

LEAH VARJACQUES

EMMY AWARD-WINNING VIDEO JOURNALIST

CONTACT



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EDUCATION

Bachelor's in Journalism & International Studies

Northwestern University

Medill School of Journalism

2011-2015, Magna cum laude

Studied in Cuba, Brazil and South Africa

AWARDS

Pulitzer Center Journalist Grantee 2025

Ted W. Scripps Fellowship in Environmental Journalism 2024-25

News & Doc Emmy Award: Producer for Outstanding Newscast 2021

News & Doc Emmy Nomination: Outstanding News Analysis, Editorial and Opinion 2020

International Women's Media Foundation: Adelante Reporting Fellow 2019

Gabriel Garcia Marquez Fellowship in Cultural Journalism 2018

SKILLS

- Sony Cameras (FS & FX lines)
- Canon Cameras (C300, C500)
- Adobe Premiere Pro
- HEFAT trained

LANGUAGES

- English (native)
- French (native)
- Spanish (fluent)
- Portuguese (proficient)

PROFILE

I'm an experienced video journalist, producer and cinematographer.

From breaking news to enterprise packages, whether as a one-woman-band or leading a crew, I've produced over 100 video stories from five continents. In 2021, I won an Emmy Award as Producer for Outstanding Newscast for my work on VICE News Tonight.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Freelance Video Producer / Cinematographer 2023-2025

- Reported, field produced, shot and edited video, print and audio stories for media outlets, non-profits, and production companies like The New York Times Opinion, Scientific American, Left/Right and the University of Colorado.
- Secured fellowships and grants to support my own editorial projects.

Co-Producer | The New York Times Presents 2023-2024

- Produced feature-length episodes for FX/Hulu docu-series.
- Researched, cast and booked subjects, including high-profile contributors.
- Interviewed sources on-camera.
- Planned and managed field shoots, secured releases, and supervised production assistants.
- Archive-produced, story-produced and fact-checked.

Producer / Shooter | VICE News 2020-2023

- Reported, produced and shot 40+ breaking news, live, and enterprise segments for digital and television news shows [VICE News Tonight](#), [VICE on Showtime](#) and [VICE Special Reports](#).
- Field and remote-produced [domestic](#) and [international](#) news packages in various languages, often directing on-camera hosts and crews.
- Quickly secured access to sensitive sources and obtained public records.
- Directed the edit, from scripting, to air, to social publishing, and wrote accompanying [articles](#).

Producer | The New York Times 2017-2020

- Reported and produced over 35 original digital [videos](#) and [interactives](#).
- Edited pieces on Adobe Premiere and collaborated with external editors and animators.
- Directed contributors and managed crew in studio and in the field.
- Wrote scripts and articles, fact-checked and packaged cuts for social media.

Associate Producer | The Atlantic 2016-2017

- Reported, produced, shot and edited digital video stories and explainers.
- Covered the presidential campaign and first months of President Trump's administration, including [breaking news](#) that got millions of views.
- Researched and shot [second camera](#) for other producers.
- Crafted YouTube, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter headlines and thumbnails.

Independent Filmmaker 2014-2017

- Produced, shot and edited original short documentaries in [India](#), [Brazil](#), [Ecuador](#), and [Chicago](#) that screened at festivals around the world.
- Developed impact campaigns and immersive storytelling experiences.