

Pujita Guha
CURRICULUM VITAE
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EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Film and Media Studies | UC Santa Barbara** 2019-Present
Thesis Project. "Forested Media: Techniques and Lifeworlds in Zomia."
Committee: Alenda Y. Chang (Chair), Janet Walker, Lisa Parks, Kathleen Gutierrez
- M.Phil. Cinema Studies | Jawaharlal Nehru University** 2015 - 2017
MPhil Thesis: "A Century of Dying: Anthropocenic Imaginaries and the Cinema of Lav Diaz" Supervisor: Dr. Kaushik Bhaumik (CGPA 8.91/9)
- M.A. Arts and Aesthetics | Jawaharlal Nehru University** 2013 - 2015
(CGPA 8.3/9)
- B.Sc Mass Communication | St. Xaviers' College, Kolkata** 2009 - 2012

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS and GRANTS (Selected)

- Bikuben Foundation Vision Exhibition Award** 2022
3 year long curatorial exhibition and award
Co-awarded with the Forest Curriculum, Lab for Aesthetics and Ecology and Aziza Harmel
- Sharjah Focal Point Experimental Publication Grant** 2021
Co-awarded with the Forest Curriculum for the "How to Not Build a Nation" Zine Series
- Danish Arts Foundation Visitors International Curators Fellow** 2021
Along with Abhijan Toto for the Forest Curriculum
- Australian Council Arts Council** 2021
For a three year long curatorial research project "To Catch a Bird with a Cloud"
Awarded with the Forest Curriculum and Joel Spring
- Mellow Sawyer Energy Justice Summer Research Grant** 2021
- Arts Korea Council Artistic Research Grant**
For the Online Research Workshop The Forest is in the City is in the Forest - II
Awarded the Forest Curriculum and Mijoo Park (RAT School of Art, Seoul)
- UCSB Multidisciplinary Research Grant on Coronavirus and its Impacts** 2020
3month Summer Research Grant seeded the Digital Pandemic Program.
Co-awarded with Surojit Kayal and Maile Young
- Graduate Center for Literary Research Recruitment Fellowship, UC Santa Barbara** 2019
- Chancellor's Fellowship, Graduate Division, UC Santa Barbara** 2019-2024
Awarded stipend for 3years and guaranteed 50% TAship for additional 2years

Arts Network Asia Grant	2019
To support the Annual Summer School, Bangkok for the Forest Curriculum	
E-Pathshala Research Fellowship University Grants Commission	2017-2018
Researcher, Contributor on Introductory Japanese Cinema for its online MOOC Platform E-Pathshala	
Junior Research Fellowship University Grants Commission	2015-2020
Full term fellowship to perform research in Media Studies	

PUBLICATIONS

Journals

Guha, Pujita. 2023. "Seeding the Forest: Deployment, Detection and Deception with Igloo White." *Cultural Politics*, Vol 19. Issue 3 (Forthcoming).

_____. "Shade and its Forested Futures (visual essay)." *Cultural Politics*, Vol 19. Issue 3 (Forthcoming).
(The visual essay on Shade, and the essay on Igloo White and forest sensing are part of a two-part "Forested Diptych" for *Cultural Politics*).

Guha, Pujita. 2021. "To Speak of a Wasteland," *Pelikula*, Volume 6, pp. 119-124.

Guha, Pujita. 2021. "The Grounds of Cinema: Geopolitics and Geoaesthetics in North East's India's Documentaries." *IIC Quarterly*, Special Issue on Contemporary Indian Cinemas by S.V. Srinivas, Ratheesh Radhakrishnan, and Shubhajit Chatterjee, (Winter-Spring 2021), Volume 37, Issues 3 and 4, pp. 206-220.

Guha, Pujita and Abhijan Toto. "Media Ghostings: Three and a Half Hauntings of the Vietnam War," *Art Critique of Taiwan*, 77, April 2019.
http://act.tnnua.edu.tw/?p=7320?to_id=7320&from_id=6861

Guha, Pujita. "Negotiating Mobility and Media: The Digital Afterlives of Feluda," *South Asian History and Culture*, November 2018, pp. 1-18.

-reprinted for *Popular Cinema in Bengal: Genre, Stars, Public Cultures*, edited by Madhuja Mukherjee and Kaustav Bakshi, New Delhi: Routledge, 2019.

Book Chapters

Guha, Pujita. 2022. "Introduction to Japanese Cinema," in *Film Studies: An Introduction*, edited by Vebhuti Duggal, Bindu Menon, and Spandan Bhattacharya, 163-184. Delhi & Kolkata: Worldview Publications.

Guha, Pujita. 2022. "Seeking a Passport: The Transnational Career of Kiều Chinh," in *Stardom in South East Asia*, edited by Jonathan Driskell, 84-103. Edinburgh University Press.

Guha, Pujita. 2021 "Traversing The Evil Within (1971): Transnational Aspirations, Gender and Infrastructure in Post-War Asia" in *Industrial Networks and Cinemas of India*, edited by Madhuja

Mukherjee and Monika Mehta, 155-167. New Delhi and New York: Routledge, Taylor and Francis.

Artistic Writing and Publication

Guha, Pujita. "How to Live in the Forest." *Barricading the Ice Sheets* (Forthcoming)

Guha, Pujita in conversation with Jane Jin Kaisen. "Tides and Thresholds." *Currents*, Fotografisk Center and Spine Studio, pp. 74-88.

Guha, Pujita and Omehen. "Interview with Omehen." *Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge*, Issue 13: Wading,
<https://www.blackwoodgallery.ca/publications/sduk/wading/interview-with-omehen>

Guha, Pujita. "Your Brain on Belliphonic Sounds." *E-Flux*, edited by Xenia Benivolski for You Can't Trust Music. 2022. <https://yctm.e-flux.com/sonic-boom>.

Guha, Pujita. "Humidity." Words of *Weather*, edited by Jussi Parikka and Daphne Dragona. Onassis Stagle, 2022.

Guha, Pujita and Abhijan Toto. "To Speak to the Forest." In *Antennae*, Vol. 54, Issue 2, special issue on Southeast Asian art practice edited by Nora Taylor, Lucy Davis, and Kevin Chua, pp. 101-113.

Guha, Pujita and Abhijan Toto. "To Build a City on a Forest," *Pollinations Project: Factory Contemporary Art Saigon*.<https://ofhuntersandgatherers.com/to-build-a-city-on-a-forest/>

Guha, Pujita and Abhijan Toto. "To Code a Forest." *Esperanto*, Issue 2, 2021, pp. 38.

Guha, Pujita. *In the Mountains the Only Money is Opium*. Art book, Bergamo GAMEC, 2020.
- Reprinted partially in "Opium Tales," *Nero Editions*,
Website - <https://www.neroeditions.com/opiums-tales/>
(reprinted with edits for the *How To Not Build a Nation* Zine Publication Series)

Guha, Pujita and Abhijan Toto. "In Search of a Weighing Lightness," in Jane Jin Kaisen and Anne Kolbaek edited *Monograph 2011-2020*, Archive Books. 2020, pp. 170-176.

Guha, Pujita and Abhijan Toto. "Notes Towards Imagining an Univers(e)-ity Otherwise," in Rito Carolina and Bill Balaskas edited *Notes Towards a Praxis*, Berlin: Sternberg Press, 2020.

Guha, Pujita and Abhijan Toto. "A Cinema of Anthropofagia or an Anthropofagic Cinema?" in Juhyun Cho edited *Dear Amazon: Anthropocene 2019*, Ilmin Museum of Art, Seoul, Korea, pp. 190-205.

Guha, Pujita with Abhijan Toto. "The Jungle and the Bestiary: The Asian Body of Horror," in Kathleen Ditzling edited *A Fear of Monsters*, Singapore: Asia Film Archive, 2019, pp.56-62.

Guha, Pujita with Abhijan Toto and Sung Tieu. "Rewild" in Xenia Benivolski and Ala Roushan edited *Shape Shift*, Toronto: Sugar Contemporary, 2019, pp. 80-96.

Guha, Pujita. "The Cut and the Wound: To Edit is to Die for You," *Nang*, Issue 2, pp. 33-37.

Reviews

Guha, Pujita. 2023. "In search of a Global Filipino Auteur: Sine ni Lav Diaz, edited by Parichay Patra and Micheal Kho Lim." *Senses of Cinema*, Issue 104. <https://tinyurl.com/LavDiazReview>

Guha, Pujita with Abhijan Toto. "Documenta 15." *Artforum International*. September 1, 2022. shorturl.at/FC-Documenta

Guha, Pujita. "Review of Wild Blue Media: Thinking Through Seawater, by Melody Jue." *Configurations*, Volume 29, Number 3, Summer 2021, pp. 353-356.

Guha, Pujita. "Review of Where Histories Reside: India as Filmed Space, by Priya Jaiukumar." *South Asia Film and Media*, Volume 12, Number 1, February 2021, pp. 104-107.

Guha, Pujita. "Blitheness of Form: A Look at Dashrath Patel's career retrospective," *Critical Collective*, December 18, 2020.

Guha, Pujita. "An Exhibition That Allows Us to Re-configure and Speak About our Histories," *The Wire*, December 2nd, 2017. Weblink - <https://thewire.in/history/exhibition-mumbai-history>

Public Writing/ Short Form writing

Guha, Pujita. "To Speak of a Wasteland," *Pelikula*, Volume 6, pp. 119-124.

Guha, Pujita. "A Forest of Histories: Interview with Lav Diaz," *Cineaste*, Summer 2020, pp. 20-26.

Guha, Pujita. "Cannibalism, Reverence and Solipsism: The Films of Srijit Mukherjee," *Cinema of Resistance*, Volume 5. 2018.

Guha, Pujita. "Flooded by Patriotism," *Raiot: Challenging the Consensus*, September 14, 2017. Weblink - <http://www.raiot.in/flooded-by-patrotism/>

INVITED TALKS AND WORKSHOPS (Selected)

with Bhaskar Sarkar and Bishnupriya Ghosh. "Satyajit Ray: The Golden Fortress." Carsey Wolf Center, Pollock Theater, UC Santa Barbara. <https://tinyurl.com/GoldenFortress>

with Abhijan Toto. "How to Not Build a Nation," Counter-Futuring Symposium, Institute for Cultural Inquiry, Berlin, September 22nd 2022.

"In Search of Indigenous Carbon Toolkits," Toolkit for Today: Carbon Present Seminar Series, Center for Canadian Architecture, Montreal, July 20th, 2022.

Conservation Series with Najrin Islam, "The Forest as Assemblage" and "Entangled Learnings", *ASAP*, May 2022, <https://asapconnect.in/post/413/singlestories/the-forest-as-assemblage> and <https://www.asapconnect.in/post/414/singlestories/entangled-learnings>

with Abhijan Toto. "To Speak from the Forest." Primal Green Art and Sustainability Forum. April 8th 2022

with Abhijan Toto. "Personhood from/in/of the Forest." EMAF Panel on Personhood of the Forest. April 8th 2022.

with Abhijan Toto. "Decolonizing Sustainability." One-day research workshop at the SUSTAIN Research program at Castlefield Gallery, Manchester UK. February 4th 2022.

with Abhijan Toto. "How to Not Build a Nation." Week Long workshop with MFA students at the School of Media Arts, Royal Danish Academy of Arts, December 10-16th 2021 .

with Afriana Purnama, "The Possible Languages of Cinema" panel, at Arkipel - Twilight Festival film Forum, November 26th 2021.

"Forested Media" at the SEM/ALAM Art Lab, November 27th 2021.

with Abhijan Toto. "To Speak of the Forest." Day long virtual workshop and studio visit with MFA students at the School of Media Arts, Royal Danish Academy of Arts, November 8th, 2020.

with Abhijan Toto. *To Think with the Forest*. Monash University Museum of Art Form x Content Series, March 2021. <https://tinyurl.com/FCxMUMA>

"A Revolution in the Forest? Introducing Lav Diaz's Hele Sa Hiwagang Hapis," *Sine li Lav Diaz*, Thai Film Archive, February 13th 2019.

with Abhijan Toto. *Lessons in Attunement*, The School of Storytellers, GHOST 2561: Festival of Video and Performance, Bangkok, September 10th, 2018.

"A Visitor to the Forest: Animism, History and the Cinema of Lav Diaz", Tentacles Gallery, and at the Hanoi Doc Lab, Hanoi, June 8th 2018.

"Sexual Harassment at Workplace?" at the All India Bank Officer's Association, Gujarat Unit's Women's Day Convocation, Ahmedabad, March 9th 2018.

"Man With a Movie Camera Or the Woman at the Editing Table?", *IBTEDA*, (The Annual Conclave by the School Of Development Studies), Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, 2018.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

"In Search of Indigenous Carbon Toolkits." Society for Cinema and Media Studies, Panel: Mediating Waste, Ecologies and Justice, April 12th - April 26th 2023.

Laboratory Participant, "To heal the colonial wound: Towards decolonial practice of storytelling" at EUROSEAS June 2022, Paris.

"Wiring the Forest: Sense and Technology with Operation Igloo White." Society for Cinema and Media Studies, Panel: Military Technologies and Ecologies, March 29th - April 3rd 2022.

“Shade and Forested Futures.” Association of Asian Studies, Panel: Passing Through Thailand, What becomes of Thailand? March 23-26th, 2022.

“Wiring the Forest: Sense and Technology with Operation Igloo White.” Virtual Eco_Media Conference, RMIT, Melbourne, August 30th 2021.

“Farming, Media & Community Knowledge in Academia” Workshop Roundtable Social Justice, Activism, and Environmental Media Studies Roundtable at the 2021 Virtual Society for Cinema and Media Studies, March 17th - 21st 2021.

“Is the Forest a Green Screen? On certain practices in new digital Filipino cinemas” at the 13th Asian Cinema Studies Society Conference, organized by ACSS and Lasalle College for the Arts, June 24th to 26th 2019.

"Media Hauntings: A Para-Human History of the Vietnam War" at the "Conformities and Interruptions in Southeast Asia 21st Cornell Southeast Asia Graduate Student Conference Program, organized by the SEAP Gatty and Student Graduate Committee, Cornell University, March 8th - 10th 2019.

“A Revolution in the Forest? Introducing Lav Diaz’s Hele Sa Hiwagang Hapis” , *Sine li Lav Diaz*, Thai Film Archive, February 2019.

“Passport to Danger: Navigating Transnational Stardom across South and South-East Asia,” in *Film Stardom in South East Asia* Conference, at Monash University, Malaysia Campus, Kuala Lumpur, November 2016.

“The Silent Film and The Silent Archive: Kamal Swaroop’s Intermedial Archive on DG Phalke,” in *Film History in Media Theory: “Nodes” and “Edges”* conference, hosted by Shanghai University and UC Berkeley, Shanghai, June 2016 and at *National Indian Cinema Conference*, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, August 2016.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Principal Instructor | University of California Santa Barbara

192 CT - Cultural Theory (Upper level undergraduate seminar) Spring 2023
189AM Alternative Media Futures (Upper level undergraduate seminar) Summer 2023

Teaching Assistant | University of California Santa Barbara

FAMST 46 - Introduction to Film Analysis (PI - Anna Brusutti) Fall 2020
FAMST 70 - Media Criticism (PI - Greg Siegel) Winter 2021
FAMST 96 - Advanced Film Analysis (PI - Cynthia Felando) Spring 2021
FAMST 192 - Film Theory (PI - Naoki Yamamoto) Fall 2022
FAMST 101D - Telegraphy to TV (PI - Lisa Parks) Winter 2023

Principal Instructor | Delhi College of Arts and Commerce

Course taught – Advanced New Media Winter 2018
Course taught – Advanced New Media Monsoon 2016

Guest Lecture | Ambedkar University Delhi

April 2019

Two part lecture on Media and Environment
Part of Graduate Seminar Media Theory and Aesthetics
Principal Instructor Vebhuti Duggal

I have also been invited to serve as the External Member to the MFA dissertation committee member for Nanna Hansen (MFA, School of Media Arts, Royal Danish Academy for the Fine Arts), and have also regularly mentored students from the same institute.

ART/CURATORIAL EXPERIENCE WITH THE FOREST CURRICULUM (Selected)

For an extensive portfolio/resume follow - <https://tinyurl.com/theFCResume>

Artistic/Curatorial Projects

with Laboratory for Aesthetics and Ecology and Aziza Harmel, *Hosting Lands*, long term, slow growth decentralized exhibition project to think about how land, and land politics shape curatorial and exhibitionary practices.

contributor, curator and series editor for “The How To Not Build a Nation Publication Project” This volume consists of four new publications emerging out of our collaborative artistic research initiatives taking place over Forest Curriculum's numerous iterations with the HTNBAN project, as well as new editions of four existing publications developed through the Forest Curriculum's previous engagements and projects. *Focal Point*, Sharjah Art Book Fair, November 2022.

“The Forest and the Field” Photographic Installation that looks at the landscapes and indigenous politics of forests and coffee production. *TOÁ IV: Foliage* at VCCA, Hanoi, September 2022.

with Abhijan Toto, and Fileona Dhkar, “A Border Takedown Party” - A propositional art form with sweatshirts and pamphlets and text that looks at speculative futures where borders are being taken down in a post-partition world. *Proposals for a Memorial to Partition'* at Jameel Arts Centre, June 18 2022.

with Abhijan Toto, Hutsama Juntaratana, Rosalia Namsai Engchuan, Yonaz Kristy, Zeke Sales “How To Not Build a Nation” - 8 flag installation and table for gathering on nonhuman assemblages in nation-making practices (cloth, steel, rubber, wood, sound installation), *Nation, Narration, Narcosis* show at Hamburger Bahnhof, Berlin, November 28th 2021. Also organized performative symposium/activation series featuring Zeke Sales, Dennis Dizon, Jessica Khazrik and Mali Weil at Hamburger Bahnhof, June 12th 2022.

with Abhijan toto, bela, Hutsama Juntaratana, Pujita, Rosalia Namsai Engchuan, Thanakorn Phonthanakornkul, Yonaz Kristy, Zeke Sales “Itinerant Bestiary” - 20 Flag Installation On Nonhuman Assemblages In Nation-Making Practices (Cloth, steel, rubber, sound installation) at *Nonhuman Assemblages*, Busan Sea Art Festival, 2021.

Publics and Pedagogy

with Joel Spring, Rosalia Namsai Engchuan and Abhijan Toto. “*To Catch a Bird with a Cloud*,” A Three Year Long Research and collaborative platform with four indigenous and marginalized artistic communities across Southeast Asia and Philippines and First Nations Communities in Australia, 2021-2024.

The Forest is in the City is in the Forest - II, Four month, Eight-part, Online lecture series (co-organized by RAT School of Art and Design, Seoul Korea, and GAMEC, Bergamo Italy and Goethe Institut, Korea), 2020-2021.

The Forest is in the City is in the Forest, Los Banos, Philippines (co-organized by Nomina Nuda, Los Banos), 2020.

The Forest As School – Annual Forest Curriculum Summer Academy, Bangkok, Thailand, 2019.

Film Curating

2018 *A Visitor to the Forest V* - with films by Pedro Neves Marques, Tentacles Gallery, Bangkok

2018 *A Visitor to the Forest IV* - with films by Anukul Chueamon (Thailand); Nontawat Numbenchapol (Thailand); Nguyen Trinh Thi (Vietnam); Lauren Reid (Australia/Germany/Thailand), TENT International Festival for Film and Media Art, Kolkata

2018 *A Visitor to the Forest III* - with films by Laura Huertas Millan and Nelson Perreira de Santos, Tentacles Art Gallery, Bangkok.

2018 *A Visitor to the Forest II*, Talk and Discussion on Lav Diaz’s *Hele Sa Hiwagang Hapis*, Tentacles Gallery, Bangkok

2018 *Films in the Forest*, PostScripts Pavilion, Bangkok Biennale

CO-CURRICULAR EXPERIENCE

Co-researcher, Developer, Participatory Food Systems Network, with Huiying Ng, Napong Tao Rugkhapan, Gatari Surya Kusuma, Boonanan Natakun, Christina M. Sayson.

Graduate Research Affiliate, Global Media Technology and Culture Lab (directed by Prof. Lisa Parks), University of California, Santa Barbara.

Member of Media Fields Editorial Collective.

WORKSHOPS, AND TRAINING COURSES

“Sensational Ecologies” Virtual Summer School, with Alenda Chang and Elizabeth Povinelli among others, organized by University of Sussex, August 30th to September 3rd 2021.

“Low Carbon Research Methods”, Virtual two-day workshop organized by Anne Pasek (Canada Research Chair, Trent University) and Kate Elliot (Simon Fraser University).

“Truth Knowledge, and Capitalism in the Anthropocene,” with Prof. Bernard Stiegler, Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, February 2018.

Co-Rapporteur, *What Time Is It?* Conference, Organized by Sarai-CSDS, New Delhi, December 2017. See report [here](#).

CREATIVE EXPERIENCE (SELECTED)

Edited and assisted on numerous experimental shorts by Rahee Punyashloka, including *Noise Reduction III: Z* (2015), and *13 Screenings* (2016).

Edited feature-length independent film *Naseman*, Produced by Water Color Pictures, 2013.

Assistant Director to Pratim D. Toto in *Paanch Adhyay*, Produced by R. K. Techvision Pvt. Ltd., 2012.

Manager at Kolkata based Rock band Ekuil-i-brium. 2010-2012.

Photographer at independent tabloid *All That Pulp*. 2009 – 2010.

Undertook numerous freelance video-editing jobs including for Roshan Taneja School of Acting, Kolkata, 2010-12.

Undertook numerous freelance photography jobs including for Football Players Federation of India, 2010-2012.

INTERESTS/SKILLS

Proficient in Adobe Premiere Pro, Final Cut Pro, Photoshop, and other image editing platforms.

Proficient in English, Bengali and Hindi, with introductory knowledge to Mandarin.