

Elyse Frenchman

Documentary Filmmaker
Video Journalist
Writer/Director/Producer

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I am a documentary filmmaker and video journalist working to create compelling short and long-form pieces for digital, linear and theatrical platforms. Determined and innovative, my passion lies in the crossover between telling stories as a journalist and finding the beauty in those stories—bringing them into a visual medium—as a filmmaker.

Skills

VIDEO PRODUCTION

shooting
directing
writing
producing
editing
cinematography

VIDEO EDITING AND OTHER SOFTWARE

Final Cut Pro
Adobe Premiere Pro
Avid
Adobe Audition
Photoshop

Employment

HBO Documentary Films - Kunhardt Films Production Assistant

New York, NY
Mar 2017 to Current
Position with Kunhardt Films on a feature documentary for HBO. Research for upcoming interviews and write preliminary questions. Post-production: create and manage a thematic organizational system for all archival media, watch, categorize and log archival and original footage in Avid for editors, edit together sequences of selects, ingest media, finalize and export cuts for screening. Assist on shoots.

NBC News Associate Producer - MSNBC Longform Documentary/Original Programming

New York, NY
Aug 2015 to Feb 2017
Associate Producer for in-house documentaries: edited scripts, compiled archive footage and photos, logged tape, fact checked, booked interviews and scouted shoot locations. Productions include: "Citizen Trump", "Hillary Clinton: It Takes a Country", "You Vote, They Decide: The Secret Campaigns for President".

Development and Production Coordinator - MSNBC Longform Documentary/Original Programming

New York, NY
Aug 2015 to Feb 2017
Developed ideas and assessed pitches for original documentary series and specials. Researched content for shows in production and development. Provided creative feedback and notes on scripts and cuts. Produced digital videos for web and social media. Researched and wrote updates for shows. Managed invoices and deliverables. Hired and supervised interns.

MSNBC Longform Documentary Documentary Intern

New York, NY
Jan 2015 to May 2015
Created video clips and wrote captions for msnbc.com. Researched stories for shows in production. Wrote and produced social media content. Tracked competitor programming. Worked on the premiere for the documentary film "Just Eat It", and produced an animated video for msnbc.com, narrated by Tom Colicchio.

MSNBC Media Relations Intern

New York, NY
Sep 2014 to Dec 2014
Managed press clippings, wrote blog posts, and created press lists for MSNBC doyside and primetime shows.

International Academy of Arts and Sciences Intern, International Emmy Awards

New York, NY
Feb 2014 to May 2014
Screened and evaluated television shows submitted for an international Emmy award.

TLC's "What Not To Wear" Production Intern

New York, NY
Sep 2012 to May 2013
Assisted production on set and in studio, scouted locations, filmed secret footage, created call sheets, booked travel, and selected props.

Seftel Productions Production Intern

New York, NY
Feb 2012 to May 2012
Researched ideas for show development, transcribed interviews, scouted locations, and created call sheets.

The River's School and Winchester Figure Skating Club Figure Skating Coach

Massachusetts
2007 to 2011

Harvard University Admissions Assistant

Cambridge, MA
Dec 2011 to Jan 2012, Dec 2012 to Jan 2013

Projects

Citify

Jun 2016
A documentary film that traces China's unprecedented, rapid urbanization. In a unique 30 year collaboration, American and Chinese designers struggle to create more humane cities, confronting development forces that threaten China's cultural heritage. (writer/director/producer/editor/cinematographer)
Premiered at the Beijing Planning Exhibition Hall and The World Forum on Urban Regeneration in Shanghai.

Beyond the Bars: A Former Inmate Returns to His Roots (msnbc.com)

Aug 2016
Digital Documentary: Stanley Richards grew up surrounded by crime. After spending time behind bars himself, Richards has devoted his life to helping former inmates re-enter society. (writer/director/producer/cinematographer)

MSNBC Original Documentaries and Series - Digital Extras

Oct 2016
Writer/Producer of six digital videos for MSNBC's documentary series "In Other News" and original documentary, "You Vote, They Decide".
Video Link: 3/3/1991: Rodney King is beaten, a plane flight crashes in Colorado, and cease-fire terms are negotiated in the Persian Gulf War.

Cadaverous

May 2013
Short film: A disturbed mortician finds unexpected comfort as her therapy session takes an alarming turn. (writer/director/producer/editor)

Mokbar

Oct 2014
Restaurant Chef Esther Choi talks about her inspiration for her signature dish, the ho-cale. (writer/director/producer/cinematographer/editor)

GetTaxi/Gett

Jul 2013
Web commercial for international car service company. (writer/director/cinematographer/editor)

Short Films

"Lucy in the Sky" (dir. of photography April 2013); "Magic" (dir. of photography, March 2013); "Again." (dir. of photography, June 2015)

"Czech Mates": PGA Weekend Shorts Competition. Shot in the Czech Republic. (co-producer/writer/DP/editor, Sep. 2013)

"Nightmare's Monster": Music Video by the St. John Sisters (cinematographer and assistant producer, April 2012)

Education

New York University, Gallatin School of Individualized Study
Individualized Major 2015

Film Production Minor, Tisch School of the Arts 2015

Gallatin Concentration: Writing/Directing/Producing for film & television, focus on documentary film and global media

New York University in Prague, Czech Republic: Focus on European political media, Fall 2013

GPA: 3.8

Awards

Hollywood International Independent Documentary Awards - Winner, Best Female Filmmaker

Winner of best female filmmaker for documentary film Citify

NYU Gallatin School of Individualized Study · Dean's Award for Graduating Seniors

Grant from NYU to fund original research or creative projects pursued after graduation

NYU Gallatin School of Individualized Study · Dean's Award for Summer Research

Grant from NYU to fund proposal for documentary film Citify

New York University · Founder's Day Award

Honor recognizing superior academic records

NYU Tisch School of the Arts · NYU Fusion Film Festival, Official Selection

Finalist at the docs-in-the-works pitch competition to pitch documentary film proposal to HBO, POV, Impact Partners, and IFF

Activities/Volunteering

NBC Universal Scholars

Mentor to NYC public high school student

Figure Skating

World, national and regional level competitive figure skater