

# REBECCA LESSARD

**Picture Editor, Writer, Visual Researcher, Media Educator, Post-Production Professional**

## SUMMARY

Experienced Montreal/Tio'tia:ke-based picture editor and writer on multiple television, feature, short film and digital projects with a specialization in documentary/factual programming and a passion for telling meaningful and impactful stories.

As a seasoned visual researcher and archival producer, I also bring an innate understanding of working with historical footage and imagery to my work as an editor. My background as a musician and songwriter provides me with a heightened sense of rhythm and pacing, as well as a knack for selecting music and crafting with a musical sensibility.

My work on social and cultural documentaries and my collaborations with diverse filmmakers have driven me to engage in various media education initiatives and the facilitation of media programming, filmmaking and storytelling workshops for a variety of underserved communities.

### EDUCATION

**2009 | BA, Communication Studies, Concordia University** Specialization video production; Graduated w. distinction; Recipient Pariso Scholarship  
**2006 | DEC, Cinema, Video & Communication, Dawson College**

### INTERNSHIPS

**2010 | Apathy is Boring**  
Social Media and Marketing Intern  
**2009 | Docshop, CBC / NFB**  
Short Doc Creation workshop (aired on CBC)  
**2009 | CBC Television, Montreal**  
Program Development Intern

### LANGUAGES

Fluent in English and French, Intermediate Spanish

### SOFTWARE COMPETENCIES & OTHER SKILLS

Adobe Premiere Pro, Creative Suite, Final Cut X, audio editing tools, Frame.io, Vimeo, Dropbox, Google Workspace.  
Experience with financial management, budgeting, bookkeeping (QuickBooks Online).  
Trained in youth mental health, Emergency Child Care First Aid & CPR/AED.

### PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Member of the Visual Researcher Association of Canada (VRSC)  
Associate Member of Canadian Cinema Editors (CCE)

## FILM & TELEVISION

### Feature Documentary

2025 *Michelle Ross: Unknown Icon* (CBC; pr. Noble Television, dir. Alison Duke) In post-production

#### EDITOR

2024 *So Surreal: Behind the Masks* (CBC Docs; pr. Rezolution Pictures, dir. Joanne Robertson and Neil Diamond) | Official Selection TIFF, VIFF, AIFF. Winner, Cultural Currents Award, Victoria Film Fest. Special Jury Mention @ FIFA

#### EDITOR • VISUAL RESEARCH • ADDITIONAL WRITING

2024 *Red Fever* (TVO / ARTE / APTN; pr. Rezolution Pictures, dir. Catherine Bainbridge and Neil Diamond) | Audience Top 20 @ Hot Docs; Nigel Moore Award @ DOXA; APTN Prize for Cinematic Accomplishment @ Présence Autochtone; Cinema Indigenized Outstanding Talent award @ Cinéfest Sudbury

#### EDITOR • CO-PRODUCER • VISUAL RESEARCH

2023 *Coming Home* (companion Doc for the Drama series 'LITTLE BIRD'; CRAVE; dir. Erica Daniels)

#### VISUAL RESEARCH, RIGHTS & CLEARANCES

2022 *The Smallest Steps* (pr. and dir. By Nicole Bedford)

## **ARCHIVAL PRODUCER**

- 2017 *RUMBLE: The Indians Who Rocked the World* (PBS / ARTE / TMN; dir. Catherine Bainbridge) | Special Jury Award @ Sundance; Best Canadian Doc + Audience Award @ Hot Docs; Best Feature Doc + Best Editing + Best Cinematography @ CSAs; Nominated Best Arts & Culture Doc @ Emmy's

**ADDITIONAL EDITING • VISUAL RESEARCH, RIGHTS & CLEARANCES • POST-PRODUCTION COORDINATOR • TRAILER AND DIGITAL MEDIA EDITOR**

- 2015 *The Oka Legacy* (CBC, dir. Sonia Bonspille Boileau)

**VISUAL RESEARCH, RIGHTS & CLEARANCES • POST-PRODUCTION COORDINATOR • TRAILER EDITOR**

## **Television Series**

- 2025 *Go North!* (APTN; pr. Nikan Productions) In post-production

**VISUAL RESEARCH, RIGHTS & CLEARANCES (5 episodes)**

- 2025 *Animal Nation* (APTN; pr. 2Ducks media) In post-production

**EDITOR (1 episode - Grizzly Bear)**

- 2023 *GESPE'GEWA'GI: The Last Land Season II* (APTN; pr. Rezolution Pictures)

**EDITOR • CO-WRITER (3 episodes)**

- 2020 *Libertad (Évasion)* (pr. Productions Déferlantes)

**CO-EDITOR (2 episodes)**

- 2020 *GESPE'GEWA'GI: The Last Land I* (APTN; pr. Rezolution Pictures)

**LEAD EDITOR • CO-WRITER (6 episodes)**

- 2018 *Dreamcatcher Bios* (APTN; pr. Rezolution Pictures)

**EDITOR • WRITER (7 episodes)**

- 2016 *Working it Out Together III* (APTN; pr. Rezolution Pictures)

**EDITOR (3 episodes) • POST-PRODUCTION COORDINATOR • VISUAL RESEARCHER**

- 2015 *Dream Big* (APTN)

**EDITOR (1 episode) • DIGITAL MEDIA EDITOR**

- 2013 – *Mohawk Girls* (APTN, pr. Rezolution Pictures, dir. Tracey Deer)

- 2017 **ASSISTANT EDITOR • POST-PRODUCTION COORDINATOR • VERSIONING COORDINATOR**

## **Short Documentary**

- 2023 *John Kim Bell: Born to "Indspire"* (pr. Amanda Roy / NFB; dir. Roxann K. Whitebean)

**EDITOR**

- 2017 *Flat Rocks* (pr. NSI; dir. Courtney Montour)

**CO-EDITOR**

- 2014 *The Wolverine: The Fight of the James Bay Cree* (pr. Rezolution Pictures, dir. Ernest Webb)

Assistant Editor, Visual Researcher

- 2014 *Hands on: Women, Climate, Change* (pr. IAWRT, dir. Liz Miller)

**LEAD EDITOR • COMPOSER**

## **Short Fiction/Animation**

2024 *What the Hell?* (pr. Jelena Popovic / NFB, dir. Valerie Barnhart)

**EDITOR**

2017 *The Paradigm* (dir. Roxann K. Whitebean)

**CO-EDITOR**

2015 *Legend of the Storm* (dir. Roxann K. Whitebean)

**EDITOR**

## Other Media / Interactive

2016 *Thunder Blanket* (CBC Short Docs, dir. Roxann K. Whitebean)

**EDITOR (3 episodes)**

2016 *WIOT Magazine – a Magazine for Contemporary Indigenous Issues*

**VIDEO CONSULTANT AND EDITOR**

2010 - *Roots & Recipes*: Collecting Montreal food stories & recipes from first and second-generation immigrants.

2015 **PROJECT CO-FOUNDER • CREATOR, DIRECTOR, EDITOR** *'Dishing Up the Past' Webseries* • **CO-HOST, EDITOR** of the *'Roots & Recipes Radio Hour' Podcast (2015)*

## MEDIA EDUCATION & FACILITATION

2022 **WAPIKONI MOBILE**

Filmmaker Mentor • *Collaborated with youth and adult community members in the creation of short films and original music recordings – Gesgepegiag Mi'gmaq First Nation*

2018-19 **YOUTH FUSION**

Leadership, Arts & Media Coordinator • *Coordinated leadership and organizational skill-building activities alongside filmmaking and digital media programming for Inuit youth (ages 12–20) at Kiluutaq School in Umiujaq, Nunavik.*

2009-13 **LIFESTORIES PROJECT, CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY**

Co-facilitator, Coordinator, Editor • *Co-facilitated digital storytelling and photovoice workshops for refugee youth and LGBTQ+ asylum seekers; edited finished projects; organized high school speaking tours*

2011 **RUE-ELLES, YWCA OF MONTREAL**

Co-facilitator, Designer • *Co-facilitated digital storytelling and photovoice workshops for girls and women with lived experience of homelessness and designed layouts for public art exhibits.*

## VOLUNTEER

Long-time volunteer with organizations focused on Indigenous women, youth, and underserved communities as well as arts and culture. Roles have included crisis intervention, public engagement, and event organizing.

- Native Women's Shelter of Montreal & Spirit Walk Fundraising Committee (2016-present)
- Crisis Responder for Kid's Crisis Text Line (2020-2023)
- Resilience Montreal (2020)
- Pop Montreal (2009-2014)

- Festival du Nouveau Cinema (2007-2010)
- Vera Coop Club for the International Pop Underground (The Netherlands – 2008)

## MUSIC

- Classically trained cellist
- Past musical projects include: Code Pie, Adam & The Amethysts, Silverkeys, Warmly (cello, keys, vocals, composition)
- Co-owner of Flagless Records
- Past member of The Forever Chorus