

JORGE PRELORAN

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH

May 28, 1933
Buenos Aires, Argentina

NATIONALITY

United States Citizen,
naturalized June 6, 1986.

MARITAL STATUS

Married to Haydee Mabel Freddi
One child from previous marriage.

MILITARY SERVICE

Drafted into U.S. Army - 1956/58
264th Eng. Corps, Schwetzingen,
West Germany.



EDUCATION

High School:

1947/51 Colegio Martín y Omar, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

University:

1952/54 Universidad Nacional de Buenos Aires, Argentina.
College of Architecture.

1955 University of California, Berkeley, California.
College of Architecture.

1959/60 University of California, Los Angeles, California.
Theater Arts Department. Degree:
Bachelor of Arts in Motion Pictures.

Other:

1947/54 Classical piano (gave several recitals).

LANGUAGES Bilingual English-Spanish; reads French.

PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

1956

Draftsman for C.E. Erickson, Cartographers; Berkeley, California.

1959

Draftsman for Richard Neutra & Robert Alexander, Architects; Los Angeles, California.

1960

Assistant to FAX Productions, documentary film producers; Hollywood, California.

1962/3

Special grant from the Tinker Foundation of New York (\$35,000) to film throughout Argentina on the *Gaúcho*, and in Colombia on the *Llanero*.

Spent 6 months in New York to edit a series of 5 films.

1963/9

Audiovisual Advisor to the President of the Universidad Nacional de Tucumán, under contract to produce educational films. During this period he produced one featurette, 26 short films and 29 film-strips on a wide range of subjects.

1965/9

Grant from the Argentine National Fund for the Arts to co-produce with the National University of Tucumán a series of films on Argentine folklore, under the supervision of Dr. Raul Augusto Cortazar. Twenty short films were made on most of the characteristic regions of Argentina, having traveled some 150,000 miles throughout the country in 4 years.

1968

Invited to the First International Colloquium on Ethnographic Film, at the University of California, Los Angeles, (UCLA) as the only Latin American filmmaker (April).

1969

Fellowship of UCLA to film an ethnographic study of the Warao Indians at the mouth of the Orinoco Delta in Venezuela, for the Ethnographic Film Program at UCLA, funded by the Ford Foundation. (July-August).

Month-long premier presentation of 19 of his films, including "*Imagine-ro*" at the Teatro San Martín, Buenos Aires (November).

1970

Guest Lecturer, Motion Picture Division, UCLA. Offered seminars in Ethnographic Film and Documentary Film (January-August).

Fellowship of the Film Study Center at Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, to work on the English version of "*Imaginerø*" (September-October).

Returned to UCLA to edit the film "*La Tirana*", directed by Richard Hawkins in Chile, using a split-screen process for double simultaneous action (November-December).

1971

Returned to Buenos Aires to complete several films in production.

Fellow of the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation of New York for one year, to complete work on ethnographic films on the Araucanian Indians, the Ona Indians, and a folk sub-culture in the Cuyo region of the Argentine Andes.

1972

Produced and conducted a weekly hour-long television program on Channel 7, Buenos Aires (Saturdays, 5:30 P.M.) in which he presented his films on Argentina, with guests.

1973

Traveled to France where he presented "*The Ona People*" at the Musée de l'Homme in Paris (May).

In England he was a tutor-professor at The National Film School in Beaconsfield (June-July).

1973

He was invited to the International Conference on Visual Anthropology at the University of Illinois, and to the IXth International Congress of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences - Chicago (September). Presented a paper entitled "Documenting the Human Condition", later published as a chapter of the book "Principles of Visual Anthropology" edited by Paul Hockings (Mouton, The Hague, Netherlands, 1975).

1974

Grant from the American Folklore Society to continue work on ethnographic films in production.

Filmed during the whole year in the Western Pampas of Argentina on four different subjects.

1975

"Imaginero" considered one of the "Ten Best Films in Argentina's Film History", according to inquest amongst Argentina's active film critics (July).

Once again Fellow of the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation of New York, for one year to continue work on ethnographic films on the Pampas.

"The Warao People" wins Gold Medal in the category of Anthropological Film at the Chicago International Film Festival (December).

1976

Assistant Professor at the University of California, Los Angeles, Department of Film and Television. Instructor in Production courses as well as member of the Ethnographic Film Program (September).

Invited to present a retrospective of 8 programs (14 films) on Argentina, at the National Anthropological Museum of Mexico City, as well as at the Anthropological Museum of Guadalajara (June-July).

1977

Participated in a panel of Third World filmmakers at the Latin American Studies Association in Houston, Texas.

1977

Parts of *"The Warao People"* were used in an NBC News 3-hour Special on 'Violence in the U.S.'

Invited to a *Cineprobe* at the Museum of Modern Art of New York to premier *"Zerda's Children"* (June 26).

Invited to present two films at the 1st Margaret Mead Film Festival at the Museum of Natural History, New York. (September)

1978

Presented his films at

University of Oregon, Eugene

California State University, Fullerton

University of Southern California, Los Angeles

American Anthropological Society Congress, Los Angeles

Organization of the American States, Washington, D.C.

Guest of honor at the 2nd Margaret Mead Film Festival at the American Museum of Natural History, New York. Presented three evenings of films, with Margaret Mead moderating.

1979

Presented his films at:

Third World Film Festival at UCLA

USC Conference on International Studies, Los Angeles

American Folklore Society Meeting, Los Angeles

Museum of the American Indian, New York

Invited to Quito, Ecuador, to present a 12-film retrospective (December).

1980

"Chucalezna" wins a prize at the Hemisfilm '80 Film Festival in San Antonio, Texas.

Took a sabbatical to spend 6 months in Ecuador filming an ethnographic document on the Otavalo culture in the Andean highlands.

While in Ecuador he edited two short films: "*Cartas al Ecuador*", directed by Ulises Estrella, and "*Quitumbe*", directed by Teodoro Gómez de la Torre. He also did most of the camera work and all of the editing of the first Ecuadorian feature dramatic film "*Dos Para el Camino*", directed by Jaime Cuesta.

1981

Academy Award Oscar Nominee for "*Luther Metke at 94*" in the category of Short Documentary.

Produced-directed a feature dramatic film "*My Aunt Nora*" in Quito, with Ecuadorian talent.

Was awarded the KONEX of Argentina as the most prestigious living artist in cultural media of that country.

1983

Premier of "*My Aunt Nora*" at UCLA (June 5).

Promoted at UCLA to Associate Professor with tenure (July).

Took a 6-month trip throughout Western Europe (35,000 km in a camper), presenting "*My Aunt Nora*" at the film festivals of Edinburg Mannheim, Biarritz, Figueira da Foz, Florence, Barcelona, Huelva. It won three prizes.

He also lectured on "Ethics and Aesthetics in Ethnographic Film" at the universities of Paris (Sorbonne VII), Copenhagen, Oslo, Stockholm, Helsinki, Geneva, Basel and Madrid. (June-December).

Member of the International Jury at the 25th Bilbao International Film Festival, Spain (December).

1984

Invited to give a retrospective (16 films) at the Cinemateca Uruguay, Montevideo, Uruguay, and the Latin American premier of "*My Aunt Nora*".

Invited for three months by the Argentine National Film Institute, Buenos Aires, to lecture, offer seminars, and a 10-day retrospective (26 films).

He also spent one month traveling to 11 cities throughout the country. Exceptional press coverage (July-September).

Invited to present 16 of his films at the 25th Bilbao International Film Festival, Spain, where he also presented 30 UCLA student films with 17 of the filmmakers attending. These **retrostectives** were then presented at the universities of Murcia, Malaga and Madrid (December).

1985

Invited to a State Dinner at the White House in honor of Argentine President Raul Alfonsin. Fifty guests but only two other Argentines in U.S. residence (March 19).

1985

Promoted three rungs of the academic ladder to Full Professor Step 2 (July).

1986

Traveled to Buenos Aires to organize an exhaustive documentation of Patagonia for the following year (July).

Traveled to Ecuador to complete the documentation on the Otavaleño people (August-September).

Traveled to Boston, New York and Washington D.C. to organize The Patagonia Expedition - 1987-88 (December).

1987

His essay "Ethical and Aesthetic Concerns in Ethnographic Film" was published in the British Journal Third World Affairs 1987, London.

1987

Fulbright Scholar Award for a year, to produce/write/direct a series of 7 hour-long television programs on the geological and biological history of Patagonia. Six months **expeditioning**, plus six months of filming a total of 46 scientists in museums and their workplaces (July).

The book "The Ethnobiographical Documentary Cinema of Jorge Prelo-
ran" was published, a compilation of articles and essays by Juan Jose
Rossi; Editorial Busqueda, Buenos Aires (September).

Grand Annual Award of the (Argentine) National Fund for the Arts, a
prestigious distinction to an Argentine artist for his/her body of work
(December).

1988

Invited to the San Sebastian International Film Festival, Spain, to
present "*My Aunt Nora*" within a retrospective of Latin American films
from the past 40 years (September).

Awarded the Premio Sudamerica 1988 by the Centro de Estudios Histo-
ricos, Antropologicos y Sociales Latinoamericanos. Buenos Aires
(December).

1989

Invited to Madrid by the Spanish State Society for the Quincentennial
Celebration, on an advisory panel on Precolombian America for a tele-
vision series (February 19-26).

Invited to the National University in Camberra, Australia, to participate
in the Conference: "Film and Representation of Cultures" (September).

Invited to the 12th Margaret Mead Film Festival of Anthropological
films, at the American Museum of Natural History, New York, to pre-
mier his feature documentary film "*Zulay Facing the 21st Century*"
(December 4-9).

1990

Took a 9-month sabbatical in Argentina to continue production on The
Patagonia Project, with three different expeditions into the region.

1991

Spent the year editing the 7-hour series, and filming more than 200 ani-
mated sequences and 8000 computer animated maps.

1992

Completed the 7-hour television series "**PATAGONIA - in search of its remote past**".

Traveled to **Granada, Spain**, to attend a meeting of ethnographic filmmakers (October).

Traveled to **Buenos Aires**. Premiered "**Zuñay**" to excellent reviews.

1994

The book "**Jorge Preloran**" by Graciela Taquini, was published within the series "The Directors of Argentine Cinema", of the Centro Editor de América Latina, Buenos Aires.

Became **Professor Emeritus** from **UCLA** (June).

Exchange **Fulbright** Scholar for 6 months in **Argentina**, where he pre-produced a feature dramatic film on the exploits of **Juan Bautista Vairoletto**, a bandit who roamed the Western Pampas from 1921 to 1941 (June-December).

Lectured on ethnographic film at the Argentine universities of **Cuyo, Tucumán, Córdoba, Comahue, Santa Fe, La Pampa** and **Misiones** (September-November).