

ALEX J. GARCIA TOPETE

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EDUCATION

University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, TX.
Ph.D. Arts, Technology & Emerging Communication 2017 – 2021
Focus: Transdisciplinary Intelligence, Knowledge Production, Critical Industry Studies, and the Future Workforce.

University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, TX.
M.S. Innovation & Entrepreneurship 2018 – 2020
Focus: New Venture Development, Organizational Design, Knowledge Management.

University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, TX.
M.A. Arts & Technology 2015 – 2017
Focus: Art & Science Collaboration, Experimental Publishing, Quantum Aesthetics.

University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, TX.
B.A. Arts & Performance Graduated Summa Cum Laude & School Honors GPA: 3.926 2007 – 2011
Concentrations: Film Studies and Creative Writing Minors: Political Science & Philosophy

The University of Texas System – Bill Archer Fellowship Fall 2010
Competitively selected as one of thirty-two University of Texas students for a Washington, DC internship and academic fellowship program.

AWARDS

Eugene McDermott Graduate Fellowship, University of Texas at Dallas 2017 – 2021
Eugene McDermott Scholars Program, University of Texas at Dallas 2007 – 2011
Jules Verne International Science Fiction Award – Best Essay, Guadalajara, Mexico. 2006

EXPERIENCE

Deputy Co-Director of Transdisciplinary Strategy & Innovation – ArtSciLab at UT Dallas, Dallas, TX. 2019 – 2021
In charge of transdisciplinary practices and collaborative innovation strategies, both within the organization and with industry ecosystem partners. Originated and completed a 4-year human-subject research project focused on transdisciplinary practices. Oversaw and consulted on 8+ collaborative research initiatives relating to artificial intelligence, business, neuroscience, computer-human interaction, biotechnology, sonification, physics, and science communication. Re-designed organizational systems, management structures, and training to align the lab's culture and values with the demands of collaborative research.

Innovation & Collaboration Strategist – ArtSciLab at UT Dallas, Dallas-Dallas, TX. 2017 – 2019
In charge of transdisciplinary practices and collaborative innovation strategies, both within the organization and with industry ecosystem partners. Facilitated 5+ major collaboration initiatives with outside partners.

Director of Programming – Festival de Cine Latino Americano, Dallas-Fort Worth, TX. 2016 – to date
Curated the 30+ film selection of the festival each year, out of 500 submissions. Negotiated exhibition agreements with film distributors, filmmakers, and movie theaters. Designed the festival schedule according to audiences and impact activities with community partners. Assisted with the general planning and organization of the festival as a whole.

Research Assistant - University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, TX 2016 – 2017
Work within the Office of the Provost in various research and implementation projects related to the integration of arts appreciation and creative experiences with the science, engineering, and business programs of the university.

President – Eugene McDermott Scholars Program Alumni Association, Dallas, TX. 2014 – 2017
Spearheaded the professionalization of the organization and its community outreach, and headed the fundraising campaign that led to establishing the Association's million-dollar endowment.

- Board Member – Eugene McDermott Scholars Program Alumni Association, Dallas, TX.** **2012 – 2019**
Was one of the founders in the Executive Committee. Was responsible for the design of the organization's structure, systems, and processes.
- Chief Creative Officer & Co-Founder Partner – Nowadays Orange Productions LLC, Dallas, TX.** **2011 – to date**
Manage the development, production, and distribution of media products, including 5+ films, 3 television series, 2 weekly digital publications, 10+ books, and 3 music albums. Consult for 15+ clients in the for-profit and non-profit sectors on their value-based communication strategies, branding differentiation, market-entry strategies, organizational storytelling, stakeholder outreach, and public impact.
- Lead Programmer – Latino & International Programming – Dallas International Film Festival, Dallas, TX.** **2007 – to date**
Screen and rate over 500 feature and short films each year. Curate the 5-film Latino Showcase and the 10+ World Cinema section each year. Interface with the press to promote festival. Negotiate mutually beneficial agreements and fees with distributors and filmmakers to exhibit their films. Write 100+ reviews a year of films. Help with translation of documents or serve as interpreter of guests during public appearances for the festival.

PUBLICATIONS AND PAPERS

- Garcia Topete, Alex. **2021**. "Transdisciplinary Intelligence, Knowledge Production, and the Cultural Dimensions of Industry." Doctoral Thesis, Dallas, Texas: The University of Texas at Dallas.
- Garcia Topete, Alex. **2019**. "Transdisciplinary Intelligence: Training Hybrids and Amphibians." July. 10.13140/RG.2.2.30915.96805/1.
- Garcia Topete, Alex, Chaz Lilly, Cassini Nazir, and Roger F. Malina. **2021**. "ArtSciLab: Experimental Publishing & Knowledge Production in Collaborative Transdisciplinary Practices." In *Routledge International Handbook of Art, Science, and Technology Studies*, edited by Hannah Rogers, Megan Halpern, Dehlia Hannah, and Kathryn de Ridder-Vignone, 11. United Kingdom: Taylor & Francis.
- Garcia Topete, Alex, Roger F. Malina, Carol Strohecker, and Robert Thill. **2017**. "SEAD Exemplars: Evidence of the Value of Transdisciplinary Projects." SEAD Committee. <https://seadexemplars.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/SEADExemplarsReport-December-2017.pdf>.
- Malina, Roger F., Alex Garcia Topete, and João Silveira. **2018**. "What Is the Evidence That Art-Science-Technology Collaboration Is a Good Thing?" *Leonardo* 51 (1): 2. https://doi.org/10.1162/LEON_e_01555.
- Mejía, G Mauricio, Danah Henriksen, Yumeng Xie, Alex García-Topete, Roger F Malina, and Kendon Jung. **(forthcoming)** "From Researching to Making Futures: A Design Mindset for Transdisciplinary Collaboration.," 22.
- Mejía, G Mauricio, Cassini Nazir, Roger F Malina, Alex Garcia Topete, Felipe C Londoño, Andrés F Roldán, Priscila L Farias, and João Silveira. **2018**. "An Emerging Role for Design Methods in Transdisciplinary Practice." In Proceedings of the 24th International Symposium on Electronic Art (ISEA 2018), Durban, 67–71.

- "*Future and Science Fiction?*" (*Translated edition*) **2016**
- "*Future and Science Fiction?*" **2008**
Essay about the relation between progress, science, social issues, and science-fiction works. Published in the collection of the Jules Verne winners, Guadalajara, Mexico.

AFFILIATIONS

- Associate Member - International Association of Innovation Professionals (IAOIP) **2019 – to date**
- Associate Member - Professional and Technical Consultants Association (PATCA) **2019 – to date**
- Expert Peer Reviewer – ISEA 2018 **2018**
- Expert Peer Reviewer – Festival de la Imagen **2018**
- Expert Peer Reviewer – LEONARDO/ISAST **2016 – to date**
- Member – Independent Book Publishers Association **2014 – 2015**

Member – Texas Motion Picture Alliance
Member – Dallas Film Society
Member - Academy of Television Arts & Sciences

2011 – to date
2009 – to date
2009 – to date

SKILLS & LANGUAGES

Proficient with Microsoft Office, Microsoft Sharepoint, Final Cut Pro, Sony Vegas, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Premiere, Adobe After Effects, Adobe Audition, Final Draft, MovieMagic Screenwriter, Unity, social-media networks, sound & video editing, videography and photography, coding in JavaScript, HTML5, Flutter, React, & Python. Languages: Spanish (native), English (100%), French (80%), Italian (basic), Portuguese (basic), German (basic).
Certified by Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI Program) in Responsible Conduct in Research.