

LARA TAYLOR
CONTENT LOUNGE & MYCELIUM MEDIA COLAB
Director | Producer | Videographer | Editor



PROFILE

Coming from a Social Anthropology background, Lara Taylor has been telling stories and making films for over 20 years. She has spent the last two decades travelling, researching, producing, directing, filming and editing. Her strength lies in her vision and determination to make things happen as well as her ability to network and deeply connect with people. Her sensitivity and ability to really listen, allows stories to evolve and be given voice. Besides directing and producing, her skill set includes filming and editing which gives her a deeper understanding of the art of storytelling. Through the lens of a camera, Lara focuses on IMPACT – learning, teaching, entertaining and inspiring people's thoughts and actions. Other skills and interests include stop frame animation, mobile phone videography and the production of e-learning courses. Lara is motivated by the people she meets and the stories they share. She collaborates with Mycelium members on various projects including *Kos Gangsters* which won best Documentary 2020 at the MMOCA Festival, 5050 TV inserts, as well as *Wild Pantry*, a series about indigenous edible plants.

UNIQUE SELLING POINTS

- Anthropology background
- Great Storyteller
- Three years e-learning experience
- Creative and adventurous
- Vast experience in producing, directing, filming and editing
- Experience working in teams and independently
- Experience working for corporates, NPO's & broadcast
- Quick learner

HARD SKILLS

- Final Cut Pro
- Adobe Premiere Pro
- After Effects
- Photoshop
- DSLR and mirrorless camera operator
- Stop Frame Animation

EDUCATION

- BA Post Graduate Degree in Social Anthropology (University of Cape Town)
- Social Media Marketing Course, with Shaw Academy
- Social Innovation Course, with Bertha Centre, Graduate School of Business
- Adobe After Effects & Photoshop Course, with Udemy

AWARDS & ACCOLADES

- Finalist for the 'Making Peace with Nature' French Film Festival for a 1 minute stop frame animation: [The Beginning](#)
- Winner for the best mobile phone documentary at the MMOCA Film Festival: [Kos Gangsters](#)
- Chosen to go to Kiev, Ukraine by One World Media (UK) to do a workshop on the production and pitching of short documentaries such as: [Township Chess](#)

CONTACT

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<https://myceliumcolab.com/>
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Instagram](#)
- [Showreel](#)

WORK EXPERIENCE

Wild Pantry (current)

Co-producer and co-director

'Wild Pantry' that 12 x 52 min docu-reality food format that presents enriching encounters, with the world of forgotten indigenous edibles, and starts with the Greater Cape Floristic Region

5050 Inserts

Co-director and editor

'Mother Nature's Tunes' featuring marine biologists Dr Tess Gridley and Dr Simon Elwen focusing on animal bioacoustics and 'Wetland City' looking at the uniqueness and importance of the wetlands and waterways of Cape Town

French Film Festival – Making Peace with Nature

Producer, director, camera and editor

1 min stop frame animation [The Beginning](#) about composting (short listed)
1 min skit about plastic collection and exercise [Plexercise](#)

TRE Workshop Initiative

Director and Camera

A yearlong project filming and documenting a TRE workshop initiative, held for community development

Initiative Earth: Urban Farming Masterclasses

Director and camera

6 x 10 minute masterclass videos looking at 'Agriculture-supported communities'
<https://www.initiativeearth.org/>

IOI False Bay

Producer and director

2 x 12 minute videos for International Oceans Institute: courses in Ocean Governance [IOI SA False Bay](#) – a case study in marine spatial planning
[IOI SA Estuary Management](#) - IOI-SA uses Zandvlei Estuary as a case study in Estuary Management

Activate! Academy (2 years)

Producer, director, camera and editor

E-learning courses for Activate! Academy.
<http://activateacademy.org.za/>
<https://www.activateleadership.co.za/>

Food Series – Uhuru Productions

Camera, co-producer

For a short documentary as part of a [Food Series](#)

Kusini Water

Producer, director, camera

An NPO video Kusini Water - a social enterprise that builds water treatment systems from nanotechnology and macadamia nut shells. This video was commissioned by the Government of Flanders: [Kusini Water](#)

Belle and Co

Editor

E-learning videos for [Belle & Co](#) for their British Council online learning project

2U Bootcamps

Editor for eLearning platform

WORK EXPERIENCE Cont...

UCT's Graduate School of Business

Producer, director, camera and editor

A promotional film for the Graduate School of Business (UCT) called [BUILD](#)

Activate! Leadership

Producer, director, camera and editor

6 short and inspiring documentary, web-series for the NPO Activate! Leadership

[Activator Stories](#)

Trainer

Facilitated a training workshop teaching staff from Activate Leadership how to shoot and create videos using their mobile phones.

ELOM

Producer, director, camera and editor

Xhosa, English and Sepedi training videos for ELOM's Early Child Development Assessment facilitators

La Motte Winery

Producer, director and editor

[La Motte Winery 1](#), [La Motte Winery 2](#)

Kos Gangsters/ Ocean View Organic Farm

Producer, director, camera and editor

[Kos Gangsters](#) won the best documentary film at [MMOCA](#) film festival

Cooked in Africa

Editor

Worked on 10 x 26 minute episodes for the original '[Cooked in Africa](#)' series.

SABBEX - SA Boat Building Export Council

Producer, director, camera and editor

Monthly, promotional [SABBEX Videos](#) for their online newsletter

If I could...

Producer, director and editor

A promotional video for [if i could...](#)

Big World Cinema – Production Assistant

See Thru Media – Production Assistant and

Editor **Undercurrent Film and Television** –

Production Assistant **Pitch Black Films** –

Researcher and Production Manager **Arterial**

Network – Editor

REFERENCES

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