

## BETSY CARSON CV

FACE TO FACE MEDIA / CANADA WILD / GRANT STREET

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Betsy Carson is an award-winning producer, executive producer and director with more than 35 years of experience. She has collaborated for decades with directors Nettie Wild, Mark Achbar, Velcrow Ripper, Gary Marcuse and Hugh Brody, and has produced over 100 hours of innovative projects ranging from television, theatrical features, VR and websites to public art installation. Among her credits are *500 Days in the Wild*; *The New Corporation: The Unfortunately Necessary Sequel*; the Global Environmental Justice Documentaries Project; *KONELINE: our land beautiful*; *Occupy Love*; *Waking the Green Tiger*; *Surviving Progress and War in the Mind*

The films Betsy has collaborated on have won numerous awards and honours including multiple Genie and Gemini awards, AFI, Berlin, Hot Docs, IDA, Prism, Grantham, two Cinema for Peace nominations and other awards. She also served as Co-Vice-Chair of the Documentary Organization of Canada for 6 years.

Betsy believes that the artistic directors of projects deserve to be the owners of their own productions, and as such holds no ownership in most projects, frequently working under the aegis of her collaborators' companies.

### As Film, Television and Public Art Producer

**2016-2025** **Producer: Romancing the Atom** – (in development) a feature documentary by director Mark Achbar on society's addiction to the existential threats to humanity of nuclear weapons, AI and new technologies

**Consulting Producer: The Bridge** (2025) - a 20 minute film by Hugh Brody on the notion of home, commissioned as part of sculptor Do Ho Suh's exhibit at the Tate Gallery in London UK. <https://www.tate.org.uk/whats-on/tate-modern/the-genesis-exhibition-do-ho-suh>

**Producer: 500 Days in the Wild** (2023): feature documentary on Dianne Whelan's 6-year journey on the entire Great Canadian Trail of 24,000 kms from sea to sea to sea. Distributed by **Elevation Pictures, Paramount+ Canada** [www.500daysinthewild.com](http://www.500daysinthewild.com)

**Producer: The New Corporation** (2021) (with **Trish Dolman**) feature documentary sequel to *The Corporation*. Directors Jennifer Abbott and Joel Bakan, released 2020. On the corporatization of society. Broadcaster: Bell Media / CRAVE. [thenewcorporation.movie](http://thenewcorporation.movie) and [the.newcorporation.app](http://the.newcorporation.app)

**Producer: Cloisters' Stations of the Cross** (released 2022) a half-hour hybrid film which takes viewers on a walk through the sculpture of the Stations of the Cross at Cloisters on the Platte in Gresta, Nebraska. Directed by Jill Sharpe

**Producer (with Rae Hull): UNINTERRUPTED-VR 2021** (ongoing). 30 minute public art, a re-imagining of 2017's live event created for VR. Presented for free in 5 cities in the Lower Mainland of BC for 20 viewers at a time using synchronized headsets. The project also includes an interactive website. Presentations in Taiwan, BC communities and art galleries. [www.uninterrupted.ca](http://www.uninterrupted.ca)

**Executive Producer: Dead Man's Switch** – (released 2021) feature documentary by Sheona McDonald on the QuadrigaX crypto-currency scandal - a sudden death, millions of missing dollars, and a mystery about where it all went. Broadcaster: CBC Documentary <https://www.dimestore.ca/>

**Producer (with Gary Marcuse): Global Environmental Documentary Justice Collection.** Creation of an online resource for universities which brings together documentary films on the convergence of environmental and justice issues. *Buchanan Prize, finalist Learning on Screen Award, named Top 75 CC Advisor/Choice.* <http://gej.docuseek2.com/>

**Producer (with Rae Hull) : UNINTERRUPTED** Canada 150 cinematic public art event celebrating the migration of the Pacific salmon. Using digital projection on Vancouver's Cambie bridge, the 25-min show attracted over 30,000 spectators throughout the summer of 2017. Dir: Nettie Wild. [www.uninterrupted.ca](http://www.uninterrupted.ca) Watermark\* 's global top 20 must-see public art exhibitions

## 2010-2015

**Producer: KONEĪNE: our land beautiful** - feature documentary on resource/land complexities in British Columbia. Broadcasters: Superchannel, Canal D, Knowledge. Dir: Nettie Wild. *Audience Award ALFF, Hot Docs Best Documentary, UNESCO Dolomites Award, Banff Mountain FF, Golden Kapok nomination*

**Executive Producer: Occupy Love** - feature documentary on the Occupy movement. Broadcaster: SuperChannel , Director: Velcrow Ripper

**Producer: Waking the Green Tiger** - 1 hour/ feature documentary for CBC's *The Nature of Things* on China's environmental movement. **40+ festivals, 15 international awards** including **Green China Award**. Dir: Gary Marcuse

**Producer: War in the Mind** - 1 hr documentary on PTSD in the military, for TVO. Dir: Judy Jackson **Two Chris Awards**

**Producer:** in development: **Hunger**. Drama by Nettie Wild

**Producer: Tracks Across Sand** - feature documentary and 4-hr teaching DVD with 17 short films shot over 12 years, about the San (Bushman) land claims in South Africa and their aftermath. Directed by Hugh Brody

**Executive Producer (with Mark Achbar): From Neurons to Nirvana** - examining psychoactive drugs and their potential for beneficial medical and personal use: Director: Oliver Hockenhull

**2005-2009**      **Producer : *Bevel Up: Drugs, Users and Outreach Nursing***- 4.5 hour teaching DVD for the Street Nurses of the BC Centre for Disease Control, directed by Nettie Wild. (**2008 Prism Award, 2008 American Academy of Nursing Media Award**)

**Producer: *The Meaning of Life*** - feature documentary and teaching DVD on the inmates of Kwikwèxwelhp, a BC prison jointly run by First Nations elders and Correctional Service Canada. Directed by Hugh Brody (**Audience Award, Royal Anthropological Institute FF**) .

**Executive Producer (with Mark Achbar):** Feature theatrical documentaries:

***Fierce Light*** (Director: Velcrow Ripper),

***Waterlife*** (Director: Kevin McMahon)

***Pax Americana*** (Director: Denis Delestrac),

***Surviving Progress*** (Directors: Mathieu Roi and Harold Crooks).

Feature Developments: ***Sex, Breath and Death, Fembot, Modern Madness***

Producer (with Gary Marcuse): *Inside Plato's Cave* - an online media education course created for Athabasca University. Credit course for teachers on media education. In collaboration with the Jesuit Media Education Project.

**Producer for *FIX: The Story of an Addicted City*** (see below) – Theatrical distribution in Canada and internationally. Genie Award 2004 for Best Documentary

**Producer for *Arktika – The Russian Dream That Failed*** - one hour documentary on the Russian arctic for broadcast on CBC The Nature of Things. Director/ Co-Producer Gary Marcuse. Bronze Award, NY Festivals

**Line Producer for *The Lynching of Louie Sam*** - one hour documentary on the Sto:lo Nation of BC for History, SRC, APTN. Producer: Mary Armstrong, Director: David McIlwraith.

**Executive Producer for *Plato's Cave*** - an online media education course for teachers, produced with the Jesuit Communications Project

**Production Manager for *Seven Universal Solvents*** - dance film by Daniel Conrad for Bravo!FACT.

**Production Manager for *Beyond Invention***, 8-part series of one hour documentaries on science stories. Producer: Christian Bruyere, Future Factor Films for Discovery Canada

**Consulting Producer - *The Corporation*** - feature doc/ 3 x 1hr documentaries for TVO/Vision Television on the role of corporations in society – Producer/Director: Mark Achbar, Big Picture Corporation.

**2002**      **Producer : *FIX: The Story of an Addicted City***, feature-length documentary on drug harm reduction strategies for Vancouver's downtown eastside. Broadcaster: CTV Director: Nettie Wild, Executive Producer: Gary Marcuse. Also 35mm theatrical release. ***Most Popular Canadian Film – VIFF 2002, Prism award 2003, Top Ten at Hot Docs 2004***

**Supervising Producer: *Jean Caux: le Paqueteur d'Or*** 1-hr documentary on mule-packer who worked the trails of British Columbia into his 80s. French-language production directed/produced by Sylvie Pelletier for Tele-Quebec

**Production Manager: *Healing with Animals***: 13-part series of ½ hour documentaries for Discovery Health Canada on therapies which include working with various animals. Producers: Christian Bruyere /Mary Bissell, Mystique Films.

**2000-02** **Associate Producer: *Obaachan's Garden***, a feature length documentary by filmmaker Linda Ohama on her family history and immigration from Japan to Canada. Producer: National Film Board, for broadcast on History Channel. **Genie nomination 2001, Most Popular Film Vancouver IFF**

**Production Manager: *Deconstructing Supper***, a 1-hour documentary by director Marianne Kaplan on genetically modified foods. Producer Leonard Terhoch, for broadcast on Vision TV, SCN and others. Shot in India, UK, US and Canada

**Executive Producer / Production Manager: *Say I Do***, a feature documentary / 1-hour for CTV on Philippine mail order brides, director Arlene Ami, Producer Erik Paulsson.

**1997/ 01** **Production Manager/ Associate Producer : *Champions of the Wild II, III, IV and V***, 13-part half-hour television series on conservationists who are working with endangered species. Shot on 16mm in various international locations (24 countries). Omni Films for Discovery Channel. Producer: Christian Bruyere. **9 international awards**

**Producer for *A Place Called Chiapas***, feature documentary film about Chiapas, Mexico. Director: Nettie Wild. Co-Producers: Nettie Wild and Kirk Tougas. Produced by Canada Wild Productions in association with CBC Documentary Specials Unit. S16mm with 35mm and video release. **Genie Award for Best Feature Length Documentary, 1998, International Documentary Awards - Best Feature, 1999, AFI Audience Award 1998, Hot Docs 1998: Best Feature/ Best Sound/Best Director/Best Editor**

**1997/00** **Co-Producer/ Production manager for *Nuclear Dynamite***, a feature doc / 1-hour television documentary for *The Nature of Things* on Project Plowshares and its Soviet counterpart. Co-produced with the NFB Festival version at 72 mins. Dir/Co-Producer: Gary Marcuse. **Gold Dragon at Beijing International Scientific Film Fest, Chris Award at Columbus IFF, Gemini Award 2001**

**1997/02** Various consultancy - budget preparation and/or financing advice for many different documentary productions including ***ScaredSacred, Gift of the Americas, The Search for Anam Cara, The Corporation, Deconstructing Supper, Island of Shadows, Ancient Clues, Ice Girls, In the Company of Fear, Satellite Kids, Mystics, Mechanics and Mind Bombs, Open Season, Send in the Clowns***

**1997** **Co-Director/Co-Producer for *Café Bohème***, 6- min. dance video for BRAVO! choreographed by Gioconda Barbuto , co-director/co-producer: Gary Marcuse.

**1994/96** **Project Administrator for the Snake River Independent Review.** Chairman: Hugh Brody.

Review designed to mediate a settlement between the Idaho Power Company and the Nez Perce Tribe for loss of fish due to river damming.

**Production manager/Post Supervisor for *The Mind of a Child*.** Director: Gary Marcuse. One hour documentary about a teaching technique developed by Reuven Feuerstein for children with learning disabilities, and its use in First Nations communities in Canada, the USA and elsewhere. 16mm film and video. Shot on location in Israel, USA and Canada. **9 awards including Gemini Canada Award 1997.**

1991/93

**Associate Producer/Production Manager for *Blockade*.** Feature length documentary on control of logging resources in territory claimed by the Gitksan Wet'suwet'en, and the political and social implications of the claim. 16mm film/Hi8 video. Shot on location in Northern British Columbia. Director: Nettie Wild. **6 international awards**

**Associate Producer for *Bowl of Bone:Tale of the Syuwe*.** Director: Jan-Marie Martell. Feature length documentary on the relationship of the filmmaker to native healer and herbalist Annie York, and the changes brought about by their 15-year friendship. 16mm film. Shot over a period of 15 years in British Columbia.

1990

**Production Manager for *Time Immemorial*.** Director: Hugh Brody. One hour documentary on the Nisga'a people and their struggle for land rights over the past 130 years. 16mm film. Shot on location in northern British Columbia, Victoria and Vancouver.

**Executive Producer's Assistant for *Kootenai Brown*.** Executive Producer: Christian Bruyere. Dramatic feature film based on the story of an Irish immigrant during the 1870s gold rush in Alberta. Shot in British Columbia. 35mm film.

**Assistant clerk to Production Accountant for *Heartbreak Hoteu*.** Executive Producer: Christian Bruyere for CBC broadcast. 1/2 hour dramatic film set in Vancouver's Japanese community. Video.

1989

**Distribution for *A Rustling of Leaves: Inside the Philippine Revolution*.** Director: Nettie Wild. Cross-Canada theatrical distribution of this feature documentary. (see below) **6 international awards including Most Popular Film, Berlin FF Forum of New Cinema**

**Associate Producer/Production Management for *Three Women*.** Director: Michael Pollard. 45min dramatic film based on the work of Sylvia Plath. 16mm film. Shot on location in Nanaimo, British Columbia.

**Production Manager for *Alive in the Nuclear Age*.** Director: Gary Marcuse. Location shooting of intros and extros for 12-part documentary series about nuclear issues. NFB Video.

1987

**Post Production Manager/ Distribution for *A Rustling of Leaves: Inside the Philippine Revolution*.** Director:Nettie Wild. Feature length documentary on the Philippine revolution and the Communist guerrilla movement there. 16mm film. Shot on location.

**Assistant Sound/Production Assistant for *Did You Used to Be R.D. Laing?*** Director: Kirk Tougas. Feature documentary on the Scottish psychiatrist and his controversial methods

and views. Video

## OTHER CREDITS

### As Documentary Director

2012 Director/Producer : UBC PTSD therapy group teaching resource  
2010 Director/Producer : Dancer Transition Centre – alumni profiles  
2005 Director/Co-Producer: ***The Life and Times of Evelyn Hart*** for CBC Television  
1997 Co-Director/Co-Producer: Café Bohème – dance video for BRAVO FACT!

### As Dancer

1973-1989 Dancer with **The Royal Winnipeg Ballet** (Winnipeg) , **Theatre Ballet of Canada** (Ottawa), **Les Grands Ballets Canadiens** (Montreal) , Dancer/Ballet Mistress and Associate Artistic Director with **Repertory Dance Theatre of Canada** (Vancouver)

### PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

**Documentary Organization of Canada** - Co-Vice Chair 2006-2011, member since 1995  
**Dancer Transition Resource Centre**, founding member and regional representative 1985-2006, Board of Directors 2007- 2019