

Katerina Cizek

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Katerina Cizek is a documentary-maker working across many media platforms: linear films, radio, print, television, emerging new media and live presentations. Her work has documented the Digital Revolution, and has itself become part of the movement. She created and realized the acclaimed **NFB Filmmaker-in-Residence program**, winner of a Webby Award ("The Oscars of the internet", according to *The New York Times*), a Banff Rocky Award, a Canadian New Media Award, among other awards and nominations, including the prestigious U.K. Grierson: Sheffield Award for Innovation in Documentary. Her films have instigated criminal investigations, changed UN policies, and have screened as evidence at an International Criminal Tribunal. Cizek's films include the Hampton-Prize winner **Seeing is Believing: Handicams, Human Rights and the News** (co-directed with Peter Wintonick), and (as co-writer, editor and narrator) **The Dead are Alive: Eyewitness in Rwanda**, the first long-form television documentary to examine the tragic events of 1994. Cizek's approach to her practice is hands-on: she writes, directs, shoots, edits, and designs. She has travelled the world with her films, teaching and lecturing about her innovative approach to the documentary genre.

FILMOGRAPHY

- 2008 **The 7 Interventions of Filmmaker-in-Residence** NFB
Director (with Heather Frise) A feature film about the award-winning innovation to place Cizek as a filmmaker-in-residence at a major inner-city hospital.
- My Life as a Lone Twin** [Feature documentary in development] Wild Heart Productions
Scriptwriter (with director, Anna Van der Wee)
- Drawing from Life** (28 min.) NFB Filmmaker-in-Residence
Director, Camera, Editor, Writer A documentary-animation film about suicide.
- Unexpected** (17 min.) NFB Filmmaker-in-Residence
Director A "video-bridge" between homeless mothers and health-workers who deliver their babies.
- Alanis Obomsawin: Dream Magic** (4.5 min) NFB in collaboration with the National Arts Centre (NAC) to celebrate the recipients of the 2008 Governor General's Performing Arts Awards.
Director, Editor A documentary/animation tribute to the Abenaki artist and documentarian.
- 2007 **Street Health Stories** (9 min.) NFB Filmmaker-in-Residence
Director, Editor Examines health and homelessness, weaving intimate audio interviews with portrait-photography collected by four young women who have themselves experienced homelessness. Featured on CBC News: Sunday
- 2006 **The Interventionists** (30 min.) NFB Filmmaker-in-Residence
Director, Editor, Writer A verité look at an pioneering mental crisis intervention team. Broadcast on CBC, nominated for Gemini Award for Best Director.
- The Bicycle** (14 min.) NFB Filmmaker-in-Residence [broadcast on CBC in Canada, Showtime in USA, AIDS 2006, Margaret Mead] *Director, Videographer, Editor* A cinematic portrayal of community-based health care to fight AIDS in Malawi.
- 2004 **The President's Playground** (11 min.) [Soros Grant]
Editor A short lyrical film about the dictatorship in Turkmenistan, Central Asia.
- 2003 **A Shot in the Arm** (15 min.) [CBC News: Marketplace]
Director An investigation into the anti-vaccination movement. Gemini Award nomination.
- 2002 **Seeing is Believing: Handicams, Human Rights and the News** (58 min.) Necessary Illusions
Co-director (with Peter Wintonick), Co-producer, Editor, Scriptwriter, Narrator
In assoc. with CBC/RDI/SRC, VRT (Belgium), DRK (Danemark) IKON (Holland), SBS (Aus). An investigation into the political uses of the handicap and new technologies, to document human rights abuses around the world. Won prestigious Abraham Prize at Hamptons. Shown at over 60 film festivals, broadcast in 15 international territories (including Sundance in USA).

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FILMOGRAPHY (continued)

- 2000 **The Water Wars** Contact TV Magazine, *Director, Editor, Writer*
A 3-part series on the Water Crisis in Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan.
- 1999 **In Search of the African Queen: A People-Smuggling Operation** (48 min.)
Co-Director, Co-producer, Editor, Writer, Narrator, Additional Photography
An investigative documentary about the global people-smuggling trade. In Association with TV-Ontario. Filmed in Sri Lanka, Senegal, Guinea-Conakry, U.K. and Canada. Broadcast in Canada, Belgium, Norway, Finland, Australia, Portugal, Spain and South Korea.
- 1998 **Indian Posse: Life in Aboriginal Gang Territory** (40 min.)
Co-director, Co-producer, Editor, In Association with CBC Newsworld. A verité portrait of three families struggling to survive in Canada's largest Aboriginal gang territory: Winnipeg, Manitoba. Hot Docs Fest, Nominated for Canadian Association of Journalists Award.
- 1997 **Fairy** feature fiction script
Scriptwriter, An adaptation of Dvorak's opera *Rusalka*, set in contemporary Montreal.
- 1996 **The Dead Are Alive: Eyewitness in Rwanda** (40 min.)
Editor, Co-Writer, Narrator - Official Canada-Belgium Co-Production
Drawn from hundreds of hours of archival footage, this documentary is based on the personal diary of a journalist reporting on the Rwandan Genocide. Broadcast in Belgium, Holland, Germany, Japan, Norway, Sweden, Czech Republic, Australia, Italy and Canada. Winner of 10 global awards. Screened as evidence at the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda.
- 1995 **Waiting for a Miracle** (54 min.)
Director, Co-Producer, Writer, Questions the Czech Velvet Revolution through the eyes of six women. With support from Canada Council, Aired on WTN, CFCF-12, CKCO, Vision, CzechTV.
- 1995 **Ayouwin: A Way of Life** (24 min.)
Producer - A director's poetic study of his father, a James Bay Cree trapper.
- 1994 **Power of the North** (54 min.)
Editor, Writer, Additional Photography, A youth-oriented musical look at the battle between the Crees and Hydro-Quebec over Canada's northern rivers. Broadcast on TVO, the US on MTV and Discovery, Belgium, Argentina.

NEW MEDIA/DIGITAL PROJECTS

- 2004-08 **www.nfb.ca/filmmakerinresidence**
Project Lead, Creative Director, Writer, Videographer, Photographer
2008 Webby for Documentary Series, 2008 Banff Award for Internet Only Program, 2007 Flashforward Award, 2007 Montreal Prix Boomerang, 2007 Canadian New Media Award for News and Information. Nominated for the 2007 U.K. Grierson Award for Innovation in Documentary, 2007 Gemini Award for Best Director, 2007 UN World Summit Awards
- 2003 **www.horizonzero.ca** issue no. 9 (summer 2003)
Contributing Director to Banff New Media Institute web publication
Directed, conceived and shot two interactive web-based documentaries: "Hot Docs Talks" (about the role of new media in documentary form) and "Alanis Obomsawin: dream magic" (an interactive tribute to a Canadian documentary legend)
- 2002 - 03 **www.seeingisbelieving.ca**
Project Lead, Creative Director, Co-Producer, Necessary Illusions
Website exploring the role of new media in social and political contexts.

PRINT

- 2007 Annual Film Textbook, Contemporary Learning Series, **McGraw-Hill USA**
Writer, "The Real Deal," Chapter on the documentary rage.
- 2006 Book on Contemporary Film Movements, **Film Institute, Stuttgart**
Writer, "The Handicam Revolution" Chapter, translated into German.
- 2006 International AIDS conference 2006, Toronto, ON
Academic poster presentation with co-presenter, Dr. Katherine Rouleau, "
- 2006 **Schnitt 41**, Das Filmmagazin, Germany, January 2006, Special Issue on Globalization
Writer, "The Handicam Revolution" Essay on the democratization of media.
- 2005 **THIS Magazine**, November 2005, Special Issue on Film, *Writer,*
"The Documentary is Everywhere." Essay on the current documentary rage.
- 2005 Video for Change, Book published by **Pluto Press U.K.**, *Contributing Writer*
Wrote three chapters examining the use of new media to document human rights abuses.
Interviews with internationally renowned journalists, filmmakers, artists .
- 2004 **Walrus Magazine**, January 2004 issue
Writer, "Georgia on my Mind" Personal essay on the fall of Shevardnadze.
- 1993-98 **The Nation**, A bi-weekly newsmagazine
Co-Founder, Art Director, Special Projects Lead, Graphic Designer, Writer, Editor
An independent bi-weekly newsmagazine by and for the James Bay Cree First Nations.
- 1990-92 **The McGill Daily**, Daily University Student Newspaper, *Senior Editor*
Responsible for editorial, daily operations, production, training, design and photo department.

TELEVISION / RADIO

- 2003-04 Canadian Broadcasting Corporation -Television
Producer - Research, direct, shoot and edit 4 documentary segments including an investigative item nominated for 2004 Gemini Award.
- 1999-2001 Contact Magazine, Brussels, Belgium (European Media Programme)
Series Manager, Director, Writer, Editor
Monthly tv series broadcast around the world on 350 stations.
- 1994-6 Canadian Broadcasting Corporation - Radio, Montreal, Canada
Live Studio Director, Writer-Broadcaster, Researcher
Journalist for daily 3-hour current affairs program.
- 1992 Canadian Broadcasting Corporation-Television, Road Movies, *Alternate Videographer*
Trained with national videography team for weekly national youth series.

EDUCATION / LANGUAGES

1992, First Class Honours B.A. in Anthropology, with Great Distinction. McGill, Montreal, QC
Fluent in English, French, Czech. Working knowledge of German, Russian.

SKILLS / SOFTWARE

Writing, research, investigative research, directing, producing, story editing, videography, editing (Final Cut Pro, Avid), graphic design (Indesign, Photoshop, Illustrator), Web Design (basic html, photoshop), opensource (wiki, blogging, photosharing etc.), photography, project management, project creation, social marketing, strategic campaign creation, community development, outreach, public speaking, teaching, mentoring, media training, strategic planning, team management, creative/art direction.

PRIZES AND AWARDS

- 2008 **Webby Award** for Documentary Series, **Banff Rocky Award** for Internet Only Program for www.nfb.ca/filmmakerinresidence
- 2007 **Canadian New Media Award, FlashForward, Montreal Bommerang**, nominated for **UN World Summit Award, Grierson Sheffield Award** for Innovation in Documentary for www.nfb.ca/filmmakerinresidence
- 2007 Nominated for **Gemini Award for Best Directon** for *The Interventionists*.
- 2006 Selected for **Margaret Mead Festival** in NYC, Chris Honourable Mention at Columbus, Finalist for a Freddie at the International Medical Media Awards for *The Bicycle*
- 2003 **Gemini nomination** (Donald Brittain Award), **Amnesty Award nomination** (Danish Documentary Festival), Award of Commendation (Society of Visual Anthropology), Special Jury Prize (Yorkton Film Festival) for *Seeing is Believing*
- 2002 **Abraham Prize** for "Films of Conflict and Resolution" at the Hamptons International Film Festival, for *Seeing is Believing*. Cash prize of \$25,000 USD.
- 2000 Co-recipient of the **Kodak Award for New Talent**, [Women in Film and Television] Canadian Association of Journalists Award, Amnesty International Film Festival for *In Search of the African Queen*
- 1996-8 **ECHO Humanitarian Award**, Best Story Award (Prague), Gemini nomination for scriptwriting, **New York World Festival (Bronze)**, **Golden Gate Award** (San Francisco) Banff Television Festival, INPUT at Mexico, **Biarritz Festival Award** for *The Dead Are Alive*.

LECTURES, PRESENTATIONS, TEACHING AND JURIES

- 2009 Mentor at EsoDoc Film School, Europe (upcoming)
5-day workshop at Summer Institute for Film and Television (upcoming)
1-day workshop at York University, Toronto (upcoming)
Presentation to the New Media Lab at Canadian Film Centre
- 2008 Moderator with artists from Hebron, Voices Forward Festival, Toronto
Presentation: Suicide Studies **Grand Rounds**, St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto
Lecture, **Ontario Non Profit Housing Assoc. Conference**, Ottawa
Presentation, **Montreal Festival of New Cinema**, Montreal
Lecture at Canadian Film Centre New Media Lab, Toronto
Senior Artist at Interactive Screen, **Banff New Media Institute**, Alberta
Speaker at charity event, Race for Dignity, Toronto
Jury Member for **Gemini Awards**, Toronto
3-day course at **Summer Institute for Film and Television** Ottawa
Mentor, Teacher at **European Social Documentary Program**, Italy, Latvia
Mentor, **DocAgora Convergence Lab** at Hot Docs
Lecture at Doc U, **Hot Docs**
Guest Lecturer at **Georgetown University**, Washington D.C.
Presentation for **National Action Committee on the Status of Women** Lunch, Toronto
Presentation: Obstetrics/Gynecology **Grand Rounds**, St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto
Speaker at **Harkness Canadian Health Policy Tour**, Toronto
Panelist at community meeting on mental health and housing, Toronto
Designer of Handhled [un]conference, Toronto
Video-conference lecture at **Australian International Documentary Conference**
Lecture at **DocIT! Symposium**, Toronto
- 2007 Panelist, Knowledge Translation in Motion, **University of Toronto**
Speaker at Charity Function, **Burgundy Asset Management Ltd.** Toronto
Presentation at Guelph Film Festival, Ontario
Lecture for graduate students, **Ryerson University**, Toronto
Panelist, Cross Platform at St. John's Women's Festival, Newfoundland
Panelist at charity event, GetLit, Toronto
Moderator, **Video Advocacy Insitute**, Montreal
Presentation to the **Toronto Police Services Board**, Toronto
Panelist, iLunch with **Interactive Ontario**, Toronto
Panelist, Contact Photo Festival, Toronto

LECTURES... (CONTINUED)

- 2007 (cnt'd) Lecture and presentation, NFB Doc Talks at Hot Docs Film Festival, Toronto
Lecture and presentation at Doc U, Hot Docs
Presentation, International Health Program, University of Toronto
Guest Lecturer, Seneca College New Media Program, Toronto
Panelist at **Centre for Social Media, American U.**, Washington D.C.
- 2006 Presentation at **IDFA**, DocAgora (largest doc fest in the world) Amsterdam
Guest Speaker at University of Windsor, Law students, Windsor
Panelist at Rendez Vous with Madness Film Festival, Toronto
Launch speaker Filmmaker-in-Residence, NFB, Toronto
- 2006 Poster presentation, **International AIDS Conference** in Toronto
Workshop on Interventionist Media, **Conference on Global Health**, Ottawa
Speaker, mentor and 2 workshops at **EsoDoc Film School**, Bolzano, Italy
Speaker at Private screening, Spoke Club, Toronto
Speaker at Youth Retreat for Dignitas International University Club, Toronto
Distinguished Speaker at Havergal Girl's School, Toronto
Opening Speaker at NFB's Momentum Emerging Filmmakers' Program, Toronto
- 2005 Panelist at THIS! Magazine's film issue launch, Toronto
Panelist at Urban Health Conference (Community-based Research), Toronto
Panelist at **Visible Evidence Conference**, Concordia University, Montreal
Keynote Lecture + 2 workshops at EsoDoc in Bolzano, Italy
Guest Lecture in Communication and Culture, at University of Calgary, Alberta
Keynote Lecture at **Dokumentarie Film Haus** in Cologne, Germany
Guest Lecture in Graduate Seminar in Communications, Concordia Uni., Montreal
- 2004 One-Day workshop on international journalism, Guelph OPIRG conference
Panelist on Handicam Revolution at McLuhan Festival, Toronto
Panelist on Participatory Media at University of Guelph communications conference
- 2003 One-Day workshop on Ethics of Documentary, Guelph Film Festival
Jury member for Golden Starfish Documentary Award, **Hampton's Film Festival**
Panelist at **Danish TV Festival**, Copenhagen Denmark
Panelist at **Flaherty Film Seminar** in Poughkeepsie New York
Guest Lecturer at Summer Institute for Film and Television Ottawa
Workshop on Post-Production for NFB's cultural diversity program, Montreal
- 2002 Member of Canadian Delegation to **Sheffield Documentary Festival**, England
Guest lecture on Ethnographic Film, Université de Montréal, Montreal
- 2000 Member of Canadian Delegation to **Nordisk Documentary Forum**, Norway
Guest Lecture on Genocide in Rwanda, McGill University, Montreal
- 1999 Panel on Verité filmmaking at Hot Docs International Film Festival, Toronto
1998 Guest Lecture on Community-based filmmaking, Vanier College, Montreal
1997 Jury member for Gemini Awards, Academy of Canadian Television and Film
Guest Lecture on Humanitarian Aid & Media, Dawson College, Montreal
1996 Guest Lecture on Producing Documentary TV, Concordia University, Montreal
1995 5-day workshop on Producing Print Media, Canadian University Press, Ottawa

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CIZEK is "One to watch" — *The National Post*

SEEING IS BELIEVING "Navigates the fast-moving waters of the modern media age with the skilled touch of an ace paddler." — *Katherine Monk, Vancouver Sun*

SEEING IS BELIEVING "is inspiring and thoughtful" — *The Sundance Channel*

THE PHOTOBLOGGING PROJECT is "An incredibly imaginative program. I am proud to be mayor of city in which such an extra-ordinary thing can happen, as young women being given the resources to document their stories from their own point of view." — *David Miller, Mayor of Toronto*

THE PHOTOBLOGGING PROJECT is "Remarkable" — *Miriam Siddiqi, The National Post*

www.nfb.ca/filmmakerinresidence is "Engrossing" — *Guy Dixon, The Globe and Mail*

www.nfb.ca/filmmakerinresidence "Almost made us want to move to Canada." — *The US-based Pulp-Portal*
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SELECTED MEDIA COVERAGE

Barry, Andie, Metro Morning, CBC-Radio Toronto, on Filmmaker-in-Residence, Nov. 7, 2006
Anyz, Daniel "Kdo Uvidi, Uveri" **Respekt (Czech Republic)** April 2003
Engel, Amoryn, "After Hours" **The National Post**, on THE BICYCLE February 2006
Barlow, Julie "Behind the Camera" The Montreal Gazette, March 1996
Boshra, Basen "Video-camera Activism" The Montreal Gazette Nov 2002
CBC News: Sunday, on-camera interview with Cizek, Street Health Stories, Sept 2007
CBC-TV "Citybeat," on New Talent Award, April 2000
CBC-Radio "Homerun," on Seeing is Believing, Oct 2002
CBC-Radio, cross-country morning shows, on Indian Posse, February 1999
Childerhose, Buffy "Fast Forward," **Chatelaine magazine**, Oct 1999
Chin, Andrew, "All aboard the African Queen," The Varsity, March 2000
Collard, Nathalie "Dans ma Caméra," La Presse, Oct 2002
City TV on-camera interview with "Movie Television," on Seeing at Nouveau Cinema, Oct 2002
CKUT- Radio "XX Files" on Women and Video, Nov 2002
CKRU - Radio on Independent Journalism and Gender, Nov 2004
Defoy, Michel, "La Handycam Veille" ICI, Oct 2002
Dixon, Guy on Filmmaker-in-Residence, **The Globe and Mail**, 2007
Eisner, Ken on Seeing is Believing, **Variety**, Oct 2002
Fulford, Robert, "Camcorder puts Social Issues on Fast Forward," **The National Post**, Nov 2002
Global TV, on-camera interview, "This Morning Live," with Tracy McGee, on Seeing, Oct 2002
Gorman, Brian "Eye-Opener" Halifax Chronicle Herald, Oct 2002
Hays, Matthew, "The World is Watching" Montreal Mirror, Oct 31, 2002
Hays, Matthew "Handicams" in **The Globe and Mail**, Nov. 2002
Hornaday, Ann "A Lens on the World: Musician Peter Gabriel," **The Washington Post**, Nov 2002
HOUR Magazine's Montreal top filmmakers of the year, Jan 2003
Jomenez, Marina "Repatriated Tamils..." **The National Post**, Feb 2000
Katadotis, Dmitiri, "Exploding Myths in Indian Posse" HOUR, Feb 1999
Katadotis, Dmitiri, "Super Heroines for 1999" HOUR, Dec 1999
Katadotis, Dimitri, "Journey into Fear", HOUR Magazine, March 2000
Menezes, Ervell E. "Dedicated to Documentaries" **Tribune India (India)**, April 2002
The LANCET, Obituary for Pax Chingawale, of The Bicycle, U.K. Fall 2007
Menon, Vinay, "Horror as Witnessed through a camcorder" **The Toronto Star**, Nov 2002
Monk, Katherine on Seeing is Believing, The Vancouver Sun, Oct 2002
Monsebraaten, Laurie "New Lens on an Old Problem" The Toronto Star, May 2008
The Montreal Gazette, "Kind of Miracle," Dec 1995
Nebenzahl, Donna "Sisters in Cinema" The Montreal Gazette, April 24, 2000
Nelson, Rob, "The Camcorder as Shield," Mother Jones, USA Sept/Oct 2003
Punter, Jennie, "Rendez Vous with Madness" in **The Globe and Mail**, Nov 2006
Radio-Canada Télévision, on-camera interview with Cizek (french) on "Info-Man" February 2005
Roberts, David "Three Ordinary families struggling for a foothold" **The Globe and Mail**, Feb. 13 1999
Roger's TV, Vancouver on Seeing at VIFF, Oct 2002
Ryan, Andrew "Shortlist" **The Globe and Mail**, Nov 2002
Schmitt, Elfriede, "Die Anderen Bilder," **Kölnner StadtAnzeiger (Germany)**, March 7, 2005
Seifert, Heribert, "Mit Bildern die Welt verändern," Neue Zurcher Zeitung, (Switzerland) March 11 2005
Siddiqi, Mariam, "Pregnant with Possibility" about photoblogging project, **The National Post**, Feb 2007
Silversides, Anne, "Filmming at the Frontlines of Health," **Canadian Medical Association Journal**, Nov 2007
Snowdon, Shelly Cizek as "One to Watch" **The National Post**, Sept. 2000
Talaga, Tanya "AIDS Group calls on Corporate Canada" The Toronto Star, August 2006
Vidal, Koen "Spookschip naar het beloofde land," **De Morgen (Belgium)** feature on Cizek, Dec 1999
Vancouver Westender "****" on Seeing is Believing, Sept 2002
WDR (German Public Radio), March 2005
Wintonick, Peter "The Camcorder Revolution" DOX, Dec 2002
Wintonick, Peter "NFB" POV, about Filmmaker-in-Residence, Nov 2006