

Rubén Abruña

Curriculum Vitae

ruben@lacasaausente.com ruben.abruna@gmail.com
<http://www.linkedin.com/pub/rub%C3%A9n-abru%C3%B1a/20/711/476>

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Walkway of the Presidents. 5:40 minutes. 2016.

Producer/Videographer/Editor.

A comment about a collection of nine statues of US presidents who have visited Puerto Rico.

Le roi cherche une toilette à louer. 3 minutes. 2016.

Producer/Director/Videographer/Editor/Colorist.

Hand printing, cutting words, mental sounds, and random acts of poetry can lead you to unexpected places where the mundane blends with the sublime. The film was selected in Manifesta 11, the European biennial of contemporary art.

Toilets. 1:00 minute. 2016.

Writer/Animator/Editor.

An animated short that questions the environmental viability of the flush toilet.

La Casa Ausente/The Absent House. 55 minutes. 2014.

Producer/Writer/Director/Editor/Colorist.

A designer from the Caribbean pioneered green architecture 30 years ago, and today he confronts climate change with sustainable constructions. It has been selected in over a dozen Film Festivals worldwide. Distributed by [Icarus Films](#) and [EspressoMedia](#).

In The Desert. 2:43 minutes. 2014.

Producer-Director/Videographer/Editor/Colorist.

A poetic visual essay of the Arabian Desert's painterly landscape.

Hinundher. 1:30 minutes. 2013.

Producer-Director/Videographer/Editor/Colorist.

An experimental short where the masts of boats take on a life of their own as they dance to a playful violin intermezzo framed by Beethoven's orchestral music.

A Swiss Bathroom. 1:50 minutes. 2013.

Producer-Director/Writer-Narrator/Camera Operator/Editor.

A humorous portrait of a serious invention: the hi-tech, free public toilet of Switzerland.

Flocar. 30 seconds. 2011.

Writer/Director/Editor/Colorist.

Commercial of a real estate agency. English, Spanish, French and Italian versions.

Fernando & Boise. 10:44 minutes. 2010.

Producer/Director/Videographer/Editor/Colorist.

A documentary about the close relationship between a hunter and his hound dog. Official Selection of the 2010 Anchorage International Film Festival.

Broader Impacts. 13:15 minutes. 2009.

Producer/Director/Sound Recordist/Editor.

A documentary about a scientific workshop delivered by Cornell University professors to middle school students from Adjuntas, Puerto Rico. A National Science Foundation project.

Lengua Larga & La Habana Buena. 5:16 & 4:24 minutes. 2009.

Producer/Director/Editor/Colorist.

Two music videos of Miami-based Afro Cuban Funk band *Palo!*

Our Home. 7:25 minutes. 2009.

Producer/Videographer/Editor.

An ecological documentary where local awareness and the wisdom of bio-regionalism are depicted as the pillars for global knowledge.

De Rodillas. 90 minutes. 2008.

Sound re-recording mixer and additional editing

Feature film about a priest who crosses paths with prostitutes.

La danza de la pluma. 35 minutes. 2008.

Production & Post production consultant/GlideCam operator.

A documentary about the ancient Zapotec dance ritual of the same name, performed by dancers from Teotitlán del Valle, in Oaxaca, México.

Painting Floppies. 7 minutes. 2005.

Writer/Producer/Editor.

A short documentary about an artist who paints floppy disks.

South of Brooklyn. 56 minutes. 2001.

Editor/Associate Producer.

A documentary about the Jewish migration to South Florida which is also the story of the founding of Miami Beach. The highest grossing documentary produced by WPBT, South Florida's PBS affiliate, in its 40-year history. Winner of the 2001 Wolfson Media Award and Telly Award.

What About Coral? 52 minutes. 2001.

Editor.

A documentary about the precarious conditions of corals in the South Florida area and the scientific work being done to improve them. Winner of the Gold Award of The Aurora Awards Festival. Produced by WPBT, South Florida's PBS affiliate.

WPBT Channel 2. 2001.

Producer/Editor.

One Minute Egg documentary segments and Station's Image campaign promos.

Karina Chechik. 3 minutes. 1998.

Co-producer/Editor.

Portrait of the Argentinian painter.

Red Cross of Greater Miami. 8 minutes, 1997.

Editor.

80th Anniversary Video.

WPLG Channel 10 News. 1996-2000.

Feature news and special programming editor.

Editor of special reports from Miami for ABC World News Tonight.

University of the Sacred Heart Student Recruiting Promos. 18 minutes. 1994.

Producer/Writer/Director/Editor.

Two promos to present the University's programs to incoming HS Students.

***Las Aventuras de Mundito* 1993.**

Co-Producer and Production Coordinator.

Telemundo & Producciones Pedro Muñiz. A 3-part, 3-D TV mini-series.

Responsibilities: hiring and supervision of a crew of over 15 technicians, tens of actors, and scores of extras; scheduling the crew calls for the entire personnel during the 5 weeks of shooting in over 10 different locations. According to Nielsen's, this was the most watched locally produced TV program in the history of Puerto Rican television.

***La Conexión Privada.* 1993.**

Producer.

60-second commercial and a weekly 30 minute program about friendship.

39-week season, WAPA-TV, Puerto Rico.

***Public Service Announcements about crime prevention.* 1990.**

Co-Producer & Production Coordinator.

A series of 4 PSAs produced by Guastella Films to promote the government's efforts to curb crime in Puerto Rico. Responsibilities: managing the film production of seven PSA's that promoted positive social values. Hiring, scheduling and managing over 30 film technicians for a seasonal production campaign. Direction of the pre-production and production logistics, and equipment and transportation rental needs. I produced two of the campaign spots. This included securing permits, locations, and working in conjunction with the ad agency producer and the director, and serving as liaison with the police.

***The Making Of "Lo que le pasó a Santiago".* 52 minutes. 1989.**

Videographer/Associate Producer.

A behind the scenes documentary about the first Puerto Rican film nominated for an Oscar.

***Video Guide to San Juan.* 35 minutes. 1988**

Producer/Writer/Director/Videographer/Editor/Distributor.

I financed, wrote, produced, directed, edited and distributed the first video guide to Old San Juan, one of the oldest cities in the Western Hemisphere. 1,000 copies sold.

***Comentario.* 1987.**

Producer/Videographer/Editor.

Weekly News Magazine Show

39-week season, WPRT-TV, Puerto Rico.

***The Battle of Vieques.* 40 minutes. 1986.**

Editor/Post-production Supervisor/Associate Producer.

Documentary film about the Puerto Rican Island of the same name used by the US Navy and Marines to conduct war games. Winner of the American Film Festival Blue Ribbon Award. Distributed by [Cinema Guild](#).

SELECTED ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Parallel to my professional career, I have worked as an educator at universities, colleges and training centers, teaching film and video production and post production, audio production and post-production, film history and cinematography.

Principal Instructor/Trainer. 2014-2015.

Applied Digital Media Services (ADMS).

United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia and Qatar.

Delivered Avid Media Composer, Adobe Premiere Pro and Apple Final Cut Pro X training to employees of Middle East Broadcasting Center (MBC), American University in Dubai, and Al Jazeera.

Assistant Professor of Film and TV. 2003-2012.

Miami Dade College.

School Of Entertainment And Design Technology (SEDТ). Miami, Florida.

Courses: Film Production, Video Compositing & Motion Graphics with Photoshop & After Effects, Digital Cinematography, & Video Editing.

Responsibilities: Syllabi design, equipment recommendation and specification, curricular revision consultant, SAN manager for 24 seats, supervision of producers and staff that service the post production labs.

Principal Instructor, 2004.

FUNGLODE. Dominican Republic.

Course development and teaching of a basic TV Workshop.

Curricular design of a 4-course educational initiative between Miami Dade College and Fundación Global Democracia y Desarrollo.

Instructor. 1997, 1999, 2002.

International Fine Arts College. Miami, Florida.

Courses: Audio Post-Production, Film Production, Editing, and Independent American Film History.

Instructor. 1986-1995.

Universidad del Sagrado Corazón. Puerto Rico.

Departamento de Comunicación

Courses: Audio Production, Film & Television Production, Electronic Field Production, Video Editing, and Film History.

Responsibilities: Interview and recommend prospective faculty candidates, program coordinator of the Communications Department from 1990 to 1993, syllabi design, develop educational manuals and handbooks, equipment recommendation and specification, liaison between the local industry and the University, curriculum revision of the Communications Department's undergraduate four-year program.

Instructor. 2004-2006.

Future Media Concepts

Miami and Orlando Branches.

Courses: Introduction to Avid Media Composer and Xpress Pro, Color correction for Media Composer and Xpress Pro and Photoshop for video.

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

Adobe Certified Instructor for Premiere Pro CC. Since 2015.
Apple Certified Trainer for Final Cut Pro and Final Cut Pro X. Since 2007.
Avid Media Composer Certified Instructor. Since 2004.

WEBSITES AND BLOGS

I created, built and currently maintain the following four websites/blogs.

TheAbsenthouse.com The official English website of the film The Absent House.

LaCasaAusente.com The official Spanish website of the film La Casa Ausente.

UnBoricuaensuiza.com It means a Puerto Rican in Switzerland. A blog about my migration experience to this European nation where I relocated four years ago.

EditingTraining.com It is the official center from where I offer online and onsite video editing and post-production training.

EDUCATION

- Florida's Bio Regionalism, St. Thomas University, Miami, FL., 2009.
- Analysis of Teaching, Florida International University, 2005.
- Master of Arts degree in Cinema Studies, New York University, 1984.
- Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Film/TV Production, New York University, 1982.
- Anthropological film seminar with Jean Rouch, Harvard University, 1981.
- Minor in Biology, Rutgers University, 19878-80.
- Colegio San José, HS Diploma, 1978.

PUBLICATIONS

- Editor of *Survey of Documentary Film*, an anthology of essays, articles and reviews about the nonfiction genre. University Readers, San Diego, CA. 2011.
- English to Spanish translator of Avid Media Composer textbooks. Directed and coordinated the work of seven translators working in three countries. 2009-2010.
- "Jean Rouch : Cineasta o Antropólogo?", essay on the work of the French pioneer of documentary film, for *Punto y Coma*, San Juan, 1992.
- "Requiem"; "The Poetics of Space in Antonioni's Films"; Both published in *Punto y Coma*, the interdisciplinary journal of the University of the Sacred Heart, San Juan, 1995.

RELATED EXPERIENCE

- Co-creator and designer of the Palo Cam, a generic version of the Pole Cam.
- Extensive experience as a field sound recordist for documentary films.
- Camera operator of a wide variety of formats and genres.
- Fine art photographer: wide format, 35 mm and digital.
- Nature photographer.
- Evaluator of projects' feasibility from a technical and financial perspective of film & video grant proposals. Puerto Rico Foundation for the Humanities. 1993-1995.
- Broadcast journalism.
- Commercial editor for clients such as Procter and Gamble, Mitsubishi Motors, Mazda Motors, United Way of Dade, Crowne Plaza Hotels, Little Caesars' Pizza.
- Freelance editor of promos for The Discovery Channel, Latin America. 1998.
- Proficiency in Adobe Photoshop, and After Effects.

LANGUAGES

- Professional proficiency in English and Spanish
- Fluency in French.
- German: B2 Level.

NATIONALITIES

- United States of America, Spain, Switzerland.