

AYELEN LIBERONA

Director / Choreographer

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Education

BA - University of Toronto - Anthropology / Film
National Ballet School of Canada
Cuballet, Havana, Cuba – Ballet & Afro-Cuban studies

Inspired Points

Canada Council for the Arts - Research Grant: Camera on Dance Project
Emerging Filmmaker Award Nominee - Toronto Int Film Festival (2010)
Best Experimental Film Award - Miami Short Film Fest (2009)
Talent Lab Alumni - Toronto International Film Fest (2009)
"A Grain of Sand" fought for and won the battle to save Moyenne Island

Curriculum Vitae

FILMS (selection)

"Keepers of the Water" - documentary (4min) 2010 director / producer / cinematographer

Wandering Eye Productions

The story of a young group of Native kids from Fort Chipewyan, Alberta. Their community sits directly downstream from the Tar Sands and they are struggling with the consequences.

* 1 of 5 films Nominated to Toronto International Film Festival's Emerging Filmmaker Award, 2010

* Screened at Cinema du Park, Montreal, October 2010

"iamayelen" – self portrait (2min) 2009 writer / director / producer / editor

Wandering Eye Productions

* Toronto International Film Festival Talent Lab Alumn with Danny Boyle, Miranda July, Don McKellar

"Becoming" - short film (8min) 2009 writer / director / producer / choreographer

Wandering Eye Productions

Bravo!FACT & TV3 Spain - National Broadcast

* Best Experimental Film Award, Miami Short Film Festival, 2009

* Best Experimental Film Award, West Chester Film Festival, 2009

* Best Emerging Canadian Filmmaker Honourable Mention Award, CFC Worldwide Short Film Festival, 2009

* Calgary International Film Festival, September 2009

* Curtocircuito, Spain, October 2009

* Planet in Focus, Toronto, November 2009

* Filmets International Film Festival, Spain, November 2009

"A Grain of Sand" - documentary (81min) 2008 producer / editor

Wandering Eye Production

A film about the life of Brendon Grimshaw and his fight to save Moyenne Island (Seychelles) from development. With the help of our documentary we won the battle and Moyenne Island was granted protected National Park status by the government in 2009.

*Reel Earth Environmental Film Festival (**Nominated International Features Award**), May 2009

*Berlin Globians Doc Festival (opened festival), August 2009

*Blue Planet Film Festival, Los Angeles, September 2009

*ZAGREBI! EkoFestival, Zagreb, Croatia, September 2009 (**Nominated**)

DANCE (selection)

"Falling" (Canada wide touring) 2002 / 2004 /2006 choreographer

Site-specific dance performance in a park setting. Commissioned by Dusk Dances for Canadian touring

"Requiem" (New York, USA) 2006 director / choreographer

A full evening ballet commissioned by Frank Augustyn at Dance Adelphi University

"Ifigenia at Aulis" (New York, USA) 2005 choreographer

A theater production by Dance Anonymous. Presented by Symphony Space, NYC

"Petra: The Awakening of Myth (USA / Cyprus) 2004 director / choreographer

A full evening modern ballet commissioned by the Cyprus Ministry of Culture and presented at the renowned "Kypria Festival" in Cyprus. Performed with the National State Orchestra of Cyprus.

MULTI-MEDIA (selection)

Camera on Dance Project (Toronto, CA)	2010-2011	concept & creation
How can movement inform the narrative potential of film? This project investigates new technologies for filming dance by attaching the camera to the dancer. We show how dance and the dancer can inform and influence movement in film thereby pushing the boundaries of a new language for dance on film. * Viral / Gallery Launch in Dec 2010 * supported by Canada Council for the Arts		
“Cluster lo Magico” (New York, USA)	2006	director / choreographer
Full evening multi-media event of dance, film and music. Presented by the Latin American Cultural Festival of New York		
“Cluster – the series (Toronto, Canada)	2006	director / choreographer
Live Installation and performance of dance and film. Presented by the Toronto International Dance Festival, Distillery District in Toronto		

COMMERCIAL CHOREOGRAPHY (selection)

Ash Koley “Don’t let your feet touch ground” (Toronto, CA)	2010	choreographer
Revolver Films; Directed by ANthony Von Seck		Music Video
Apocalyptica “I don’t care” (Toronto, Canada)	2007	choreographer
Revolver Films; Directed by Lisa Mann		Music Video
Feist “1,2,3,4” (Toronto, Canada)	2007	assistant choreographer
Revolver Films; Directed by Patrick Daughters Music Video		* Grammy Award Winning Music Video

EDUCATOR (selection)

St Albans Boys & Girls Club (Toronto, Canada)	2010-2011	educator * Supported by Toronto Arts Council
Develop & direct an integrated youth arts program that empowers youth to create film and media projects around themes of identity & social justice		
Various Schools & Studios (International)	2009 - present	educator
Develop & directed Dance on Camera workshop for emerging & professional dancers		
New York City Board of Education (New York, USA)	2006-2007	educator
Dance Faculty – Teaching world dance for school credit (14-16 yrs)		
Columbia University – Barnard College Dance (NYC, USA)	2004	educator
Guest Faculty – Contemporary Technique, Improvisation and original choreography		

REVIEWS (selection)

FILM REVIEWS

“[Becoming is] a visually arresting film with a painterly aesthetic.” - Alie Ward, L.A. Times (2009)

“Liberona and Johnson-Camí are the writers, producers and directors [of Becoming], and their moody vision has produced a compelling 8-minute film of life and loss that rivets the eye.” - Paula Citron, Goethe Institute (2009)

“Another sublime and nearly perfect film was the stunning “Becoming” (2009) ... There is not a single wasted shot in this film. From the first image ... the viewer knows that he or she has entered a different world of magical realism akin to the films of Guillermo Del Toro.” - Shuriu Lo, Shared Sacrifice - Progressive Politics and Culture (2009)

DANCE REVIEWS

“Theatrically Impressive” – The New York Times (2003)

“Excellence was made by the brilliant, daring and innovative choreography.” –The Cyprus Weekly (2004)

“Ayelen Liberona, a sensational dancer” – The Globe and Mail, Toronto, Canada (1991)