



#### **Damon Davis**

Whose Streets?; All Hands on Deck



Damon Davis is a post-disciplinary, Emmy Award-winning artist based in St. Louis, Missouri. In a practice that is part therapy, part social commentary, his work spans a spectrum of creative mediums to tell stories exploring how identity is informed by power and mythology. He is co-director of the critically acclaimed documentary *Whose Streets?*, chronicling the Ferguson uprisings. Davis is known for his work designing *Pillars of the Valley*, a monument to the displaced Mill Creek Valley community in downtown St. Louis as part of the Brickline Greenway. His work has been nominated for the Peabody Award and is featured in the permanent collection of the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture. Davis is a Firelight Media, Sundance Labs, TED, and Kennedy Center Citizen Artist Fellow.



# **Abby Ellis**

Shots Fired; Flint's Deadly Water



Abby Ellis is a Peabody and Emmy-nominated director who makes films about the moments and institutions that shape us. She was the Hollyhock Filmmaker-in-Residence at PBS, where she wrote, directed, and produced Flint's Deadly Water, Shots Fired, and American Patriot. Prior to that, Abby produced America Divided, an original docuseries executive produced by Norman Lear and Shonda Rhimes. Abby was selected for DOC NYC's 40 Under 40 list. She is a member of the Arab and Middle Eastern Journalists Association and serves frequently in the industry as a juror, panelist, and moderator for film festivals and funding panels.



## **Taryn Gould**

Nam June Paik: Moon is the Oldest TV; All I Can Say



Taryn Gould is an award-winning documentary filmmaker and editor based in Brooklyn. She began her career on the road documenting artists like Lil Mama and The Roots, and filming for Atlantic records. Her work has been shortlisted for an Academy Award, and nominated for a Best Music Film Grammy, an Outstanding Documentary Emmy, and a Critics' Choice Award. It has screened at Sundance, Berlin, Tribeca, SXSW, Hot Docs, SIFF, IDFA, CPH:DOX, Locarno, MoMA, The Met, and the National Gallery of Art. Her documentaries include All I Can Say (2021, co-director, editor, producer), Nam June Paik: Moon is the Oldest TV (2023, editor), Tina (2021, editor), Ram Dass, Going Home (2017, editor, co-producer), Narcissister Organ Player (2018, producer, editor), Susanne Bartsch: On Top (2016, editor, co-producer), and Let's Play Two: Pearl Jam Live at Wrigley Field (2017, editor, co-writer). Her most recent project is about the legendary filmmaker D.A. Pennebaker.



#### **Robert Greene**

Procession; Actress



Robert Greene's most recent film, *Procession* (Telluride 2021), is distributed by Netflix and was nominated for an Emmy, an Independent Spirit Award, a Peabody, and was shortlisted for an Academy Award. His *Bisbee '17* (2018) premiered at Sundance, aired on PBS's POV, and was nominated for Best Documentary at the Gotham Awards. Other films include the Sundance Award-winning *Kate Plays Christine* (2016) and the Gotham Award-nominated *Actress* (2014). Robert was an inaugural Sundance Art of Nonfiction fellow in 2015 and served on the U.S. Documentary Jury for the 2017 Sundance Film Festival. Most recently, Robert produced and edited both *Pavements* (Venice 2024) and *The Featherweight* (Venice 2023). He edited *Her Smell* (2018), *Golden Exits* (2017), *Queen of Earth* (2015), and *Listen Up Philip* (2014) by Alex Ross Perry. Robert has written for outlets such as *Sight & Sound*. He co-created the Murray Center for Documentary Journalism at the University of Missouri.



### Sky Hopinka

matni - towards the ocean, towards the shore; Sunflower Siege Engine



Sky Hopinka (Ho-Chunk Nation/Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians) is a multimedia artist and filmmaker whose work explores themes of Indigenous homeland, language, and identity. Born and raised in Ferndale, Washington, and Palm Springs, California, Hopinka studied and taught Chinuk Wawa, an Indigenous language of the Lower Columbia River Basin, in Portland, Oregon. His films have been showcased at renowned festivals including Sundance, Toronto International Film Festival, and Locarno, and his works have been featured in major exhibitions such as the Whitney Biennial and the Gwangju Bienniale. His solo exhibitions include shows at CCS Bard and LUMA Arles. His art is held in collections at MoMA, the Guggenheim, and SFMOMA amongst others. He has been awarded fellowships from Radcliffe and Sundance, the Herb Alpert Award, a Guggenheim Fellowship, and a 2022 MacArthur Fellowship. Hopinka is an assistant professor at Harvard University and lives in Brooklyn, New York.





**Tracy Jarrett**Victim/Suspect; The Fire That Took Her



Tracy Jarrett is a Peabody and Emmy Award-winning filmmaker who synthesizes rigorous journalistic investigation with heartfelt documentary storytelling. She most recently was a producer on *Victim/Suspect* (2023, Sundance, Netflix), *The Fire That Took Her* (2022, MTV Studios, Outstanding Crime and Justice Documentary Emmy), and *Working: What We Do All Day*, featuring President Barack Obama (2023, Netflix). Her work on *Charlottesville: Race and Terror* (2017, HBO) earned 4 Emmy Awards, a Peabody Award, and was TIME's TV episode of the year. Tracy is directing her first feature with Sandbox Films, which has received support from the Sundance Institute, the Catapult Film Fund, and the Concordia Studio Fellowship.



Jason Kohn

Nothing Lasts Forever; Love Means Zero



Jason Kohn is an award-winning documentary filmmaker. Although born and raised in New York, his family's Brazilian roots led Jason to São Paulo, where he produced and directed his debut film Manda Bala (Send A Bullet). That film examined the connections between political corruption and violence in Brazil, and won the 2007 Sundance Film Festival's Grand Jury and Best Cinematography Awards. Love Means Zero was Jason's second feature documentary about legendary tennis coach Nick Bollettieri and premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival in 2017. Jason's latest film, Nothing Lasts Forever, investigates the criminal and philosophical controversies surrounding synthetic diamonds.



**Jennie Livingston** 

Paris Is Burning; Through the Ice



Jennie Livingston is working on a feature-length nonfiction film, *Earth Camp One*, about losing several family members in a short period of time; it's also about a hippie summer camp in Northern California in the 1970s. Their film *Paris is Burning* won a Sundance Grand Jury Prize in 1991, was included in the Film Registry at the Library of Congress in 2016, and in 2022, film critic A.O. Scott called it one of his ten best films of all time. Livingston wrote and directed the nonfiction shorts *Through the Ice* and *Hotheads*, and the musical short *Who's the Top?*. Jennie was a consulting producer and a director on the series *Pose*, and created a video for Elton John's live show. Fellowships and grants include a Guggenheim Fellowship, grants from the NEA and the New York State Council on the Arts, and four MacDowell residencies.



#### Maisha Maene

Mulika; Niobium



Maisha Maene is a Congolese screenwriter and director based in Goma, Democratic Republic of the Congo. As an artist, he works on issues of human rights and the environment, as well as various collaborative projects. Maisha has written and directed five short films. His most recent short film, *Mulika*, won a Pardi di Domani Jury Prize at the Locarno Film Festival 2022, Best Sound Design at Filmfest Dresden 2023, and Best Film and Best Cinematography at FICKIN' International Film Festival Kinshasa. *Mulika* was selected at the Sundance Film Festival, Clermont Ferrand, and FESPACO. His fiction feature film project *Niobium* was selected for the Locarno Residency 2023. Maisha was selected to participate in the Berlinale Talents Doc Station Lab in 2024 with his documentary feature film project *Spaceman in Kongo*, which is currently in development.



# **Marley McDonald**

Time Bomb Y2K; Eno



Marley McDonald is a filmmaker and painter living in Queens, New York. She directed and edited her debut feature-length documentary, *Time Bomb Y2K*, which aired on HBO in December 2023. She most recently edited the generative documentary *Eno*, which premiered at Sundance 2024. In 2021, she was chosen as a Points North Fellow and worked as an additional editor on Penny Lane's film *Listening to Kenny G*. Her associate editor work includes *Spaceship Earth*, which premiered at Sundance 2020, and the Golden Lion-winning and Oscar-nominated documentary *All the Beauty and the Bloodshed*.





**Jesse Moss** *Boys State; Mayor Pete* 



Jesse Moss co-directed two films that premiered at the 2024 Sundance Film Festival: *Girls State* (with Amanda McBaine) and *War Game* (with Tony Gerber). *Girls State* is streaming globally on AppleTV+ and was nominated for three Primetime Emmys. *War Game* is currently in theaters around the country. Jesse co-directed *Boys State*, which won the Grand Jury Prize at the 2020 Sundance Film Festival, the 2021 Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Documentary, and was shortlisted for the Academy Award. The film was released by Apple and A24. President Barack Obama included *Boys State* on his list of favorite movies of 2020. Past work includes *The Mission* for National Geographic Documentary Films/Disney+, *Mayor Pete* for Amazon Original Films, and *The Overnighters*, which won the Special Jury Prize at the Sundance Film Festival and was shortlisted for the Academy Award. For Netflix he directed *The Family*, a five-part series.



Juliana Schatz Preston Los Comandos, Waiting for Tearah



Juliana Schatz Preston is a Colombian-American filmmaker. Her directorial debut, *Los Comandos*, was shortlisted for the 2019 Academy Award. Her most recent short film, *Waiting for Tearah*, premiered at the Double Exposure Film Festival. Her work has been supported by ITVS, FRONTLINE, Firelight Media, Type Investigations, The Fund for Investigative Journalism, The Sundance Institute | Sandbox Fund, Women in Film, the Producers Guild of America, and participated in the Film Independent Fast Track.



**Lynne Siefert**Generations; The Open Window



Lynne Siefert is a moving image artist whose work addresses issues relating to the climate crisis, cultural amnesia, and political complacency. Siefert's 16mm films and digital works have been exhibited in festivals such as the Berlinale, Edinburgh International Film Festival, EXiS Experimental Film and Video Festival, and in galleries and museums such as the Seattle Art Museum, Jacob Lawrence Gallery, and Glass Box Gallery, among others. She is currently located in Phoenix, AZ, where she is working on her second feature film, *Valley of the Night*, for which she recently received best pitch at Ji.hlava IDFF New Visions Forum in the US Docs category, and the Sandbox Award for Best Pitch at Camp 4Science held by Academia Film Olomouc.



Lana Wilson
Look Into My Eyes; Miss Americana



Lana Wilson is an Emmy-winning director and writer. Her most recent film, Look Into My Eyes, premiered at Sundance 2024 and will be theatrically released by A24 this fall. Wilson's previous work includes After Tiller (2013), a film about the four most targeted abortion doctors in America that premiered at Sundance 2013 and won an Emmy for Best Documentary; Miss Americana (2020), a Netflix documentary about Taylor Swift, which was the opening night film of Sundance 2020, a New York Times Critic's Pick, and named one of the five best documentaries of the year by the National Board of Review; and Pretty Baby: Brooke Shields (2023), a two-part Hulu series that premiered at Sundance 2023, won a Cinema Eye Honor, and was nominated for multiple Emmy Awards. Wilson also directed The Departure (2017), a feature documentary about a punk-turned-priest who helps suicidal people find reasons to live.



**Hao Wu**People's Republic of Desire; All in My Family



Hao Wu's documentary films have received funding support from the Ford Foundation JustFilms, ITVS, Sundance Institute, Tribeca Film Institute, and NYSCA, and distribution through Netflix, Amazon Prime, Paramount Plus, PBS, and the BBC, among others. His select works include: *People's Republic of Desire*, winner of the Grand Jury Award at the 2018 SXSW; *All in My Family*, a Netflix Original Documentary short; *76 Days*, a *New York Times* Critic's Pick, Academy Award shortlist, and winner of a Peabody Award and Primetime Emmy Award for Exceptional Merit in Documentary Filmmaking. Wu's latest feature, *Admissions Granted*, was distributed by MSNBC Films in 2024. Born and raised in China, Wu holds an MSc degree from Brandeis University and an MBA from the University of Michigan Ross School of Business. He is a member of the Documentary branch of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.





Fiona Bell

Creative Technologist & Materials Magician, University of New Mexico



Fiona Bell is a Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Computer Science at the University of New Mexico. With a PhD in Creative Technology and Design from the University of Colorado Boulder and a BS in Mechanical Engineering from Santa Clara University, her research intersects the fields of human-computer interaction, material science, critical theory, and sustainable biodesign. She develops novel bio-based and biodegradable materials that integrate with digital technologies to create computationally responsive and ecologically sustainable bio-digital interfaces. By bridging the biological and digital worlds, she hopes to build regenerative futures for planetary flourishing. To foster community engagement, she disseminates her research through open-source academic publications, media art festivals, and workshops. As an active member of the Association for Computing Machinery, the Open Source Hardware Association, and the Biodesign Challenge, she helps promote sustainability in the design of new technologies.



## **Erik Cheries**

Developmental Psychologist & Baby Brain Decoder, University of Massachusetts Amherst



Erik Cheries is the director of the Infant Cognition Laboratory at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Fascinated by the human mind, Erik studies young infants and children to understand how abstract thinking begins early in life. His research is part of a growing effort to identify what instinctual biases babies might possess that powerfully shape how we relate to the world and to one another over our lifetimes. Erik obtained his PhD in Developmental Psychology at Yale University and completed his postdoctoral research fellowship in the Laboratory for Developmental Studies at Harvard University. He is passionate about liberating scientific discoveries from the ivory tower and communicating them to the broader community.



**David Eagleman** 

Neuroscientist & Sensory Sage, Stanford University



David Eagleman is a neuroscientist at Stanford University, an internationally bestselling author, and a Guggenheim Fellow. Dr. Eagleman's areas of research include sensory substitution, time perception, vision, and synesthesia. A leading thinker on the intersection of neuroscience with the legal system, he also directs the Center for Science & Law. Eagleman is the author of many books, including Livewired, The Runaway Species, The Brain, Incognito, and Wednesday is Indigo Blue. He is also the author of a widely adopted textbook on cognitive neuroscience, Brain and Behavior, as well as a bestselling book of literary fiction, Sum, which has been translated into 32 languages, turned into two operas, and named a Best Book of the Year by Barnes and Noble. Dr. Eagleman writes for The Atlantic, The New York Times, The Economist, TIME, Discover, Slate, Wired, and New Scientist, and appears regularly on National Public Radio and the BBC to discuss both science and literature.



**Lindy Elkins-Tanton** 

Planetary Scientist & Core Explorer, Arizona State University



Lindy Elkins-Tanton is a planetary scientist, the Principal Investigator of the NASA Psyche mission, and Arizona State University Vice President of the Interplanetary Initiative. Her research concerns the formation and evolution of rocky planets, as well as effective teams and future-facing educational practices. She has led four field expeditions in central Siberia. Asteroid (8252) Elkins-Tanton is named for her, as is the mineral elkinstantonite. She is a member of the National Academy of Sciences, and the American Academy of Arts & Sciences. In 2022 William Morrow published her memoir *A Portrait of the Scientist as a Young Woman*. Elkins-Tanton received her BS, MS, and PhD from MIT.



### **Drummond Fielding**

Theoretical Astrophysicist & Turbulence Tamer, Cornell University



Drummond Fielding is an Assistant Professor of Astronomy at Cornell University. His research focuses on understanding galaxy formation through simulations of the turbulent interstellar medium, cosmic ray transport, and magnetohydrodynamics (MHD). Using high-performance computational methods, he explores how complex physical processes drive the evolution of galaxies, from small-scale star formation to large-scale galactic winds and the circumgalactic medium. Drummond's work aims to bridge the gap between theoretical models and astronomical observations by developing a deeper understanding of the physics that shape the universe. Prior to joining Cornell, he was a Flatiron Research Fellow at the Center for Computational Astrophysics. He received his PhD in Astrophysics from the University of California, Berkeley.





# **Tatyana Gavrilchenko**

Physicist & Network Anatomist, Flatiron Institute



Tatyana Gavrilchenko is a physicist interested in the structure and function of biological transport networks. She completed her graduate studies at the University of Pennsylvania, then joined the Center for Computational Biology at the Flatiron Institute in 2020, where she works on theoretical and computational network problems. Examples of networks are found widely in the world around us – from the capillaries in our vascular system to insect wings to city streets. She is most interested in finding equations that govern how these networks function and using them to learn how natural structures have evolved to achieve robust performance. Currently she works on the insect tracheal system and what it can teach us about living networks like blood vessels.



## **Sean Goldy**

Psychologist & Chronicler of the Transcendent, Johns Hopkins University

Dr. Sean Goldy is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Johns Hopkins Center for Psychedelics and Consciousness Research. He studies psychedelics' subjective effects – the trip – by finding better ways to capture them and understand the role they play in psychedelics' therapeutic benefits. He received his PhD in Psychological Science from the University of California, Irvine, where he examined the psychology of self-transcendent experiences (e.g., awe-inspiring ones) and their impacts on individuals and society, particularly those related to social connection and meaning. This work included experiments involving hikers in Sequoia and Angeles National Forests, and analyzing millions of reactions to the 2017 total solar eclipse. His research aims to uncover experiences that spark sustained changes in how people see themselves and the world around them for the better, improving mental and social well-being.



### Sarah Hart

Mathematician & Quantitative Queen, Gresham College



Dr. Sarah Hart is a highly respected pure mathematician. Educated at Oxford and Manchester, she gained her PhD in 2000 at 25 and was the youngest STEM professor appointed at Birkbeck College (University of London), as well as its first woman mathematics professor. In 2020, she was appointed to a four-year term as the 33rd Gresham Professor of Geometry, the oldest mathematics chair in the UK, dating back to 1597. She was the first woman to hold this position. She is a Fellow of both Birkbeck and Gresham Colleges. Sarah is also a former President of the British Society for the History of Mathematics, the oldest such society in Europe.



### Kaushik Jayaram

Mechanical Engineer & Renaissance-Minded Roboticist, University of Colorado Boulder



Dr. Kaushik Jayaram is an Assistant Professor in Robotics at the Paul M. Rady Department of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Colorado Boulder. Previously, he was a postdoctoral scholar in microrobotics at Harvard University. He obtained his doctoral degree in Integrative Biology in 2015 from the University of California, Berkeley, and undergraduate degree in Mechanical Engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay in 2009. Dr. Jayaram's research combines biology and robotics to uncover the principles of robustness that make animals successful at locomotion in natural environments, and, in turn, inspire the design of the next generation of novel robots for effective real-world operation. His work has been published in a number of prestigious journals and gained significant popular media attention. Besides academic research, Dr. Jayaram's group is actively involved in several outreach activities that strive toward achieving diversity, equity, and inclusivity in STEM.



Lydia Jennings

Environmental Soil Scientist & Indigenous Data Doyen, Dartmouth College



Dr. Lydia Jennings (she/her) is an environmental soil scientist. Lydia, citizen of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe (Yoeme) and Huichol (Wixáritari), earned her BS from California State University, Monterey Bay in Environmental Science, Technology and Policy. She completed her PhD at the University of Arizona in the Department of Environmental Sciences, with a minor in American Indian Policy. Her research interests are in soil health, environmental data stewardship, and science communication. Lydia is a 2014 University of Arizona NIEHS Superfund Program trainee, a 2015 recipient of National Science Foundation's Graduate Research Fellowship Program, a 2019 American Geophysical Union Voices for Science Fellow, a 2020 Native Nations Institute Indigenous Data Sovereignty Fellow, and a 2021 Data Science Fellow. Lydia is currently an Assistant Professor at Dartmouth College in the Department of Environmental Studies. Outside of her scholarship, Lydia is passionate about connecting her scholarship to outdoor spaces through running and increasing representation in outdoor recreation.





#### **Gina Poe**

Neuroscientist & Master of the Morphean Arts, University of California, Los Angeles



Gina Poe is a professor, researcher, and Director of the Brain Research Institute at UCLA. Gina earned her BA at Stanford University in Human Biology and later joined the UCLA Interdepartmental PhD Program for Neuroscience. Dr. Poe performed postdoctoral work at the University of Arizona, which included sending rats in the Space Shuttle NASA Neurolab mission in 1998 to study how the hippocampus codes a 3-D environment in the microgravity environment of space. At UCLA she is a full professor and Lorre Scholar Endowed Chair in the Department of Integrative Biology and Physiology, the Department of Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences, and the Department of Neurobiology. Her current laboratory researches the role of sleep in resilience to PTSD, gaining insight into tough problems, recovering from opiate addiction, and in updating cortical networks with experience throughout our lives.



# Rachna Reddy

Anthropologist & Ape Adolescent Authority, University of Utah



Rachna Reddy is an anthropology professor at the University of Utah and Co-Director of the Ngogo Chimpanzee Project, a 29-year study on the largest known wild chimpanzee community. To understand the evolutionary origins of human social life, she studies both of our closest living relatives in the wild – chimpanzees and bonobos. She lives for up to 15 months at a time in Ugandan and DR Congo rainforests following individuals daily and recording their social interactions. She wants to learn why adolescence is such a thrilling, formative, yet vulnerable time in life. She is leading a team of scientists asking this question across species, from apes (including humans), to whales, elephants, and rats. Rachna is also writing a coming-of-age novel based on the adolescent experiences of Booker, an extraordinary chimpanzee who was part of her original study cohort, but was tragically killed in a chimpanzee civil war that split the Ngogo community.



## Menno Schilthuizen

Evolutionary Biologist & Urbane Urban Ecology Expositor, Leiden University



Menno Schilthuizen is a professor of evolution and biodiversity at Leiden University and a senior researcher at Naturalis, a national museum of natural history and biodiversity research center in Leiden, the Netherlands. He studies the processes by which urbanization promotes rapid evolution in wild organisms. He also runs the Taxon Foundation, a nonprofit for urban biodiversity studies. In his recent books, *Darwin Comes to Town* (Picador, 2018) and *The Urban Naturalist* (MIT Press, due out in April, 2025), he offers a new and optimistic view of cities as places where exciting ecosystems are arising, with community science as a way for city dwellers to be explorers of their own urban neighborhoods.



### Zhana Vrangalova

Developmental Psychologist & Relationship Guru, New York University



Dr. Zhana Vrangalova is a relationship scientist, NYU adjunct professor of human sexuality, and a speaker, writer, and consultant helping people find win-win solutions for their sex and love lives. She's a world-renowned expert in nontraditional relational lifestyles and the creator of Love Smarter, a conceptual technology, online program, and upcoming book (Avid Reader Press, Feb 2026) guiding couples and individuals to identify and design the sex and love life best suited for their unique personality and life circumstances. Dr. Zhana holds a PhD in Developmental Psychology from Cornell University, and her scholarly work has been published in several peer-reviewed journals.



### **Edie Widder**

Oceanographer & The Squid Whisperer, Ocean Research and Conservation Association



Dr. Edie Widder is a MacArthur Fellow, a deep-sea explorer, and conservationist. A specialist in bioluminescence, she has been a leader in developing new ways to explore the deep sea, resulting in observations of animals and behaviors never seen before, including the first video of a giant squid filmed in its natural habitat. Her deep-sea research has been featured in BBC, PBS, Discovery Channel, and National Geographic television productions, and detailed in her 2021 memoir Below the Edge of Darkness: A Memoir of Exploring Light and Life in the Deep Sea, which the New York Times Book Review described as a "thrilling blend of hard science and high adventure." In 2005, in order to help protect the ocean she loves, she helped found the Ocean Research & Conservation Association where she has spearheaded the development of water quality monitoring systems and new methods of mapping pollution.





Mike Maggiore
Premieres Programmer, Film Forum



Mike Maggiore programs the premieres – with Film Forum Director Sonya Chung – for New York's Film Forum, a 4-screen, independent, nonprofit cinema specializing in openings of international arthouse films, American independents, and documentaries. He has worked at Film Forum for 30 years. He and Chung screen between 600-700 films annually to select approximately 45-50 films for New York theatrical premiere engagements. Maggiore also moderates Q&As with filmmakers, screenwriters, actors and other related speakers for many of the premieres. He has served on the nominating committees of Film Independent's Truer Than Fiction and International Film Spirit Awards, the Gotham Independent Film Awards, and on the panel for the Sundance Documentary Fund. He has served on the juries of the Cartagena, Doc Aviv (Tel Aviv), Miami, San Francisco, Santiago (de Chile), Sarasota, and Vancouver International Film Festivals.



Mads K. Mikkelsen Head of Programme, CPH:DOX



Mads K. Mikkelsen is Head of Programme at CPH:DOX – Copenhagen International Documentary Film Festival – which has a dedicated focus on science films. Parallel with the festival, he runs two public cinema clubs, teaches film history at the Danish Film School, and is a frequent contributor to local and international film magazines, as well as the author of a book about non-fiction cinema. At the 2019 Cannes Film Festival, he received an award for his work from Festival de Cannes' Marché du Film and Screen International.



Megha Agrawal Sood Co-Executive Director, Doc Society



Megha Agrawal Sood believes in the power of sharing stories and building unexpected collaborations to inspire action. She is the Co-Executive Director at Doc Society and leads the Climate Story Unit, an initiative to support the production and impact of climate-themed stories across the globe. Megha's previous work experience includes leading impact programming at the film company Exposure Labs (Chasing Coral, The Social Dilemma), and helping purpose-driven organizations grow at the innovation firm IDEO. She was raised in Sugar Land, Texas, is a graduate of Northwestern University, and is currently building roots with her family in Boulder, Colorado.



**Dominic Davis** 

Documentary Fund Manager, Sundance Institute



Dominic Davis returned to the Sundance Institute in 2022 as Manager of the Documentary Fund. In 2011, Dominic worked in the Artist Relations Office of the Sundance Film Festival. He went on to program for the American Museum of Natural History, Tribeca Film Festival, and Rooftop Films. He has reviewed applications for Catapult Film Fund and Creative Capital, and managed the Rooftop Films Filmmakers Fund. Dominic was born in Germany and grew up on military bases, but adopted Kentucky and Florida as his home states. He has a degree in Mass Media Studies and Political Science from the University of Kentucky. When not watching movies, he goes for very long runs.



Dan O'Meara

Executive Vice President, Nonfiction & Special Projects, NEON



Dan O'Meara is EVP, Nonfiction & Special Projects at NEON. He has spearheaded NEON's documentary releases including *Three Identical Strangers*, Apollo 11, Honeyland, and Flee. Dan is an executive producer on NEON's documentary productions *Brats, Seeking Mavis Beacon, 2073*, Men of War, and Orwell. His past producing credits include By The People: The Election of Barack Obama, Freakonomics, and Print the Legend.





### **Sara Rodriguez** Senior Vice President, Documentary Programming, HBO



Sara Rodriguez is the Senior Vice President of Documentary Programming at HBO, overseeing the development and production of documentary films and series. Before joining HBO in 2018, she was the Senior Vice President of Global Video at VICE Media, where she managed documentaries across VICE's U.S. and global platforms. She also launched new digital channels and premium documentary series for third-party platforms. Prior to VICE, Rodriguez helped start Lincoln Square Productions at ABC and served as executive producer for specials and non-scripted series for cable and the ABC network. Earlier, she spent 12 years at CBS, producing documentary specials and hour-long programs under the CBS news division. Rodriguez earned a BA in Political Science at Boston College and has received multiple Emmys for her work. She currently resides in Brooklyn.



# John Turner

Senior Vice President & Head of Documentaries, IMAX Entertainment



John Turner is SVP & Head of Documentaries at IMAX Entertainment, where he oversees an original slate of feature docs for the global theatrical and premium narrative space. An Oscar and Emmy-nominated executive producer, John previously served as a development executive at Netflix Documentary Originals. Among his varied work with Netflix, John created and co-produced *Dirty Money*, the renowned investigative financial crime series produced by Alex Gibney. John's development work has included films and series for A24, Jigsaw, A&E, HBO, and Davis Guggenheim's Concordia Studio. *From Here to Home*, a collaboration between Concordia and the *New York Times*' OpDocs was nominated for a 2020 Academy Award. A member of the International Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, John divides his time between Los Angeles and Toronto.