studios.
- 2015 Co-Producer of Storylens short documentary films,
100 Second Chances, Safe at Home, More Food. Less Hunger.
- 2010-11 Chair of Cinema Studies Program.
- 2009-current Co-Director and Founder of Apollo Outreach Initiative,
Oberlin College.
- 2009 Co-Founder of Ice Lens Pictures.
- 2014 Outside Reviewer for Art Department, Occidental College.
- 2015 Cleveland Arts Prize, Jury Member.
- 2014 Cleveland Arts Prize, Jury Member.
- 2014 Oberlin College Representative for the NYArts Program.
- 2012 Faculty/Artist in OASIS, Oberlin ArtS*,
Intensive Semester and collaboration with Cleveland Public Theater.
- 2013 Invited Film Juror, Allegheny College Film Festival.
- 2012 Co-Producer for Apollo Gala Video.
- 2012 Co-Producer for Apollo Outreach Initiative Promo video.

2012

Director, editor, Promo Video for Zygote Press.

2011

Cinematographer, Cleveland Arts Prize Recipient Interview