
PAOLA COSSERMELLI MESSINA

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Audio Specialist, Sound Designer, Music Supervisor

EDUCATION

The New School, MA in Media Studies (3.9 GPA) 2013-2016

- Thesis: "Reclaiming the Stage: Oral Histories of Iranian Women Musicians" (Winner of the *Middle East Studies Association* Graduate Student Paper Prize)
- Dean's Merit Scholarship recipient throughout academic career

Sarah Lawrence College, BA in Journalism and Media (3.8 GPA) 2005-2009

- Completed an academic year in Florence, Italy
- Recipient of the Anne Turid Sato Scholarship (2007)

New York University, Clive Davis Institute of Recorded Music

- summer courses in music journalism and Pro Tools 2009

St. Paul's School, São Paulo, Brazil 1995-2005

- International Baccalaureate (I.B.) Diploma recipient

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Associate Producer, Audio Editor & Post-Production Manager May 2016-pres.

Status Hour Audio Magazine & Podcast (The Arab Studies Institute)

Production and post-production manager and coordinator for "Status Hour" Audio Magazine, a podcast and audio-visual platform which publishes content on the Middle East and North Africa

- Primary audio editor for content on the platform
- Website editor and curator
- Coordinates efforts with partner website Jadaliyya
- Host of Status Beats, a program on music in the Middle East; also a frequent contributor on other cultural topics.

Freelance Sound Designer & Music Supervisor 2013-pres.

- Hired as a sound specialist with various functions (boom operating, field recording/mixing, post-production sound design, and music supervision) in narrative and documentary films, podcasts, radio shows, and other audio-visual content.

- Clients include: The Front, New York University, WNYE 91.5FM, Sarah Lawrence College, Pitch Her Productions, Flatbush Avenue Merchants Association, BRIC, etc.

Music Licensing Associate, BZ/Rights & Permissions, NY Feb.-June 2017

BZ/Rights is a company mentioned in *The New York Times* with over 30 years of experience in music licensing consultation services and major clients in the advertising, corporate and entertainment spheres.

- Cleared music for use in Broadway (such as *The Glass Menagerie, 1984, The Terms of My Surrender*) and Off-Broadway theatrical productions, films, and commercials.
- Clients included: Google, National Gallery of Art, Parsons Dance, Michael Moore, Brooklyn Academy of Music, Hood, Time Warner, Robert Boyett Theatricals, Pilobolus, Coffee Bluff Pictures, etc.
- Liaised with music licensing professionals at Universal Music, Warner/Chappell, Sony Music Entertainment, Kobalt Music Group, Wixen Music Publishing, BMG, and others.
- Professional knowledge of music copyright law in the U.S.
- Reviewed copyright contracts for clients
- Researched copyright and publishing information on ASCAP, BMI, and Harry Fox databases.

Freelance Journalist & Multimedia Producer 2007-pres.
 - Published both digitally and in print for *O Estado de São Paulo*, BM&FBovespa, MashallahNews, Reorient magazine, and others.

Bilingual Copywriter, Apple Music Mar. 2015-Feb. 2017
 Apple Music is a world-renowned music and video streaming service with 27 million subscribers reported as of June 2017.
 - Produced original written content for Apple Music's playlists on iTunes, using extensive knowledge of musical genres and Portuguese language proficiency

Music Licensing & Supervision Assistant, Flavorlab, NY 2014-2016
 Flavorlab is an award-winning audio production company that has contributed music and sound for some of the biggest brands in the world such as ABC, Fox, Polo Ralph Lauren, and others.
 - Assisted in backend management of the Producer's Toolbox music catalog; conducted A&R, reviewed composer submissions, completed music supervision assignments, managed library metadata, registered works with PROs and reviewed cue sheets.
 - Clients included VICE, MTV, The CW Television Network, CNN, and others.

Producer and Website Editor, Rádio Estadão/ESPN, Brazil 2010-2013
 This was a news and sports radio station operated by Grupo Estado (of *O Estado de São Paulo* newspaper), one of the leading media outlets in Latin America, and ESPN, worldwide leading sports broadcaster owned by Walt Disney Company and Hearst Corporation.
 - Produced two live broadcasted daily news shows
 - Produced, edited and fact-checked content for the official website
 - Conducted/edited interviews to be presented on-air
 - Built a rapport with listeners by responding to daily questions

Assistant Producer, Trout Recordings, Brooklyn, NY 2009
 - Provided support in the production of music using vintage recording equipment.

Production Intern, O2 Films, São Paulo, Brazil 2008
 - Researched special projects for head producers

- Aided administrative department with daily tasks

Radio DJ, Sarah Lawrence College Radio (WSLC), Bronxville, NY 2008

- Produced and presented a weekly hour-long show called *The Republic of Tea*.

TEACHING/EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE

Audio Instructor, Sarah Lawrence College, Bronxville, NY Aug. 2016-June 2017

Sarah Lawrence College is a private liberal arts college with a highly-individualized course of study modeled after the Oxford/Cambridge system; named by the *Princeton Review* as the higher education institution with the “best classroom experience” in America in 2016.

- Planned and taught monthly workshops to undergraduate Film Studies students; topics covered included field-recording techniques, sound design, in-studio recording (voiceovers, Foley, etc); at the end of the semester, students were also given one-on-one instruction and advice on the audio elements of their final film projects.

Digital Arts Activity Assistant, Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM) Feb-Mar. 2017

The Brooklyn Academy of Music is a world-renowned performing arts venue and center for progressive and avant garde performance, active since 1861.

- Provided patrons of the "Teknopolis" digital arts exhibit with instruction for how to properly use digital equipment or media including informing parents about elements that younger patrons might be sensitive to
- Participated in training for the proper use of Virtual Reality equipment and other technologies; supervised space and equipment during exhibit

Graduate Teaching Assistant, The New School, NY 2015

Course name: “Media Practices: Audio”, Professor John Plenge

- Provided additional support to graduate students with knowledge and experience in recording/editing sound for all forms of media.

Course name: “Media Design”, Professor Virgil Wong

- Assisted Prof. Wong in setting up equipment and guiding graduate students with still image editing in Photoshop, lighting techniques, video recording, audio recording and digital post-production practices.

Digital Media Mentor, Girls Write Now, NY 2013-2016

This is a non-profit organization distinguished by the White House and by the Nonprofit Excellence Awards, covered by major news outlets such as *Forbes* and *The Wall Street Journal*.

- Mentored a high school student from an in-need NYC school with her writing and digital media projects, meeting once a week as a pair and once a month for workshops.

ESL Instructor, ELFE Idiomas School, São Paulo, Brazil 2013

This is a language school founded in 1987, offering group classes and private lessons to major businesses in São Paulo.

- Taught beginning and intermediate level English

CREDITS

RADIO & PODCASTS

Co-producer, Mixer and Sound Designer

She-Map (BRIC Radio, June 2017)

BRIC is a non-profit arts/media organization and leading presenter of cultural programming in Brooklyn since its founding in 1979.

Associate Producer, Audio Editor & Music Program Host

Status Hour (Arab Studies Institute, 2016-pres.)

A collaborative audio journal and critical information hub on the Middle East partnered with George Mason University and the American University of Beirut.

Audio Editor

Glucksman Ireland House Radio Hour (NYU, February 2017-pres.)

This radio show is broadcast by the New York University's Center for Irish and Irish American studies and WNYE 91.5FM, operated by the NYC Media Group.

FILMS, DOCUMENTARIES & SERIES

2017

Sound Designer

Music Supervisor

Sound Designer

Boom Op. / Mixer

Boom Op. / Mixer

Boom Op. / Mixer

Boom Op. / Mixer

Boom Op. / Mixer

Boom Op. / Mixer

Boom Op. / Mixer

Mixer

Boom Op. / Mixer / Sound Designer

Tadpoles (Short film in post-prod.)

Ask for Jane (Feature Film in post-prod.)

Giselle (Short Narrative) (completed)

Pop Culture Popped: Star Wars (Series)

Pop Culture Popped: Blair Witch (Series)

Bayberry (Virtual Reality Film)

Disforia (Short Narrative Film)

Half Full (Web Series)

Emotional Intelligence (Short Film)

Beba (Feature Documentary)

The Front (Interview Series)

Keep Me Posted Ep. 1, 2 and 3 (Web Series)

2016

Boom Op. / Mixer

Boom Op. / Mixer

Boom Op. / Mixer / Sound Designer

Women (Short Documentary)

Eudaemonia (Short Narrative)

Sometimes, Forever (Short Narrative Film)

2015

Sound Designer / Composer
Boom Op. / Mixer / Sound Designer
Narrative)
Boom Op. / Mixer / Sound Designer

Echo (Short Narrative)
Our Everlasting Universe of Things (Short
Narrative)
The Stone & The Stars (Short Narrative)

OTHER PRODUCTIONS

Boom Op. / Mixer / Video Editor

Center for Alliance-Focused Training, 2016
(Instructional videos)

PRE- & POST-PRODUCTION SKILLS

AUDIO

- Recording source material (Foley, dialogue, ADR and music)
- Recording for Virtual Reality and 360 experiences
- Editing sound effects, dialogue and music
- Stereo and surround mixing
- Composing original music
- Mastering and delivery of audio assets
- *Proficiencies:* Pro Tools HD, Logic Pro X, Adobe Audition, Sound Forge.
- Familiar with a variety of sound mixers, portable recording devices, microphones (including ambisonic) and digital control surfaces.

VIDEO

- Video recording and editing
- Logging and digitizing
- Compression and codecs
- *Proficiencies:* Adobe Premiere Pro, Final Cut.

ADDITIONAL SKILLS

Strong written communication, research skills; on-air experience; proficient in Microsoft Office, Photoshop, social media platforms, CRM management, Wordpress, Tumblr; studied the electric bass for 6 years.

LANGUAGES

- **English** (Native) **Portuguese** (Native)
Italian (full professional proficiency)
French, Arabic (basic reading, speaking, writing)

PUBLICATIONS

“Here Comes the Night: Firas Abou Fakher”, *Interview*, Reorient Magazine, 2016

“How Arabic Survived In Brazil”, *Feature*, Mashallah News, 2016

Reviews, interviews and articles for Território Eldorado, 2010-2013

“A Theater Is Reborn In São Paulo,” *Feature*, Revista Nova Bolsa, 2011

“100 Years of Adoniran Barbosa,” *Feature*, Revista Nova Bolsa, 2011

AWARDS & PRIZES

Films

Giselle (2017)

- Winner at Festigious Los Angeles International Film Festival, New York Film Awards, Paris Play Film Festival, Chautauqua International Film Festival, Off Limits
- Selected by Los Angeles Film Awards, Shortcut 100 Chicago, Divulge Dancers’ Film Festival, 3 Minute Film Festival Santa Barbara, Frostbite International Film Festival, Glendale International Film Festival, Madrid Art Film Festival, WIND International Film Festival, Oniros Film Awards, Yonkers Film Festival

Sometimes Forever (2017)

- Winner at Chain Film Festival, East Village Queer Film Festival

Our Everlasting Universe of Things (2016)

- Selected by the Adirondacks Film Festival, Tampa Bay Underground Film Festival

Echo

- Selected by The European Independent Film Festival for Best European Dramatic Short

Others

- Master’s thesis,
“Reclaiming the Stage: Oral Histories of Iranian Women Musicians”
Middle East Studies Association 2016 Graduate Student Paper Prize Winner