

PhD · MAC · MBA · CMP · Researcher · Professor · Award-Winning Media Executive

Animation · Broadcasting · Artificial Intelligence · Metaverse · Digital Media

raquelbenitezrojas@gmail.com · +1 647-290-2117 · Niagara Falls, ON, Canada

PROFILE

International scholar, university professor, and award-winning entertainment executive with over three decades across Canada, Spain, USA, UK, Jamaica, Malaysia, Costa Rica, and Ecuador. PhD Cum Laude. Author of three books on AI, Metaverse and Digital Communication. Founder of Cartoon Research and Educators. Government advisor to multiple nations and member of international research networks.

CURRENT POSITIONS

- 2026** **TEDxUNF — Licensee & Organiser**
Digital Mosaics: Narratives that Transform Tomorrow · UNF
- 2025–** **Director**
Canadian Center for Artificial Intelligence Acceleration Center, Canada
- 2024–** **Associate Dean**
Master of Arts in Digital Media & Global Communications · University of Niagara Falls
- 2024–** **Director**
UNF Pulse Radio Station
- 2022–** **Professional Consultant**
Animation, Film, Broadcasting, AI & Metaverse

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE & EDUCATION

- | | |
|--|---|
| 2001–23 CEO, President & Executive Producer
Comet Entertainment Inc. · Canada | 2023 Certified Metaverse Professional (CMP)
Global Certification |
| 2000–01 Senior VP & Director of Interactive Programs
Nikolai.com · Canada & USA | 2023 Certificate in AI
Google |
| 2000 Creative Director
Virtual Broadcasting Corporation · Canada | 2023 Certificate in AI
IBM |
| 1994–98 Head of Production / Senior VP
BRB Internacional, S.A. · Spain | 2022 PhD — Excellent Cum Laude |
| 1993–94 Senior VP & Creative Director
Salazar Audiovisual Productions · Spain | 2019 Certificate in Entertainment Law
Osgoode Hall Law School, York University |
| | 2011 MBA
Universidad de Barcelona, Spain |

1993 Master's — Cinematography, Broadcasting & Comms

Universidad Complutense de Madrid

1991 Bachelor's — Cinematography, Broadcasting & Comms

Universidad Complutense de Madrid

1991 Cert. English & Broadcasting

University of South Florida

GOVERNMENT ADVISORY & SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Spain & Canary Islands

Media & Broadcasting Policy

Jamaica

Advisory Committee — Ministry of Education (VTDI/ICT)

Costa Rica

Animation Master Advisor — ULACIT

Malaysia

Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU)

El Salvador

Media Education & Broadcasting Policy

2026 Unveiling the Art & Science of Virtual Content Creation
Book

2025 Revolutionizing Communication: The Role of AI
Book · Routledge

2024 The Future of Digital Communication: The Metaverse
Book · Routledge

2024 Walt Disney's Creative Process Until 1933
Journal of Cultural & Creative Industries

2023 Queer Cinema Genesis & Renaissance on Digital Platforms
Book Chapter

2022 Quirino Cristiani and the first animated feature films
Academic Journal, Serbia

RESEARCH, MEMBERSHIPS & COMMUNITY

Research & Editorial

- Una Europa Alliance (8 European universities)
- Animation Research Group ANAIS
- Editorial Board — Journal of Business and Economic Insights
- Editorial Board — Global Conference on AI and Robotics
- Scientific Committee — Journal Visual Review
- Scientific Corrector — Miguel Hernández Communication Journal
- PhD Co-director — CARIMAC, University of the West Indies, Jamaica

Languages

English · Spanish — Fluent | Italian · Portuguese · French — Basic

Memberships

- WAWA — Worldwide Audiovisual Women's Association
- Canadian Picture Pioneers
- SGAE — Sociedad General de Autores y Editores
- EGEDA — Entidad de Gestión de Derechos de los Productores
- IAMCR — International Association for Media and Communication Research
- ECREA — European Communication Research and Education Association
- NECS — European Network for Cinema and Media Studies
- SCMS — Society for Cinema and Media Studies
- FMSAC — Film and Media Studies Association of Canada
- ALAIC — Latin American Communication Research Association

Academic Profiles

ORCID	0000-0002-0998-8831
Web of Science	OFN-5578-2025
Google Scholar	scholar.google.com
ResearchGate	researchgate.net/...Raquel-Benitez-Rojas

- Cognitive Science Society · CASSA

Community Engagement

- Vicechair (1 yr) + Governing Board Member (6 yrs) — world's largest human rights organizations
- Faculty & Staff Diversity Advisory Council — Yorkville University
- Co-coordinator — Dorothy's Place
- Founder: Radio Pisquito FM 103 & UNF Pulse Radio Station
- Jury: Kingstown Festival & TAVIA Awards (Jamaica); Youth Media Alliance (Canada)

SELECTED PRODUCTIONS & FILMOGRAPHY

Three decades of award-winning animation, broadcasting, and digital media production.

2025 One Upon a Time Director & Producer	2019 Tommy's World Co-Creator & Exec. Producer	2019 Dragon Wish Exec. Producer & Director	2018 Venus League Exec. Producer & Director
2018 Angel Witch Exec. Producer & Director	2017 Funfarm Exec. Producer & Producer	2015 Limo Guy Exec. Producer & Director	2014 Paul, the Whale Exec. Producer & Director
2013 Surprise Lane Exec. Producer & Director	2012 Terry Deary's True Time Tales Executive Producer	2011 Tall Hats Exec. Producer & Director	2011 Chosen Girls Exec. Producer & Director
2010 Funball Exec. Producer & Co-Director	2009 Fantastic Tales Exec. Producer & Director	2009 Around the World for Free! Executive Producer	2008 Coolcity ★ Exec. Producer & Director
2008 Santa Vs Claus Exec. Producer & Co-Director	2006 Marc & Julia Exec. Producer & Co-Director	2006 Sculpture Club ★ Exec. Producer	2001 Toby, The Prince of Whales Exec. Producer & Director
1999 Adventures on Wheels Director	1998 The New World of the Gnomes ★ Head of Production & Director	1997 The Amazing Journeys Head of Production & Director	1997 Xmas Special (75') Head of Production & Director
1996 El Mundo de Cubi ★ Producer & Director	1995 Historia de Canarias Producer & Director	1994 Narigota Scriptwriter	1993 En Busca del Envase Perdido Script & Producer

★ Award-winning production

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

2025	LANACOM Award Egypt	2014	MCC Toronto Vision Alive Award Canada	2006	CCR Best Movie Script Coolcity
-------------	-------------------------------	-------------	---	-------------	--

2005 **Best Short SGAE**
Sculpture Club

1999 **Honorable Mention**
Adventures on Wheels

1998 **First Prize MIDIA'98 — Best Animation Series**
The New World of the Gnomes

1996 **Second Prize — The Princes' Award, European Environmental Agency**
El Mundo de Cubi

1995 **First Prize NATURAMA'95 — ICONA**
El Mundo de Cubi

1994 **First Prize B.R.B. David the Gnome**
El Mundo de Cubi

raquelbenitezrojas@gmail.com · +1 647-290-2117 · ORCID: 0000-0002-0998-8831 · raquelvictoriaben.com