

Michael Northam

+1 541 363 2775 northam.michael@gmail.com P.O. Box 4318 Chino Valley AZ 86323 USA

Professional Summary

Audio-Visual Technician and Sound Artist with 30+ years experience in retreat center operations, livestream production, archival media management, and experimental sound design. Recently completed 20 months as residential AV/Maintenance Technician at Garchen Buddhist Institute, delivering 600+ livestreams, helping to manage a 50TB+ archival collection, and technical infrastructure upgrades.

Seeking technical roles blending AV reliability with creative audio expertise at retreat centers, colleges, or arts organizations.

Professional Experience

Audio-Visual & Facilities Technician *Garchen Buddhist Institute, Chino Valley, AZ* 2024 - 2026

- Installed new outdoor sound system and upgraded AV infrastructure, enhancing retreat experiences for 15+ events with live sound support
- Delivered 600+ livestreams with standardized quality, adding third-camera perspectives and significantly improving YouTube video visual impact and production values
- Developed comprehensive AV training manual and procedures for succession planning and consistent technical operations
- Collaborating with developing media archive (50TB+ data)
- Maintained off-grid solar, water pumps, generators, and facilities in remote desert environment, ensuring uninterrupted retreat operations
- Collaborated with international teachers for optimal AV presentation across lectures, ceremonies, and group practices

Sound Restoration for Archive *Library of Tibetan Works and Archives, India* 2018 - 2020

- Produced publication design, packaging, and promotional materials requiring precision and creative problem-solving
- Managed print production workflows and vendor coordination for high-volume projects

Art Director / Studio Manager *Cloudmirror, Epesses, Switzerland* 2003 - 2006

- Managed curatorial operations, media production, and technical installations for contemporary arts organization
- Directed live sound, video projection, and multi-media events for 50+ exhibitions and performances

Graphic Production Artist *Various Locations* 1993 - 2016

- Produced publication design, packaging, and promotional materials requiring precision and creative problem-solving
- Managed print production workflows and vendor coordination for high-volume projects

Media/Sound Artist *Various Locations* 1991-Present

Selected Highlights from 30+ years:

- International exhibitions in 15+ countries (full artistic CV available upon request)
- 90+ collaborations across 50+ locations; CDs released on 4 continents
- Leading Sonic-arts workshop and courses: Desuup Skilling Program, Bhutan; Himalaya Academy of Music Technology, Kochi Muziris Biennale, Ashoka University, India
- Technical expertise: Mixing/mastering, live sound engineering, multi-channel sound design, DaVinci Resolve, various DAWs

Technical Skills

AV Production: Multi-camera live-streaming, live sound reinforcement, video editing/post-production, archival workflows

Software: DaVinci Resolve, various DAWs, RX11, Adobe Suite, Affinity Suite, ATEM video mixing systems.

Systems: Off-grid solar monitoring, generator maintenance, water systems, outdoor PA installation

Audio Expertise: Experimental sound design, sound restoration, site-specific installations, deep listening pedagogy

Key Achievements

- Improved Garchen Buddhist Institute's YouTube presence through systematic AV quality improvements
- Worked on several different digital archives preserving Tibetan Buddhist teachings for global access
- Created sustainable AV systems and training documentation ensuring long-term operational continuity