

## **STEPHEN N. BORUNDA**

Department of Film and Media Studies  
University of California, Santa Bárbara  
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2024 Social Sciences and Media Studies Building  
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### **EDUCATION**      **University of California, Santa Bárbara**

Ph.D. Student in Film and Media Studies, September 2020–present (Doctoral Candidate as of May 2022)

M.A. in Film and Media Studies, honors, awarded June 2020

### **The Johns Hopkins University**

M.S. in Education, honors, awarded June 2016

B.A. in Political Science and History (double major), honors, awarded June 2014.

### **CURRENT APPOINTMENTS**      Chancellor’s Fellow for M.A./Ph.D. studies in the Film and Media Department, UC Santa Bárbara, 2018—present

Coordinating Editor for *Media+Environment* (University of California Press), 2019–present

Graduate Researcher at the Orfalea Center for Global and International Studies, “Future Infrastructures: Water, Energy, and Justice” Cluster, 2020—present

### **PREVIOUS APPOINTMENTS**      English Teacher as a member of Teach for America/AmeriCorps in Baltimore City Public Schools, 2014-2017

### **PUBLICATIONS**      **Peer Referred Publications**

“Trinity Forensics: Nuclear Colonialism and Mediated Litigation in Nuevo México” co-authored with Myrriah Gómez for the Bloomsbury edited volume *Adjudicating Climate Change: Interdisciplinary Perspectives* (forthcoming 2023).

“Re-Mediating Mutualities: An Introduction to the Media Mutalities Special Issue” co-authored with Trinankur Banerjee, Issue in *Media Fields* (forthcoming 2023).

“A Body Downwind of the Atomic Attack at Trinity: Mediations of Atomic

Coloniality in Nuevo México” for *Media+Environment* (August 2022).

“Sensing Radioactive Deserts: Mediating Florae and Rocks in New Mexico’s Anthropocene.” *global-e*, (May 2021).

“Statement on the Black Lives Matter Movement” published in *Media+Environment* (July 2020).

“Cosmovisión mapuche y el viaje cinematográfico: Una entrevista con el cineasta Francisco Huichaqueo Pérez” published in *Media+Environment* (November 2019).

“Mapuche Cosmvision and the Cinematic Voyage: An Interview with Filmmaker Francisco Huichaqueo Pérez (English Version)” in *Media+Environment* (November 2019).

“Political Revelations in Detail: The Close-up in Patricio Guzmán’s *The Battle of Chile*.” Article in *Film Matters*, Issue 9.2., (Fall 2018).

### **Community Education Publications**

“Tularosa Basin Downwinders, Environmental Racism, and Trinity Post” for EJAtlas (Global Atlas of Environmental Justice), [ejatlas.org](http://ejatlas.org) (August 2022).

“Energy Justice on California’s Central Coast: A Public Syllabus” co-authored with UCSB’s “Re-Centering Energy Justice Collaborative” (2021).

“A Field Guide to Oil in Santa Barbara” co-authored with UCSB’s “Mellon Sawyer Energy Justice Seminar” (2019).

**PRESENTATIONS** Presenter and Co-organizer for “Desiertos latinoamericanos” Panel at the Latin American Studies Association (LASA) Conference, Vancouver (forthcoming May 2023).

Presenter, Co-Organizer, and Chair for "Mediating Ecologies, Wastelands, and Environmental Justice" Panel at the Society for Film and Media Studies (SCMS) 2023, Denver (forthcoming April 2023).

“Unforgetting Modernity’s Forgotten in Mexican Cinema: *Redes* (1936) and Luis Buñuel’s *Los Olvidados* (1950)” Guest Lecture in Hannah Garibaldi’s “Introduction to World Cinema” Course, Santa Bárbara City College (December 1, 2022).

*Media Fields* Conference Moderator for Adrian Ivakhiv’s Keynote Lecture Entitled “Zones of Estrangement and Solidarity: Stumbling Toward Earth,” UC Santa Bárbara (November 18, 2022).

*Media Fields* Semi-Annual Conference, “Conceptualizing Mediated Zones and Conference Introductory Remarks” as Conference Co-Organizer, UC Santa Bárbara (November 18, 2022).

Host for “CWC Global Series Screening and Discussion: *Altiplano* (2009)” with Director Jessica Woodworth at the Carsey-Wolf Center (November 17, 2022). <https://www.carseywolf.ucsb.edu/pollock-events/altiplano/>.

“Media Laboratories: Trinity and the Politics of Nonlife in the Chihuahuan Desert” at the Neil Postman’s Graduate Conference on the “Hinterlands of Media and Technology,” NYU (October 28, 2022).

“Towards an Understanding of Media’s Desert Laboratories and Becoming an Environmental Media Scholar” Guest Lecture in Janet Walker’s “Media and Environment: Climate Justice” Course, UC Santa Bárbara, (October 24, 2022).

“Media Laboratories: the Coloniality of Deserts in the Americas” at the “CHCI-Mellon Global Humanities Institute: Climate Justice and Problems of Scale,” the University of Pretoria, South Africa (August 5, 2022).

“The Atacama Desert as a Media Laboratory” at the “Media, Power, Technological Determinism” Conference, the University of Washington (June 4, 2022).

“New Mexico as a Nuclear Laboratory” Flash Talk at the annual Environmental Justice Symposium, Bren School of Environmental Science and Management, UC Santa Bárbara (May 20, 2022).

“Seeing like an American: The Atacama Desert as a Media Laboratory in the Good Neighbor Era,” SCMS, Chicago (April 3, 2022).

Presentation of “Latin’ Dreams/Cuervos in Flight” (poem and site visit images) at the “Borders and Horizons” Working Group at the Convergence 2021 Hemispheric Institute Conference, NYU/University of Chicago (October 8, 2021).

“Towards a Third Journal” talk by Stephen Borunda at STREAMS: Transformative Environmental Humanities, Stockholm (August 6, 2021).

Panelist for “Celebrating *Media+Environment*.” Roundtable at Finger Lakes Environmental Film Festival, Ithaca College (March 22, 2021).

“Unforgetting the Body Downwind: Remediations of Atomic Coloniality in Nuevo México and Resistances of Querencia” presented online at SCMS

(March 6, 2021).

Host for “Subversives Series Screening and Discussion: *Salt of the Earth* (1954)” with A. Gabriel Meléndez at the Carsey-Wolf Center (January 21, 2021). <https://www.carseywolf.ucsb.edu/pollock-events/saltoftheearth/>.

“A Body downwind: The Trinity Implosion, Atomic Mediations of Coloniality, and the Emergence of a Nuevomexicano Resistance” accepted to SCMS, Denver (2020, conference cancelled due to COVID-19).

“Borders and Islands in New Mexico and Chile” talk given at “Platforms to the World” Conference, University of Texas, Dallas (January 30, 2020).

“El Atacama como ‘laboratorio natural’” talk by Javiera Barandiarán and Stephen Borunda at CTS (Ciencia, Tecnología, y Sociedad) Conference, Universidad Católica de Chile (January 15, 2020).

“The Atacama as a Natural Laboratory” talk by Javiera Barandiarán and Stephen Borunda presented at the Society for the History of Technology, Milan, Italy (October 24, 2019).

“The Atacama as a Natural Laboratory” talk by Javiera Barandiarán and Stephen Borunda presented at the Latin America as Laboratory Conference, Harvard University (June 1, 2019).

## TEACHING

**Teaching Associate/Instructor and Grant Awardee to Design Original Course (\$5,000), Crossroads 2.0 Program at the College of Creative Studies, University of California, Santa Bárbara**

“Deserts, Islands, and Other Energy Infrastructures,” co-designed and co-taught with Surojit Kayal, Spring 2023

**Teaching Fellow, University of California, Santa Bárbara  
Department of Film and Media Studies**

101E: From Early TV to Digital, Spring 2022

192PM: Popular Music and Youth Culture, Winter 2022

192FT: Major Film Theories, Fall 2021

192DT: Digital Theory, Summer 2021

96: Advanced Film Analysis, Spring 2020

70: Media Criticism, Winter of 2020 and Summer of 2020

46: Introduction to Motion Pictures, Fall 2019

**John Ruhrah Elementary/Middle School in Baltimore, Maryland**

Highly Effective English Teacher as a member of Teach for America and

AmeriCorps in Baltimore City Public Schools, 2014-2017

**GRANTS &  
AWARDS**

Early Career Scholar Fellow at the Consortium of Humanities Centers and Institutes (CHCI) and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation's Global Humanities (GHI) Institute on "Climate Justice and Problems of Scale" at the University of Pretoria, August 2022 (\$5000)

Travel Grant Awardee from the Global Latinidades Project (directed by Ben V. Olguín) August 2022 (\$1000)

Fellow at Summer School in Global Studies and Critical Theory, the University of Bologna (facilitated by Sandro Mezzadra), July 2022 (\$1000)

Co-principal investigator and co-grant writer to create "Theories of Media and Techniques in the Wake of Postcolonial and Environmental Studies" Research Focus Group (faculty mentor is Christina Vagt) at the Interdisciplinary Humanities Center (\$1500)

Recipient of the The Chicano Studies Institute Dissertation Award (institute directed by Dolores Inés Casillas). Award to support travel research for "Media Laboratories: Energy, Extraction, and the Coloniality of Deserts in the Americas," 2022-2023, awarded June 2022 (\$2,500)

Dissertation Write-in Grant Awardee, June 2022 (\$500)

Film and Media Department Travel Grant Award, 2022 (\$500)

Recipient of the Graduate Student Essay Award for the "Media and the Environment Scholarly Interest Group" (as determined by Jennifer Peterson, Carter Soles, and Nicole Starosielski) in SCMS, 2022 (\$100)

Ford Predoctoral Fellowship Honourable Mention for the Dissertation Proposal: "Desert Sensing: Media, Energy, and the Coloniality of Deserts in the Americas," March 2022

Orfalea Center International Partnership Grant to support the filmmaking of Francisco Huichaqueo Pérez (Mapuche), 2022 (\$2,000)

Orfalea Center International Partnership Grant to Support archival work conducted by the Tularosa Basin Downwinders Consortium, 2021 (\$2,500)

Writer and Director of *Boost: A Stop Motion Story*; accepted into the Festival Internacional de Cine de Valdivia (2019, 2020), and the Ocean City Film Festival (2019)

Film and Media Department Travel Research Award for Trinity Site visit, New Mexico, 2019 (\$540)

Graduate Student Travel Award Grant from the Graduate Student Association at UC Santa Bárbara, 2019 (\$200)

Highly Effective Teacher, Baltimore City Public Schools, 2014-2017

Segal AmeriCorps Education Award, 2014-2017 (\$12,000)

Bloomberg Scholar (need and merit-based scholarship) at Johns Hopkins University, 2010-2014 (\$100,000)

Baltimore Rotary Club Scholar, 2012-2014 (\$3,000)

Representative of Johns Hopkins at the “Best of Baltimore Student Film Festival,” Short film: “Escape to Emanation,” 2014

College Board National Hispanic Scholar, 2010

College Board National AP Scholar, 2010

Finalist for the Greater Baltimore Scholar-Athlete Award, 2010

**PROFESSIONAL  
ACTIVITIES**

*Media+Environment* Coordinating Editor (2019-present)

Co-principal investigator and grant writer to create “Theories of Media and Techniques in the Wake of Postcolonial and Environmental Studies” Research Focus Group at the Interdisciplinary Humanities Center (2022-present)

Member of the “Re-centering Energy Justice” Research Focus Group at the Interdisciplinary Humanities Center (2019-present)

*Media Fields* Journal Board Member (2018-present)

*Media Fields* Journal Lead Copyeditor (2019-2021)

Pollock Curation Team, *Hiroshima Mon Amour* (1959) Screening and Discussion with Professor Lucy Fischer (April 2019)

Pollock Curation Team, *Across the Universe* (2007) Screening and Discussion with Music Critic Greil Marcus (February 2019)

Organizing Team, Screening and Q&A for Miguel Coyula's *Corazon Azul* (January 2019)

**PROFESSIONAL  
ASSOCIATIONS**

Society for Cinema and Media Studies

Latin American Studies Association

Latinx Studies Association

**SERVICE**

Vice Graduate Student Representative, Film and Media Studies Department (2021-2022)

Graduate Student Advisor to the *Focus Media* Undergraduate Student Journal at UCSB (2019-2020)

Austin Film Festival Screener (2018)

Film Club Founder and Coordinator at John Ruhrah EMS (2015-2017)

Professional Development Instructor for Baltimore City Teachers (2016-2017)

Community Vice President for The Hispanic Organization for Leadership Advancement in Baltimore (HOLA Baltimore), (2016-2017)

Maryland Film Festival Volunteer (2017)

Maryland Film Industry Coalition: Reel to Real Volunteer (2017)

Volunteer: TFA National Alumni of Color Association (2016-2017)

Instructional Leadership Team Representative at John Ruhrah EMS (2014-2017)

Member of Baltimoreans for Educational Equity (BEE) (2014-2017)

Teach for America Baltimore Development Board, Media Coordinator

(2015-2016)

Representative of Johns Hopkins at TFA Baltimore ROOTS (2015-2016)

Member of the Global Brigades Leadership Team at Johns Hopkins for Honduras/El Salvador service trip (2013-2014)

Captain for the Johns Hopkins Rugby Team (2010-2014)

Educational Tutor at the Village Learning Place (2010-2014)

**OTHER  
PUBLICATIONS  
(SELECTED)**

“DOCENTE DEL DEPARTAMENTO DE ARTES PLÁSTICAS, FRANCISCO HUICHAQUEO, ES ENTREVISTADO PARA EL DIARIO DE LA U. DE CALIFORNIA” (December 2019), interview between Francisco Huichaqueo Pérez and Stephen Borunda published by la Universidad de Concepción.

“*Violeta Went to Heaven: An Omnitemporal Imagining of the Life of Chilean Singer Violeta Parra.*” *Film Matters*, (June 2018).

“Double Consciousness: A Review of Sebastián Lelio’s *Una Mujer Fantástica.*” *The Santiago Times*, (November 2017).

“Chilean cinema contributes to #MeToo campaign with Marialy Rivas’ *Princesita.*” *The Santiago Times*, (October 2017).

“Pluralism as Penance: Pablo Larraín’s *The Club* (2015).” *Film Matters*, (October 2017).

“The Trouble with Family: Lissette Orozco’s *El Pacto de Adriana.*” *The Santiago Times*, (October 2017).

“The Dissolution of Naivety is the Dissolution of Transformation: Andrés Wood’s *Machuca* (2004).” *Film Matters*, (October 2017).

“Fear’s Stranglehold on the Mind: Gonzalo Justiniano’s *Cabros de Mierda* (2017).” *The Santiago Times*, (September 2017).

“*Neruda* Review (2016).” *Film Matters*, (August 2017).

“Sculptures in Time Part V: Andrei Tarkovsky’s *Stalker.*” *Film Inquiry*, (May 2017).



“What is it like for a Child Whose Parent has been Deported?” *Frederick News*, April 27, 2017.

“Sculptures in Time Part IV: Andrei Tarkovsky’s *The Mirror*.” *Film Inquiry*, (March 2017).

“Sculptures in Time Part III: Andrei Tarkovsky’s *Solaris*.” *Film Inquiry*, (September 2016).

“Sculptures in Time Part II: Andrei Tarkovsky’s *Andrei Rublev*.” *Film Inquiry*, (September 2016).

“Sculptures in Time Part I: Andrei Tarkovsky’s *Ivan’s Childhood*.” *Film Inquiry*, (August 2016).

**LANGUAGES**

English: native proficiency. Spanish: fluent, heritage speaker