TEXAS STATE VITA
(with Fine Arts components)

I. Academic/Professional Background

A. Name: Annie Silverstein Title: Assistant Professor

B. Educational Background

MFA	2013	University of Texas at Austin	Film Thesis: Short film *SKUNK*
B.A., Phi Beta Kappa	2001	Macalester College	Major in History

C. University Experience

Assistant Professor	Texas State University	Fall 2022 - Present
Adjunct	University of Texas at Austin	Fall 2014 - Fall 2019

D. Relevant Professional Experience

Creative Advisor	SFFILM grant recipients	2021-2022
Guggenheim Fellowship	*Parachute*: Feature film	2021
Artistic Director/ Co-Founder	Longhouse Media/Native Lens	2004-2010
Fulbright Scholarship	Brazil, “Nossas Histórias”	2007-2008

II. TEACHING

A. Teaching Honors and Awards:

National Association for Media Literacy Award for outstanding contributions made in the field of media education, 2009

Washington State Environmental Teacher Award, 2008

B. Courses Taught:

Fall 25:	TH 3325 Film Directors Workshop TH 4374 Bobcat Film Production
Spring 25:	TH 4373 Advanced Film Directing TH 3325 Film Directors Workshop TH 4301 Internship
Fall 24:	TH 3325 Film Directors Workshop TH 4341 Short Film Development
Spring 24:	TH 3325 Film Directors Workshop TH 4341 Short Film Development TH 4373 Advanced Film Directing
Fall 23:	TH 3325.001 Film Directors Workshop TH 3325.002 Film Directors Workshop TH 4373 Advanced Film Directing TH 4301 Internship
Spring 23:	TH 3325 Film Directors Workshop TH 4373 Advanced Film Directing TH 4301 Internship
Fall 22:	TH 3325.001 Film Directors Workshop TH 4373.001 Advanced Film Directing
Fall 19:	RTF 367D (#08695), Directing Workshop
Spring 16:	RTF 366D (#08720), Directing Workshop
Fall 15:	RTF 343, Advanced Narrative Digital Video Production
Fall 14:	RTF 343, Advanced Narrative Digital Video Production

C. Directed Student Learning:

Fall 24: Supervisor, undergraduate honors feature script

Fall 23: Supervisor, undergraduate honors film project

Spring 23: Managed interns for upcoming feature, *Parachute*

Fall 22: Mentored 12 TXST students in various crew positions on the pre-production and production of the short film *Huntsville*

D. Courses Prepared and Curriculum Development:

TH 4374 Bobcat Film Production
Prepared and designed course, first offered Fall 2025

TH 3325.001, Film Directors Workshop
Syllabus development, first offered Fall 2022

TH 4373.001, Advanced Film Directing
Syllabus development, first time collaborating with Production Design students, Music Composition students, and Sound Design students on the Advanced thesis film productions.

III. SCHOLARLY/CREATIVE

B. Works Not in Print:

2. Invited Talks, Lectures, and Presentations:

Guest Artist	Carlton College, Film Directing	2022
Guest Artist	Texas State University, Film Directing	2021
Guest Artist	Davidson College, Film	2020
Guest Artist	University of Oregon, Directing	2020
Guest Artist	University of Texas, MFA Screenwriting	2020
Guest Artist	NYU Tisch, Introduction to Screenwriting	2020
Guest Artist	Texas State University, Directing	2020
Guest Artist	Art Institute of Chicago, Directing Actors	2018

Guest Artist	Art Institute of Chicago, Directing Actors	2017
Guest Artist	Northwestern, Narrative Techniques	2016
Guest Artist	NYU Tisch, Introduction to Screenwriting	2014
Guest Artist	City University of New York (CUNY)	2013
Guest Artist	University of Washington, Visual Sociology	2011
Guest Artist	University of Minnesota, Native American Studies	2010

6. Films:

Huntsville (Co-Writer, Producer) – Fiction Short, 2025
A father and his young son must renegotiate their roles on the day of the father's prison release. Premiered at the Austin Film Festival in October, 2025.

Breaking Silence (Director) – Documentary Short Film, 2023
Description*:* A portrait of a Deaf activist and his formerly incarcerated daughter, who build new bonds through their experiences in the criminal justice system. *Breaking Silence* was released by PBS-Independent Lens in November, 2023. Breaking Silence | Documentary | Independent Lens | PBS

Highlights - Major Festival Screenings

- Big Sky Documentary Film Festival 2023
- SXSW 2023
- Atlanta Film Festival 2023
- Hamptons International Film Festival 2023
- New Orleans Film Festival 2023
- Doc NYC 2023
- Champs-Élysées Film Festival 2023
- Galway Film Fleadh 2023

Awards/Nominations

- Winner of Jury Award for Best Texas Short, SXSW 2023
- Winner of Audience Award for Best Texas Short, SXSW 2023
- Best Documentary, Atlanta Film Festival 2023 (Oscar Qualifying)
- Special Jury Award, River Run Film Festival 2023
- Best Documentary Short, Oak Cliff Film Festival 2023
- Best Documentary Short, Snake Alley Festival of Film 2023
- My Justice Impact Award, Doc NYC 2023
- Selected for the 2025 American Film Showcase (USC School of Cinematic Arts.)

Bull, Fiction Feature completed in 2019, released in 2020
Writer, Director
In a near-abandoned subdivision west of Houston, a wayward teen runs headlong into her equally willful and unforgiving neighbor, an aging bullfighter who's seen his best days in the arena; it's a collision that will change them both.
Distributed by Samuel Goldwyn Films (Domestic) and Sony Pictures Worldwide (International)
Reviews (rated 90% by film critics on Rotten Tomatoes). The film is now streaming on Hulu and all VOD platforms.

Highlights - Major Festival Screenings

- Cannes Film Festival - Un Certain Regard 2019
- Deauville American Film Festival 2019
- The American Film Festival in Poland 2019
- Bergen International Film Festival 2019
- Haifa International Film Festival 2019
- Alice nella Città International Film Festival (Italy) 2019
- Stockholm International Film Festival 2019
- Tulum International Film Festival 2019
- Film Independent's "New Wave" Opening Night Film, Los Angeles 2019
- SXSW "Festival Favorites", Austin, 2020

Awards/Nominations

- 3 Independent Spirit Awards Nominations 2021 (Someone to Watch, Best Cinematography, Best Male Lead)
- Winner of Grand Prize, Deauville American Film Festival 2019
- Winner of Critics Award, Deauville American Film Festival 2019
- Winner of Revelations Prize, Deauville American Film Festival 2019
- SXSW Louis Black "Lone Star" Award Special Jury Recognition for Acting - Rob Morgan, 2020
- The Houston Film Critics Society - "Texas Independent Film Award," 2019

Skunk, fiction short completed in 2014
Writer, Director
When her pit bull is stolen by an aspiring dog fighter, Leila is forced to stand up for herself, at the cost of her own innocence.
Distributed by Premium Films (France)
Acquired by Criterion Collection in 2018

Highlights - Major Festival Screenings

- Cannes Film Festival-Cinéfondation 2014
- BFI London Film Festival 2014
- Melbourne International Film Festival 2014
- Sarajevo Film Festival 2014
- Chicago International Film Festival 2014
- Austin Film Festival 2014
- BAFTA - Los Angeles 2014
- Bermuda International Film Festival 2015
- Ashland Independent Film Festival 2015

Awards

- First Prize Jury Award, Cannes Film Festival-Cinéfondation 2014
- Jury Award, and Audience Award, BAFTA - Los Angeles 2014
- Best Short Film & Special Jury Prize, Austin Film Festival 2014
- Award for Best Short, BendFilm! 2014
- Best Narrative Short, Bermuda International Film Festival, 2015
- Award for Best Short, Ashland Independent Film Festival 2015
- Best Dramatic Short, American Short Film Awards 2015

Spark, fiction short completed in 2012
Writer, Director, Producer, Editor
While a boy waits out his father's tryst, he is unexpectedly forced to deal with the lady-friend's daughter.
Acquired by PBS "Film School Shorts"

Highlights - Major Festival Screenings

- SXSW 2012
- Maryland Film Festival 2012
- New Orleans Film Festival 2012
- Nevada City Film Festival 2012
- Sidewalk Film Festival 2012
- deadCenter Film Festival 2012
- Oak Cliff Film Festival 2012
- Slamdance Film Festival 2013

Awards

- Jury Award, Best Texas Short, SXSW 2012

Noc na Tanečku: Night at the Dance, documentary short completed in 2011
Director, Producer, Cinematographer, Editor
A profile of the last days of a Czech dance hall in rural Texas -- and the old-timers who come there to Polka.
Acquired by PBS WGBH WORLD
Featured on *The Atlantic, Texas Monthly*, *Short of the Week, and PBS' On-line Film Festival*

Highlights - Major Festival Screenings
- SXSW 2011
- Silverdocs Film Festival 2011
- Hamptons International Film Festival 2011
- New Orleans Film Festival 2011
- Port Townsend Film Festival 2011
- Sidewalk Film Festival 2011
- Sebastopol Documentary Film Festival 2011
- Squardi Altrove Film Festival 2011

Awards
- Student Film Award, Hamptons International Film Festival, 2011

Rush, documentary short completed in 2010
Co-Director, Cinematographer
Rush follows the stories of four Fort Hood soldiers returning from repeated deployments in Iraq and Afghanistan, as they pursue high-adrenaline activities to help them readjust back into civilian life.
Festival Premiere: Austin Film Society's Shorts Program at SXSW 2010

March Point, feature documentary completed in 2008
Co-Director, Cinematographer, Producer
Three Swinomish teenagers explore the affects of two oil refineries located on their reservation.
Aired on PBS *Independent Lens* in 2008/2009.

Major Festivals/Screening Venues
- Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian in New York 2009
- National Congress of the American Indian in Washington D.C.
- Big Sky Documentary Film Festival 2009

- Sebastopol Documentary Film Festival 2009
- imagineNative 2008
- Global Green Indigenous Film Festival 2008
- Margaret Mead Film & Video Festival 2008
- National Geographic Environmental Film Festival 2008
- Wild & Scenic Environmental Film Festival 2008
- European Independent Film Festival 2008

Awards

- Best Documentary, imagineNative 2008
- Audience Award, Global Green Indigenous Film Festival 2008
- Winner Best Documentary, Port Townsend Film Festival 2008
- Audience Choice, Indigenous Green Environmental Film Festival 2008
- Jury Award - Honorable Mention Best Broadcast Film, Blue Ocean Film Festival 2008

Sisterhood of the Good Death, documentary short completed in 2008
Cinematographer, Editor, Co-Producer
A 20-minute documentary directed by Yoruba Richen (The Killing of Breonna Taylor, The New Black) on the Afro-Catholic Festival held annually by the sisterhood of women in Cachoiera, Bahia, celebrating the end of slavery.
Festival Premiere: Afro-Carioca Film Festival, Rio de Janeiro

Where Would You Go, educational shorts, 2013
Producer, Director, Cinematographer
6 short films produced in South Africa for the Organization of Refuge, Asylum and Migration, focusing on LGBTI refugees who have escaped persecution in their home countries and are seeking asylum.

USAID Women's Land Rights: A Ripple Effect, documentary, 2011
Cinematographer
Cinematography for two documentaries shot in Ethiopia about the central role of securing land rights to foster economic development in developing countries for the US government agency USAID.

7. Multimedia Design Productions (web-based and/or electronic media):

Lake Flato Architects, series of shorts, 2014 - present
Producer, Director, Cinematographer, Editor

On-going series of web based short documentaries that highlight the work, design, philosophy, and culture of the award-winning architecture firm Lake Flato, with a focus on green design and sustainability.

10. Published Photos and Reviews of Creative Works:

The Moveable Fest, SXSW 2023 Interview: Amy Bench and Annie Silverstein on Making Connections in "Breaking Silence" by Stephen Saito, March 9, 2023
Breaking Silence Archives - The Moveable Fest

Spectrum News, SXSW: SXSW: Texas Shorts winner 'Breaking Silence' casts light on deaf incarcerated community.

RogerEbert.com, review by Collin Souter Short Films in Focus: Breaking Silence | Features | Roger Ebert

Film Review: *Bull*, by David Edelstein at Vulture, May 1, 2020
'Bull' Movie Review: Much More Than a Coming-of-Age Cliché

Film Review: *Bull*, by Alliance of Women Film Journalists, May 1, 2020
MOVIE OF THE WEEK May 1, 2020: BULL

Film Review: *Bull* by Jon Frosch at The Hollywood Reporter, May 15th, 2020
'Bull' Review – The Hollywood Reporter

13. Other Works not in Print:

a. Works "submitted" or "under review":

Untitled Starz Limited TV Series, (Episode 107 and 118) - co-writer with Johnny McAllister. Show developed by Ava DuVernay and Starring Joshua Jackson and Lauren Ridloff. Produced by Warner Brothers, showrunner Kat Candler.

Storm (65 p. pilot, 40 page story bible and lookbook) - co-writer with Johnny McAllister. A mystery thriller TV show set in Donegal, Ireland, about how a historic storm unravels a small fishing community.

b. Works "in progress":

Parachute (Writer, Director) – Feature-In-Development
A love story based in a secluded community of adrenaline-addicted veterans.
**Parachute received development funds from the Austin Film Society in 2020*

1. Funded External Grants and Contracts:

Austin Film Society, Short Film Grant for *Breaking Silence*, Fall 2022

3. Funded Internal Grants and Contracts:

Travel Grant, Texas State University, *Parachute* - film in development 2022
REP, Texas State University, *Parachute*, 2024
Accelerator Grant, Texas State University, *Parachute*, 2024

D. Scholarly / Creative Fellowships, Awards, Honors:

Guggenheim Fellowship for *Parachute*, film in development 2021

IV. SERVICE

A. Institutional

3. Department/School:

Department Committees

- Directing Track Head - Film (on-going)
- Stage Intimacy Committee (on-going)
- Search Committee - Assistant/Associate Professor of Directing (Fall 2023)
- Search Committee - Staff Position, Digital Video Specialist (Spring 2024)
- Search committee - Assistant Professor of Film (Fall 2024-Spring 2025)

Head of Film, Fall 25-Current

- Support Associate Director of the School of Theatre, Dance, and Film with proposed annual budget for film program, program reports, course progression development/design, Film Advisory Board, and focus tracks

Associate Head of Film Program, Fall 22-Spring 25

- Coordinate all film faculty meetings, program building work sessions, and social gatherings
- Offer one on one support to newly hired Film Program Faculty, such as feedback on syllabi, Canvas, equipment and labs, etc.
- Develop, write and revise Film Program Policies and Resources
- Oversee service work by ¾ & full time film faculty
- Outreach/initiate/coordinate cross-class collaborations within the Film program and across departments
- Arrange tours for prospective students

B. Professional:

Spring 2025: Carlton College - Thesis Film Advisor
Spring 2023**:** Panelist on Portrait House at SXSW, “Disability Representation in Film.” A panel discussion between the filmmakers of *Breaking Silence* and *Not So Special Film*
Summer 2023: Austin Film Festival Summer Speaker Series- Guest Presenter
Spring 2023-Present: Hays County Film Advisory Board
Fall 2022: Jury Member, Documentary Features, Austin Film Festival, October, 2022