

Ben Cowper

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Work and Teaching Experience

Independent Educator in Film Production

2013 - Present

I am currently a private tutor for adults and students interested in video production and photography.

In 2016 I was a regular guest instructor in Super 8 filmmaking at Amherst College. As an undergraduate, I was a TA for three film courses, an instructor for two years at the Creative Media Institute (a summer filmmaking program), and created and taught a full semester video production course completed by 12 college students.

Video Producer and Academic Technologist - University of Minnesota

2017 - 2018

Working directly with faculty and graduate students, I produced videos, live streamed classes, designed websites, and migrated online courses from Moodle to Canvas.

Media Alumni Fellow - Hampshire College

2017

Primary resource for faculty and students of all skill levels needing media production assistance. I upgraded advanced media production facilities, designed and constructed a 4K broadcast TV studio with a cyclorama green screen, and maintained a 3D printer/scanner. I also led workshops and lectured on color grading and video editing.

Post-Production and Marketing - Straight Ahead Pictures

2016 - 2017

Head of digital marketing, web design, fundraising, and post-production assistant for a PBS *American Masters* film.

San Francisco Frozen Film Festival

2014

Advertising and promotional videos, social media marketing, fundraising, projection, selection, and curation of films.

Media Production and Technical Services

2007 - Present

Cinematographer skilled in operating cinema cameras from all major manufacturers and familiar with custom installations (DSLRs with Magic Lantern), raw video workflows, and analog film (16mm Bolex and Super 8).

Editor and Colorist specializing in Adobe Suite (Premiere, AE, PS) with occasional FCP and Resolve use.

Broadcast Engineer with a portfolio of custom designed multi-camera production studios and mobile units for live streaming television, theatre, and events.

Audio recording, cleaning, and mixing in 5.1 surround and stereo using Adobe Audition and ProTools.

Journalism / Radio host and producer for Yurt Radio at Hampshire College. Staff writer and photography editor for *The Climax*, a print and online newspaper.

Archiving and digital telecine of 16mm and Super 8 film, consultant in preservation of archaic media formats.

Web Design and Coding in Python, HTML, CSS or custom designs in Drupal, Squarespace, and Wordpress.

Education

Hampshire College (2016)

B.A. in Film and Video Production

University of Minnesota College of Liberal Arts (2018)

Graduate level Media Arts coursework (4.0 GPA)

Selected Filmography

Into the Folds

(post-production)

Technical Director, Editor

After the Bend

2020

Technical Director, Camera, Editor, VFX

<i>(Untitled film by Baba Hillman)</i> Post-production Assistant	(2020)
<i>EEE (working title)</i> Colorist	TBA
<i>Science ka Adda (17 episodes, ongoing)</i> Camera Operator, Editor, Animation	2014 - 2019
<i>Holding Hands with Ilse</i> Subtitling, Post-production Assistant	2017
<i>Becoming Helen Keller</i> Post-production, digital marketing	TBA
<i>Nona</i> Director, Cinematographer, Editor, Producer	2016
<i>Mount Holyoke Antique Clothing Collection</i> Camera, Editor	2016
<i>Held Together With Tape</i> Production Assistant	2016
<i>Darkville</i> Director of Photography (2 episodes)	2015 - 2016
<i>The Shanghai Quartet</i> Production Assistant	(expected 2019)
<i>Ken Burns Interview</i> Camera Operator, Assistant Lighting	2015
<i>Shelby Head Artist Profile</i> Cinematographer, Editor	2015
<i>Something Restless</i> Technical Director, 5.1 audio mix engineer	2015
<i>San Francisco Frozen Film Festival Promo</i> Director, Cinematographer, Editor	2014
<i>Hazard Lights</i> Assistant Director	2014

Screenings and Shows

cash flow bad (Normal Residential Purposes, Minneapolis, MN) Solo show about the gig economy	2020
Nona (Hampshire College, Amherst, MA) Screening of my senior thesis film	2016
Darkville (UCB Theatre, New York, NY) Director of Photography on comedy series for Channel 101	2015
Something Restless (Hampshire College, Amherst, MA) Technical Director on student film	2015
Hazard Lights (Hampshire College, Amherst, MA) Assistant Director on student film	2014
Ghosts in the Machine (Hampshire College, Amherst, MA) Director of a student film	2014
Untitled (Williston-Northampton Film Festival, Northampton, MA) Director of a short film	2011

Grants and Awards

Tom Joslin Grant - Received funding for my senior thesis film <i>Nona</i> at Hampshire College	2016
Green Prize - Awarded for excellence in dramatics at Kingswood Oxford high school	2012