



STILL FROM *THE ART OF DRUMMING*

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DIRECTOR

PRODUCER

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

SERIES PRODUCER

FILM EDITOR

CHRIS WILSON

I'm a multiple **EMMY & RTS** winning, and **BAFTA & GRIERSON** nominated film-maker. My portfolio includes documentaries for **Disney, Netflix, BBC, Channel 4, Sky, HBO** and **National Geographic**.

I specialize in bringing complex retrospective stories to life with rigour and heart. As a highly experienced producer & director, skilled film editor, and professionally trained musician, I offer a rare combination of editorial intelligence and creative flair.

In the last year I've worked on projects for Disney, Netflix and BBC and I'm currently working on a major new series for Sky Docs.

LAST UPDATED JANUARY 2024

SELECTED CREDITS

for details and clips visit www.tough-life.squarespace.com



COMING SOON!

SERIES DIRECTOR

2024 • 3 x 60' • DOROTHY STREET for SKY DOCS

New premium doc series weaving together dramatic unfolding narrative with retrospective interviews and archive

CAMDEN

SERIES LEAD EDITOR

2024 • 4 x 60' • LIGHTBOX for DISNEY

Asif Kapadia's new Disney series: intimate testimonies; A-list international talent; and the untold story of a musical Mecca

UNTOLD: SWAMP KINGS

SERIES PRODUCER

2022 • 4 x 60' • RAW for NETFLIX

In depth testimonies and previously unseen archive reveal the astonishing & controversial story of the Florida Gators



FREDDIE MERCURY: THE FINAL ACT **EMMY & ROSE D'OR WINNER ; BAFTA & GRIERSON NOMINEE**

FILM EDITOR

2021 • 1 x 90' • ROGAN for BBC

Freddie's closest friends & family chart his final years against the global story of the emergence of AIDS

THE MAKING & BREAKING OF FRIDA KAHLO

FILM EDITOR

2023 • 4 x 60' • WALL TO WALL for BBC

Definitive series re-examining the personal story of the most iconic female artist of all time



THE ART OF DRUMMING

RITS WINNER – BEST ARTS SERIES

SERIES DIRECTOR & FILM EDITOR

2018 • 4 x 60' • WALL TO WALL for SKY

The thrilling story of rock and roll drumming featuring bespoke live sessions with over 30 of the world's best and most famous drummers

THE SHIPMAN FILES: A Very British Crime Story

SERIES DIRECTOR

2020 • 3 x 60' • WALL TO WALL for BBC

Victim-focused authored series shedding new light on the story of the UK's most prolific serial killer



A LIFE IN TEN PICTURES

SERIES DIRECTOR & PRODUCER

2021 • 6 x 60' • BBC STUDIOS for BBC

Critically acclaimed, high-rating biography format featuring John Lennon, Tupac, Muhammad Ali; Elizabeth Taylor; Amy Winehouse & Freddie Mercury

POP PRIDE & PREJUDICE

DIRECTOR, PRODUCER & EDITOR

2017 • 1 x 60' • ALLEYCATS for CHANNEL 4

On the anniversary of the decriminalization of homosexuality, the story of how music took queer culture to the mainstream



GOING CLEAR: Scientology & The Prison of Belief

EMMY WINNER – BEST DOC

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

2015 • 1 x 120' • JIGSAW for HBO & SKY

Director Alex Gibney's shocking multi award-winning insider account of the Church of Scientology

THE CRUSADES

SERIES DIRECTOR & PRODUCER

2012 • 3 x 60' • 360 PRODUCTIONS for BBC

Professor Tom Asbridge's epic journey through Europe & the Middle East, excavating a complex chapter in medieval history



HOTEL CALIFORNIA: LA from The Byrds to The Eagles

GRIERSON NOMINATED

DIRECTOR & PRODUCER

2011 • 1 x 90' • BBC STUDIOS for BBC

Critically acclaimed feature length film charting the rise of a bunch of hippies who moved west and reinvented the music industry

HERE COMES THE SUMMER: The Undertones' Story

DIRECTOR, PRODUCER & EDITOR

2013 • 1 x 60' • ALLEYCATS for BBC

The definitive story of Northern Ireland's punk pioneers: a tale of joy & defiance set against the dark days of the troubles



DO IT YOURSELF: The Story of Rough Trade

DIRECTOR, PRODUCER & EDITOR

2009 • 1 x 90' • PROSPECT for BBC

The inside story of the rise, fall, and rise of the most important independent record label in the history of popular music.

THE GREAT ESTATE: The Rise & Fall of Council Housing

DIRECTOR & PRODUCER & EDITOR

2011 • 1 x 60' • WALL TO WALL for BBC

Provocative author Michael Collins charts the social, cultural, and political history of social housing



TIMEWATCH: The Beatles Unseen; Bonnie & Clyde; The Wreckers

DIRECTOR & PRODUCER

2008-2011 • each 1 x 60' • BBC HISTORY for BBC

3 films for the BBC's flagship history strand, shot in the US and UK, including drama-doc and presenter-led films

I KILLED JOHN LENNON

DIRECTOR

2008 • 1 x 60' • PRIME for CHANNEL 4

The chilling story of the biggest murder in the history of popular culture, built around exclusive interviews with the killer



WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?

DIRECTOR & PRODUCER

2011 • 1 x 60' • WALL TO WALL for BBC

Comedian and broadcaster Alan Carr explores his family history

I LOVE THE 70S

SERIES PRODUCER

2000 • 10 x 90' • BBC ENTERTAINMENT for BBC

Genre-defining popular culture series, reshaping Friday night entertainment on BBC2

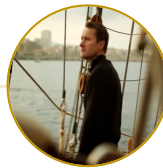


ANIMAL COPS US

PRODUCER

1999 • 1 x 90' • GRANADA for HBO & CHANNEL 4

First film establishing long-running format franchise, shot on the streets of New York



CAREER

CURRENT

DIRECTOR – SERIES PRODUCER – EXECUTIVE PRODUCER – FILM EDITOR

Freelance

I'm currently working at Dorothy Street Pictures as Series Director on a new premium series for Sky Docs, weaving together dramatic unfolding present-tense narrative with archive and retrospective interview. Prior to that I was Series Editor on CAMDEN – Lightbox and Asif Kapadia's new series for Disney – combining intimate interviews with A-list international talent with previously unseen archive, to reveal the story of a musical mecca. During 2022 I series produced UNTOLD: SWAMP KINGS for Netflix. Prior to that I edited the feature documentary FREDDIE MERCURY – THE FINAL ACT working with director James Rogan to produce an intimate portrait of Freddie's last years, mapped against the story of the AIDS pandemic. Before that I series produced, directed and edited A LIFE IN TEN PICTURES – a critically acclaimed and high-rating new biography format for BBC2. Other recent projects include THE SHIPMAN FILES a 3-part BBC2 series investigating the cultural, social and historical context of Britain's biggest serial killer case, which I authored and directed, and THE ART OF DRUMMING, four films I produced, directed and edited for SKY ARTS, exploring the art of rock & roll drumming with the best drummers in the world. The series won an RTS for Best Arts Documentary. Since 2015, in addition to directing, I've overseen projects as a development executive for production companies including Nutopia, Pulse and Wall to Wall.

2014-15

HEAD OF POPULAR FACTUAL

7 Wonder Productions

In 2014 I joined start-up indie 7 Wonder as Head of Popular Factual, establishing & developing a factual slate from scratch, and winning 3 series commissions for 3 major broadcasters (BBC, Channel 4 and Sky) in under 12 months.

2012-14

COMMISSIONING EDITOR

Sky (Factual)

I spent 2 years as a Commissioning Editor for Sky Factual, commissioning and Executive Producing a broad slate of non-scripted projects – including cinema release documentary feature films for Sky Atlantic, documentaries for Sky Arts, and popular factual series for Sky 1.

2003-12

DIRECTOR – PRODUCER – SERIES PRODUCER – EDITOR

Freelance

For 10 years I worked as a freelancer – directing, producing, series producing and editing factual films for broadcasters in the UK and US. I have shot in the UK, Europe, US, Asia and the Middle East, on ambitious drama docs, authored & presenter-led history films, high profile music & arts pieces, and formatted series.

2000-03

DIRECTOR – PRODUCER – SERIES PRODUCER

BBC Productions

I spent 3 years at the BBC in Manchester & London as Producer, Director and Series Producer, developing and delivering a range of music & popular culture documentaries & series for BBC1 & BBC2.

1997-2000

DIRECTOR – PRODUCER – SERIES PRODUCER

Granada Television

After completing a Trainee Programme Maker course, working in all areas from the News Room to the Entertainment Department, I stayed on in Granada's Factual Department, working my way up from Researcher, through Assistant Producer, to Producer, Director & Series Producer, on a wide range of series and single films - from arts documentaries to access driven obs docs.

PREVIOUS

1995 – 97	GRANADA TELEVISION	Trainee Programme Maker
1991 – 95	OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS	Video Producer / Art Editor
1990 – 91	THAMES & HUDSON	Editorial Assistant (Artwork)

EDUCATION

1987 – 91	KING'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY	BA Hon's: Part 1 – Music (2:1); Part 2 – History of Art (2:1)
1985 – 87	WINSTANLEY SIXTH FORM COLLEGE	5 'A' Levels: Music; Art; History; Maths; General Studies
1980 – 85	ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE HIGH SCHOOL	8 'O' Levels

REFEREES ON REQUEST