

## Alex Rivera

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I'm a filmmaker and digital media artist. Over the past fifteen years I've engaged with imaging technology to tell new, urgent Latino stories.

### Completed Films

#### **SLEEP DEALER**

*USA/Mexico / Feature Fiction Film / 2008 / Writer, Director, Editor*

##### **Awards**

- Sundance Film Festival, 2008
  - Sundance Film Festival, 2008
  - Berlin International Film Festival, 2008
  - Neuchatel International Fantasy Film Festival, 2008
  - Gotham Awards, *Nominee*, 2008
  - Independent Spirit Awards, *Nominee*, 2008
  - Sundance Film Festival, 2002
- Waldo Salt Screenwriting Award
  - Alfred P. Sloan Award
  - Amnesty International Award
  - Best of Festival
  - Breakthrough Director
  - Best First Feature
  - NHK Award, Best American Screenplay

##### **Selected Screenings**

- New Directors / New Films, MoMA and Lincoln Center, 2008
- San Francisco International Film Festival, 2008
- San Sebastian Film Festival, 2008
- Sarajevo Film Festival, 2008
- George Eastman House, Rochester New York, 2009
- SLEEP DEALER was released theatrically in 2009 in over 30 U.S. cities.
- International festival screenings have taken place in France, Japan, Russia, Ireland, Mexico, Korea, Brazil, Peru, and many others.

#### **THE SIXTH SECTION**

*USA/Mexico / Documentary / 2003 / Director, Producer, Camera, Editor*

##### **Awards**

- Morelia International Film Festival, 2003
  - Black Maria Film Festival, 2003
  - Guanajuato Film Festival, 2004
  - UrbanWorld Film Festival, 2004
- Best Short Documentary
  - Director's Citation
  - Best Documentary
  - Best Documentary

##### **Selected Screenings**

- Lincoln Center, Human Rights Watch Film Festival, 2004
- San Francisco International Film Festival, 2004

##### **Broadcast**

- National broadcast on POV in 2003

#### **WHY CYBRACEROS?**

*USA / Mocumentary / 1997 / Director, Writer, Camera, Editor, Animation*

##### **Awards**

- CineFestival, 1997
- Best Experimental

##### **Selected Screenings**

- Robert Flaherty Film Seminar: *Memory and Modernity*, 1997
- Telluride Film Festival, 1998
- Guggenheim Museum *With Chaplin's 'Modern Times'*, 2001
- International Center of Photography *Only Skin Deep* Exhibition, 2003

##### **Broadcast**

- National Broadcast on PBS, *Independent Lens*, 2003

## PAPAPAPÁ

USA / Documentary / 1995 / Director, Writer, Camera, Editor

### Awards

- Chicago Intercom Competition, 1995 Silver Hugo
- New York Expo of Short Film and Video, 1995 Silver Award
- Black Maria Film Festival, 1996 Director's Citation

### Selected Screenings

- The Museum of Modern Art, *New Documentaries*, 1996
- Museum of Contemporary Art, L.A., *L.A. Freewaves*, 1996
- Robert Flaherty Film Seminar, 1996
- Lincoln Center, *New America, New Americans*, 1996
- Guggenheim Museum, *Generation Ñ*, NY and Bilbao, 2000

### Broadcast

- PBS/WNET- Reel New York, 1997
- Planete – European Broadcast, 1997

### Grants, Career Awards, and Honors

|  |      |
|--|------|
| USA Artists, Media Grantee                                     | 2008 |
| <i>Variety</i> , 10 Directors to Watch                         | 2008 |
| Sundance Institute Annenberg Film Fellow                       | 2004 |
| Rockefeller Foundation, Support for documentary work           | 2003 |
| MacArthur Foundation, Support for documentary work             | 2003 |
| International Documentary Association, Best Emerging Filmmaker | 2003 |
| Toas Talking Pictures Festival, Cineaste Award                 | 2003 |
| Sundance Institute Directing Fellow                            | 2001 |
| Creative Capital   | 2000 |
| Jerome Foundation  | 2000 |
| US/Mexico Fund for Culture                                     | 1998 |
| New York Foundation for the Arts                               | 1998 |
| Lyn Blumenthal Fund for Independent Cinema                     | 1998 |
| Rockefeller Foundation   | 1998 |

### Recent Visiting Artist/Residencies

|                                    |                                |      |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------|
| Harvard University                 | Carpenter Center, Guest Artist | 2009 |
| Hunter College                     | Instructor "Master Class"      | 2009 |
| University of Wisconsin, Madison   | Guest Artist                   | 2009 |
| University of Kentucky, Louisville | Guest Artist                   | 2009 |
| Bard College                       | Guest Artist                   | 2009 |
| University of California, Irvine   | Guest Artist                   | 2009 |
| San Francisco Art Institute        | Guest Artist                   | 2009 |

### **Selected Lectures/Panels/Juries**

|                                       |                              |      |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|------|
| Lincoln Center                        | Latin Beat, Panelist         | 2009 |
| Film Independent                      | Director's Close-Up          | 2009 |
| L.A. Museum of Contemporary Art       | Guest Lecturer, with OJO     | 2009 |
| Bric Rotunda Gallery                  | The Border on Film, Panelist | 2009 |
| Latino Producer's Academy             | Directing Mentor             | 2009 |
| Sundance Film Festival                | Science on Film, Panelist    | 2009 |
| New York Latino Film Festival         | Digital Media, Panelist      | 2009 |
| Sundance Film Festival                | Alfred P. Sloan Jury         | 2009 |
| Los Angeles Independent Film Festival | Short Film Jury              | 2009 |
| Morelia Film Festival, Mexico         | Documentary Jury             | 2009 |

### **Other Accomplishments and Affiliations**

#### **Board Member, Working Films, 2007 – present**

#### **Tepeyac School of Communications 2000 - 2001**

Alex Rivera worked with La Asociación Tepeyac, the largest association of Mexican immigrants in New York, to create a video school. The school exists within the association and is now run by members of the association and funded by grants. Students of the school have produced both documentary and fictional videos about their experiences as undocumented immigrants in New York City.

#### **SubCine.com 2000 - present**

Alex Rivera founded SubCine.com, a distributor focused on selling Latino film and video to the educational market. The distributor is unique in that it is structured as a collective, allowing the makers to promote the work of other members as they promote their own work, and to retain more profit from each sale.

### **Background**

Born New York City, 1973

BA received Spring 1995, Hampshire College, Amherst MA