

ADRIANA SERRANO
Assistant Professor
Department of Radio-TV-Film
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

The University of Texas, Austin, Department of Radio-Television-Film. Assistant Professor
(Fall 2022- Present)

The University of Texas, Austin. Assistant Professor. Joined appointment, Department of Theater
and Dance and Department of Radio-Television-Film. (Fall 2019- Spring 2022)

Los Angeles based Production Designer (2009-2019)

La Salle College, Lecturer. Bogota-Colombia. (2004-2005)

EDUCATION

MFA in Set Design, Brooklyn College. New York 2003

BFA in Fine Arts, Universidad de Los Andes. Bogota-Colombia 1999

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Art Directors Guild. Local 800 (Member)

Represented by Independent Artist Group (IAG)

Production Design Research and Educational Network (PD-REN-Member)

Production Designers Collective (PDC-Member)

OTHER AFFILIATIONS

LILLAS, College of Liberal Arts. University of Texas (Spring 2024-Present)

Texas Immersive Institute. University of Texas (Fall 2023-Present)

Center for the Mexican American Studies (CAA)University of Texas (Spring 2026)

WORKSHOPS, RESIDENCIES, SPEAKING EVENTS AND GUEST LECTURES

- C-MAS Memoir-Writing Fellowship. Participated in a summer memoir workshop at Maine Media in Rockport, led by Jennifer Schelter, alongside community members and UT faculty affiliates of the Center for the Mexican American Studies (2026)
- Artist in Residence, Poco a Poco, “*Sur o no Sur*”, Oaxaca, Mexico (Summer 2025)
- Guest Lecturer, "Production Design," Set Design Program, University of Central Florida, Orlando (Spring 2022)
- Workshop Facilitator, *Spells of the Sea*. Co-production, University of Texas & University of Central Florida, Orlando (Spring 2022)
- Guest Lecturer, "Production Design, RTF Class 318, University of Texas (Fall 2019, Fall 2020)

CREATIVE WORK

FEATURE FILMS (PRODUCTION DESIGNER)

JAGGED MIND 2023, Romance, Thriller, Dir Kelley Kali, Produced by Hulu and Disney +, Filmed in Miami and Little Haiti. Starring: Maisie Richardson-Sellers and Shannon Woodward. Psychological thriller. Billie experiences memory loss and finds herself trapped in a terrifying time loop caused by her mysterious and manipulative new girlfriend, Alex, who uses dark magic to control her. “*Jagged Mind*” premiered at the American Black Film Festival in June 2023 and was released in the United States on Hulu and Air internationally on Disney +.

THE DEVIL YOU KNOW, 2022, Drama, Thriller, Dir Charles Murray, Distributed by Lionsgate, Premiered Nationally at AMC Theaters. Filmed in Los Angeles. Starring: Omar Epps, William Cattlet and Glyn Turman. After a lifetime of trouble, a man has the chance to turn things around with the love and support of his family. As he tries to do right, he finds himself spiraling back into the dark place he overcame.

THE OBITUARY OF TUNDE JHONSON, 2019, Drama, Dir Ali Leroy, Toronto International Film Festival, Jury Prize Outshine Festival. Opening film at the Austin Film Festival. Filmed in Los Angeles. Starring: Steven Silver (*13 Reasons Why*), Spencer Neville and Nicola Peltz Beckham. A wealthy, Nigerian American teen is pulled over by police, shot to death and immediately awakens, reliving the same day over and over, trapped in a terrifying time loop - forced to confront difficult truths about his life and himself.

SAVING ZOE, 2019, Crime, Drama, Mystery. Dir Jeffrey Hunt, Filmed in Augusta, Georgia. Starring: Laura and Vanessa Marano. A high school freshman kid sister of the murdered (Zoë) finds her diary, which sheds new light on the murder missed by the police. Inspired by the book “*Saving Zoe*” written by Alison Noel.

DANGER ONE, 2018, Action, Comedy, Drama. Dir Tom Oesch. Filmed in Los Angeles. Starring: Tom Everett Scott, Denis O'Hare. While transporting a dying man to the hospital, two paramedics find a million dollars in cash sewn into his clothing. When the man dies, they decide to keep it, setting them on a path for a hellish night of violence and mayhem.

HEARTLOCK, 2018, Crime, Drama, Romance. Dir Jon Kauffman. Filmed in Standish, Michigan. Starring Alexander Dreymon, Lesley-Ann Brandt and Erik LaRay Harvey. A rogue love story centered on a female correctional officer whose life is turned upside down by the fleeting affections of her lover - a male convict whose charm is only as genuine as his desire to be free.

THE SCENT OF RAIN AND LIGHTNING, 2017, Drama/Mystery/ Western, Dir Blake Robbins *Grand Jury Prize Nashville Film Festival, Best Narrative Feature Kansas Film Festival*. Starring: Brad carter, Maika Monroe, Mark Webber. Filmed in Oklahoma City, based on a novel from Nancy Pickard. A young woman investigates the murder of her parents when rumors suggest the man convicted of the crime may not be the killer after all.

BLOOD IS BLOOD, 2016, Horror, Mystery, Thriller. Dir Stuart Savarin. Filmed in Los Angeles and Cleveland. Produced by Noah C. Haeussner. A young girl seeks revenge after an unexpected death, while the world around her unravels revealing horrifying secrets about her life and family.

UNCLE NICK, 2015, Comedy, Dir Chris Kasick. Filmed in Los Angeles. Starring: Brian Posehn. Nothing ruins Christmas like family.

BOUND TO VENGEANCE, 2015, Horror, Thriller. Dir Jose Manuel Cravioto. Filmed in Los Angeles. Sundance Festival Selection. A young girl, chained in the basement of a sexual predator, escapes and turns the tables on her captor.

ORION, 2015, Action, Drama, Fantasy. Dir Asiel Norton. Filmed in Detroit. Starring: David Arquette, Lily Cole and Goran Kostic. Fantasia International Film Festival. In a desolate, future world, after civilization has collapsed, a wanderer fights to save a virgin mother from a powerful magician and, with her, searches for a mythical city containing the world's last survivors.

I KILLED MY BFF, TV Movie, 2015, Crime, Drama, Thriller. Dir Seth Jarret. Lifetime Movie. Filmed in Jackson, Mississippi. A friendship between two young mothers' results in murder when one develops an attraction to the other's boyfriend.

AFTERNOON DELIGHT, 2013, Comedy/Drama. Dir Joey Soloway. Filmed in Los Angeles. Starring: Kathryn Hahn, Jane Lynch, Josh Radnor, Juno Temple. Sundance Film Festival. Winner Best Director Award. Nominated Spirit Awards, Nominated Gotham Independent Awards. Rachel

tries to spice up her marriage with a trip to a strip club. She befriends McKenna who gave her a lapdance. She moves in with Rachel's family and becomes a nanny for the son.

FINDING NEIGHBORS, 2013, Comedy/Drama, Dir Ron Judkins. Starring: Michael O'Keefe, Catherine Dent. Filmed in Los Angeles. A formerly acclaimed graphic novelist goes looking for true connection outside of his marriage, and over the fence.

ARCADIA, 2012, Adventure, Drama. Dir Olivia Silver. Filmed in Los Angeles, Starring: John Hawkes, Ryan Simpkins. Winner Crystal Bear Generation K-plus, Berlin International Film Festival. Greta's dad Tom is moving the family cross-country in a dented station wagon, promising a California paradise to his kids. All that's missing is Mom.

CALIFORNIA WINTER, 2012, Drama/History. Dir Odin Ozdil. Filmed in Los Angeles. Young real estate agent Clara Morales encouraged risky loans to her clients during the housing boom. She must now rescue her father's home from foreclosure a consequence of the loan she advised him to take.

AUGUST, 2011, Drama, Romance. Dir Eldar Rapaport. Starring: Murray Barlett and Adrian Gonzalez. Filmed in Los Angeles. Best Feature Iris Prize Festival for best feature and best actor. August tells the story of two former lovers, Troy and Jonathan, who reunite after a long-ago painful breakup.

ENTRE NOS, 2009, Drama. Dir Paola Mendoza, Cinematography: Bradford Young. Filmed in New York City. Winner Audience Award Newport International Film Festival, Special Mention Tribeca Film Festival, Jury Award at Ft Lauderdale International Film Festival, Audience Award Newport international Film Festival. Newly arrived to New York City and deserted by her husband Gabriel, Mariana must find a way, to financially and emotionally provide for her family in a strange city where she barely speaks the language.

TELEVISION /NEW MEDIA / SHORTS (Selected Credits)

BODY SHOP, 2026 Short. Comedy- Magic realism. Dir Maria Mealla. In an alternate reality where "Body shops" replace hospitals, Lupe's body suffers an accident that forces her into the loaner frame of another woman. Supported by NALIP Media Accelerator 2024 Selection PGA Create 2024 Selection Tribeca-ATT Untold Stories 2023 Finalist Sidewalk Narrative Labs 2022 Selection. Filmed in Austin.

LAS HIJAS DE ROSALIA, 2025 Short. Drama -Musical. Dir Maria Mealla. Two sisters navigate their formative years, discovering the strength of their bond and the enduring legacy of their mother's love. Filmed in Austin. Premiered in Tribeca Film Festival. Santa Fe Film Festival

JUANA PELOS, 2024 Comedy-Drama. Short. Dir Maria Mealla. Filmed in Austin. It's the first day of school and Juana is facing the worst fear of every Latina, puberty. She is getting hairy. Part of Latino Public Broadcasting grantee. Premiered in Florida Film Festival. Selection of Austin Film Festival, New Orleans Film Festival, New York Latino Festival, Nvision Festival in Miami, Side Walk Film Festival, San Diego Latino Festival.

LONG TIME SUN, 2024 (Recreations, 4-Episode Documentary) Dir. Joanna Forsher. Produced by Film 45 and Rick Rubin. A four-part documentary series chronicling the rise of Kundalini Yoga and the 3HO Sikh Dharma community founded in 1969 by Yogi Bhanjan. Filmed in Wimberley, Texas. (Premiered at SXSW 2024 TV Spotlight)

FIRST LOVE, 2018, 10 episodes (TV Series, Drama) Dir Truman & Cooper. Produced by Black Pills. Filmed in Los Angeles. Released in United States in 2022. Winner of Juror Prize. When lonely 12-year-old Mercedes meets Zach, the new 17-year-old kid in town, she believes she has finally found someone who cares about her. But as their relationship progresses, Zach's old troubles come back to haunt him and leave him no choice: he needs to cut ties or the worst will strike - again.

STORYLINE ONLINE, 2019 (2 Episodes) Dir Rebecca Hamm, Staring: Oprah Winfrey. Filmed in Los Angeles Celebrated actors read children's books alongside creatively produced illustrations.

STERLING, 2019 Short. Drama. Dir Ryan Zaragoza / HBO ACCESS. Filmed in Los Angeles. Olive returns to her high school as it reopens two weeks after the mass shooting that shocked and brutalized this small West Texas town. Olive and her classmates, their parents, and the school's employees and teachers each must find some way to take the first steps to move forward as a community.

UNIMUNDO 45, 2018 Short. Comedy, Dir Thembi Banks. HBO ACCESS. Filmed in Los Angeles. When an anti-immigrant candidate wins the presidency, a jaded Latina news producer sheds her cynicism and reconnects with her suppressed activist side on live TV.

REAL ROB (Season 2, 8 episodes), 2018, Comedy, Dir Rob Schneider, Netflix. Filmed in Los Angeles. Centers around comedian Rob Schneider's real life while living in Hollywood.

HAPPY ENDING WITH NANDO VILA. 2017-2018. Univision (10 Episodes), Comedy, Dir Chris Kasick. Filmed in Los Angeles. Political satire.

AMERICAN KOKO (12 Episodes) 2017. Comedy, Dir Pete Chatmon, ABC. Employees at the E.A.R (Everybody's A little Racist) do their best to tackle every race problem that comes through their door but for lead agent Akosua Miller, the biggest case may be her own.

MANIC Short, 2017, Dir Kate Marks, HBO Access. Filmed in Los Angeles. An Ivy-league bound, overachieving teen is derailed after a manic episode lands her in a school for kids with mental illness.

LADY BOUNCER Short, 2017, Comedy, Dir Pete Chatmon, *HBO Access*. A suspended Pittsburgh cop takes a job as a bouncer where she begins a mission to clear her name by taking on the Irish mob.

FKED UP** Short, 2017, Comedy, Dir Kevin Lau, *HBO Access*. A know it all tries to prove herself by losing her virginity on the first day of college.

MUSIC IS MY MISTRESS, 2017, Dir Kahlil Joseph, KENZO, Starring, Tracee Ellis Ross and Jesse Williams Music by Kelsey Lu. In this shapeshifting new film, music is much more than mere sound and rhythm. Music herself is the central character of an unfolding drama across cultures, space, and time.

FAST FOOD HEIGHTS (12 Episodes), 2013, Comedy. Dir Greg Tuculesco and Jessica Haymond. Filmed in Los Angeles, produced by MTV, Starring: Nicole Byer. A dim-witted manager tries to get the staff of a rundown fast-food restaurant to take their jobs more seriously.

AQUI NO HAY QUIEN VIVA (70 Episodes) 2008, Comedy, Dir Sergio Osorio, RCN. Filmed in Bogota, Colombia. The adventures and misadventures of the neighbors of the 'Salsipuedes' building in the eyes of Wilson, guard and soul of the building.

COMMERCIALS (SELECTED)

Indeed, Career Scout. (2025) — 22-page commercial script filmed over four days, created to introduce audiences to an AI-powered job search feature. Austin

Amazon DSW. (2023) Austin (Fall 2023)

Delta (2022). Produced by Smarty Pants. Austin

Dell Togetherness (2021). Produced by Arts and Labor. Austin

Gesa, Credit Union(2021). Produced by Decipher. Los Angeles.

Telia, Ford, Subaru, Buchannan's, French's, Spotify (Los Angeles)

ACADEMIC WORK

CLASSES TAUGHT:

- Introduction to Production Design
- Art Direction
- Production Design
- Advance Production Design
- Practicum Production Design
- Production Design a Feature Film
- Production Design Basics
- Practicum Production Design
- Production Design for a TV Pilot
- La salle College: Set Design
- La salle College: Set Design for Non-Conventional Places

SERVICE

UNIVERSITY SERVICE:

- MFA Admissions Committee (Spring 2026)
- Represented RTF in Moody Admissions (2024)
- Rogue Festival Juror (Fall 2024-Spring 2025)
- Production Scholarships Committee Member (Fall 2024-Spring 2025)
- Facilitated a donation of a set to RTF from the TPA (Spring 2025)
- Chair Longhorn Festival and other Festivals-grants (Spring 2025-Spring 2026)
- Longhorn Denious Showcase Committee (Fall 2022- Fall2025)
- Budget Council RTF (Spring 2024-Spring 2025)
- Extended Budget Council RTF (Fall 2023)
- Roy Craine Committee (Fine Arts) Fall 2023
- Facilitator in the creation of Manual Cinema Workshop. Manual Cinema taught students their live animation techniques. This workshop was open for students from Fine Arts and RTF (Spring 2023)
- Showcase selection committee (Fall 2022-Spring 2023)
- Moody Commencement Ceremony (Spring 2023)
- Roy Crane Award Juror for Outstanding Achievement in Performing Arts (Spring 2023)
- Event Committee (Spring 2023)
- Showcase committee member selection for the films to represent RTF at SXSW (Spring 2022)
- Juror Panel for the L-mas Awards (Latin X-Media) (Fall 2022-Spring 2023)
- Committee for the New Works Festival (T&D) (Fall 2021-Spring 2022)
- Budget Council (Fall 2021-Spring 2022)
- Committee Member for the search of the Head of the Scenic Design program at UT (Fall 2021-Spring 2022)

- Facilitator in the creation of a workshop in which MFA students shared their technical knowledge to the Theater students aiming to improve the quality of their recordings (during COVID) (spring 2021)
- Juror of the Latino Media arts and studies award (Spring 2021)
- New Works Festival Committee Member (Spring 2022)
- Member of the Budget Council for T&D (Fall 2021-Spring 2022)
- RTF Undergraduate scholarship Committee (spring 2020-Fall 2020))
- Admissions Committee MFA T&D MFA program (Fall 2019 -Spring 2022)
- Forum Member T&D (Fall 2019-Spring 2020)

STUDENT ADVISING

GRADUATE THESIS COMMITTEES

Shianne Salazar (Spring 2026-

Camilo Montoya (Spring 2025-)

Raquel Mira (Spring 2025-)

Lizannette Velazco (Fall 2024-Spring 2026)

Jacob Giusentine, MFA Film Production (Spring 2023-Spring 2024)

Mauricio Hernandez-Serrano, MFA Film Production (Fall- 2023-Spring 2025)

Ann Chen, MFA Film Production (Spring-Fall 2023

Jarious Sowell, MFA Film Production (Fall 2022)

Benjamin Randall (MFA T&D Interactive Media) (Spring 2022)

Sebastian Valdivieso, MFA Film Production (Spring-Fall 2022)

Sara Pinar, MFA Film Production (Spring-Fall 2020)

Ashley Bullard, MFA T&D (Spring 2020)

PRODUCTION DESIGN ADVISOR

Devin Garza. Production Design opportunities Post-Graduation in New York (Spring 2026)

Evelyn Becerra (Undergrad Thesis Advising) (Spring 2026)

Summer Mompoin (Undergrad Thesis Advising Production Design (Spring 2026)

Benji Unamoto (MFA Thesis Production Design Advisor) (Spring-Fall2025)

J. C Manzo. (MFA Design Advisor “Mira”. PD Class-Collaboration (Fall 24-Spring 25)

Alessandro Lunghi Thesis, MFA film Production Student (Fall 2022) Collaboration with the Production Design Basics class (spring 2023)

Fatima Wardy, MFA Film Production Thesis (Fall 2022)

Dillon Sefah (Undergraduate RTF, Music video) Fall 2022) Collaboration PD Class.

Emily McClanahan (2022) Advice the student in multiple projects in Production Design.

Benjamin Randall (MFA interactive Media Student) (Spring 2022)
Teresa Guerrero (MFA Design Candidate T&D)(Spring 2021-Spring 2022)
Meagan Beattie (MFA Costume Designer (Spring 2021)
Chris Connard (MFA Design candidate T&D, “The Year of The Tiger”) (spring 2021)
Braxton Rae (MFA Director from T&D) production Fall the House
Adviser in Design in all the MFA Theater/Dance Productions (Fall 2019-Spring 2022)
Ashleigh Bullard, MFA T&D Design (Spring 2020)
Chris Connard. MFA T&D Design, Scape Room (Fall 2019)

INDEPENDENT STUDIES CLASS

- Emily McClanahan (Spring 2022) Undergraduate RTF student
- Tania Cattevette (Fall 2021) MFA RTF student

GRANTS/AWARDS/FELLOWSHIP

- (NCFDD) Spring 2023 Faculty Success Program (FSP)