SELECTED DOCUMENTARIES ON CONTEMPORARY CUBAN ARTS
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2. *Nancy Morejón: Paisajes célebres / Famous Landscapes* (2013), ca. 52 minutes long with English subtitles. Direction and production by Juanamaría Cordones-Cook. This documentary offers a unique perspective on contemporary Cuban culture and intellectual life through the world and artistic achievements of one of its most celebrated poets, Nancy Morejón (Havana 1944), as well as through the voices and images of prominent Afro-Cuban intellectuals. The music was performed by Richard Egües, Marta Valdés, and Elena Burke. ($19.95 for individuals, $189 for institutional use) http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B2ZZq8pqHxg

3. *Diago, artista apalencado / A Maroon Artist* (2013), ca. 28 minutes long with English subtitles. Direction and production by Juanamaría Cordones-Cook. Comment: presentation of a prominent multimedia artist, Juan Roberto Diago (1972), who employs discarded materials. Diago understands the creative possibilities of recycling and *bricolage* and enriches his images by juxtaposing graffiti with racially contesting intent. He has labeled himself a “maroon artist” and his art work results in “cultural resistance”. In this documentary, Diago openly discusses issues of race and poverty in contemporary Cuba, as well as their representation in his paintings and installations. ($19.95 for individuals, $189 for institutional use) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Xp__OR3vxo


   b) *La Habana expuesta, un diseño de Estévez / Havana on Display, a Design by Estévez* (2012), on anthology of poetry by Nancy Morejón, edited by Juanamaría Cordones-Cook, ca. 21 minutes long with English subtitles. Direction and production by Juanamaría Cordones-Cook. Comment: the design of a book to be reproduced 200 times by the craftsmen and women of Ediciones Vigía as presented by Rolando Estévez Jordán. ($9.95 for individuals, $89 for institutional use) http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hk-s31h75Kw&feature=relmfu

5. *Ediciones Vigía: Poéticas visuales / Visual Poetics* (2012), ca. 51 minutes long with English subtitles. Direction and production by Juanamaría Cordones-Cook. Comment: the development and evolution of the press, the production of a *Vigía* book as well as interviews with Vigía craftsmen and women, and numerous other outstanding Cuban intellectuals who have been involved with press from its inception, such as poet laureate Nancy Morejón, composer Marta Valdés, art historian Adelaida de Juan, anthropologist Ruth Behar, among others. ($19.95 for individuals, $189 for institutional use) http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iK-dYtsXPmU

6. *Ediciones Vigía: Entre la imagen y la palabra / Between the Image and the Word* (2012), ca. 98 minutes long with English subtitles. Direction and production by Juanamaría Cordones-Cook. A brief panoramic view of the evolution of *Ediciones* Vigía by its main artist and designer Rolando Estévez...
Jordán. ($19.95 for individuals, $189 for institutional use)

7.  **Ediciones Vigía (1985-2011): Abriendo archivos / Opening Archives** (2013), ca. 7 hours and 30 minutes long with English subtitles. Direction and production by Juanamaría Cordones-Cook. Comment: Vigía’s main designer and artist, Rolando Estévez Jordán, chronologically discusses the entire collection of books, while highlighting technological changes, as well as innovations in aesthetic languages. This documentary is an audiovisual archive of 27 years of Ediciones Vigía book production. Not a complete record but close. (4 DVDs $54.95 for individuals, $349 for institutional use). [http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=zAELtCdjKs4](http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=zAELtCdjKs4)

8.  **Rogelio Martínez Furé: Un griot cubano / A Cuban Griot** (2014), ca. 30 minutes with English subtitles. Direction and production by Juanamaría Cordones-Cook. Comment: presentation of a writer, Africanist, leading scholar of folklore and religion, and founder of the National Folkloric Ballet of Cuba. Through conversations with Martínez Furé and other prominent Afro-Cuban intellectuals-- Inés María Martiatu, Nancy Morejón, Georgina Herrera, Manolo Micler, and Roberto Zurbano, as well as images and performances of religious rituals and dances of the National Folkloric Ballet and the Olurum Group, this film discloses layers of Cuba’s rich African legacy and cultural heritage. It portrays Martínez Furé as a contemporary *griot*, a repository of oral tradition who recovers and guards Afro-Cuban and Caribbean silenced memories and true identity. ($19.95 for individuals, $189 for institutional use). [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g-r9ZkwY0Lc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g-r9ZkwY0Lc)

9.  **Choco** (2014), ca. 29 minutes long with English subtitles. Comment: presentation of Eduardo “Choco” Roca Salazar, an artist who embodies the cultural success of the Cuban Revolution in its promotion of the arts. Born in a working class family in a small town in the Oriente province, Choco graduated from Cuba’s National School of Art and became a world famous print-maker. Documentary shows Choco at work in his Old Havana workshop, as well as visiting his former art school and a vast collection of his work from the start of his career. Film is enriched by readings by Nancy Morejón and Pablo Milanes, as well as the music created specially for Choco by Miguelito Núñez. ($19.95 for individuals, $189 for institutional use). [www.youtube.com/watch?v=VPGWLXSmG4M](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VPGWLXSmG4M)

10.  **El mundo mágico de Mendive / The Magical World of Mendive**, ca. 40 minutes with English subtitles. Direction and production: Juanamaría Cordones-Cook. Comment: Film offers a unique perspective into the personal and artistic world of Manuel Mendive, the leading contemporary Cuban artist. Creating in various genres, drawing, painting, body painting, soft and hard sculpture, installations, and performances, Mendive is also a Santería priest, whose spirituality permeates all of his creations. This documentary shows a broad spectrum of his work including his latest performance in Havana, *Las Cabezas* (May 2012). Mendive appears painting in his studio as well as in the midst of his tropical forest offering some unprecedented remarks on his early life, on African elements in his art while he discusses his aesthetics and his profound fascination with the creative process. This film is enriched with comments by major Cuban intellectuals, Nancy Morejón, Pablo Armando Fernández, Yolanda Wood, and Adelaida de Juan, as well as with music by Ulises Hernández and Argeliers León. Film will have English subtitles and will be ready for distribution in January 2015. This film will be ready for distribution in the summer of 2015. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fKpy4XMHexI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fKpy4XMHexI)

**Forthcoming documentaries** on Rodríguez Olazabal, Alberto Lescay, Zuleica Romay, and more.

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Screenings of J. Cordones-Cook documentaries:

* At universities in the USA: the University of Michigan, the University of Missouri; the University of Houston, Truman State University, the University of Southern California, among others.

* At universities overseas the Hebrew University of Jerusalem; Universidad de Cartagena, Colombia; the Universidad de Oriente, Santiago de Cuba; the University of Humboldt, Berlin, Germany.

* At international academic or other cultural events:
  - Black History Month celebrations;
  - “4ta. Conferencia Internacional de Estudios Afro-Latinoamericanos”, Negritud in Cartagena, Colombia;
  - International conference by the Universitat de Barcelona, Centre dona i literature: “Congreso de Literatura y Cultura femenina Hispánica”, at Instituto de Literatura y Lingüística, La Habana, Cuba
  - Cultural Bricolage Conference, Columbia;
  - Havana’s International Book Fair;
  - Centre for Cuban Studies-New York, Summer Film Series;
  - San Francisco Public Library;
  - Instituto Cervantes library in conjunction with the Institut Ibero Americanisches, in Berlin,
  - The Emerald Tablet, Berkeley;
  -- International Conference in Jerusalem, Cuba–Myth and Reality: Culture, History, Politics;
  - Fundación Caguayo, in Santiago de Cuba;
  - MACA, at UNEAC in Havana;
  - Fábrica de Arte, Havana.
  - Museum of the African Diaspora, San Francisco, in conjunction with an art show DRAPEETOMANIA, curated by Harvard University.
  - Museum of Art and Archaeology, University of Missouri

* These documentaries are also screened in national television, in USA; in Cuban National Television, in Canal Educativo 2, and in Cuban International Television, Cubavisión Internacional, chain.

* The Ludwig Fundation in Cuba is screening these Cuban documentaries in courses on Cuban Arts and Culture for students from The Tisch School of the Arts (NYU).

* In addition some of these documentaries are being “published” with books on the authors or artists presented in the films, such as Nancy Morejón (La silla dorada), Georgina Herrera (Cimarroneando con G.H), Rolando Estevez (Vigía: Visual Poetics), among others.
My films have been selected to be shown at film festivals, such as:
- San Diego Black Film Festival;
- Kansas City Film Fest, at the Alamo Drafthouse Mainstreet;
- New Hope Film Festival, Pennsylvania;
- St. Louis Film Festival;
- the New Latin American Film Festivals in Havana,
- the Latin American Association Film Festivals

My films have received diverse recognitions:
- the Telly Award,
- First Place Award, KC Film Fest Best Heartland Feature Documentary;
- Emmy Award nomination.