

Khai Thu Nguyen

EXPERIENCE

- **Chief Storyteller & Founder** (May 2021- Present)
Windy Films, El Cerrito, California
Windy Films focuses on telling stories not traditionally told through character-driven documentary and narrative films about women and people of color, reflecting current and transforming realities in our contemporary world.
- **Associate Director** (July 2016- December 2022)
Berkeley Center for the Study of Religion, UC Berkeley
Direct operations of grants management, research, and educational programming for Berkeley Center for the Study of Religion.
- **Associate Director** (July 2016- July 2022)
Consortium for Interdisciplinary Research, UC Berkeley
Supervise a small team and direct operations of grants management, research, and educational programming for The Program in Critical Theory, Berkeley Center for the Study of Religion, and the Consortium for Interdisciplinary Research.
- **Program Director, Language and Student Affairs | Dean's Special Projects** (July 2012- July 2016)
UC Berkeley Extension, University of California, Berkeley
Oversee programs in Language, & Student Affairs, leading academic and curricular planning, development of new educational programs, marketing, recruitment and training of instructors, and budget planning.
- **James R. Gray Lecturer | Instructor Development Specialist** (August 2010-July 2012)
University of California, Berkeley
Full time lecturer for Reading and Composition in Department of Theater, Dance, and Performance Studies.
- **Course Facilitator, Bioethics** (Sept 2002- Aug 2003)
Stanford University

FILMOGRAPHY

- Producer, Co-Writer, ***Movie House*** (director Minh Nguyen-Vo)
 - Narrative film about a Vietnamese movie theater owned by a family through the eras of the Vietnam war
 - Finalist, 2024 SFFilm Rainin Grant, screenwriting
- Director, Producer, ***The Full Thao***
 - Supported by Center for Asian American Media Documentary Fund 2022; 2023 BAVC Mediamaker Connect Mentorship, 2024 BAVC National Mediamaker Fellowship

- International Documentary Association Supported Doc of the Week (Pride-week)
- Director, Producer, Editor, Cinematographer, *Memoirs of May* (short film, in post-production)
 - Short documentary about my mother becoming a writer at 66 years old, after living her life in the shadow of her famous painter husband in Saigon
 - Funded by the Still I Rise Films Fellowship Program, 2021
- Field Producer and Additional Interviewer, *Not So Pretty* (Nails Episode) HBO Max, Premier 2022
 - HBO Max's documentary series episode focusing on toxic chemicals in the beauty industry in communities such as Vietnamese American manicurists.
- Director, Producer, *Table Stakes* (2019 documentary short)
 - Logline: Two friends who co-founded the San Francisco independent comic book company Fracture Comics share their determination to create space for themselves and place people of color at the forefront of their work.
 - Winner, Best Documentary Short, World's Independent Film Festival
 - Nominated Best Short Film 2019, San Diego Black Film Festival
 - Official Selection: California Independent Film Festival, Napa International Film Festival, Viet Film Festival, San Diego Asian Film Festival, San Francisco Documentary Festival, Oakland Film Festival, San Diego Black Film Festival, San Francisco Black Film Festival, Afro Comic Con, Black Film Festival of New Orleans, New York African Film Festival (Co-presented by Film at Lincoln Center)
 - Selected Invite: Visions Du Reel Online Library, Sheffield Doc/Fest Doc/Player
- Director, Writer, Producer, Editor, *Alexa and May* (2018 narrative short)
 - Narrative film follows the activities of a widowed Vietnamese American grandmother who goes to the San Francisco Bay Area to help her daughter's busy family. May is left to her own devices during the day and tries to befriend the resident digital voice assistant.
 - Best Experimental Short Film 2018, World's Independent Film Festival
 - Official Selection: Tiburon International Film Festival, The World's International Film Festival
- Director, Editor, *Fight Club: Casting Calls* (2017 narrative short)
- Director, *Floater* (2017 narrative short)

THEATER PRODUCTIONS (selected)

- Director, *Tink and Peter for Eva* (2015, Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive; UC Santa Cruz Contemporary Music Festival)
- Director, *Metaphysics* (2013, Subterranean Art House, Berkeley)
- Director and Producer, *Romeo and Juliet in Saigon*, Ho Chi Minh City (2012, Royal Norwegian Embassy Funding)
- Director and Producer, *Another Midsummer Night's Dream*, Ho Chi Minh City (2009, Royal Norwegian Embassy Funding)
- Director and Producer, *Journey and Destination*, Ho Chi Minh City (2008, Royal Norwegian Embassy Funding; Nordic Black Theatre Funding)
- Director and Producer, *Journey to Identity*, Ho Chi Minh City (2007, Royal Norwegian Embassy Funding; Nordic Black Theatre Funding)

- Assistant Director, *Tooth and Nail*—by Junction Avenue Theater Company, UC Berkeley, 2004
- Director, *Come and Go, Rockaby* – by Samuel Beckett, UC Berkeley 2003
- Director, *12-1-A* – by Wakako Yamauchi, Stanford University 2002

PUBLICATIONS

- “*Another Midsummer Night’s Dream* in Ho Chi Minh City” *Asian Theatre Journal* Special Edition on Shakespeare in Asia, Ed. Alexander Huang (May 2011).
- “Marking the Nation from the Outside,” *The American as Foreigner on Stage: Portraits of the United States in International Drama* (Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland, 2009)
- “A Personal Sorrow: Melodrama and the Politics of North and South Vietnam,” *Asian Theatre Journal* (Winter 2012)
- “Sensing Vietnam: Melodramas of Nation from Colonialism to Market Reform” Book-length study, published in Melville, 2012 (Funded by Fulbright-Hays and UC Pacrim Fellowships)
- “Model Dissent: Luu Quang Vu and the Melodramatic Performance of Renovation in Post-War Vietnam,” *Neoliberalism and Global Theatres* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2012)
- “Affective Migrations: *Cái Lương* Melodrama and the Making of Vietnamese Transnational Identity,” ed. Mariam Lam and Chuong-Dai Vo (forthcoming)

AWARDS

BAVC National Mediamaker Fellowship (2024)
 BAVC Mediamaker Connect Mentorship Program (2023)
 SFFilm Rainin Grant Finalist, Screenwriting (2023)
 Center for Asian American Media Documentary Fund Award (2022)
 Still I Rise Films Fellowship (2021)
 Center for Asian American Media Fellowship (Finalist, 2021)
 UC Berkeley Staff Spot Award (2017)
 Royal Norwegian Embassy grants, NEWS theater productions (2007, 2008, 2009, 2012)
 Emerging Scholar’s Prize- Association of Asian Performance/ Asian Theatre Journal (2010)
 Spotlighted Scholar- UCLA Center for Performance Studies (2010)
 Southeast Asian Studies Research and Travel Grants (2004-2010)
 Fulbright-Hays Dissertation Fellowship (2006)
 UC Pacific Rim Fellowship (2006)

AFFILIATIONS and MEMBERSHIPS

SF FILM, International Documentary Association, Brown Girls Doc Mafia, Bay Area Video Coalition, Center for Asian American Media, Asian American Documentary Network, Cinefemme, Moms in Film, Bay Area Movie Maker Summit

EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley Ph.D. in Performance Studies, May 2010
 Stanford University, B.A. and M.A. in Humanities, May 2002