

ZEN COHEN

b. 1978

EDUCATION

- 2011 MFA in Art Studio, University of California at Davis. Davis, CA
- 2004 BFA in Media Arts, California College of the Arts. Oakland, CA
- 2000 School for Visual Arts, NY
- 1999 The School for Film and Television, NY
- 1997 The American Academy of Dramatic Arts, NY

EXHIBITIONS, SCREENINGS, PERFORMANCES

2019

Public Space One, The Gatekeepers, Iowa City, IA (solo upcoming)

International Cervantino Festival. Guanajuato, Mexico (upcoming)

2018

Technotihuacan. SOMArts San Francisco, CA

The Channel of Democracy: Womanhood, Power, & Freedom in Video Art. PHOTOFAIR SF

2017

Guillermo Gómez-Peña. Mexican (IN) Documentado. Museo de Arte Moderno, Mexico City

Dark Sea Cinema, live video performance. Mosswood Chapel. Oakland, CA

2016

Juan Jaula es John Cage, screening. Montalvo Center, Santa Cruz, CA

Transgress, photography exhibit. B4bel4b Gallery. Oakland, CA

35th Floor, video performance installation. CounterPulse, San Francisco, CA

The Gatekeepers. Building Imagination Center. Turlock, CA (solo)

2015

CODAME Festival, live performance of Transgress. Monument, San Francisco, CA

ArtSpan Open Studios, live performance/installation, Herbst Pavilion, Fort Mason. San Francisco, CA

Heavy Breathing, conceptual fitness class, Body Paradox at the Palace Theater. Oakland, CA

deYoung Museum, premiere screening of Juan Jaula es John Cage. San Francisco, CA

Shapeshifters Cinema, solo screening and live performance. Oakland, CA

2014

Temescal Street Cinema, screening of Go Away, Bad Dreams. Oakland, CA

Projected Persona, live performance and exhibit. SOMArts, San Francisco, CA

Tooth and Nail, video exhibition. Parsons Hall Project Space, HOLYOKE, MA

Tooth and Nail, video exhibition. Vanity Projects, New York, NY

ASKEW Film Festival, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco, CA

Dancing With Fear, Galeria de la Raza, San Francisco, CA

2013

AXIS Gallery, 8th National Juried Exhibition, Sacramento, CA

Brava Theater Center, Burqavaganza, video made for live theater play. San Francisco,

Temescal Art Center, [inter] MEDIA Divinations, live performance. Oakland, CA.

2012

San Francisco Design Center, Dining by Design. San Francisco, CA.

ArtSpace, Crystal Palace, New Haven, CT.

SF MOMA, sfSound | Music of Changes: John Cage Centennial Festival, San Francisco, CA.

Krowwork, You Must Change Your Life, Oakland, CA.

The Centro Atlántico de Arte Moderno, Guillermo Gomez-Peña Retrospective, eight photographic portraits of the artist, Las Palmas, Gran Canarias, Spain. (catalog)

Alameda Public Library, SSSHHHH!! temporary site-specific installation, Alameda, CA.

SOMArts, Night Light, San Francisco, CA.

Galeria de la Raza, Contaminated Femininities, performance salon, San Francisco, CA.

2011

The Nelson Gallery, The House of Others: UC Davis MFA Thesis Show, UC Davis, CA. (catalog)

2010

Viracocha, POW! POW! POW! Performance Art Festival, curated by Guillermo Gomez-Peña San Francisco, CA.

University Club Gallery, Great Expectations, first year MFA exhibit, UC Davis, CA.

Tangent Gallery, The TV SHOW, Sacramento, CA.

Worth Ryder Gallery, Cynosure: Work from East Bay Galleries, University of California, Berkeley, CA.

2009

The UC Davis Main Theatre, Corpo Ilicito: The Post-Human Society 6.9, directed by Guillermo Gomez-Peña, live video performance and installation, UC Davis, CA.

Middle Harbor Shoreline Park (The Port of Oakland) The Illuminated Corridor, site-specific video installation, Oakland, CA.

2008

Kahn's Alley, The Illuminated Corridor/Oakland Art Murmur, outdoor video projection installation, Oakland, CA.

Gallery Nine, Night Light: an Evening of Luminous Environments, "video ocean" a site-specific video installation, San Francisco, CA.

Center for New Music and Audio Technologies (CNMAT) Xp1ora7ion, UC Berkeley, CA. video projection for Guillermo Galindo/Charlotte Hug performance

Varnish Fine Art, Moving Pictures, screening of "the fall" and live performance projection San Francisco, CA.

2007

Chapel of the Chimes, Columbarium, From the Darkness, Solace, Oakland, CA. site specific video installation

2006

Recombinant Media Lab, NexMAP, collaborative video-performance of DIVOX with Guillermo Galindo, San Francisco, CA.

21 Grand, The Illuminated Corridor/Oakland Art Murmur, Oakland, CA.

deYoung Museum, Post-Colonial Discontinuum, San Francisco, CA. Collaborative video-performance with Guillermo Galindo and The Earplay Ensemble

Artist's Television Access, INTOX LOUNGE: CHILDREN OF KALI, live video for a Guillermo Gomez-Peña performance, San Francisco, CA.

The Luggage Store, Tres, collaborative video-performance with Guillermo Galindo, San Francisco, CA.

Roxie Cinema, The San Francisco Video Fest – Participating artist

21 Grand, Tres, in collaboration with Guillermo Galindo, Oakland, CA.

2005

SomARTS, San Francisco Electronic Music Festival, Participating artist–collaborative video performance with Guillermo Galindo, San Francisco, CA.

2004

21 Grand, T-10 Video Festival, Oakland, CA. Participating artist, screening of single channel video
1984: age :6

Nahl Hall/CCA, An evening of Film, Video and Performance (solo exhibit), Oakland, CA.

2003

Macchie Studio, La Bella Vista, participating artist, Amelia, Italy

The Lab, Coloring Sounds, Participating artist, San Francisco, CA.

Liminal Gallery, Water, participating artist, Oakland, CA.

2002

Fine Arts Cinema, CCA Media Arts Department Juried Exhibition, screening of single channel video
Tzimtzum, Berkeley, CA.

Nahl Hall, CCA Media Arts Department Juried Exhibition, Oakland, CA.

2000

The Fringe Theater Festival, The Last Supper: A Scratch & Sniff Photo, performer. NY, NY

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

2018 Theatre and Cartographies of Power: Repositioning the Latina/o Americas. Southern Illinois University Press. (photo series and book cover)

2018 Guillermo Gómez-Peña: Mexican (IN) Documentado (exhibition catalog)

2015 Zen Cohen: VJ, Video Documentarian, Still Photographer: interview for Ravishly

2013 Guillermo Gómez-Peña: Homo fronterizus [1492-2020] Cabildo de Gran Canaria (exhibition catalog)

2013 The Art of Performance for Innocents. Publication of No Portraits series, Esfera Publica

2013 U.S. premiere of Guillermo Gómez-Peña's, No Portraits photo portfolio. Art Practical

ARTIST TALKS

2017 California State University, Stanislaus, Turlock, CA

2016 Living Room Light Exchange/Open Engagement. San Francisco, CA

2016 Building Imagination Center, Turlock, CA

2016 Montalvo Center, Santa Cruz, CA

2015 deYoung Museum, San Francisco, CA

2011 Nelson Art Gallery, UC Davis, CA

AWARDS & GRANTS

2013 Individual Artist Commission Grant in Media Arts, San Francisco Arts Commission

2011 Nelson Art Friends Award, UC Davis

2010 Freemond P Gadberry Award, UC Davis

2009 Freemond P Gadberry Award, UC Davis

2004 Osman and Jordana Jackson Award, CCA

2000 Osman and Jordana Jackson Award, CCA

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2018 Digital Collage Photoshop workshop. Army Lofts, San Francisco, CA
GIF Animation Photoshop workshop. Army Lofts, San Francisco, CA
- 2017 Psychomagic Actions for the Camera. Video/Performance workshop. Cal State Stanislaus
Teaching Assistant, Performance art workshop with Linda Mary Montano. Rosekill Farm, NY
Media Tools: Video Editing in Adobe Premiere. Army Lofts, San Francisco, CA
- 2011 Lecturer, Beginning Video. UC Davis
- 2010 Associate Instructor, Black & White Photography. UC Davis
Teaching Assistant, Experimental Documentary. Professor, Darrin Martin. UC Davis
Teaching Assistant, Digital Photography. Professor, Young-suk Suh. UC Davis
- 2009 Teaching Assistant, Beginning Video. Professor, Darrin Martin. UC Davis
Teaching Assistant, Black & White Photography. Professor, Matthias Geiger, UC Davis

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2011- present Zen Cohen Studio, media production studio, owner
- 2013-2014 Al Jazeera America, video editor
- 2010-2011 UC Davis Art Studio Visiting Artist Lecture Series, chair

CURATORIAL PROJECTS

- 2009 Hypnagogia: between sleeping and waking, curator. A group exhibition of works addressing dream states and the unconscious. The Climate Theater, San Francisco, CA.
- 2008 Chance Operations, curator. An exhibition that explored the practice of chance either in process, motif or presentation. The Climate Theater, San Francisco, CA.
- 2008 The Body, the Mirror, the Gaze, curator. A group show of experimental film and video works made by women. The Climate Theater, San Francisco, CA.
- 2007 Night Vision: experimental cinema series, founder and curator. A monthly experimental film & video series that invited both emerging and established film/video artists to screen and talk about their work to a live audience. The Climate Theater, San Francisco, CA.