

BIOGRAPHY | AMY SERRANO - CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER [CCO] + DIRECTOR OF SIREN FILMS



Award-Winning filmmaker, human rights advocate + humanitarian [Amy Serrano](#) is the Chief Creative Officer and Director of [Siren Films](#). At [Siren Films](#), she writes, directs, shoots, and produces her own films, and along with her team, manages, produces and consults on the works of others.

Currently, Amy is finalizing shooting and directing a film on the last 3 years of the life of the man who was the last known living **Tuskegee Airman** in Louisiana. The film is titled ***"AIRMAN: The Extraordinary Life of Calvin G. Moret."***

"AIRMAN" is a film about American and World War II history, aviation and country, humanity and civil rights. In essence, **"AIRMAN"** is a story of one man's love of country and humanity, even during unconscionable times.

She's developing other projects including, ***Louisiana Stories, Citizens***, and is going into production on ***"The Humanity Project."*** **"The Humanity Project"** is perhaps the most important subject she will ever tackle with a story that will take her from locations in Latin America, Africa, Europe, the Caribbean, and the United States. And because of time spent with the **Garifuna** people of Honduras, Amy wrote an essay and created a multidisciplinary installation titled, ***"From Punta to Chumba"*** which is currently traveling the state museum system in **Louisiana** until **2018**. The multidisciplinary installation and essay were commissioned and published by the **State of Louisiana Division of the Arts**. She's also recently released a book of poems entitled, ***"Of Fiery Places and Sacred Spaces."*** The tome is based on the geography and cartography of people and places.

Amy's visual body of work includes shooting, producing, writing and directing the feature-length and critically acclaimed documentary, [The Sugar Babies: The Plight of the Children of Agricultural Workers in the Sugar Industry of the Dominican Republic](#) Narrated by renowned Author **Edwidge Danticat** and composed of field recordings coupled with outside testimony, the film explores the lives of the descendants of the first Africans delivered to the island of Hispaniola for the bittersweet commodity that once ruled the world. Up until recently, these very same people continued to be trafficked from Haiti to the Dominican Republic to work on sugar plantations under circumstances that can only be considered modern day slavery. Besides the awareness created on issues leading to nearly eliminating human trafficking and child labor, the screenings and advocacy surrounding this film led the **U.S. Department of Labor** to finally place sugar imported from the Dominican Republic on the list of products to be made with forced or child labor.

Amy also wrote, produced, and directed the U.S. co-production for the feature length film **MOVE!** Produced in Rome, Italy and distributed throughout Film Festivals in Europe, **MOVE!** is a globally collaborative film composed by 11 filmmakers in 6 continents exploring the dispassionate state of humanity through varied human emotions. **She directed and produced the PBS broadcast A Woman's Place: Voices of Contemporary Hispanic-American Women** featuring Isabel Allende, Dr. Antonia Novello, Bianca Jagger, Maria Hinojosa, Esmeralda Santiago, Marjorie Agosin and other barrier breaking Hispanic-American Women. The film features the music of **Tori Amos**. Amy also produced the award-winning **Adios Patria: The Cuban Exodus** narrated by **Andy Garcia** (Berlin Film Festival, Best Documentary New York Independent Film and Video Festival, PBS). She executive produced the **PBS** broadcast and **Emmy-Award** nominated **Cafe con Leche:**

Voices of Exiles' Children and associate produced the Emmy-Award nominated *Havana: Portrait of Yesteryear* narrated by Gloria Estefan for PBS.

For her contributions to her hometown, Amy was honored by the City of Miami with a proclamation making **October 27 AMY SERRANO DAY**. Other honors received include twice being named a *Woman of Today* in *Glamour Magazine*. *Glamour Magazine* also named Ms. Serrano a *Woman of the Year*. During Women's History Month, she was presented a **Mentor Award** by the Public School System and named a **Distinguished Female Role Model** by the Public Library System. She was also 1 of 8 women profiled in a women's empowerment documentary produced by **Clinique/ MAC/ Estee Lauder** entitled *Evolution of Woman*. This national exhibit was first unveiled at New York City's **Metropolitan Pavilion** and shot by award-winning fine art photographer, **Sandi Fellman**.

Amy is a recipient of the *Tesoro Award* in Art and Culture. She's been awarded a prestigious Fellowship with the **National Hispana Leadership Institute** [NHLI] in D.C. which involved **Leadership Studies** at **Harvard University's JFK School of Government**, the **Center for Creative Leadership**, on Capitol Hill, and with various recognized leaders in social and civic change. She was named a *Latina of Excellence* in *Hispanic Magazine*. She was selected as 1 of 15 top **Hispanic Leaders in the United States** by the **Spanish Embassy** in Washington D.C. and participated in a **Diplomatic Exchange** in **Spain** with their top leaders in the social, political, economic and cultural arenas. **Following this diplomatic mission**, Amy was profiled in a book on **Young Hispanic-American leaders** in the United States published by the **Spain-U.S. Council**. She was later selected to be profiled in the **Florida Hispanic Yearbook**, and was then named a *Mujer Vanidades* in *Vanidades Magazine*. **MEGA TV** named Amy "*one of the most influential and recognized Hispanics in the United States.*" She was also chosen as a subject of an upcoming documentary on female leadership in the United States [for release in 2017].

A published poet, writer, essayist and speaker of 4 languages, she remains a committed Senior Fellow of the **Human Rights Foundation** in New York; a Fellow of the **National Hispana Leadership Institute** in D.C.; a Board Member of **Voz de Mujer**, a women's empowerment and leadership organization based in Texas; an Advisory Council Member of the **Faulkner Society'** in New Orleans; a Member of the **Spanish Embassy's Hispanic Leader's Association** in Washington D.C. which is now headed by the King of Spain, and was appointed a founding Board Member to **United Nations Ambassador Armando Valladares'** non-governmental organization, **Human Rights for All**. **She also enjoys** being a featured guest lecturer at colleges, universities, and cultural centers giving talks on the intersection of arts and activism; women and children's rights; hope during times of injustice; the ability to impact public policy through the communication arts; and many other inspiring themes.

Her most awaited mission is to finish writing the manuscript for "In the Fields of the Invisible Children;" a novel based on the adventures of a globetrotting, documentary filmmaker, and champion of seemingly lost causes. To contact or learn more about Amy:

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