

# PAULINA LANZ

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## *Communication Scholar & Digital Humanities Researcher*

INTERDISCIPLINARY SCHOLAR-PRACTITIONER WITH PH.D. (ABD) IN COMMUNICATION AND M.A. IN ART STUDIES, SPECIALIZING IN DIGITAL STORYTELLING, COMMUNITY-ENGAGED RESEARCH, AND CULTURAL STUDIES. EXPERTISE IN BORDERLANDS STUDIES, ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNICATION, AND PARTICIPATORY MEDIA CREATION. PROVEN TRACK RECORD IN COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH, GRANT-FUNDED PROJECTS, AND COMMUNITY-CENTERED SCHOLARSHIP.

### [Imagining a Plant-Based Democracy](#)

*Lead Organizer, Civic Imagination Project (USC, MacArthur Foundation Funded)*

Spearheaded an interdisciplinary series of six co-design workshops with 250+ community participants, integrating climate science, food-systems research, and civic planning to prototype plant-based policy visions; collaborated with PBS SoCal to produce a 30-minute documentary and companion digital toolkit, now used by three regional civic organizations to facilitate public engagement on ecological stewardship.

### [Sonic Street Technologies – US Chapter](#)

*Research Associate & Team Lead*

Co-developed a participatory methodology for mapping 70+ Sonidero music collectives across 15 U.S. cities; led ethnographic fieldwork and multimedia documentation that yielded an open-access digital archive, five peer-reviewed case studies, and a feature-length documentary, strengthening local cultural networks and informing best practices in community-led heritage preservation.

### [#NiUnaMás Research Project](#)

*Research Lead*

Conducted an interdisciplinary study of anti-femicide activism in Mexico City in collaboration with 12 women's rights organizations; designed and facilitated monthly digital storytelling workshops with 300+ participants, analyzed social-media advocacy metrics (1 million+ impressions), and documented seven public actions—producing a comprehensive report that informed municipal gender-violence policy recommendations and laid groundwork for Mexico's first federal femicide task force.

### [#ThroughMyWindow](#)

*Co-Creator & Digital Strategist, Civic Imagination Project*

Designed and launched a participatory online platform for collecting 500+ user-generated audiovisual narratives during COVID-19 lockdowns; curated stories into a traveling multimedia exhibition and interactive website, fostering cross-cultural solidarity.

### [Atlas of the Civic Imagination](#)

*Contributing Researcher & Content Editor*

Collaborated with a multidisciplinary team to map 200+ global civic engagement projects across 50 countries; authored three thematic chapters on digital civic innovation, social justice art interventions, and participatory policy labs; co-edited the public-facing Atlas website, now cited by the World Economic Forum as a model for visualizing civic networks.

### [“¡Y que retiemble en su centro la tierra, al sonoro rugir del amor!” Embodied Practices of a Decolonial Feminist Resistance in Mexico](#)

*Co-Presenter & Exhibit Curator*

Co-curated an interactive multimedia installation and mobile experience highlighting decolonial feminist resistance in Mexico; facilitated five community workshops with 80+ participants to co-create digital murals and performance scores, which premiered at the 2023 USC Annenberg Symposium.