

Iskra Valtcheva

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EXPERIENCE

WRITER / DIRECTOR / PRODUCER / EDITOR *Freelance: Bulgaria, Williamstown, Austin, Tucson
2001 - present*

Passionate storyteller who summons immersive visual worlds imbued with mystery, magic, and a sense of wonder. Whether leading a team of 2 or 42, her positive outlook, sense of camaraderie, intuition, authentic communication and problem-solving skills bring out the best in talent and crew.

AWARDS

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| AMPAS | AMPAS: 2006 Student Academy Award Regional Finalist: <i>Iris Moon</i> |
| DGA screening | Austin Film Society TX Filmmakers Production Fund Grant 2005: <i>Iris Moon</i> |
| Outstanding Director | Global Art Film Festival Tour 2007: <i>Iris Moon</i> |
| Silver Remi | WorldFest-Houston International Film Festival 2007: <i>Iris Moon</i> |
| Valtcheva Retrospective | Till Richter Museum - Schloss Buggenhagen 2020: <i>Forever Love, Iris Moon, Tuber</i> |

POST-PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR

*Freelance: Sedona, Tucson
2014 - present*

- Blackmagic Design certified DaVinci Resolve editor and colorist.
- Liaise with director, client and/or broadcast agency to establish story, look, style, budget, workflow, revisions, final delivery and archival goals.
- Collect and organize recorded footage, stock media, audio, music and graphics.
- Edit picture and sound, color grade, sound design, mix and master audio.
- Craft animations, VFX shots incl. chroma key, and title graphics.
- Create Spanish transcripts and subtitles as needed.

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

*Freelance: Austin, Los Angeles, Sedona, Tucson, Vail
2005 - present*

Versatile cinematographer with 20 years experience in the field shooting for film, events, and television, unique perspective on visual storytelling, and excellent work ethic. Worked on Academy-Award winning projects. Covered the Bravo! Vail Classical Music Festival in Vail, CO since 2015.

AWARDS

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| AMPAS | Winner of the 2011 Student Academy Awards, Narrative Category: <i>Fatakra</i> |
| AMPAS | National finalist 2008 Student Academy Awards, Narrative Category: <i>Red Wednesday</i> |
| DGA | Winner of the 2011 DGA Student Film Awards, Asian-American Category: <i>Fatakra</i> |
| Festival de Cannes | Official selection: 2010 Short Film Corner: <i>Love, Sadie</i> |
| LA Web Fest | Outstanding Achievement in Cinematography 2011: <i>Cell: The Web Series</i> |
| MOSAIC Festival of Mississauga | Best Cinematography 2012: <i>Red Wednesday</i> |

EXPERIENCE CONT.

CONTINUITY SUPERVISOR

Freelance: Los Angeles 2012 - 2013

- PreProduction: time and break down the script, establish story chronology, and working scene and page count.
- Shooting: keep track of what the camera(s) and sound mixer record, in a logging and lining system that the editor uses to cut the film.
- Maintain continuity through matching action from angle to angle.
- Double check wardrobe, makeup, props, set dressing and lighting continuity from scene to scene.
- Preserve screen direction, in order for the film to smoothly cut together.
- Cue the actors when dialogue is forgotten or missed. Transcribe ad lib dialogue and scenes.
- Inform the production office of the amount of work that is accomplished by keeping a daily log.
- PostProduction: assemble Editor's Log Book with lined script, facing pages, daily logs, and production reports.

CHIEF SET LIGHTING TECHNICIAN

Freelance: Austin 2005 - 2011

- Work directly with the DP to implement the lighting-plot plan and help achieve the photographic look of the film.
- Oversee the hiring, organization, and efficient and safe operation of the lighting crew and equipment.
- Coordinate rigging needs with key grip. Supervise rigging and pre-lighting of sets. Create equipment lists.
- Work up through the ranks as electric trainee, set lighting technician, and best boy electric.

TEACHING ASSISTANT

University of Texas at Austin, TX

College of Communication, Department of Radio-TV-Film

Jan 2005 - May 2007

Classes: Intro to Image and Sound, Digital Art and Media, Audio, Sound Design

- Facilitate hands-on lab sessions, grade film projects and written assignments, train students in the use of film, video, audio, and lighting equipment and software, and assist them with course material and readings.

VISION STUDIO TECHNICIAN

University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

College of Education, Learning Technology Center

Jun 2005 - Aug 2005

- Support faculty as they incorporate technology into their instruction. Responsible for video production, post, and web streaming components of project development.

STUDENT TECHNOLOGY ASSISTANT

University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

Liberal Arts Instructional Technology Services

Aug 2004 - Aug 2005

- Receive extensive training and hands-on experience in the development of high quality web, video, multimedia, and other curriculum-related projects.

COMPANY ASSISTANT

The Vortex Repertory Company, Austin, TX

Barebones Festival, Elytra, Dark Goddess

Sep 2003 - Mar 2004

- Operate lights (*Barebones Festival*), handle costumes and props (*Elytra*), and serve as assistant stage manager (*Dark Goddess*).

COMPANY VIDEOGRAPHER

Ko Theater Works, Inc, Amherst, MA

Sounding to A

Jan 2003 - Aug 2003

- Create video installation for *Sounding to A*, a multimedia performance piece.
- Work extensively with writer, director, and performers.
- Operate video projector and mixer equipment during live performance.

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Williams College, Williamstown, MA

Departments of Physics

Jun 2002 - Aug 2002

- Coordinate and manage a three-person Instructional Technology team in the planning, research, design, and development of an interactive multimedia CD-ROM using Macromedia Director 8.

EDUCATION

M.F.A. in FILM AND VIDEO PRODUCTION

Cinematography Concentration

University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

Aug 2007

- Nominated for the 2007 & 2009 ASC Student Heritage Award in Cinematography

B.A. in ART

Certificate in Spanish

Williams College, Williamstown, MA

Jun 2003

- 1 of 7 International Haystack Scholars (covers full financial need)
- Class of 1960 Art Department Scholar
- John M. and Kathryn L. Scholar
- Study abroad: University of Salamanca, Salamanca, Spain, 2002

FILMOGRAPHY

WRITER / DIRECTOR / PRODUCER / EDITOR

MUSIC VIDEO / DANCE FOR THE CAMERA

| | | | |
|--|---------------|--|---------|
| <i>Ludo Djore</i> | Music | | 2022-24 |
| <i>Radostta</i> | Music / Dance | | 2023 |
| <i>Brazilian Zouk, West Coast Swing, Bachata Sensual</i> | Dance | | 2023 |
| <i>Samovila</i> | Music / Dance | | 2022 |
| <i>Monsoon Season</i> | Music / Dance | | 2021 |
| <i>Little Blue Planet</i> | Music / Dance | | 2021 |
| <i>Allah Ho Allah</i> | Music | | 2021 |

SHORT SUBJECT

| | | | |
|--|-----------------|--------|------|
| <i>Forever Love: A Magician's Memory</i> | HD Narrative | 5 min | 2015 |
| <i>The Story of Leopold the Mouse</i> | HD Narrative | 7 min | 2015 |
| <i>Iris Moon</i> | s16mm Narrative | 10 min | 2007 |
| <i>Tuber</i> | 16 mm Narrative | 4 min | 2005 |
| <i>The Changing Time – Paganism in Austin</i> | DV Documentary | 12 min | 2004 |
| <i>Dust, Wind, Water, Air: The Elements of Faith</i> | DV Documentary | 11 min | 2003 |
| <i>Memory</i> | DV Documentary | 6 min | 2001 |

Tuber Screenings: 16 film festivals in the US, Canada, Denmark, Bulgaria, and the Philippines

Tuber Awards: WESTFest 2005 (*Outstanding Sound Design*)

Magnolia Film Festival 2005 (*2nd Prize*)

Jumpcut Film Festival 2006 (*Judges' Pick*)

POST-PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR

NON-PROFIT

Tucson Metro Chamber, Rotary International, DM50, El Rio Health, Casa de la Luz Hospice, Children's Advocacy Center, Jewish Philanthropies of Southern AZ, Catholic Diocese of Tucson, GALS AZ, Community Water Company, Amerind

COMMERCIAL / CORPORATE

Film Creations Ltd, Tucson International Airport, Aircraft Inspection & Management LLC, Dark Horse Media, Patio Pools & Spas, Shore Dombrowski Law Firm, Pain Institute of Southern AZ, Brian Mitchel DDS

DOCUMENTARY

600 BC: Olmec Ark of the Covenant Mystery (4 episodes)

LesLee Productions LLC

Dir. Lee Sullivan

What Is Burning Man Like?

Dir. Charis Melina Brown

MUSIC / DANCE / THEATER

Shirish Korde (composer), Tucson Chinese Cultural Center, Olivia Bellizzi (actor)

FILMOGRAPHY - CONT.

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY / CAMERA OPERATOR

FEATURE FILM

| | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| <i>Spring Eddy</i> | Spring Eddy Productions, LLC | Dir. George Anson |
| <i>Far Marfa</i> | Marfan Productions | Dir. Cory Van Dyke |
| <i>The Curse of Babylon (additional)</i> | D7 Studios Inc. | Dir. Arik Renee Avila |
| <i>The Squealer</i> | Welfare Productions | Dir. William Sparks |
| <i>The 2 Bobs (2nd Unit)</i> | Texas Avenue Films | Dir. Tim McCanlies |
| <i>Proper Villains (2nd Unit)</i> | LGM Productions | Dir. William Orendorff |
| <i>Ultimate's Guide to Flight (2nd Unit)</i> | Entertainment Think Tank Productions | Dir. Scott Myers |

DOCUMENTARY

| | | |
|--|--|----------------------------------|
| <i>Strangers on the Earth</i> | Walk to Fisterra, LLC | Dir. Tristan Cook |
| <i>600 BC: Olmec Ark of the Covenant Mystery</i> | LesLee Productions, LLC | Dir. Lee Sullivan |
| <i>Gesture (trailer)</i> | Story AB/Sara Jordeno | Dir. Sara Jordeno |
| <i>Southern Rites</i> | Gillian Laub | Dir. Gillian Laub |
| <i>Building Futures</i> | SCALEAfrica | Dir. Miguel Alvarez/Paul Stekler |
| <i>The Witliff Collections</i> | Austin Film Festival | Dir. Miguel Alvarez |
| <i>Kids Green the World</i> | Sundance Channel / Light From The East | Dir. Amy Grappell |
| <i>Reclaiming the Garden</i> | Golden Mean Productions | Dir. Michael Torres |
| <i>Untitled Raul Malo Documentary</i> | The Bluegrass Hotel | Dir. Bill Millet/Iskra Valtcheva |
| <i>The Atticus Profiles</i> | Austin Film Festival | Dir. Miguel Alvarez |
| <i>Tattooed Under Fire</i> | PBS / Mo-Ti Productions | Dir. Nancy Schiesari |

EPISODIC

| | | |
|---|--|--------------------------|
| <i>The Wrights (Sizzle Reel)</i> | Jarrett Creative (SyFy Channel Pilot) | Dir. Edward Christiansen |
| <i>The Trainee (3 Episodes, title seq)</i> | Mauro Flores, Jr. | Dir. Miguel Alvarez |
| <i>Teri Meri Dosti (13 Episodes)</i> | Express Entertainment Channel (Pakistan) | Dir. Shahbazz Anwerr |
| <i>Cell (13 Episodes)</i> | Lovable Varmint Productions | Dir. Mark Gardner |
| <i>Lil Mouse (Ep. 1 & 2, title seq)</i> | Harrison Witt | Dir. Harrison Witt |
| <i>American Salesman (Ep. 3)</i> | Sydewinder Pictures | Dir. Charles Nwachukwu |

SHORT SUBJECT

| | | |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <i>Dormant</i> | Falling Sky Films | Dir. Nello DiGiandomenico |
| <i>Ring</i> | Placid Sound Productions | Dir. Justin Durban |
| <i>Twisted Proverbs: Candle</i> | Manu Forti Films | Dir. Heather Scobie |
| <i>Night Terror</i> | Daniel Keller | Dir. Daniel Keller |
| <i>Brimstone Orphans (feat. trailer)</i> | Brimstone Horsemen | Dir. Larry Soileau/Heath Allyn |
| <i>Fatakra</i> | Natkhat Films | Dir. Soham Mehta |
| <i>Warm Fuzzy</i> | Starveling Productions | Dir. Jayson Oaks |
| <i>After the Fall (feature trailer)</i> | Corpus Christi Watershed | Dir. Chris Thompson |
| <i>Ted Ankrum for Congress</i> | Cinefont | Dir. Javier Bonafont |
| <i>Keep Dreaming</i> | Seth Nyer | Dir. Seth Nyer |
| <i>Soldier</i> | Denise Prince | Dir. Denise Prince |
| <i>The Fish</i> | New Kinetic Cinema | Dir. Samuel Jørgensen |
| <i>Red Wednesday</i> | Pomegranate Films | Dir. Nazanin Shirazi |
| <i>The Ruse</i> | Cupcake Monkey Productions | Dir. Larry Soileau/Heath Ally |
| <i>Sal Monella</i> | Cupcake Monkey Productions | Dir. Larry Soileau/Heath Allyn |
| <i>Johnny Goes to Texas</i> | June Lee | Dir. June Lee |
| <i>Love, Sadie</i> | Marielita Productions | Dir. Naiti Gámez |
| <i>Umbrellas</i> | Jeanne Stern | Dir. Jeanne Stern |
| <i>A Neutral Density</i> | Chiahead Films | Dir. Berndt Mader |

FILMOGRAPHY - CONT.

DANCE FOR THE CAMERA

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|------------------------------|--|------------------------|
| <i>Barefoot Negotiations</i> | Griffin Dance | Dir. Charlotte Griffin |
| <i>Raven Study</i> | Griffin Dance | Dir. Charlotte Griffin |
| <i>Raw Luck</i> | University of TX at Austin - Dept of Dance | Dir. Holly Williams |

MUSIC VIDEO

Raul Malo, Xavier, Trashy And The Kid, Timothy Abbott and Arcana Mundi

COMMERCIAL

Securitas, Dell, Nintendo DS, US Air Force, Blue Belt Technologies, UT Performing Arts Center, SyFy Channel, Zune HD, FedEx, Doritos, Austin Asian Film Festival, Demand Studios, Bill White, City of Austin - Americans with Disabilities, MoveOn.org, eLivingHealth.com

CONTINUITY SUPERVISOR

FEATURE FILM

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <i>April Rain</i> | Artist View Entertainment, Inc. | Dir. Luciano Saber |
| <i>Singularity</i> | New Kinetic Cinema | Dir. Samuel Jørgensen |
| <i>Chase Me Through</i> | More Media / Victory Palmisano | Dir. Blake Salzman |
| <i>Vicious Nature (slated)</i> | Rich Bokides | Dir. Rich Bokides |

EPISODIC

| | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <i>Take Your Shot</i> | AT&T U-verse / ISAtv | Dir. Jon Chu, Freddie Wong, Wong Fu |
| <i>When It Counts</i> | AT&T U-verse | Dir. Wong Fu |
| <i>The Other Door</i> | Blue Bayou Productions | Dir. Harold Sylvester |
| <i>Taka Boom Bites</i> | Creative Music Source Productions | Dir. Tanya Du'Shay |

COMMERCIAL

| | | |
|--------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| <i>State Farm Insurance</i> | COAL | Dir. Sagar Rege |
| <i>Boston Scientific</i> | SALA International, Inc. | Dir. Shawn Frederick |
| <i>Speed Dating Luchadores</i> | Cricket Wireless / Pieta Entertainment | Dir. Emily M. Wilson/Angelo Restaino |
| <i>Kiss Cam (Doritos)</i> | Pieta Entertainment | Dir. Angelo Restaino |

NEW MEDIA

| | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| <i>Bad Behavior (promo)</i> | Feather Films | Dir. Jeff Byrd |
|-----------------------------|---------------|----------------|

ASSISTANT CAMERA

FEATURE FILM

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <i>Six Gun (1st)</i> | Scott Perry | DP: Phil Curry |
| <i>The Advocate (2nd)</i> | Astraea Films LLC | DP: John Honoré |
| <i>Circle of Pain (addtl)</i> | Legacy Films | DP: Jonathan Hall |
| <i>Abel's Field (camera P.A.)</i> | Abel's Field LLC | DP: Ian Ellis |

EPISODIC

| | | |
|---|-------------|---|
| <i>Speakeasy: with Paul F. Tompkins</i> (1st: 5 episodes, 2nd: 19 ep.) | Break Media | DP: Todd Dos Reis, Tommy Upshaw Maddox, Martim Vian |
|---|-------------|---|

SHORT SUBJECT

| | | |
|---|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| <i>Therapy Sessions – trailer (1st)</i> | Tarvenia Jones | DP: Tommy Upshaw Maddox |
| <i>Double Dare (1st)</i> | 88 MPH Films | DP: Billy McCartney |
| <i>The Green Dress (1st)</i> | Cauleen Smith | DP: Steven Burhoe |
| <i>The White Bunny (1st)</i> | Rocket Films | DP: Berndt Mader |
| <i>Frank and the Box (2nd)</i> | Bottomless Well Productions | DP: Lucas Millard |
| <i>Aidan FX – trailer (2nd)</i> | Stacy Ekstein | DP: Chris Ekstein, Jess Haas |

FILMOGRAPHY - CONT.

COMMERCIAL

Somnio (1st) Michael Morlan DP: Michael Morlan

MUSIC VIDEO

Bombs Away (1st) Tallie Brinson DP: Foster Corder

CHIEF SET LIGHTING TECHNICIAN

FEATURE FILM

The Eves Conation Films DP: Thomas Bango
The Overbrook Brothers Sixth Street Films DP: Mike Washlesky
Daylight Parts and Labor DP: Nils Kenaston
Anything for Now WPFG Studios DP: Michael Morlan
Deadly Obsession Popcorn Productions DP: Michael Morlan

SHORT SUBJECT

Flatline GE Focus Forward (Sundance) DP: Naiti Gámez
Martha Rocket Films DP: Naiti Gámez
Capture Claus Needfunds Films DP: Naiti Gámez
Theatre of the Mind DP: Phil Curry DP: Phil Curry
Intervention Double Think Productions DP: Phil Curry
The Aviatrix Dir. Toddy Burton DP: Nathanael Vorce
The Miracle Investigators Dir. Jeremy Da DP: June Lee
Kid (Cabrito) Estebandido Productions DP: Naiti Gámez
Jean = Truth Dir. Sun-Hee Cho DP: Lucas Millard
The Light Bulb Bloodbank Productions DP: Maru Buendia-Senties
I Want to See My Skirt Dir. Cauleen Smith DP: Naiti Gámez
The Jack Horner Mysteries Dir. Mary Roland DP: Leslie Bumgarner
Just Another Day Dir. Paul Wright DP: Ivaylo Markov
David Boy and Fantastic Graham Slowkid Productions DP: Ivaylo Markov
Western (additional gaffer) Dir. Lucas Millard DP: Jason Eitelbach
The Second Coming (addtl gaffer) Exodus Filmworks DP: Lucas Millard

COMMERCIAL

Department of Justice, Red Cross, AMD, Fuddruckers, JCPenney, T3, Trojan Man, Community Partnership for the Homeless, Cedar Park Regional Medical Center, match.com, Mopac Media, Caribbean Dance

MUSIC VIDEO

Dar Williams, Shyler D, Young Bleed, Shirley Knight

FILMOGRAPHY - CONT.

LAMP OPERATOR • BEST BOY ELECTRIC

FEATURE FILM

| | | |
|--|--------------------------|---------------------|
| <i>Wilderness (best boy) (pickups)</i> | Wilderness LLC | DP: Mike Simpson |
| <i>The 2 Bobs</i> | Texas Avenue Films | DP: PJ Raval |
| <i>Conflict of Interest</i> | Ranch Studios | DP: Phil Curry |
| <i>Mars</i> | Marsnaut Films | DP: Jason Eitelbach |
| <i>Fighting with Anger</i> | Do or Die Pictures | DP: Phil Curry |
| <i>The Cassidy Kids</i> | Burnt Orange Productions | DP: PJ Raval |

SHORT SUBJECT

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| <i>Bitter Memories (best boy)</i> | Scenarios USA | DP: Stuart Dryburgh |
| <i>Redhook (best boy)</i> | KB Films | DP: Dimitar Gotchev |
| <i>Hair Dues</i> | Autumn Leonard | DP: Jess Haas |
| <i>Chickenfüt</i> | Unemployed Entertainment | DP: PJ Raval |
| <i>Katie's Journey</i> | New Kinetic Cinema | DP: Nathanael Vorce |
| <i>Swerve</i> | PJ Raval | DP: PJ Raval |
| <i>Clouded</i> | Polyvinyl Pictures | DP: Naiti Gámez |

SKILLS

- **Picture Editing Platforms:** DaVinci Resolve, Adobe Premiere, Final Cut Pro, CapCut, iMovie, Media 100
- **Digital Audio Platforms:** Fairlight, Logic Pro, GarageBand, Reaper, Ableton, Audacity, Kontakt
- **AI Generators:** Leonardo, Runway ML, Haiper, ElevenLabs
- **Film Cameras:** Arriflex 435/235, Arriflex 35 BL III/IV, Arriflex 16 SR/BL, Bolex H16 Rex5
- **HD Cameras:** Blackmagic Design, Red/Epic, Phantom, Sony, Panasonic, and Canon models
- **Writing & Office:** Final Draft, Celtx, Storyist, Microsoft Office Suite, Pages, Numbers, Keynote
- **Languages:** Fluent in English, Spanish, Russian, Bulgarian; some French
- **Valid Passport:** Ready to travel for projects filming abroad