

# GARY WEIMBERG

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## Professional Biography

Gary Weimberg is passionately interested in people. As a producer, director, editor, writer, and cameraperson, he has had a four-decade career of listening to stories, telling stories, and making documentaries. His films span activist, indie, and commercial genres. The cornerstones of his work are diversity and clarity, in pursuit of justice and delight.

His [awards](#) include two Emmys, six Emmy Award nominations, a Director's Guild of America nomination, his own Sundance Film Festival Special Jury Award, and over 80 "best film" awards from film festivals. He edited two documentaries that were nominated for Academy Awards (and attended the first with his wife and the second with his mom (what a fond memory for us both!))

He's made primetime and broadcast films for ABC, PBS, HBO, Fox, WB channel; as well as many YouTubes, Vimeos, TikToks and 200+ shorts for Teaching Channel.org, a Gates Foundation funded educational web-portal.

To illustrate the diversity of his work: his PBS documentary [The Double Life of Ernesto Gomez-Gomez](#) advocated for the release of 11 Puerto Rican political prisoners through a verité and personal-video style portrait of Ernesto, the son of one of the prisoners. Six months after broadcast, the prisoners received Presidential Clemency from Bill Clinton and were freed after 19 years of jail.

In contrast, [The Heiress and Her Chateau](#) was a glossy historical documentary chronicling the 100-year rise and fall of a 100-room architectural masterpiece. With high production values and narration, the film reveals the drama and lives of the ultra-rich, concluding with restoration of the Chateau by the 162<sup>nd</sup> richest man-in-the-world.

On [My Love Affair with the Brain](#), Gary spent 5 years following and learning neuroscience from Dr. Marian Diamond (who the *NYTimes* called the "2<sup>nd</sup> best college professor in the world".) Yet, he also portrayed the mobsters, molls and murderers of the mafia in his Fox TV mini-series, [Loyalty and Betrayal](#). ("among the snappiest of the genre" *NYTimes*) Both films were Emmy nominated.

For his primetime ABC documentary [The Story of Mothers and Daughters](#) Gary and his researchers interviewed over 400 women and girls to choose the 40 to follow in depth ("a miraculous, perfect film" *NY Daily News*; "television at its best" *LA Times*). For the follow-up, [The Story of Fathers and Sons](#), they interviewed over 600 men and boys. ("almost staggering in its candor." *Variety*)

In 2020, in the very start of COVID, he made a Zoom-based, 100% socially distanced [documentary short](#) that successfully raised the money to distribute 7,000 computers to local house-bound youth.

He lives and works in Berkeley with Catherine Ryan; his frequent co-producer/co-director and life-partner. He is a published writer, a former radio DJ, mediocre pianist, and thinks he is fluent in Spanish after 3 margaritas (but ... take this last assertion with a grain of salt)

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*Please note: \* on credit means a shared credit*

### Co-PRODUCER / EDITOR

**Voices from the Silenced: Pre-Roe Abortion Stories** 2024

### PRODUCER\*/DIRECTOR\*/EDITOR/CAMERA

**My Love Affair with the Brain: The Life and Science of Dr. Marian Diamond**  
one of the founders of modern neuroscience, 2<sup>nd</sup> most popular college professor in the world, YouTube celebrity. PBS, 2017  
*NOMINATED for a National News and Documentary EMMY AWARD.*  
*WINNER of 8 "Best Documentary" and "Audience Choice" Awards at film festivals.*

### PRODUCER\* / DIRECTOR\* / EDITOR / WRITER

**The Heiress and Her Chateau: Chateau Carolands of California**  
The true story of an American Downton Abbey, 98-year history of a 98-room architectural masterpiece. KQED, 2014  
*NOMINATED for 2 Regional EMMY AWARDS, Best Documentary, Best Writing.*  
*WINNER of 4 "Best Documentary" Awards at film festivals.*

### PRODUCER\* / DIRECTOR\* / EDITOR\*

**Soldiers of Conscience** PBS, POV series, 2008  
US soldiers in Iraq and the greatest moral dilemma of all – to kill or not to kill - and the stories of some who decide not to.  
*NOMINATED for a National News and Documentary EMMY AWARD.*  
*WINNER of 5 "Best Documentary" Awards at film festivals.*

### PROD.\* / DIRECTOR / EDITOR / CAMERA

**The Double Life of Ernesto Gómez-Gómez** PBS, POV, 1999  
the film that helped President Clinton pardon the Puerto Rican 12, Closing night of 1999 POV series  
*NOMINATED, Outstanding Documentary Director, Directors Guild of America*  
*WINNER of 5 "Best Documentary" Awards at film festivals.*

### DIRECTOR\*/ EDITOR / WRITER

**Loyalty & Betrayal: The Story of the American Mob**  
Episode #1, the first two hours of a four-hour documentary mini-series for Fox. Broadcast July 25, 1994.  
*WINNER National News and Documentary EMMY AWARD*

### EDITOR / Documentary CONSULTANT

**3 Seconds in October: The Shooting of Andy Lopez** PBS, 2022  
*WINNER Regional EMMY AWARD in the Societal Concerns category*

PRODUCER/DIRECTOR/EDITOR/CAMERA	TeachingChannel.org, 200+ short web videos,	2011 to 2016
DIRECTOR	<u>America's Most Haunted: Ghosts of San Francisco</u> ,	Travel Channel, 2002
PRODUCER*/DIRECTOR*/EDITOR/CAMERA*	<u>Teens</u>	WB TV Network, 2000
PRODUCER*/DIRECTOR*/EDITOR*/CAMERA*	<u>The Story of Fathers &amp; Sons</u>	ABC primetime, 1999
PRODUCER* / DIRECTOR* / EDITOR*	<u>The Story of Mothers &amp; Daughters</u>	ABC, primetime, 1997
DIRECTOR / EDITOR*	<u>The Great Sky Elephant</u>	Narrated by Laurence Olivier PBS, 1986
DIRECTOR / EDITOR*	<u>The Elephant Flies</u>	Narrated by Burt Lancaster PBS, 1986
PRODUCER / DIRECTOR / EDITOR	<u>Celebrating the 7<sup>th</sup></u>	activist video about Nicaragua, 1986
PRODUCER / DIRECTOR / EDITOR	<u>\$20.01: A Chinese Food Odyssey</u>	an award winning short, 1980
PRODUCER*/DIRECTOR*/EDITOR/CAMERA	<u>Civic Unity</u> 5 years of SF Foundation in support local activism.	2002-2008
PRODUCER*/DIRECTOR*/EDITOR/CAMERA*	Media for Non-Profit, various	90+ shorts to help raise over \$15 million, including The SF Fdn, The Women's Fdn., Bay Area Black United Fund, 7 <sup>th</sup> Generation Fund, Liberty Hill Fdn, Asian Pacific Fund.

## EDITING & OTHER CREDITS

### EDITOR\* / WRITER\*

**Ballets Russes,** theatrical documentary, 2006  
Portrait of the worlds most glamorous ballet company, the 49<sup>th</sup> most financially successful documentary of all time (as of 2007)

### EDIT DOCTOR

**And the Band Played On,** feature film, HBO, 1993  
Official credit: "Additional Editor." The completed film won Best Editing at American Cinema Editors Awards, & Emmy for the same.

### EDITOR

**Earth and the American Dream,** HBO, 1992  
feature-length documentary on the environment, produced and directed by Bill Couturié, screened at the White House.  
*WINNER National Primetime EMMY AWARD*  
*WINNER – Sundance Jury Special Award for Outstanding Achievement in Editing*

**EDITOR** Memorial: Letters from American Soldiers, **NBC, 1991**  
a documentary short about U.S. wars from WW1 to the Gulf, produced and directed by Bill Couturie .  
*ACADEMY AWARD NOMINATION for Short Documentary*

**EDITOR / WRITER\*** SuperChief: The Life and Legacy of Earl Warren, **PBS, 1989**  
a bio. of US Supreme Court Chief Justice Earl Warren. Directed by Bill Jersey & Judith Leonard.  
*ACADEMY AWARD NOMINATION for Best Documentary*

**EDITOR\*** Brother Outsider: The Life of Bayard Rustin, **ITVS, PBS, 2003,**  
Bio-doc on the great pacifist organizer, film was on Bill Moyers 2012 List of 10 Best Documentaries on Champions of Social Justice

**EDITOR\*** Dear America: Letters Home from Vietnam, **HBO, 1987**  
double Emmy winning documentary on the Vietnam War, produced and directed by Bill Couturie.

**WRITER** Butt Thong, screenplay, optioned at Universal, 1991.

**WRITER** Ishi: The Last Wild Indian, screenplay. 1st place winner, Bay Guardian Script-writing Competition, 1988; Writer's Guild Foundation Fellowship Semi-Finalist. 1988.

**ASSOCIATE PRODUCER** Maria's Story, a heroic woman & war in El Salvador, PBS,POV 1990

**ASSOCIATE PRODUCER** Dateline: San Salvador, elections in El Salvador, PBS 1986

**SOUND EDITOR** Selected credits 1982-1990

Godfather III, directed by Francis Coppola, Paramount, 1990; Hot Spot, Skywalker Sound, directed by Dennis Hopper , 1990;  
Colors, Skywalker Sound , directed by Dennis Hopper, 1987; Nightmare on Elm Street III, 1987; Hot Pursuit, Paramount, 1987; Campus Man, Paramount, 1987; Wild Rose, New Front Films, 1983; The Black Stallion Returns, United Artists, 1982

**EDITOR\* / Consultant** A Fierce Green Fire Enviro history, Redford Narrator, 2012

**EDITOR\* / Co-Producer** Have You Heard from Johannesburg, 7 pt series on ending apartheid, 2012

**EDITOR\*** Something Ventured, history of venture capital in Silicon Valley, 2011

**SERIES EDITOR / Consultant** Asian America, USA, 3 half hour episodes, NAATA, PBS, 2003

**SEGMENT EDITOR** Frontline World, pilot for the PBS series, 2002

**EDITOR** Modern Meat Frontline, PBS, 2002

**EDITOR\*** Store Wars: When Wal-Mart Comes to Town, PBS, 2001

**EDITOR** A Bridge of Books: The Story of the National Yiddish Book Center, 2001

**EDITOR** Jewish film Festival Theatrical Trailer, 2000, 2001

**SEGMENT EDITOR / CAMERA** farmclub.com, music variety, USA cable, 2000

**EDITOR\* / WRITER\*** Mystery of the Last Tsar, The Tsar's bones, scientific murder mystery, 1995

**EDITOR** San Francisco Sound, installation for Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, 1994

**EDITOR** Terminal USA, a TV movie, Funded by ITVS for PBS, 1993

**EDITOR\*** Gone Too Soon, a music video for Michael Jackson, 1991

**EDITOR / WRITER\*** The Road to Brown, civil rights history. Shared writing, PBS, 1990

**EDITOR / WRITER\*** Chicano Park, Barrio Logan and Chicano exper., PBS, 1988

**EDITOR** Selected additional credits 1980-2000

Thin Green Line, Environmental activism, Outdoor Life Network , 2000; Martin Scorsese's Favorite Films, pilot for a series, 1991;  
Visionary San Francisco, installation,S.F. Museum of Modern Art, 1990; Why Don't You Dance,drama from R.Carver short story, 1991;  
Here's My Hand, bio for Hubert Humphrey Museum, 1990; Destination: San Francisco, video travel guide, 1988; Yugo Goes Network,  
corporate campaign, 1986; Ford's - The Story of a Theater, docu-drama, PBS, 1984; Tale of Two Sphinxes, ballooning in Egypt, 1984;  
A New Beginning, USC Trojans, Video Sports Network, 1984; In the Name of Democracy, elections in El Salvador. PBS, 1983; Songs  
from a Distant Jungle, music of Papua New Guinea, 1982; The New You Asked For It, pilot for the TV series, 1980

**ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE:** PUBLISHED WRITINGS (short-stories, travel columns & film criticism); feature film 1st A.D.;  
ON-LINE Editor; film LAB TECHNICIAN; Radio DJ; Investigative News CAMERAMAN and RESEARCHER; Dog Groomer, construction  
worker, moving man, lots of world travel, BA with honors in Communications/Visual Arts, University of California, San Diego, 1980.

LANGUAGES: English and sometimes passable Spanish

REFERENCES & REEL AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

## List of Awards

### Director's Guild of America Nomination

Directorial Achievement in Documentary, The Double Life of Ernesto Gómez Gómez, 1999

### Emmy Award Nominations

Outstanding Historical/Cultural Documentary, The Heiress and Her Chateau, 2015  
Outstanding Individual Achievement, Writing, The Heiress and Her Chateau, 2015  
Outstanding Science and Technology Program, My Love Affair with the Brain: The Life and Science of Dr. Marian Diamond, 2017  
Outstanding Individual Achievement, Editing, Soldiers of Conscience, 2008

### Emmy Award WINNERS

Outstanding Individual Achievement, Editing, Loyalty and Betrayal: The Story of the American Mob, 1995  
Outstanding Individual Achievement, Editing, Earth and the American Dream, 1993

### Academy Award Nominations

Short Documentary Subject, Memorial: Letters from American Soldiers, 1991  
Feature Length Documentary, SuperChief: The Life and Legacy of Earl Warren, 1989

### "5 Best Films in 15 years" List

The Story of Mothers & Daughters Rocky Mountain Women's Film Festival, 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2003

My Love Affair with the Brain has also received:

- Best Science Film of 2017 - AAAS/Kavli Gold Medal, Science Journalism Awards, • Best Science Film of 2017, Spanish Science Film Festival, • Best Educational Film of 2017, Pariscience Festival International du Films Scientifique, • BEST SCIENCE FILMS OF 2017 - Science Books & Film year-end list, • Best in Festival – Audience Award, RiverRun International Film Festival, Winston-Salem, NC, • Best in Festival – American Psychological Association film festival, • Best Documentary – Indigo Moon film festival, • Best Documentary – High Falls Film Festival, NY, • Best Documentary, Audience Award, Durango Film Festival, • Audience Favorite Award – Mill Valley Film Festival, CA.

Soldiers of Conscience has also received:

- Best Documentary, Rhode Island Film Festival, 2007 • Best Film, Hamptons International film fest, Conflict and Resolution competition, • Best doc, Foyle Film fest • Finalist, best doc, Denver Film festival and screenings at 15 other film festivals to date.

Three Women and a Chateau has also received:

Best Documentary, Rhode Island Film Festival and screenings at 11 other film festivals.

The Double Life of Ernesto Gómez Gómez has also received:

- 1<sup>st</sup> place award-winner, Best Documentary, Big Muddy Film Festival, 1999 • Documentary Competition Winner, Athens International Film & Video Festival • Winner, Best Documentary, San Antonio Cine Festival • Grand Jury Prize, Best of Festival, Image (Atlanta) Film & Video Festival • screened at Smithsonian Institute, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, American Museum of Natural History (NY), Berlin Film Festival and 15 other festivals

Earth and the American Dream has also received:

- Sundance Film Festival, Special Jury Prize for Superb Technical Achievement in Editing • Award, San Francisco Film Fest. • Best Nature documentary, Cable Ace Awards • Best Doc., Environmental Media Awards.

SuperChief: The Life and Legacy of Earl Warren also received:

- CINE Golden Eagle
- Emmy nomination
- Golden Apple Award, National Educational Film Festival.
- Christopher Award
- IDA Distinguished Documentary Achievement Award

And The Band Played On has received:

- Emmy Award, Best Editing of a Mini-Series or Special
- Best Editing, Commercial TV, American Cinema Editor's "Eddie" Awards, 1994
- Nominated for a Cable ACE Award, Best Edited Cable TV Movie.

The Road to Brown has received:

- Best Black History Award, American Film and Video Fest.
- "Outstanding 1990 Academic Non-print Materials," Choice's Magazine

Ishi: The Last of His Tribe a screenplay, received:

- 1st place Bay Guardian Script-writing Competition, 1988
- Semi-finalist, Writer's Guild of America East Fellowship Program, 1988

Maria's Story has received:

- Edward R Murrow Award
- Best Documentary, San Antonio Film Fest.
- Silver Hugo, Chicago Film Fest.
- Best Documentary, Fest of Latin Amer, Havana
- Award, San Francisco Film Fest.

Dear America: Letters Home from Vietnam has received:

- Two National Emmy Awards: Outstanding Informational Special, Best Writing
- 1989 Peabody Award
- Best Documentary, San Francisco Film Fest.
- Honorable Mention, U.S. Film Fest.
- Official Selection, Cannes Film Fest., the first documentary ever to be so elected.
- Best Documentary Special at ACE Awards
- Nomination, Best Documentary Editing at Cable ACE Awards
- Program-of-the-Year 87-88, Television Critics Association
- included, TV Guide list "100 Best Moments on Television"

Chicano Park has received:

- Gold Award, Houston Film Fest.
- Best Northern California Film, National Education Film Fest.
- Honorable Mention, San Francisco Film Fest.
- CINE Golden Eagle

Songs from a Distant Jungle has received:

- CINE Golden Eagle
- Blue Ribbon, American Film Fest.
- Silver Screen award, US Industrial Film Fest.
- Best of Show, San Francisco Advertising Club Showcase Competition
- Silver "Cindy" from IFPA
- Best in Category and Bronze "Anvil " Trophy, America Film Fest.
- Honorable Mention at San Francisco International Film Fest.

In the Name of Democracy has received:

- Best of the Festival at Philadelphia International Film Fest.
- Red Ribbon at American Film Fest.
- included in the Best of the Global Village Festival Exhibition.

\$20.01: A Chinese Food Odyssey: • 1st place, Nevada City Film Fest. • 1st place, Carlsbad Film Fest.

- screenings at Telluride Film Fest., the Ann Arbor Film Fest., and the San Francisco International Film Fest.