

**TEXAS STATE VITA
(with Fine Arts components)**

Please note: For all entries, list most recent items first. Headings without entries may be eliminated, but the heading lettering/numbering should remain consistent with this template.

I. Academic/Professional Background

A. Name: Carlos Estrada

Title: Lecturer

B. Educational Background

Masters of Fine Arts, Dec 2021, University of Texas at Austin, Film Production

Bachelor of Arts with Honors, May 2013, University of Alabama, Interdisciplinary Studies,
Minor Creative Writing

C. University Experience

Lecturer, Texas State University, Jan 2022 - Present

- Designed new course in Advanced Cinematography
- Co-Head of Cinematography Concentration Track
- Applied a mix of lectures and hands-on practice to build the foundational skills students can carry into a career in filmmaking
- Mentored students as part of thesis committee and overseeing independent study
- Advised students in academic and professional matters to improve course and help students achieve successful course completion.
- Created work internship through Pillarboxd Productions to give students opportunity to grow outside the classroom.
- Worked in collaboration with other faculty members as part of a team to ensure the new program has necessary film equipment that met school budgetary needs.
- Created and implemented written assessments.

Guest Lecturer (Documentary), University of Texas at Austin, Fall 2022

- Demonstrated techniques on elevating documentary filmmakers to think more visually and approaching interviews beyond just capturing the sound bites.

Lead Teaching Assistant (Producing), University of Texas at Austin, Aug 2019 - May 2020

- Responsible for teaching groups of students how to conceptualize a story and executing it into a film through the pre-production phase
- Taught students on how to work as a team towards same creative goal.
- Oversaw multiple projects from one hundred students
- Managed team of teaching assistants

Teaching Assistant (Cinematography), University of Texas at Austin, Aug 2018 - May 2019

- Taught class of 18 students, once a week, in a hands-on laboratory course that handles all levels of cinematography equipment.
- Created technical lectures, in-class activities, and syllabus based off theory lectures the Professor covered during the other class of the week.
- Provided students the skills to shoot on 16mm and 35mm film.
- Provided students the ability to learn how to work with any camera.
- Provided students the basics on rigging and using Grip & Electric equipment.

D. Relevant Professional Experience

Freelance Director of Photography, Dec 2021 - Present

- Work as a Director of Photography, leading teams of camera and grip + electric personnel to achieve the desired look.
- Collaborate with Directors to achieve desired vision and plan out logistics that go into each creative decision.
- Selected brands and production companies worked for include: ACLU, PBS, Netflix, HGTV, Arts and Labor, Revelator, The Bear.
- Selected Commercial Brands include: Dunkin Donuts, Church's Chicken, JCPenny, Roto-Rooter, and Others.

Creative Careers Instructor, Austin Film Society, March 2023 - Dec 2024

- Developed multiple instructional courses for students with no prior knowledge on navigating various cameras
- Used own experience to give class on working in the field of cinematography and how each position on set works.
- Created a new workshop course with hands on set experience demonstrating the practical implications of the collaboration between a director and cinematographer.

II. TEACHING

Courses Taught: Film Production Practices, Cinematography, Advanced Cinematography, Short Film Development

Graduate Theses/Dissertations, Honors Theses, or Exit Committees (if supervisor, please indicate): Supervisor on Capstone film "Eternal AI" for student Eric Gaona (Fall 2024), Supervisor on Capstone film "Frog" for student Kendra McGee (Spring 2025), Supervisor on Capstone film "Negative Space" for student Bemenet Assefa (Fall 2025)

Courses Prepared and Curriculum Development: Film Production Practices, Cinematography, Advanced Cinematography, Short Film Development

III. SCHOLARLY/CREATIVE

Films:

Filmography - DIRECTOR

2022 “Green Water,” Narrative Short, Drama

Available through Short of the Week

College bound Erik must learn to take care of his younger sister Nora after their undocumented mother goes missing.

Exhibitions at Juried Events: *New Orleans Film Festival, Montclair Film Festival, Cinequest, Dallas International Film Festival, New York Latino Film Festival, Phoenix Film Festival, Houston Latino Film Festival, Official Latino Film Festival, Philadelphia Latino Film Festival, Light Reel Film Festival, Over-the-Rhine Film Festival*

Awards: *Cinequest Best Student Film, DIFF Best Texas Short Film, Houston Latino Film Best Texas Film, Austin Film Society Grant Winner, NOFF South Pitch Competition Winner,*

2020 “Ángelito,” Narrative Short, Drama

Distributed on Film Shortage in the US and ShortsTV in South America

After his father's death, Ángel seeks reconciliation and the chance to learn more about his family through the help of his Grandfather and Day of the Dead.

Exhibitions at Juried Events: *El Paso Film Festival, Indie Grits Film Festival, ShortsTV Worldwide Film Festival, Film Shortage Daily Pick, Deep in the Heart Film Festival, LETNetworks AmLatino Film Festival, Festival de Cine Latino Americano*

Awards: *Cine Latino Best Student Film, Longhorn Creators Foundation Grant*

2018 “The Country Priest,” Documentary Short

Distributed on PBS.com

When a chapel along the U.S.-Mexico border is threatened by the impending wall construction, a local priest and the surrounding community fight back.

Exhibitions at Juried Events *Sidewalk Film Festival, Sandpoint Film Festival, PBS Online Film Festival, Houston Latino Film Festival, West Texas Film Festival*

Select Works - CINEMATOGRAPHER

2025 “Rooftop Lempicka,” Narrative Short, Drama, directed by Hang Nguyen

Exhibitions at Juried Events: *EnergaCamerimage, Austin Asian American Film Festival (WINNER), Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival, New York Asian Film Festival, Asian American International Film Festival,*

2025 “The Night We Met” Narrative Short, Horror, directed by Fumiya Hayakawa

Exhibitions at Juried Events: *Guanajuato International Film Festival, New Orleans Film*

Festival, NewNext Film Festival, Macau International Short Film Festival

2025 “The Good Boy” Narrative Short, Drama, directed by Esmeralda Hernandez
Exhibitions at Juried Events: *Cine Las Americas (WINNER), Cinefestival (WINNER)*

2025 “Donor,” Narrative Short, Horror, directed by Jen Saura
Exhibitions at Juried Events: *ScreamFest Horror Film Festival*

2025 “It’s Never Over, Jeff Buckley” Feature Documentary, directed by Amy Berg
Provided Additional Photography
Exhibitions at Juried Events: *Sundance Film Festival*

2024 “Los Mosquitos,” Narrative Short, Drama, directed by Nico Chi Amen
Distributed through FOCUS FEATURES
Exhibitions at Juried Events: *SXSW, New Orleans Film Festival, Holly Shorts, LALIFF, Guanajuato International Film Festival*
WINNER: Gotham Awards 2024

2024 “So, That Happened,” Narrative Short, Romantic/Comedy, directed by Neha Aziz
Exhibitions at Juried Events: *Nashville Film Festival, YellowSprings Film Festival, Cinema Columbus, VC Film Fest*

2024 “Soft Breath,” Narrative Short, Drama, directed by Fumiya Hayakawa
Exhibitions at Juried Events: *Cine Las Americas*

2023 “Julie Baby,” Narrative Short, Drama, directed by Emily Grooms
Exhibitions at Juried Events: *Portland Film Festival, Flickers Rhode Island, Tokyo Shorts, Tacoma Film Festival*

2023 “Maria!,” Narrative Short, Drama, directed by Sebastian Valdivieso
Exhibitions at Juried Events: *Bogota Shorts, Dallas International Film Festival, El Paso Film Festival, Houston Latino Film Festival*

2023 “Roto-Rooter Christmas Spot” Commercial, Stop-Motion, directed by Roh Rao
WINNER, Gold Addy, Best Commercial in Austin Texas

2023 “The Third Bedroom,” Narrative Short, Drama/Horror, directed by Kathryn Van Buren
Exhibitions at Juried Events: *Austin Film Festival, Dances with Film, Tacoma Film Festival, DIFF Shorts*

2023 “Supermarket Affairs,” Narrative Short, Comedy/Drama, directed by Hang Nguyen
Exhibitions at Juried Events: *Palm Springs ShortsFest, Cinequest, Nashville Film Festival, CAAM, Dallas International Film Festival, Osaka International Film Festival, Seattle Asian American Film Festival, Hill Country Film Festival*

2023 “Black Magic” Narrative Short, Comedy/Drama, directed by Cristin Stephens
Exhibitions at Juried Events: *Austin Film Festival, Bronzelens Film Festival, Indie Memphis Film Festival, Cleveland International Film Festival*

2023 “Cats Don’t Sleep at Night,” Narrative Short, Drama, directed by Beibei Xu
Exhibitions at Juried Events: *Oak Cliff Film Festival, Tacoma Film Festival*

2023 “Flowers,” Narrative Short, Horror, directed by Tania Cattebeke Laconich
Exhibitions at Juried Events: *Lisbon International Horror Film Festival*

2023 “Breaking the Code,” Documentary Feature, directed by Michael Flanagan
(Cinematographer for Houston section of film)
Exhibitions at Juried Events: *Dallas International Film Festival, Thin Line Film Festival*

2021 “El Fantasma,” Narrative Short, Drama, directed by Arturo R. Jimenez
Exhibitions at Juried Events: *EnergaCamerimage, Palm Springs International ShortsFest, Oak Cliff Film Festival, San Antonio CineFestival, Dallas International Film Festival, Flickerfest Rhode Island Film Festival*

2020 “Edwin”, Documentary Short, directed by Ya’ke Smith
Exhibitions at Juried Events: *Dallas International Film Festival, Thin Line Film Festival, Literally Shorts Film Festival*

12. Workshops: Austin Film Society Creative Careers

13. Other Works not in print:

- a. Works “submitted” or “under review”: “Matadora” Feature Script, semi-finalist Sundance Labs 2023, Under review for Guadalajara Talent Labs 2026
- b. Works In Post-Production as Cinematographer: “Loretta” (Drama-Comedy), “The Evangelist” (Horror)
- c. Works Currently Shooting or in Development: “A Future of Nostalgias” (Feature Documentary), “And to All a Good Night” (Drama-Comedy), “Los Tiempos No Son Los Tuyos” (Drama)