

## RALITSA DONCHEVA

Born 1987, Yambol, Bulgaria. Lives & works in Montréal, Canada  
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### EDUCATION

- 2018 *Master of Fine Arts – Film Production*, Concordia University, Montréal, Canada
- 2017 *Study abroad semester*, École Européenne Supérieure de L'image, Poitiers, France
- 2012 *Bachelor of Fine Arts – Specialization in Film Production* (with Distinction), The Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema, Concordia University, Montréal, Canada
- 2009 *Bachelor of Arts in Mass Communications & Film Studies* (Dean's Honor List), Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada

### FILMOGRAPHY

- 2019 *Desert Islands*, 16mm color film to HD video, 12 min
- 2016 *Baba Dana Talks to The Wolves*, 16mm color film and hand-processing to HD, 11 min
- 2013 *Unfortunately It Was Paradise*, 35mm found-footage to HD, 10min

### COLLABORATIONS

- 2021 *The Design of Carpets that Design Us – Cinematographer, Editor*  
 A video installation created for the Canadian Centre for Architecture's exhibition, curated by Dan Handel.
- 2020 *Are You Out of Your Sound – Artistic Director, Cinematographer, Editor*  
 A series of videos created with Sandeep Bhagwati for the Musée d'Art Contemporain de Montréal.
- 2019 *How Far The Stage Can Take You – Cinematographer*  
 A single-channel video, directed by Adam Kinner, exhibited at the Foreman Art Gallery, Sherbrooke, QC.
- 2019 *Learning Suite Canadienne – Cinematographer*  
 A single-channel video, directed by Adam Kinner, exhibited at the Musée d'art de Joliette.
- 2015 *Morning...Came A Day Early – Editor*  
 A short found-footage film, directed by Richard Kerr, presented in film festivals.

### SELECTED SCREENINGS

- 2021 Résilience et Collectivités, group screening, Montréal, Canada  
 FRACTO Film Festival, Berlin, Germany
- 2020 Images Festival, Toronto, Canada  
 Rendez-vous Du Cinéma Québécois, Montréal, Canada
- 2019 Festival De Nouveau Cinema, Montréal, Canada
- 2017 FRACTO Film Festival, Berlin, Germany  
 Iowa City International Documentary Film Festival, Iowa, USA (**honorable mention**)  
 44<sup>th</sup> Athens International Film+ Video Festival, Athens, USA
- 2016 Vertical Features, film program with Deborah Stratman, curated by Jesse Cumming, Toronto  
 Panorama XP, Cinémathèque Québécoise, Montréal, Canada  
 Strange Umbrellas, London, UK

- FOL Sinema, curated by Ekrem Serdar, Istanbul, Turkey  
 Echo Park Film Center, curated by Ephraim Asili, Los Angeles, USA  
 Northern Light film program, Visions, Montréal, Canada  
 54<sup>th</sup> Ann Arbor Film Festival Travel Tour, various locations  
 23<sup>rd</sup> Chicago Underground Film Festival, Chicago, USA  
 The Nightingale Cinema, *The Rearview Mirror*, curated by Lorenzo Gattorna, Chicago, USA  
 54<sup>th</sup> Ann Arbor Film Festival, USA (***The Eileen Maitland Film Award***)  
 Rendez-vous Du Cinéma Québécois, Montréal, Canada  
 Montreal International Documentary Festival (RIDM), Montréal, Canada  
 2014 Cinéma Excentris, La Distributrice Group Screening, Montréal, Canada  
 Visions, Microcinema Etre, Montréal, Canada  
 2013 RIDM Film Festival, Montréal, Canada  
 La Maison de l'Architecture, Poitier, France  
 Daïmôn Center, *The World You Know as One Piece After Another*, Gatineau, Canada  
 The Light and Shadow Salon, London, UK  
 Made in Montréal Vol. II, curated by Double Negative Collective, Montréal, Canada

## SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

- 2020 *La machine qui enseignait des airs aux oiseaux*, The Museum of Contemporary Art, Montréal, Canada  
 2018 *(almost) impossible worlds*, solo film exhibition, Dazibao gallery, Montréal, Canada  
 2017 *This is not poetical*, group exhibition, Angoulême, France  
 2012 FOFA Gallery, group exhibition, Montréal, Canada  
 Eastern Bloc, *The Unending Silence of Space*, group exhibition, Montréal, Canada

## WORK EXPERIENCE

- 2015 (ongoing) Freelance Cinematographer & Editor  
 Video creation, documentation & editing of performances, artists' projects & gallery exhibitions  
 2015 (ongoing) Matralab, Concordia University, Montréal, Canada – Research Assistant  
 Video production, creative research and editing for multi-media performances, gallery exhibitions & concerts, led by Prof. Sandeep Bhagwati.  
 2013 – 2015 Isuma TV, Montréal, QC – Video Editor  
 Research & editing of archival footage for a web documentary, *Virtual Museum*.  
 2012- 2013 Arnait Video Productions, Montréal, QC – Assistant Editor  
 Research, data management & editing of archival footage and photographs for the Inuit web documentary, *Sivumu-The Guide*.  
 2011 Festival du Nouveau Cinéma, Montréal, QC – Assistant Programmer  
 Assisted in the programming, organization and promotion of FNC Lab, the experimental section of the festival.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2018 16mm Filmmaking for Women, IFCO, Ottawa – Instructor  
 Leading intensive hands-on workshops designed for women from diverse backgrounds and experience. Focusing on shooting 16mm film, working with found-footage, analogue / digital

- 2017 *FMPR 231 Filmmaking I* (Prof. Stéphane Calce), Concordia University – **Teaching Assistant**  
Actively engaging in class lectures & discussions. Providing technical and creative assistance during presentations and critiques. Leading workshops on the use of professional audio and video recording equipment.
- 2016 *FMPR 332 Studio X* (Prof. Richard Kerr), Concordia University – **Teaching Assistant**  
Assisting in the organization of course syllabus and lectures. Working closely with students in the development of their individual projects and presentations. Teaching additional workshops on montage, experimental and expanded filmmaking techniques.

## **GRANTS / AWARDS**

- 2021 Explore and Create (Concept to Realization), Canada Council for the Arts
- 2018 *Prix Jeune tête d'affiche*, Dazibao Gallery
- 2017 - 2018 Fonds de Recherche du Quebec Société et Culture (FRQSC)
- 2016- 2017 Joseph-Armand-Bombardier Canada Graduate Scholarship (SSHRC)
- 2016 *The Eileen Maitland Award* at the 54<sup>th</sup> Ann Arbor Film Festival, USA
- 2016 Travel Grant - Canada Council for the Arts
- 2015 J.W. McConnell Memorial Graduate Fellowship, Concordia University
- 2013 Best Experimental Film, Concordia University Film & Video Awards
- 2012 *Susan Schouten Award for a Best Documentary*, The Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema

## **RESIDENCIES / DEVELOPMENT**

- 2018 Images Festival Research Forum, facilitated by Ekrem Serdar, Toronto, Canada
- 2014 Doc Circuit Talent Lab Program, mentorship with filmmaker J.P. Sniadecki, RIDM Film Festival, Montréal, QC
- 2012 Balkan Documentary Center, project participant, Sofia, Bulgaria

## **ARTIST TALKS / LECTURES**

- 2018 *(almost) impossible worlds*, artist talk, Dazibao Gallery, Montréal, Canada
- 2017 *(almost) impossible worlds*, performative lecture, FFAR 250 class, Concordia University, Montréal, Canada
- 2014 The Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema (Expanded Cinema class lecture, Montréal, QC)
- 2014 *Collages Mouvants Symposium*, artist talk, Daïmôn Center, Gatineau, Canada
- 2012 *Data: Projects VI*, Eastern Block, Montréal, Canada

## **PRESS**

- 2019 Sophia Bartholomew – A Sound for Punctuation, Public Parking, Canada  
<http://thisispublicparking.com/posts/a-sound-for-punctuation>
- 2018 Tammer El-Sheikh, Akimbo, Montreal  
<https://dev.akimbo.ca/akimblog/ismail-bahri-james-benning-miriam-sampaio-and-ralitsa-doncheva-at-dazibao-montreal/>
- 2016 Fernando Luis Pujato, La Furia Umana, Italie  
<http://www.lafuriaumana.it/index.php/61-archive/lfu-28/572-fernando-luis-pujato-ralitsa-doncheva>
- 2014 Benjamin Taylor, Visions Screening Series, Montréal, QC