



## CURRICULUM

**Gloria Victoria Rolando Casamayor.** Born in Havana on April 4, 1953. Graduated from Amaldeo Roldán Conservatory in music theory, piano, harmony, history of music and musical notation. In 1976, she graduated from the University of Havana with a Bachelor in Arts, History. In the same year she began working at the Cuban Institute of Cinematographic Arts and Industry (ICAIC). Followed the tradition of performing different learning projects as an assistant director, researcher, and screenwriter.

### Scripts

- Tumba Francesa (1977): On the origins and development in Cuba of the Tumba Francesa societies following the Franco-Haitian immigration, a product of the Haitian Revolution in the eighteenth century.
- Haiti en la memoria (1986): The testimony of Haitian immigrants who from the early twentieth century Cuba searched the possibilities of a life that his country does not offer. At the same time, this highlights the presence of Haitian culture in Cuba as part of our National Heritage.
- Tan solo con la guitarra (1988): Documentary tribute to Maria Luisa Anido, Lady of the Guitar (Argentina).

All the scripts were directed by Cuban filmmaker Santiago Villafuerte. Filmmakers she has worked with: Rogelio Paris, Rigoberto Lopez, Enrique Colina, Bernabé Hernández, Luis Felipe Bernaza. She collaborated with Santiago Alvarez on two of his documentaries: "La soledad de los dioses" and "La historia de una plaza."

Her work has been closer to documentary film fiction. In fiction she has worked as assistant director on three films: "No hay sábado sin sol" (Manolo Herrera), "Maluala" (Sergio Giral) and "Habanera" (Pastor Vega). . Afterwards she received a postgraduate in Caribbean literature at the University of Havana, the Higher Institute of Arts and the

Casa de las Americas where she began working on, among other topics, that of immigration, which signaled a new path as a documentary filmmaker.

In 1991, she began as a director. Her team consisted of Raúl Rodríguez, José M. Riera and Juan Demosthenes. Video technology enabled new forms of production independent of ICAIC. The Images of the Caribbean group came out of this context.

## **Films Made**

*Oggún un eterno presente*. Documentary. 1991. 57 min. Dedicated to the life and work of Lazarus Ross, son of Oggún. One of the most beautiful voices of Afro-Cuban tradition. Production: Videoamérica SA Funding: Production Videoamérica, ARTEX and ICAIC. Editor Award, Festival de Video de Cuba.

*Los hijos de Baraguá*. Documentary. 1995. 53 min. On the history of the town of Baraguá in the province of Ciego de Avila, where we still find traces of immigration from the West Indies to the island of Cuba. Images of the Caribbean.

*Los ojos del arcoíris*. (The eyes of the rainbow). Documentary. 1997. 45 min. About the African American activist Assatta Shakur, a leader of the Black Panthers and Black Liberation Army.

*El alacrán*. (The Scorpion). Documentary. 2000. 20 min. On the history of the Havana of 1912. First Mention in the Certamen Iberoamericano de Ética Elena Gil, 2001. Vitral Prize at the National Video Movement of Cuba.

*Los marqueses de Atarés*. Documentary. 2002. 50 min. Similar to the comparsa El alacrán, Los marqueses de Atarés (in the Cerro) are symbols of the Cuban Carnival from the 30s: rumba, Santería and abakuás joined from that point on to honor their neighborhood with dances and music that reach down to the present.

*Nosotros y el jazz*. (The jazz in us). Documentary. 2004. 45 min. This is the story of a group of Afro-Cubans who from the 40s and 50s of the last century maintained a

friendship and a taste for jazz. This documentary was part of the first traveling exhibit of Cine del Caribe.

*Pasajes del corazón y la memoria.* (Cherished island memories). Documentary. 2007. 38 min. In the 30th edition of the Festival of New Latin American Cinema, the National Council of Houses of Culture awarded the "Sara Gomez" Award for the rescue of the values of popular culture in film and the rendering of identity in all its complexity and diversity. It is the story of the immigration of families from the Cayman Islands to the former Isla de Pinos, Isla de la Juventud today.

*1912, Voces para un silencio.* (1912, Breaking the Silence). Documentary. Series of 3 chapters (2003-2013), 150 min. Narrates through the voices of historians, witnesses, photos and original documents from that era the fascinating and painful history of the Independent Party of Color. A story silenced, forgotten, and mistreated since 1908, from the very beginnings of the founding of the Party. These voices have been woven together since 2003 voices to allow in the future a definitive break in the silence about the only political party blacks and mestizos ever had in Cuba. Chapter 2 won the "Walterio Carbonell" award from the Cofradia de la Negritude. (Organization based in Havana)

*Reembarque* (Reshipment), 2014, 58 min. Documentary. The story of Haitian immigrants to Oriente in the early 20th century and their forced repatriation after the sugar market crashed. With extensive footage of the Haitian Cuban group Desandann.

*Dialogo con mi abuela* (Dialog with My Grandmother), 2016, 40 min.. Documentary. In 1993 I recorded the conversation I had with my grandmother Innocence, without imagining that this would be the basis of a very particular dialogue. My grandmother was named Inocencia Leonarda Armas y Abreu. She was born in 1906 in the city of Santa Clara. She was very proud that her grandchildren had been able to study. She, black and poor, once wanted to be a nurse.

*Dialogue with my grandmother* is an audiovisual where I mix the documentary format and some elements of fiction. A dialogue between reality and imagination in which the poetry of daily life participates. Nature (flowers, forest, tree roots, leafy Ceiba, sea, sky,

sun) is also integrated into the language of "Dialogue with my grandmother" because each element plays its role in the visual narration.

## **Awards**

- Distinción "Gitana Tropical". In 2000. Granted by Dirección Provincial de Cultura de la Ciudad de la Habana.
- Diploma "Al Mérito Artístico". In 2000. Granted by la República de Cuba, Ministerio de Cultura y el Ministro de Educación Superior.
- Medalla Federico Fellini. In 2010. Granted by UNESCO, also given to Vanessa Redgrave, Gérard Depardieu, and Clint Eastwood.
- The Sara Gomez Prize for the documentary "Pasajes del corazón y la memoria" (2007). Año 2010. Granted by the Consejo Nacional de Casas de Cultura (La Habana) in the 30° Festival Internacional del Nuevo Cine Latinoamericano.
- Annual "Walterio Carbonell" Prize for chapter 2, "1912, Voces para un silencio". In 2012
- Caracol Prize from UNEAC in the category of director for the serial "1912, Voces para un silencio". In 2013
- Caracol Prize from UNEAC in the category of documentary for *Dialogo con mi abuela*. In 2016.

## **Memberships**

- Member, Red de Mujeres Afrolatinas y Afrocaribeñas
- Global Board Member of the Arcus Center for Social Justice Leadership at Kalamazoo College, Michigan, EE-UU
- May 6th, 2001 was Gloria Rolando Day in Oakland. She was in the midst of her 2001 Tour.

Her works have been presented at over 100 universities in the United States, in departments focused on Caribbean, Latin American, and African Diaspora studies.