

**Xiao Ping Diana Dai BA, MA**

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A multiple award-winning independent filmmaker, including the prestigious Gemini Award and the Golden Sheaf Award, the documentaries that Diana has produced/ directed/ written have been shown around the world. Her documentaries are also in the collections of many renowned international universities and libraries.

Diana was one of the founders of the Mandarin program for OMNI TV in Canada. Diana has taught the "Television" and the "Film and Video" courses at the Ontario Tech University, where she is a co-author of the textbook "Television in its Social Context".

Diana obtained her Master's degree in Communication Studies at the University of Leeds in the UK.

### EXPERIENCE

#### **Owner - Diana Dai Communications Inc.**

Producer/ Director/ Writer (*July 2009 to Present*)

### FILMOGRAPHY

#### **2021**

Writer: Short drama film "*The other side*"

#### **Award:**

Quarterfinalist at The Los Angeles International Screenplay Awards 2021 Summer.

#### **2020-2021**

Producer/Director/Writer/editor: "*First 100 Days of Covid at T&T*" — Web doc series (4 episodes)

#### **2020**

Producer/ Director/ Writer: "*Covid and Who I Am*" – Documentary short, CBC

#### **Awards:**

- Best Director, Short Doc. – International Kolkata Short Film Festival 2021
- Gold Remi – 54th WorldFest Houston International Film Festival
- Award of Excellence – The IndieFEST Film Awards 2021
- Best Short Documentary – January 2021 Changing Face International Festival
- 2021 Gold Star Movie Winning with Special Mention – Gold Star Film Festival

Producer/ Director/ Writer: "*One More Chance, Blair*" – a self-funded, short fiction film

#### **2019**

Producer/ Director/ Writer: "*My Farmland*" – Documentary, CBC

#### **Awards and Nominations:**

- Nominated for "Best POV and Best Multicultural Doc" – 2019 Golden Sheaf Award
- Platinum Remi – WorldFest Houston International Film Festival

- Best Feature Documentary – Diversity & Culture Film Festival in the U.S.
- Best Education Film winner – 2020 Universe Multicultural Film Festival (UMFF)
- Award of Merit Special Mention (Direction): Documentary feature – The IndieFEST Film Awards
- Silver Award – 2019 Spotlight Documentary Festival in the U.S.
- Best Documentary – February 2019 Changing Face International Film Festival

### **2017**

Director/ Writer: “***My First 150 Days***” – TVO; CBC documentary channel

#### **Awards:**

- Award of Excellence – 2017 IndieFEST Film Awards
- Remi Award – WorldFest Houston International Film Festival

Director: “***China: The Miraculous Transformation***” – CBC documentary channel; TVO

### **2016**

Producer/ Director/ Writer: “***Crossing Chinatown***” – Bell Media Inc.

### **2013**

Producer/ Director/ Writer: “***SARS: Cover-Up and Aftermath***” – Funded by Toronto Arts council. Aired: CBC documentary channel; DR Media; YLE; SIC Portugal; Al Jazeera; TVN Poland; and the Taiwan Public Television stations. This documentary is in the collections of many renowned universities and libraries around the world.

#### **Awards:**

- Best Director; Best Producer; Human Rights Award – International Film Festival for Peace, Inspiration and Equality
- Mada Award – CommFest Global Community Film Festival in Toronto

### **2009**

Producer: “***China's Earthquake: The People in the Pictures***” – Documentary, CBC

#### **Awards:**

- Gemini Award —Best history documentary
- Golden Sheaf Award – Yorkton film festival —Best history documentary

### **2008**

Co-Director/ Associate Producer: “***China's Leap of Faith***” – a two part documentary series by Cogent/ Benger Productions Inc. Vision TV

### **1996 to 2007**

Host/ Producer/ Co-Founder: “***Mandarin Program***” – OMNI Television

## EDUCATION

Master of Arts - Communications Studies, University of Leeds, United Kingdom  
 Bachelor of Arts - Chinese Language and Literature, Zhejiang University, China

## TRAINING

Sundance Collab – **SUNDANCE INSTITUTE:**

Directing: Core Elements; (2020)

Screening: Core Elements (2020)

Directing: Visual story telling (2021)

Banff Media Festival Fellowship (2013)

Hot Doc Fellowship (2010)

Netflix-Banff Diversity of Voices participant

## PUBLICATIONS

Co-author for the textbook: “*Television in its Social Context*” (2010)