

Daniel H. Birman

FACULTY APPOINTMENTS

- 2011 - Present** **PROFESSOR OF PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE, University of Southern California,** Annenberg School of Journalism.
- 2010 - 2011** **ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE, University of Southern California,** Annenberg School of Journalism, teaching nonfiction long-form writing and producing.
- 2001 - 2010** **FACULTY, University of Southern California,** Annenberg School of Journalism.
- 2001 - Present** **EXECUTIVE PRODUCER, *Impact*, University of Southern California,** Annenberg School of Journalism. Award-winning newsmagazine series for cable and international distribution.
- 1996 - 1998** **ADJUNCT FACULTY,** Rancho Santiago College.
- 1990** **LECTURER, University of Southern California,** Annenberg School of Journalism.
- 1986 - 1990** **ADJUNCT FACULTY,** Orange Coast College, Broadcast Journalism.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

- 1983 - 1985** **MASTER OF ARTS,** Broadcast Journalism
University of Southern California
- 1978 - 1980** **BACHELOR OF ARTS,** Radio / Television / Film
California State University, Long Beach

PROFESSIONAL CREDITS

- 2018 – Present** **PRODUCED BY, DIRECTED BY, and DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY, *Me Facing Life 2: Cyntoia's Fight for Freedom*** (working title) is in post-production. A new feature documentary that replaces our original documentary in 2011. This feature centers on Cyntoia Brown's fate following a long arduous legal path during the previous 15 years that led to her freedom from incarceration. Netflix
- 2017 - 2018** **PRODUCED BY / WRITER / DIRECTOR, *Breakthrough: The Earliest Americans*.** A special that introduces a theory that earliest people may have come to North America as early as 130,000 years ago, more than 100,000 years earlier than expected. We then show current efforts underway by scientists in Oregon who are searching buried pathways under the ocean that may have been travelled by the ancients. CuriosityStream
- 2016 – 2017** **PRODUCED BY / WRITER / DIRECTOR, *The Hunt for Dark Matter*.** A special that explores a scientific collaboration to find dark matter, and a new technology that's being developed that might hold the key for actually finding it. CuriosityStream.

- 2016 – Present** **PRODUCED BY / WRITER / DIRECTOR / DP**, *Sentencing Children*. A digital series that chronicles a move in Tennessee to change juvenile sentencing laws. The bipartisan fight to change laws in the America’s most conservative state was inspired by the success of our documentary, *Me Facing Life: Cyntoia’s Story*. Independent Lens. This is to be streamed by Independent Lens and The Tennessean.
- 2015 - 2016** **PRODUCED BY / WRITER / DIRECTOR**, *Curious Minds: Conscious Capitalism*. In production. A one-hour documentary about a revolutionary movement in American capitalism. CuriosityStream.
- 2015 - Present** **IN DEVELOPMENT**, *The Hinges of History*. Birman Productions has acquired the rights to the NY Times Bestselling book series by Thomas Cahill. The project is anticipated to be produced as a 10-part tent pole series for television. Network tbd.
- 2013 – 2014** **PRODUCED BY / WRITER / DIRECTOR**, *An Aviator’s Story: Bob Hoover* (wt). Documentary feature about famed aviator Bob Hoover. The documentary offers a rare insight to one of the greatest test pilots in the history of aviation. Network tbd.
- 2012 - 2015** **ADDITIONAL PRODUCER / DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY**, *The Big Bang Machine*. Documentary special about one of the greatest scientific discoveries in modern times – a tiny particle that explains how the universe was formed. NOVA / PBS
- 2011 - 2012** **EXECUTIVE PRODUCER / WRITER, PRODUCER, DIRECTOR, CINEMATOGRAPHER**. *Chasing Speed: Leslie Porterfield* (working title). One-hour special about the world’s fastest woman on a motorcycle who also owns the largest used motorcycle shop in Dallas, TX. Discovery – Velocity.
- 2010** **EXECUTIVE CONSULTANT**. *Exoskeletons*. One-hour special produced by Screechers Pix. National Geographic Channel.
- 2004 - 2010** **EXECUTIVE PRODUCER / WRITER, PRODUCER, DIRECTOR**. *Me Facing Life: Cyntoia’s Story*. Feature documentary about Cyntoia Brown, a Tennessee youth who committed murder and is now serving a life sentence in a Tennessee prison. First ever of its kind – the project has six years of footage that brings a forensic-psychiatric perspective about a young girl whose actions are linked to bigger social problems. PBS: Independent Lens, and featured in 90 cities around the country as part of the ITVS Community Cinema Program. Won a 2011 Silver Telly Award in the documentary category. Distribution: Zodiak Rights (international), The Cinema Guild (education)
- 2009 - 2010** **EXECUTIVE PRODUCER / WRITER, PRODUCER, DIRECTOR**. *Brace for Impact: The Chesley B. Sullenberger story*. Birman Productions gained access to the inside story about what happened on January 15th, 2009 when Captain Sullenberger landed an airliner on the Hudson River. TLC and Discovery Channel.
- 2007 - 2008** **EXECUTIVE PRODUCER / WRITER, PRODUCER, DIRECTOR**. *Naked Science: Death of the Universe*. One hour special that re-visits what we have learned since Einstein, and looks at new theories about the fate our universe. National Geographic Channel.
- 2005 - 2006** **EXECUTIVE PRODUCER**. *Medical Maverick*. Two one-hour specials on a world-class trauma surgeon in Newark, NJ and how he uses his unusual skills to save lives in the trauma room, on the streets, and before violence occurs. Discovery Health Channel.

- 2004 - 2006** **EXECUTIVE PRODUCER / WRITER, PRODUCER, DIRECTOR.** *Europa: Mystery of the Ice Moon.* One-hour documentary special with NASA scientists and engineers during which we explore the possibility that life might exist on one of Jupiter's moons. Birman did the cinematography and narration. Discovery: The Science Channel.
- 2004 - 2005** **PRODUCED BY.** *The Team.* First-ever nonfiction series for *Nickelodeon*. Four half-hour programs on the journey of an AAU basketball team toward national championships. Famed rapper, Master P with his team captain son, Romeo, coaches the team through basketball and life's lessons. Nickelodeon and Tom Lynch Company.
- 2004** **SUPERVISING PRODUCER.** *Real Life.* Verité documentary pilot project that chronicles the lives of high school students in diverse settings. Noggin Network and Tom Lynch Company.
- 2003 - 2004** **CREATOR, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER.** *Chopper Rescue.* Developed, produced and was a principal shooter. One-hour trauma special features the heroic work of the Los Angeles County Fire Department's Air Operations. Discovery Health Channel.
- 2003** **EXECUTIVE PRODUCER.** Dr. Art Ulene's Cut Your Health Costs Now. A ten-part syndicated news series.
- 2002** **EXECUTIVE PRODUCER.** Dr. Art Ulene's Vitality Challenge. A month-long syndicated news series on improving individual health.
- 2000 - 2002** **PRODUCER.** *Breast Cancer, Scene Smoking, and Is Love Enough?* Reversioned and produced these programs for Discovery Health Channel. *Scene Smoking* won a *Prism* Award as a documentary special.
- 1998 - 2000** **CREATOR, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER.** *Alternatives: Uncovered,* a primetime series of ten one-hour programs on alternative medicine. Discovery Health Channel.
- 1996 - 1997** **PRODUCER,** *The Lower Arroyo: Restoration for the Future.* Documentary short on a wetlands restoration project in Pasadena, CA.
- 1994** **PRODUCER/DIRECTOR,** David Yzbick Productions. Field producer, new drug therapies for Alzheimer's Disease. Lifetime.
- 1993 - 1995** **PRODUCER/DIRECTOR.** Medical advances in the detection of Alzheimer's Disease and other issues facing seniors. National news syndication for AARP.
- 1993** **PRODUCER/WRITER/DIRECTOR,** Soils Dating and Geomorphology. Scientific production on soils dating. Requested by the State of California to be used as material evidence for a hearing on geologic conditions at a landfill site.
- 1993** **PRODUCER/WRITER,** *TPA.* Advances in paramedic use of Tissue Plasminogen Activator. Produced as a special segment on advances in thrombolysis. Lifetime Medical Television.
- 1991 - 1992** **PRODUCER/WRITER/DIRECTOR,** *Hazards of Surgical Smoke.* Half-hour program produced as a continuing medical education course for operating room nurses. National distribution.

- 1990 - 1991** **PRODUCER/DIRECTOR**, *the Harvard Internal Medicine Series*. Series of hour-long medical education programs on advances in internal medicine. Produced in cooperation with: Lifetime Medical Television; Harvard Medical School; Merck; and Alpha Telecommunications.
- 1990** **PRODUCER**, *Killer Computers*, a three-part sweeps special on video display terminals for KCBS News, Los Angeles.
- 1986 - 1990** **PRODUCER/WRITER**, Nationally broadcast series' *Physician's Journal Update* and *Specialty Update*. Lifetime Medical Television.
- 1985 - 1989** **VIDEO PRODUCTION CONSULTANT**, St. Jude Hospital and Rehabilitation Center. Producer of in-house and community medical education programming. Cable.
- 1987** **PRODUCER/DIRECTOR**, *The Laser Center*, educational program on the use of lasers in medicine with NBC network's science correspondent, Roy Neal.
- 1987** **LOCATION MANAGER/2nd UNIT CAMERA**, *The Day My Kid Went Punk*, After School Special, Brookfield Productions, Inc., Los Angeles. ABC. (16mm)
- 1986** **PRODUCER**, *Life on the Line*, documentary for the County of Los Angeles' Paramedic Training Institute with NBC correspondent Jess Marlow.
- 1985** **CAMERAMAN/LOCATION PRODUCTION COORDINATOR**, *Preparation for Childbirth*, a program for home distribution for Feeling Fine Productions Inc., with Dr. Art Ulene. National distribution.
- 1985** **DIRECTOR/DP**, *Norman Corwin at 75*, documentary short chronicling the work of Norman Corwin. Frank O'Connor Award, 'Best Documentary'. Produced through the University of Southern California. PBS.
- 1984 -1986** **DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY**, *The Children of Skid Row*, documentary about the complex issues facing families with children on Los Angeles' Skid Row. PBS.
- 1984** **LOCATION MANAGER**, *One More Hurdle*, NBC Network Special Treat. Brookfield Productions. (16mm)
- 1983** **LOCATION MANAGER**, *Just the Way You Are*, documentary for television on the disabled. Brookfield Productions. (16mm)
- 1981** **PRODUCTION COORDINATOR**, *The Dream's Not Enough*, documentary for television. Brookfield Productions. (16mm)
- 1980** **PRODUCTION COORDINATOR/2nd UNIT CAMERA**, *It's a New Day...* -- multi-award documentary for theatrical release and for television. Brookfield Productions. Showtime. (16mm)
- 1976 - 1980** **ASSOCIATE PRODUCER/RESEARCH**, *Voter's Pipeline*, television series chronicling California Politics. KOCE-TV 50, PBS.

1978 - 1979 **PRODUCER/WRITER/DIRECTOR**, *Humans of the Sea*, a student documentary on dolphin research with Dr. John C. Lilly, Dr. Bill Evans and Brad Andrews. (16mm)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS and PRESENTATIONS

- 2017 – Present** **BOARD OF GOVERNORS**, Academy of Television Arts & Sciences. Elected to a two year term of office to represent documentary filmmakers and multi-platform networks that carry documentary content.
- 2018** **PRESENTER**, Orange County Women's Health Project. Presented *Me Facing Life: Cyntoia's Story*, gave a talk about the significant findings with the documentary, talked about this in context with juvenile justice in America, and served on a panel discussion.
- 2016 – Present** **CHAIR, BYLAWS COMMITTEE**, Academy of Television Arts & Sciences
- 2014 – 2015** **BOARD MEMBER**, The backStorygroup. A non-profit organization whose mission is to give American storytellers access to Israel's vast cultural mosaic through first-hand experience.
- 2012 - 2016** **BOARD OF GOVERNORS**, Academy of Television Arts & Sciences: Nonfiction Programming.
- 2012 - 2017** **CHAIR, MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**, Academy of Television Arts & Sciences.
- 2012** **CO-CHAIR, AMERICAN ACADEMY OF CHILD & ADOLESCENT PSYCHIATRY panel discussion** about the making of *Me Facing Life: Cyntoia's Story*
- 2012** **PANELIST NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL ON CRIMINAL AND CIVIL CONFINEMENT** A panel discussion about the legal implications of producing a documentary like *Me Facing Life: Cyntoia's Story*.
- 2011** **CHAIR, NONFICTION PEER GROUP SUBCOMMITTEE**, Academy of Television Arts & Sciences. Working to distinguish the differences in nonfiction and reality programming.
- 2011** **MEMBER, EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES COMMITTEE**, Academy of Television Arts & Sciences Foundation.
- 2011** **CO-CHAIR, EMMY MAGAZINE EDITORIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**, Academy of Television Arts & Sciences.
- 2011** **PANELIST**, 12th Annual Arkansas Coalition for Juvenile Justice Conference – *Me Facing Life: Cyntoia's Story*.
- 2011** **PANELIST**, *The Children's Defense Fund Annual Conference – Me Facing Life: Cyntoia's Story*.
- 2011** **PANELIST**, *The Campaign for the Fair Sentencing of Youth Annual Conference – Me Facing Life: Cyntoia's Story*. Washington, D.C.
- 2011** **PANELIST**, *Coalition for Juvenile Justice Annual Conference – Me Facing Life: Cyntoia's*

Story. Washington, D.C.

- 2010** **PRESENTER**, *Juvenile Justice in Nashville and the USA*. Continuing Legal Education (CLE) Program – Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee and the Cumberland.
- 2010** **PANELIST**, *Women’s Empowerment Screening Series – Me Facing Life: Cyntoia’s Story*. Legacy LA.
- 2010** **PANELIST**, *Nashville Film Festival Screening – Me Facing Life: Cyntoia’s Story*.
- 2010** **MODERATOR**, *Eyeballing the Universe: Big & Small*, with K.C. Cole, DJ Byrne and Clifford V. Johnson. 10th Annual West Hollywood Book Fair.
- 2009 - Present** **MEMBER**, International Documentary Association.
- 2007 - 2010** **BOARD OF GOVERNORS**, Academy of Television Arts & Sciences: Nonfiction Programming.
- 2008 - 2009** **PRODUCER**, **Academy of Television Arts & Sciences**. Panel discussion: *What is Nonfiction?* Heads of major networks come together to answer a question about the changing nature of nonfiction television from its documentary roots to the very edge of reality.
- 2008** **PANELIST**, *Juvenile Life Sentences Symposium*. Annual Meeting, American Psychiatric Association (APA).
- 2006** **PRESENTER**, *25th Annual International Space Development Conference*. The journalistic decisions to produce a documentary about space; and a preview of the upcoming documentary, *Europa: Mystery of the Ice Moon*.
- 2006** **PRESENTER**, *13th Annual National Writer’s Conference: Writing for Documentary Film and Television*.
- 2006** **PRESENTER**, *JPL – Europa: Mystery of the Ice Moon*. Screening for NASA scientists and engineers. Received an Award of Appreciation.
- 2006** **CHAIR**, *Selection Committee for the President of The Academy of Television Arts & Sciences*.
- 2005** **PRESENTER**, *Reporting Medicine: Avoiding Journalistic Malpractice*. USC Annenberg/California Endowment Health Journalism Fellowships Conference.
- 2004** **PRESENTER**, *RealScreen Summit*.
- 2001 - 2005** **SECRETARY**, Academy of Television Arts & Sciences.
- 2001 - Present** **CHAIR**, Ethics Committee, Academy of Television Arts & Sciences.
- 1998** **JUDGE**, *Shanghai Television Festival*. Selected to serve as one of five international documentary judges for Asia’s premiere international documentary award program.

1996 - 2000

BOARD OF GOVERNORS, Academy of Television Arts & Sciences: Nonfiction Programming.

1976 - Present

MEMBER, Academy of Television Arts & Sciences: Producers Group, and Nonfiction Programming. **COMMITTEES**: Chair, Ethics Committee, Emmy Awards, By-Laws, Governors' Award, and Educations Programs & Services.