



**SHEBANA COELHO**  
Filmmaker Writer Performer

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**EDUCATION**

Lafayette College, Easton PA. BA in English. Minor French. Phi Beta Kappa.

**AWARDS/GRANTS**

2014 CEC ArtsLink Project award to collaborate with Ashtar Theatre, Ramallah project  
2012 & 2013 Shelley & Donald Rubin Foundation grants for Stories from the Steppe, Mongolia  
2007 Fulbright Research Fellowship to Mongolia  
2004 Fiction Fellow, New York Foundation for the Arts  
2004 Fiction Grant, Ludwig Vogelstein Foundation  
2003 Archie D. & Bertha Walker Scholarship for fiction, Fine Arts Work Center, Provincetown, MA  
Finalist, Glimmer Train Fiction Open, December 2009  
Semifinalist, 2002 New Millennium Journal Writing Competition.  
2002 James T. Yee Mentorship Award, Center for Asian American Media (CAAM)  
2001 Telly Award for PBS/WNET documentary, Desi, South Asians in New York  
2001 South Asian Journalists Association Award-First Prize, best documentary feature, Desi

**FILM/VIDEO/RADIO**

**Director/Producer/Writer/Outreach Impact Producer.** Nasario remembers the Rio Puerco, featuring Nasario García, a documentary about landscape and memory in New Mexico. (2015 – 2020)  
Broadcast on NM PBS/KNME, Ch 5.1, nasarioremembers.com

Screenings/Outreach Discussions: 2019 at Universidad de Alcalá Henares, Spain, Portales, NM, Lovington, NM, Carrizozo, NM, Taos Environmental Film Festival, Collected Works Bookstore, Santa Fe. 2018: Sandoval County Historical Society, Bernalillo, National Hispanic Cultural Center, Albuquerque; 2017; Broadcast premiere on NM PBS; screenings in Capileira, Granada, Spain + South Broadway Cultural Center (Albuquerque) and New Mexico History Museum (Santa Fe)

**Editor.** Ceremony, a documentary about shamanism in Mongolia. Dir. Sas Carey (September-December 2014)

**Editor/Co-Director.** Moment in Ramallah, a short hybrid performance piece/documentary, in collaboration with Ashtar Theatre students, Ramallah, Palestine. (June-July 2014)

**Editor.** Theater of the Oppressed workshop led by Iman Aoun, a short video for the Santa Fe Community Foundation. (November-December 2013)

**Editor,** Book Trailers for The Singing Bowl by Joan Logghe and Reindeer Herders in my Heart by Sas Carey (2013)

**Editor.** Rivers Run Through Us, a short video on an arts/activist on the Santa Fe River. (2012)

**Producer/Director/Co-Editor.** A Place to Heal, Un Lugar Para Sanar, a video in Spanish and English about Mexican traditional healing for CEDEHC, Cuernavaca, Mexico. (May-July 2011)

**Producer/Director/Editor/Camera.** A Place to Gather: The Center for Lifelong Education, a 45 min video about Native American outreach programs for the Institute of American Indian Arts' Center for Lifelong Education. (August 2009-December 2010)

**Co-Producer/Editor/Camera** Walking Backward..., a story video for Hamaatsa (www.hamaatsa.org). an indigenous continuum near Santa Fe. (May 2010-December 2010)

**Producer/Co-Writer.** Against All Odds, a documentary on Muslim women activists and political crisis. *Rainlake Prods./Women's Learning Partnership.* (October-November 2006)

**Producer/Co-Writer.** Advocating for Change, a video on women leaders in Malaysia, Morocco, Palestine & Jordan. *Women's Learning Partnership.* (November-December 2002)

**Producer/Director.** Apna America (My America). Pilot episode (October 2002)

**Writer/Producer.** \*Ghosts, a short fiction film. Produced & scripted trailer based on my short story. Dir. Shashwati Talukdar. (February 2002) \*AwarDED 2002 James T. Yee Mentorship Award from Center for Asian American Media (CAAM)

**Producer/Story Editor.** Four episodes of On The Team, a 13-part documentary series for NOGGIN & NICKELODEON CABLE about a youth baseball team. *Hitchhiker Films* (October 2000-May 2001)

**Producer/Co-Writer.** Cultural Boundaries & Cyber Spaces. *Women's Learning Partnership.* (July 2000)

**Producer/Director.** \*DESI: South Asians in New York, a hour-long documentary for WNET (Channel 13)/PBS profiling the South Asian community in New York. *Information Media* (July 1999 - February 2000) \* AwarDED first prize—2001 South Asian Journalist Association Awards

**Outreach Director.** A Woman's Place, a documentary on women and the law. (July-December 1998)

**Co-Producer.** The Empire State Building, an hour-long documentary for the Discovery Channel. Dir. Seth Kramer. *Great Projects Film Company* (February-July 1998)

**Production Manager.** William Styron, for PBS. *New York Center for Visual History* (May - August 1996)

**Post-Production Assistant/Researcher.** Kama Sutra, feature film. Dir. Mira Nair. *Rasa Film, Inc.* (Feb-April 1996)

**Associate Producer.** Baltimore segment of Family Man, a PBS documentary on changing notions of fatherhood. Dir. Maria Nicolo. *Paradise Productions* (October 1995-February 1996)

## **WRITING/DIRECTING**

### **Performances/Theatre/Training**

**The Good Manners of Colonized Subjects:** writer/performer of a solo performance that draws on poetry, improvisation, flamenco and Sanskrit drama to tell a story about colonization and liberation; presented in Santa Fe, Honolulu, American Samoa, Pan Asian Repertory Theaters's 2019 NuWorks festival. (March 2018 to present)

**Flamenco La Fuente student performer:** Training and performances of flamenco in small venues in Capileira, Spain (November 2017 – February 2018)

**Navarasa Sadhana workshop participant and performer** (Natanakairali Center, Kerala India)  
Using koodiyattam Sanskrit theatre choreography and eye practice to create original pieces around the 9 major emotions, the navarasa sadhanas (July-August 2015)

**Source of Performance Energy workshop participant and performer** (Adishakti Theatre Arts, Pondicherry, India) Sanskrit theatre choreography, theatre performance, technique (August 2015)

**Storytelling Performance.** Heirloom Food and Story, a farm-to-table dinner story celebrating two cultures -- East Indian and Pueblo Indian, featuring spoken word artists Larry Littlebird and Shebana Coelho. (August 27, 2015) Presented by Hamaatsa ([www.hamaatsa.org](http://www.hamaatsa.org))

**Flamenco & Spoken Word Poetry** Assorted Venues in Santa Fe, New Mexico, including Museum for Spanish Colonial Arts, the Santa Fe Plaza, El Museo Cultural, Santa Fe Spanish Market, showcases at Teatro Paraguas, (2010 to present)

**Creativity Workshop Leader.** Lead writing/creativity workshops in Santa Fe, New Mexico (approx 5 weeks sessions per workshop) to help participants tell stories that only they can tell. Titles include: Write Out Loud, Speak Your Silence, Jumpstart, Manifesting Story. Currently leading Faraway is Close workshop through March 22. (from 2012 to present)

**Playwright/Director.** When the Stars Trembled in Río Puerco, based on oral histories/*recuerdos* collected by Nasario García about four ghost towns in New Mexico. Produced in Santa Fe and Albuquerque by Teatro Paraguas and the National Hispanic Cultural Center (NHCC), as part of *Siembra*, the NHCC's first ever Latino theater festival. (Jan-April and Aug-September 2014)

**Playwright.** Undo, dueling narratives about a couple's relationship. Director Melissa Atteberry. Produced at The Players Club, New York, as part of *Things Unsaid*, three short plays. \*AEA, Equity Approved Showcase (April 2014)

**Playwright/Director.** Greenland, a young Indian man grapples with mortality, through imaginary journeys to Greenland. Staged reading, as part of *Celebrating Survival* at the Santa Fe Playhouse. (November 2013)

**Playwright.** The Tree, about two lovers in limbo. Reading, July 2013 at Teatro Paraguas, Santa Fe.

**Playwright.** Bless Me Father, about murder and melodrama in India. Drafted December 2014, in a workshop led by Obie Award winner, playwright/director Caridad Svich.

**Producer/Workshop Leader.** Lead writing workshops for students of Ashtar Theater, Ramallah Palestine for the project Land Out Loud ([www.landoutloud.com](http://www.landoutloud.com)) resulting in a journal of students writing, Fora and a performance video, Moment in Ramallah. Supported by a CEC ArtsLink Award. (June-July 2014) Moment in Ramallah premiered at the 2015 No Passport Theatre Conference, Fragile Shores

### **Fiction/Memoir**

**Writer-in-Residence.** Hall Center for the Arts (VT) an artist's colony. (September 2006)

**Educational Writer.** Wrote copy for PBS documentary websites, Unfinished Country (on Haiti) and African American Lives, (on DNA genealogy testing). (September 2005–January 2006)

**Fiction Fellow.** New York Foundation for the Arts (NYFA). Awarded fellowship to develop short story collection. (August 2004–July 2005)

**Writer-in-Residence.** New York Mills Cultural Center (MN), an artist's colony. (February-March 2005)

**Facilitator, Creative Writing.** Led writing workshop. *New York Mills Regional Cultural Center.* (March 2005)

**Writer, *Sol Y Luna Website.*** Created copy for cultural excursions to Inca sites for *Hotel Sol y Luna* in Urubamba, Peru. (December 2004-January 2005)

**Writer-in-Residence.** The Jentel Foundation (WY), an artist's colony. (February-March 2003)

**Writer-in-Residence.** Hedgebrook, an artist's colony on Whidbey Island, Seattle. (June-July 2001)

**Grant writer/Researcher.** Wrote successful grants to state humanities councils for a NEH-funded series on the history of American families. *Paradise Productions* (February 1994-January 1996)

### Radio

**Producer/Writer/Editor.** On the Move in Mongolia, a radio documentary about Mongolian women. for *Outer Voices* multimedia project. Premiered on KUNM's *Women's Focus* program and at a special presentation at the Mongolian Embassy in Washington D.C. (January 2012-July 2012)

**Producer/Researcher, Fulbright Fellowship.** Audio project to record sounds of nomadic life in Mongolia (February 2007-October 2008). Info: [storiesfromthesteppes.com](http://storiesfromthesteppes.com)

**Producer/Writer/Editor.** Blyton in Bombay, a half hour radio documentary for BBC Radio 4 about the impact of British children's author Enid Blyton on the Indian imagination. (September 2003 – September 2004)

**Senior Editor.** Living Islam, a radio documentary series for National Public Radio profiling Muslims worldwide. Prod. Julian Crandall Hollick. *IBA Associates.* (April 2002–August 2002)

**Co-Scriptwriter.** Samskara, a radio play. Co-Adapted the novel "Samskara" by U.R. Anantha Murthy into a radio drama for consideration by BBC 3. *IBA Associates.* (May 2002)

**Producer/Writer.** Calling Home, a 5-minute radio segment on calling centers in immigrant communities in New York. *National Public Radio's On The Media* (December 2000)

**Producer/Writer.** Bollywood Goes Borscht, a 7-minute radio segment on the popularity of Indian films with the Russian community in New York. *National Public Radio's On The Media* (August 2000)

### POSITIONS HELD

**Fulbright Alumni Ambassador**, represented the Fulbright Research program through presentations at universities in Puerto Rico, Haskell Indian Nations University, Kansas and University of New Mexico, Albuquerque. (2009-2010)

**Production Manager.** Provided production/administrative support to producer Jonathan Levi for *Nine Circles Chamber Theatre & Bard College's SummerScape Arts festival.* (July 2003–October 2004)

**Video Curator.** Diasporadics: a festival of South Asian arts & activism. (July-September 1999)

**Selected CREATIVITY WORKSHOPS** (see shebanacoelho.com for full list)

(in Santa Fe, NM unless otherwise noted) Land Out Loud (Ramallah, Palestine), Farway is Close, Follow Your Characters, onto the page, Manifesting Story, Write Out Loud, Speak Your Silence

**TV/RADIO BROADCAST CREDITS:** BBC Radio Four, Channel Thirteen/WNET, PBS American Public Television, Nickelodeon/Noggin, Discovery Channel, National Public Radio's On the Media, KUNM's Woman's Focus.

**SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:**

Non-Fiction:

*Snow in Mongolia*, Vela Magazine, The Best Women's Travel Writing, Volume 10, Swedish translation forthcoming in an anthology by Sandnejlika Förlag

*The Storytellers of Ramallah*, Al Jazeera America

*The Youth Theater Festival in Ramallah*, Howl Round

*Riding in Mongolia*, Time Out Mumbai

*From Mongolia to America*, The O&P Edge

Poetry/Fiction:

Juked, Slice, The Nottingham Review, Sukoon, Wildness Journal, Tinderbox Poetry Review, Chronogram, Malpais Review, Madcap Review, Lummax, Word Riot, NPR's On Being blog, Albuquerque's The Rag, Beyond Forgetting (Kent University Press, foreword Tess Gallagher)  
Play: *Undo*, Sin Fronteras Journal

**SKILLS**

Conversational ease in Mongolian, Hindi and Spanish. Written knowledge of French. Final Cut Pro Suite and Adobe Premiere editing.