

MARIANA ACOSTA BURNS



Redwood City, CA

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themarianaac.com

MULTIMEDIA ARTIST and **DESIGNER** whose practice moves between ancestral cultural narratives and contemporary techniques and platforms with experience in animation development, cultural research, illustration, graphic design and art direction for film.

WORK EXPERIENCE

FOUNDING MEMBER AND CREATIVE LEAD KUKUL ESTUDIO

2022 / PRESENT

- * Serves as creative and organizational director for a international creative team.
- * Designs production paths and strategies to develop and fund diverse animated and social media projects with a social and cultural focus.
- * Developed the story and visuals for the studio's debut animated short film PESADILLA as director, producer and screenwriter.

BILINGUAL VIDEO EDITOR CRAZY MAPLE STUDIO

2025

- * Edited under-2-minute vertical drama episodes and trailers, aligning narrative tone and platform requirements.
- * Delivered creative notes on Latin-American adaptations conforming scripts and scenes with cultural authenticity and brand guidelines.
- * Created lookbooks and moodboards for costume design, balancing creative vision with budget constraints.

TEACHING ASSISTANT DE ANZA COLLEGE

2023

- * Supported faculty and students in Color Grading & VFX, 2D Animation and Animation Workshop courses, offering technical guidance.
- * Provided creative feedback, organized resources and mentored students in animation workflows and visual development practices.

EDUCATION

BA IN **EXECUTIVE AND CORPORATE IMAGE** 2015 / 2018 * Instituto Universitario Franco Inglés de México Metepec, **MX**

CERTIFICATES IN **FILM/TV: ANIMATION AND PRODUCTION** 2021 / 2023 * De Anza College Cupertino, **CA**

SELECTED PROJECTS, AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

A NOMAD'S HOME 2026 / PRESENT * Art piece exhibited at Chan Zuckerberg Community Space Redwood City, **CA**

IN THE BEGINNING 2023 / 2024 * Experimental short film internationally screened and recognized • Student World Impact Film Festival 2023 and **Best Super Short Film Nominee** • Festival de Cine Latino Americano Corpus Christi 2023 • StuffMX Film Festival 2023 in Mexico City • Mission Cultural Center for Latino Arts Day of the Dead Festival 2023 in San Francisco • MicroForo Expo 2023 in Estado de México • De Anza College 44th Annual Student Film and Video Show 2023 recognized with the **Animation Chadwick Okamoto Award** and the **Student Leadership Award** at De Anza College.

SKILLS

SPANISH Native proficiency / **ENGLISH** Professional proficiency

Branding and Visual Identity • Digital and Content Design • Multimedia Art and Illustration • Cultural Research and Localization • Cross-Cultural Collaboration • Creative Problem Solving * Adobe Creative Suite • Canva • Procreate • Google Suite • Microsoft Office Suite