

## KATJA ESSON

### SPECIAL AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2012** Cinema for Peace Award® Nomination for best documentary, POETRY OF RESILIENCE
- 2009** Nomination 4 NY Emmys for WE ARE NEW YORK
- 2007** Simons Public Humanities Fellowship, Kansas University for SKYDANCER  
National Endowment for the Arts grant for POETRY OF RESILIENCE  
Nomination Rockefeller Media Arts Fellowship k
- 2004** Academy Award® Nomination for best short Documentary, FERRY TALES

### FILMOGRAPHY – Writer/ Director/Producer

- 2017** **RAZING LIBERTY SQUARE**  
*In Production*
- WITHOUT A WHISPER**  
PBS – Vision Makers, Director: Katsitsionni Fox, Creative Producer : Katja Esson  
*In Production*
- 2015/16** **AMERICAN RIVERS (5x 52min)**  
5 Episodes: *Miami River, Detroit River, LA River, Chicago River, Colorado River*  
*Broadcast premiere: Arte*  
German Nature Film Festival *Winner Audience Award*
- OHERO:KON- Under the Husk (27min)**  
PBS – Vision Makers, Director: Katsitsionni Fox , Creative Producer Katja Esson
- 2014** **CANTINEROS DE CUBA (90min)**  
*In Production*
- 2012/13** **BACKROADS USA (5x52)**  
5 Episodes: *Mohawk Trail, Blues Highway, Oregon Trail, The Loneliest Road of America, Route 66*  
*Broadcast Premiere: Arte*
- 2011** **POETRY OF RESILIENCE (40min)**  
IDA DocuWeeks, Los Angeles *Academy Award Qualification*  
Woodstock Film Festival *Winner Best Short Doc*  
Big Sky Documentary Film Festival  
Miami Int. Film Festival  
Sarasota Film Festival  
Palm Springs Int. Short Film Festival
- SKYDANCER (75min)**  
*Broadcast Premiere: Arte, Margaret Mead Film Festival,*  
Big Sky Documentary Festival  
Shanghai Film and TV Festival *Magnolia Award Nomination Best Doc, Director, Camera*  
Hot Springs Film Festival  
Salem Film Festival *EDA Award Nomination*  
One World Film Festival, Prague  
Guanajuato Int. Film Festival *Nomination for Best Doc*  
Pärnu Int. Film Festival *Nomination for Best Film on Indigenous People*  
Environmental Film Festival *Smithsonian, Washington DC*

- NY CONFIDENTIAL – BROOKLYN (52min)**  
*Broadcast Premiere: Arte*
- 2010 LATCHING ON – THE POLITICS OF BREASTFEEDING IN AMERICA (40min)**  
 Distribution: Women Make Movies  
 New York Women in Film and Television, Tribeca Film Center  
 La Femme Film Festival, Dallas Film and Video Film Festival
- 2009 HOOKER, HARLOT, WHORE – Stories of Prostitution (90min)**  
*Broadcast Premiere: ARTE*  
 US International Film and Video Festival      *Winner Silver Screen for best Documentary*
- 2008 WE ARE NEW YORK (30min)**  
**Narrative Series**  
 Episode: The Wedding  
 The Mayor's Office of Adult Education and the City University of New York
- 2006 A SEASON OF MADNESS (15min)**  
 Narrative Short Film, New Britain Museum of American Art  
 Woodstock Film Festival  
 Florida Film Festival, Austin Film Festival, Hamburg Film Fest, Germany  
 San Diego Film Festival, Tiboron International Film Festival
- HOLE IN THE SKY – THE SCARS OF 9/11 (NEW YORK IM SCHATTEN DER TÜRME) (60min)**  
*Broadcast Premiere: ARD*  
 World Media Festival, Germany      *Winner Gold Award for best Documentary*
- 2005 GATEWAY TO THE WORLD: NEW YORK HARBOR (52min)**  
*Broadcast Premiere: ARTE*
- VERMISST – DAS GEISELDRAMA IN DER WÜSTE (52min)**  
*Broadcast Premiere: ARTE*
- 2004 SIEGFRIED & ROY: A FAIRYTALE FOR GROWN UPS (52min)**  
*Broadcast Premiere: ARTE*
- ADAM – RETORTENBABY ALS LEBENSRETTER (52min)**  
*Broadcast premiere: ARTE*
- 2003 FERRY TALES (40min)**  
*Broadcast Premiere: HBO*      *Academy Award Nomination*  
 Women's Image Network, LA      *Winner Grand Price for best Documentary*  
 Ashland & Sarasota Film Festivals      *Honorable Mention for best Documentary*  
 Annapolis – November      *Audience Award for best Documentary*  
 Woodstock Film Festival      *Honorable Mention for best Documentary*  
 IDA Theatrical Showcase, LA      *Academy Award Qualification*
- 2002 SEARCHING FOR SENSE (10min)**  
*Broadcast Premiere: PBS, Aspen Short Film Festival*
- 2001 VERTICAL TRAVELER (45min)**  
*Broadcast: ARTE, PBS*  
 Ft. Lauderdale Film Festival, Braunschweig Film Festival, IFP Market New York
- 1990** Bachelor of Film and Theater, University of Miami.