

Kevin Taylor Anderson, PhD

Department of Communication, S320 ILC, University of Massachusetts-Amherst
Amherst, Mass. 01003 | kta@umass.edu

Current Position

Lecturer in Media, Culture and Visual Methods
University of Massachusetts-Amherst | Amherst, Mass.

Education

2007 PhD – Towards The Within: Visual Culture, Performance, and Aesthetics of Acupuncture. Department of Anthropology, University of Massachusetts- Amherst

1999 MA – Ethnographic Hypermedia: Synthesis of Text, Audio and Image.
Department of Anthropology, University of Massachusetts-Amherst

1995 BA – Cultural Anthropology, Portland State University

1993 BFA – Motion Picture and Television Production Columbia College-Los Angeles

Areas of Specialization

Visual Anthropology; Digital Film Production, Cinema Studies; Ethnographic, Documentary and Avant-Garde Film; Medical Anthropology; Social Aesthetics; Phenomenology; Embodiment; Ireland

Film and Video Projects and Exhibitions

Layers of Pompeii (rough cut, 20 m.) – Documentary; Director/Producer/Camera; Amherst Cinema (2014)

Tokunbo (2011, 38 m.) – Ethnographic Film; Director/Producer/Camera/Editor; Bay Path College (2012); Syracuse University (2011); University of Washington (2011)

Northampton Bike Fest (2010, 4 m.) – Promotional Video and Commercial; Comcast (July-August 2011) Camera/Editor

Ghost of Summer (2010, 20 m.) – Experimental Video; Director/Producer/Camera CineMenu at The Dirty Truth, Northampton, Mass.

Towards the Within (2007, 3 m.) – Experimental Ethnographic Film, Director/Producer/Camera/Editor; Franklin and Marshall University (2008); University of Massachusetts-Amherst (2007)

In-Hand (1991, 9 m.) – Experimental Film; Producer/Director/Editor; Tufts University (2010); University of Massachusetts (2002); Oregon Public Broadcasting (1994); Canadian International Film Festival (1994); Chicago Educational Television (1994); Malta Cine Circle (awarded four stars)

Film and Video Projects (Freelance)

Goswami and Ramu in Concert (videographer and editor) Concert Video in contract with Karuna Productions, Northampton, Massachusetts, 2012

Ethiopia and the Legend of the Ark (videographer) Ethno-Historical Documentary in contract with Terra Incognita Films, Concord, Massachusetts, 2000

BlocBusters: The Cinema of East Germany (videographer) Promotional Documentary in contract with AIMS, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, 1999

Sylvia Plath and the Myth of the Monstrous Mother (editor) Distance Learning Video in contract with AIMS, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, 1998

History of Football, (editor) Documentary in contract with AIMS, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, 1996

Charting Your Resources (producer/writer/director/camera/editor) Academic Advising Video in contract with AIMS, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, 1996

American Witchcraft (producer/camera) Documentary Video, 1996

Introductions, Extensions, and Answers (producer/co-writer/director/editor) Freshman Orientation Video in contract with Portland State University, 1995

Arts In Schools (producer/camera) Documentary Video in contract with the Portland Arts Council, 1995

Microsoft Product Promo (videographer) in contract with Graphic Media Productions, Portland, Oregon, 1994

A Funny Thing (videographer/co-editor) Music Video in contract with Ingerfilms, Los Angeles, California, 1993

Nessun Dorma (cinematographer) Music Video in contract with Hot, Hot, Hot Productions, Hollywood, California, 1992

Awards and Grants

2012 Five-College Interdisciplinary Studies Fund (co-recipient) for production of an ethnographic documentary, *Layers of Pompeii*

2009 Research Grant (co-recipient) for data collection and research on Cinema and the Alchemy of Optimal Experience; awarded by the Walmart Foundation

2008 Research and Travel Grant for participation at the annual SCMS conference in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; awarded by the Higgins School for the Humanities, Clark University

2002 European Field Studies Grant for ethnographic fieldwork conducted in Galway, Ireland; awarded by the Department of Anthropology, University of Massachusetts

1999 Travel Grant for Participation at the Transcultural Images and Visual Anthropology Workshop, Australian National University, Canberra, Australia; awarded by the Dean of the Graduate School, University of Massachusetts

1997 European Field Studies Grant for ethnographic fieldwork conducted in Ireland; awarded by Department of Anthropology, University of Massachusetts

1996 Faculty Grant For Teaching (co-recipient) for production of a documentary video, American Witchcraft; awarded by the University of Massachusetts Arts Council

1994 Peer Mentor Fellowship awarded by the Dean of Arts and Sciences, Portland State University, Portland, Oregon

Field Research

2012 Pompeii, Italy; Filming and Ethnographic research on tourism culture at Pompeii

2009 Lagos, Nigeria; Filming and Ethnographic research on the cultural symbolism of the automobile in Nigeria

2001-2003 Research Coordinator; Video Intervention/Prevention Assessment (VIA) Harvard Medical/Children's Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts; Coordinated research project using video as a means for adolescents to document life with a chronic ailment; critical analysis of patient visual narratives; video editing.

2003 Ethnographic Research and Video Documentation; Galway, Ireland
Conducted 9 months of research in the field examining patterns of use associated with holistic therapies; ethnomethodology of patient- practitioner interactions; employment of qualitative and ethnographic methods such as interviews, videotaping, participant-observation, and questionnaires.

2000 Ethiopia; Production of an Ethno-historic Documentary Film on the Ark of the Covenant and its role in Ethiopian Christianity

Publications

Articles

2016 *Optimal Experience and Blockbuster Cinema*, Journal of Media Economics (under review) (30 pages)

2013 *Altered States of Embodiment and the Social Aesthetics of Acupuncture*
 Altern Integ Med 2:112. doi: 10.4172/2327-5162.1000112
 (<http://www.esciencecentral.org/journals/2327-5162/2327-5162-2-112.php?aid=12802>)

2010 *Holistic Medicine Not "Torture": Performing Acupuncture in Galway, Ireland*,
 Medical Anthropology 29.3, 1-25.

2009 *Tickling and Teasing the Real: Mocking Reality TV in the film Series 7*
 Post Script, 28(3):108-122.

2006 *Joris Ivens' 400 Million*, Encyclopedia of the Documentary Film, ed. Ian Aitken.
 New York and London: Routledge, (3 pgs.)

2004 *Toward An Anarchy of Imagery: Questioning the Categorization of Films as 'Ethnographic'*. Journal of Film and Video 55(2-3)

2003 *Finding the Essential: A Phenomenological Look at Hal Hartley's 'No Such Thing'*. Film and Philosophy, Vol. VII, Pp. 77-91.

2003 *The Blues According to Wim*. Afterimage, Nov/Dec.

1999 *Ethnographic Hypermedia: Transcending Thick Descriptions* (22 pgs.)
 Article published on Web site for the Workshop on Transcultural Images and Visual Anthropology, Centre for Cross-Cultural Research
 Australian National University, Canberra, Australia

Book and Film Reviews

2010 Film Review: *Was It Really Necessary to Remake "Let the Right One In" in English?* (co-author) Three Quarks Daily, Oct. 18, 2010 <www.3quarksdaily.com>
 2009 *Alone on the Dark Side of the 'Moon'* (co-author); Opinion piece on the film Moon by Duncan Jones; Daily Hampshire Gazette, July 14, 2009

2004 Film Review: *Wim Wenders' 'The Soul of a Man'*. VisualAnthropology.Net (2 pgs.)

2002 Book Review: *Hamid Naficy's 'An Accented Cinema'*. Journal of the Society for the Anthropology of Europe (5 pgs.)

1998-2000 Film Reviewer for the Graduate Voice, University of Massachusetts

Teaching Experience

University of Massachusetts-Amherst

Introduction to Media and Culture (2012)
 Visual Ethnography I (2012)
 Experimental Film and Video (2010, 2014)
 Visual Ethnography and Production (2010)
 Race, Gender and the TV Sitcom (2010)
 Culture Through Film (2009, 2010)
 History of American Film (2009, 2010)
 Cinematic Bodies in Cross-Cultural Perspective (2009)

Seattle University

Introduction to Film Production (2011)

Clark University

Cinematic Bodies in Cross-Cultural Perspective (2007, 2008)
 Introduction to Screen Arts (2004-2008)
 History of American Film: 1950—Present (2007, 2008)
 Experimental and Avant-Garde Film Production (2006-2008)
 Factual Film and Television (2001-2008)
 Short Narrative Film Production (2006)
 Auteurs of Transcendental Cinema (2001)

Tufts University

Introduction to Film Studies (2008, 2009)
 Introduction to Sociocultural Anthropology (2005, 2006)
 Visual Anthropology (2003-2006)

Invited Talks

Circolo Italiano, *Lost in Mediation: Tourists and Digital Devices at Pompeii* (2014)

Intel Corporation, *The Embodied Tourist: travelers, technology, and media at Pompeii* (2014)

University of Washington; *Tokunbo* (film screening and talk) (2011)

Smith College; *Spirit Possession in Ethnographic and Feature Film* (2006)

Marlboro College; *Poetics and Politics of Ethnographic Film* (2001)

Mount Holyoke College; *The Spiritual Dimension of Alternative Healing* (1999)

Public Presentations

2014 Lost in Mediation: Tourism and Cameras at Pompeii University of Oregon, "What is Documentary" Conference, Portland, Oregon

2014 Unearthing Modern Pompei – American Ethnological Conference, Boston, Mass.

2010 Transnational Entrepreneurship in Nigeria: The Case of Tokunbo Automobiles, Entrepreneurship in Africa, Whitman School of Management, Syracuse University

2008 Altered States of Embodiment: Accounting for the Gap Between Ethnographic and Feature Film Representations of Possession, Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

2008 The Remakes Code: A prolegomenon for deciphering the success of film remakes. MeCCSA Conference in Cardiff, Wales

2006 Welcome to the Ocean of the Real: Open Water as Post-9/11 Allegory Media Ecology Association Annual Conference in Boston, Massachusetts

2006 The Performance of Acupuncture as Something Other than Torture, paper and video presentation at the Communication in Crisis Conference; Graduate Program in Communication at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst

2005 Ethnographies of Film, Panel chair and presenter, SCMS conference in London, England

2005 Anthropology, Visual Media and Holistic Medicine, Lecture and Film Screening, Anthropology Collective at Tufts University; Medford, Massachusetts

2004 Cinesthetic Memory, Paper and video presentation at the Media Ecology Association Annual Conference in Rochester, New York

2003 Visualizing Illness and Therapy, paper and video presentation at the American Anthropological Association Annual Conference in Chicago, Illinois

2003 Visual Culture: A Future for the Anthropology of Visual Communication, panel discussion participant at the Graduate Association of Visual Anthropologists Roundtable at Columbia College-Chicago

2003 Needle Marx: Hegemonic Healing and the Biomedicalization of Acupuncture, paper at the Rethinking Marxism Fifth International Conference, University of Massachusetts-Amherst

2002 Approaching the Patient's View: Comparing Visual Research Methods in Medical Anthropology, paper and video presentation at the Graduate Association of Visual Anthropologists Meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana

2002 The Clinical Gaze Askew: Patient Illness Narratives, paper presentation at the Hawaiian International Conference of Social Sciences in Waikiki, Hawaii

1999 Alternative Medicine in Ireland, fieldwork presentation at the European Field Studies Conference in San Michele all'Adige, Italy

1998 The Spiritual Dimension of Alternative Healing, video screening and lecture workshop on Transcultural Images and Visual Anthropology at the Centre for Cross-Cultural Research, Australian National University, Canberra, Australia

1995 Maya Deren: Her Life as Artist, Film Maker, and Ethnographer, film screening and lecture at Portland State University, Portland, Oregon

Media Appearances

2007 Quoted in the Worcester Telegram & Gazette, "Reality TV backlash," Dec. 20th; commentary on the CBS show, Survivor.

2007 Quoted in Tango Magazine, "Why Are Geeks the New Chic?," Nov. 2007; commentary on the rise of "geektagonists" in film and television.

2007 Quoted in the Arizona Republic, "Hey McFly! Geekiness is the new cool (well, sort of)," Oct. 7, 2007; commentary on the rise of "geektagonists" in film and television.

2007 Quotes in the Hampshire Gazette, "Documentary on Alaskan Trekker to Screen," Sept. 22, 2007; commentary on Ron Lamothe's documentary film, The Call of the Wild.

2007 Quoted in the Worcester Telegram & Gazette, "Kid Nation Kid Stuff," Sept. 20,

2007 Commentary on the CBS debut of the reality TV program, Kid Nation.
Events Organizer/Moderator

2006 Palestinian/Israeli Discourses, Moderator, Difficult Dialogues Symposium; Clark University, Worcester, Massachusetts

2004 An Evening with the Political Dr. Seuss; Organizer and Moderator of a one-evening talk and film screening with filmmaker Ron Lamothe; Clark University, Worcester, Massachusetts

2003 This is a Film about Mars; Organizer and Moderator of a one-evening talk and film screening with filmmaker Paul Turano; Clark University, Worcester, Massachusetts

2002 From Within the Axis; Organizer and Moderator of a three-day film festival and lecture series presenting films, speakers and discussion on the countries of Iran, Iraq, and North Korea; Clark University, Worcester, Massachusetts

1993 Columbia College Film Festival; Organizer and Moderator, Columbia College, Los Angeles, California

Past Employment

Visiting Assistant Professor of Screen Studies, Department of Visual and Performing Arts, Clark University 2006-2008

Research Coordinator, Video Intervention/Prevention Assessment (VIA) Harvard Medical/Children's Hospital, Boston, 2001--2003

Producer and Video Editor, Academic Instructional Media Services (AIMS), Educational, Distance Learning, and Promotional Videos Amherst, Massachusetts, 1997--2000

Photographer, Valley Optimist, News and Editorial Newspaper Northampton, Massachusetts, 1996

Producer and Videographer
Portland Educational Network
Documentary, Educational, and Promotional Videos Portland, Oregon, 1994--1995

Producer, Videographer, Editor
BHN-10 Television News, Documentaries, and Station Promotions, Beverly Hills, California, 1992--1994

Academic Service and Advising

University of Massachusetts

Juror – Five College Film Festival (2012)

Advisor – undergraduate documentary film on permaculture in the Pioneer Valley (2012)

Advisor – undergraduate documentary film on female body images in the media (2012)

Advisor – undergraduate documentary film on survival strategies of the Sarayacu – an Amazonian tribe facing land rights issues (2012)

Clark University

Advisor – honors thesis on the history of stop-motion animated films, and production of a short animated film, *The Ingredient* (2008)

Advisor – honors thesis and video project on surveillance and popular culture (2008)

Advisor – honors thesis on representations of Native Americans in ethnographic and popular cinema (2007)

Advisor – honors thesis and video project on public displays of affection (2007)

Tufts University

Advisor – honors thesis on Self-Reflexive Ethnographic Film (2006) Advisor – honors thesis on Women in Ethnographic Film (2005)

Portland State University

Anthropology Scholarship Board Member (1994-95)

Membership

Society for Cinema and Media Studies (2001-present)

Society for Visual Anthropology (1994-present)

Anthropological Association of America (1994-present)

Technical Skills

Digital Videography and Editing: Final Cut Pro, Adobe Premiere, 16mm Film Production and Editing

Aerial and Nautical Cinematography

Scuba Diving, Mountain Biking, Soccer, Sushi Enthusiast

Production Samples

Vimeo Link: <http://vimeo.com/user7645390>