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Atia (Quadri) Newman

The first woman CG animator in the Pakistani animation industry, Atia (Quadri) Newman is a pioneer, a creative artist and an educator on a mission to alter the limited and biased views that have been shaped and propagated by western media for centuries.

Tenured in 2018, Professor Newman is the first 3D animation specialist, the first woman of color and the youngest person to earn the title of Associate Professor in the School of Film and Animation in RIT.

Raised in a post-colonial society and currently a Muslim immigrant settled in the US, she knows firsthand how easily a culture can be erased and recast into damaging stereotypes. Her research is focused on combating negative cultural stereotypes by re-centering the authentic voice in storytelling.

Her film, *The Iroquois Creation Story*, is an award-winning mixed media production that has, for the first time, preserved the history and tradition of the Native Iroquois religion in an enduring format.

Atia (Quadri) Newman aims to continue to use animation and game technology to make accurate and unbiased research more accessible to broader audiences.

Her current project posits a new way to preserve cultural heritage sites that may forever change the field of Digital Cultural Preservation.

Current Projects

JUL 2021 – CURRENT

Creator

The Animated Desi Podcast: Recording History as It Happens – *in development*

OCT 2020 – CURRENT

Creator

The Lahore Fort Digital Preservation Project – *in progress*

FEB 2017 – CURRENT

Co-creator

Character Mosaic Project – *continuing*

Relevant Work Experience

JUL 2018 – CURRENT

Associate Professor

School of Film and Animation - RIT

AUG 2012 – 2018

Assistant Professor

School of Film and Animation - RIT

AUG 2017

Co-op

The Mill, NY

NOV 2013 – OCT 2015

Director of Animation

“The Iroquois Creation Story”

The Ganondagan Society and Farrash Foundation

EDUCATION

2010

MFA Digital Art and Animation
Pratt Institute, Brooklyn

2002

BFA Communication Design
National College of Arts, Lahore
Graduated with Honors

Certificates and Masterclasses

Houdini Master Class – RIT
June 2016
CGMA Advanced Rigging Certificate
Jan 2015
Pixar Master Class
VanArts, Chicago - IL
July 2014
Rigging Master Class
Animation Master Class
Collider Conference – NY
July 2013

Workshop/Event Organizer

Speaker – Workshop
Time Management
School of Film and Animation – RIT
2017
Speaker – Workshop
Character Rigging
School of Film and Animation – RIT
2016
Speaker – Workshop
Production Management
School of Film and Animation – RIT
2015
Speaker – Workshop
Lighting and Rendering
School of Film and Animation – RIT
2015
Organizer
Acting for Animators workshop
Pratt – Brooklyn, NY
2009
Stage/Production Manager
Nautankee Theaters
Lahore, Pakistan
2000

NOV 2013 – OCT 2015

Rigging Artist/Technical Director

“The Iroquois Creation Story”
The Ganondagan Society and Farrash Foundation

JUN – JUL 2011

Secondary Rigging Artist

Dustbunny studios LLC, NY

JAN – APR 2011

Animator/Rotoscope Artist

Armistice Media, Brooklyn NY

SEP – OCT 2010

Rigging Artist

Nathan Love, Manhattan NY

SEP 2010

CG Rendering Consultant

Doctors of the Darkside NY

AUG – NOV 2008

Production Intern

The Animation Collective NY

APR 2006

Motion Graphics Artist

Everready Productions, Karachi

NOV – FEB 2006

Animation Lead/Project Manager

The Carrot Company (Pvt.) Ltd, Karachi

DEC 2005

Assistant Graphic Designer

KaraFilm Festival, Karachi Pakistan

DEC 2004

3D Animation Trainer

Post Amazers (Pvt.) Ltd, Karachi, Pakistan

SEP 2004 – JUL 2005

Senior Animator

Post Amazers (Pvt.) Ltd, Karachi

AUG 2003 – 2004

Junior Animator

Post Amazers (Pvt.) Ltd, Karachi

FEB – AUG 2003

2D Animator

Post Amazers (Pvt.) Ltd, Karachi

*Recent Attendee at Workshops,
Events and Conferences*

Countering and Dismantling
Islamophobia
2021
WomenTech Global Conference
2021
Interrupted and Restricted: Digital
Humanities & ethics in a Time of
Crisis
2021
Museum Current: with Director of
Arab-American National Museum
2021
Historians of Islamic Art Association
Biennial
2021
Collision Tech Global Conference
2021
NYFA 45-Minute Coaching Session
Nov 2020
Women Tech Global Awards 2020
Nov 2020
Sundance Webinar – Creating Social
Impact Through Storytelling
Oct 2020
Adobe MAX Conference
Jun 2020
Women Tech Global Conference
Oct 2019
NYFA Workshop Grant Development
Sep 2019
Ottawa Animation Conference –
Ottawa, CA
May 2019
Collision Conference – Toronto, CA
Nov 2018
RIT Governance Summit, RIT
Sep 2017

Speaking Engagements

2021

Panelist – Diversity in Gaming

UNC Charlotte's Atkins Library Presentation
Charlotte – NC (remote)

2021

Artist talk – Art & Art History Lecture Series

“Developing Diversity in Animation” – UNC Charlotte
Charlotte – NC (remote)

2021

**Guest Speaker – Ringling College of Art and
Design**

“Creating Diverse Characters for Animation”
Sarasota – FL (remote)

2020

**Guest Speaker – Ringling College of Art and
Design**

“Creating Diverse Characters for Animation”
Sarasota – FL (remote)

2015

Guest Speaker – The Lyceum School

“Creative Careers in a Global World”
Karachi, Pakistan

2014

Guest Speaker – Boneyard Summer Camp

“Storyboarding for Animation”, a SUNY Geneso Event
Rochester, NY

2013

Guest Speaker – RIT

“Misinformation and Perspective in Media”
Dr. Kijana Crawford - RIT

2013

Panel Presenter - UFVA

“Understanding Aesthetic Trends in Game Animation”
Orange, CA

2012

Exhibiting Artist – Columbus E-Tech

Gallery Exhibit of “Pedestals”, animated short film.
Columbus, OH

2011

Exhibiting Artist – Dorothy Uber Bryan Gallery

61st Annual Exhibition Artist, BGSU
“Pedestals”, animated short film.
Bowling Green, OH