

# JESSE D LAWRENCE

## WRITER-DIRECTOR

Jesse is an international award winning directing graduate of the *National Film & Television School* with fifteen years experience of writing, directing, editing and self-shooting fiction and non-fiction films. He is also a *John Brabourne Film + TV Charity Awardee* and is using this funding to write two feature film scripts. He was recently commissioned by the *BFI / Creative England* to write and direct *If You Can Hear Me* as part of their Emerging Talent scheme, which was picked up for distribution by *7 Palms* in the USA and *Gonella* in France. He currently has several short, feature and TV ideas in development. To view examples of Jesse's work:

[www.jessedlawrence.co.uk](http://www.jessedlawrence.co.uk)

## FILMOGRAPHY

**'Change Step'** : (Drama. 20 mins. 2019) an army veteran struggles to adjust to civvie life - made for Forces Connect South West. Distributed online. **Director.**

**'If You Can Hear Me'** (Drama. 30 mins. 2018): BFI / Creative England commissioned Emerging Talent short - an eleven year old boy comes to terms with his discovery of a suicide in the forest. **Writer / Director.**

**'Out Of Sight'**: (6 mins. 2018) one of seven screenplays selected for BFI NETWORK South West script read at Brief Encounters Festival 2018. **Writer.**

**'Wonderlooper'**: (Documentary. 20 mins. 2018) visionary artist Di Mainstone transforms Sunderland's Northern Spire suspension bridge into a giant playable musical instrument. **Producer - Director.**

**'Take Five'**: ( 5 x 10 min dramas. 2018) illustrating paths to mental wellbeing, commissioned by the Charley Waller Memorial Trust, made in conjunction with SPACE Theatre group, Taunton and Somerset Film. **Script editor / Director.**

**'Recovery Devon Promos'** - (2 x 5min docs. 2016) promoting mental health and wellbeing. Fuel TV. **Director.**

**MDMA, Shoplifting, Fight** - (3 x 10 minute dramas. 2016) commissioned by Somerset Youth Offending Team, produced by Somerset Film with students from The Space Theatre in Taunton - to deter young people from offending. **Director.**

**Borderlands - A Special Place Part 4** - (Doc. 20 mins. 2016) poet Ruth Sharman leads us through idyllic countryside to her beloved Long Barrow at Stoney Littleton, Somerset, on the way revealing themes that inform her work. **Director.**

**'A Page In The Book Of Time' – A Special Place Pt 3'** (Doc. 20 mins. 2014) : landscape painter Jeremy Gardiner takes us on a journey through time along his

beloved Jurassic Coast in Dorset. Screenings: Purbeck Film Festival, ING Bank London, Victoria Gallery Bath. **Director.**

**'Sun - A Special Place Pt 2'** (Doc. 13 mins. 2013): Composer, Malcolm Lipkin, reveals his love of Lyme Kiln forest, and how walks there inspired his third orchestral symphony "Sun". Screenings: St Albans Film Festival, Edindocs, Liverpool Lift-Off, American Online Film Awards. **Director.**

**'Pretty Vacant'** - (Doc. 15 mins. 2013) artist Simon Lee Dicker works with students from Yeovil College to create art installations in empty retail outlets in Yeovil town centre. Fire & Ice / Somerset Arts Council. **Director.**

**'Music For All'** (several short docs. 2013) shot in Zimbabwe promoting a project providing traditional musical instruments to children from impoverished rural backgrounds. **Director.**

**'What I Know I Know With You'** (2012): Pop promo for singer-songwriter Pat Whelan. **Writer / Director.**

**'Man On Moor - A Special Place Pt 1'** (Doc. 10 mins. 2012): Portrait of my father and his love of Dartmoor. **Director.**

**'Community Justice'** (Doc. 40 mins. 2010): showcasing pioneering work done by Chard Community Justice Panel. Somerset Film. **Director.**

**'Isaac'** (Fiction. 12 mins. 2008): a young man comes to terms with the day he failed to prevent his older brother from drowning. **Director.**

**Screenings:** Skepto Cagliari Italy (FINALIST); WT OS Norway; Thessalonica Greece; Auburn Festival For Children & Young Adults Australia; Cyprus; Global Cinema India; Platforma Athens; Golden Knight Malta; Bath UK; Short Cuts UK; Norwich UK.

**'Boy'** (Promo. 15 mins. 2001): fundraiser for the WRVS. **Director.**

**'Runt'** (Fiction. 22 mins. 1999): a teenage boy steals a pet piglet belonging to a hermit then has a change of heart when he discovers him to be a veteran of the Falklands War. **Director / Co-Story Writer.**

#### **Awards:**

Winner 'Best Film' Bologna International Short Film Festival

Winner 'Best Film' Brest International Short Film Festival

Winner 'Special Jury Prize' Taipei Golden Lion Film Festival

'Special Mention' Ludwigsburg International Short Film Competition

'Special Mention' Aix en Provence Short Film Festival

'Official Selection' Cannes Film Festival Cinéfondation

**Other screenings:** London Bfi Film Festival; Premier Plans Angers; Tampere; Munich; Atlantic Santa Fe; Telluride; Prix Europa Berlin; Dinard; Brief Encounters; DAKINO Romania.

## **EDUCATION / TRAINING / QUALIFICATIONS:**

**BFI Story Day** April 2016.

**South West Talent Module** - Creative England, Bristol, Jul - Dec 2015.

**Directing Actors** - London Film Academy. 2015.

**The Tools Of Directing** - DGGB, Simon Phillips, Bristol. 2014.

**Exciting Treatments** - Euroscript, Charles Harris, London Dec 2013.

**Film Noir** - Euroscript, Ian Long, London. 2013.

**How to Write A Treatment** (The Script Factory, London. 2011)

**Story Design** (The Script Factory, London. 2010)

**Introduction to Screenwriting** (3 terms, City of Bath College. 2009-2010)

**Documentary Editing** (Bath Film Festival led by Jo Ann Kaplan. 2007)

**Diploma in Fiction Direction** (National Film & TV School. 1995 - 1998)

**Camera Trainee & Editing Trainee** on Seaforth (10 x 1 hour drama starring Linus Roach and Lia Williams. Initial Films / BBC)

**BA Hons Modern History** (Wadham College, Oxford University. 1989 - 1992)

**A Levels:** History (B) French (A) English (A) History S (2). 10 x O Levels

## **OTHER SKILLS / EXPERIENCE:**

**Tutor** - Directing Drama or Somerset Film at the Engine Room, Bridgwater. 2020.

**Juror** on main festival jury, Bologna International Festival of Film Schools, 1999.

**Juror** on main festival jury, Munich International Festival of Film Schools, 1997.

**Travel:** extensively throughout Europe, worked in Zimbabwe, journeyed across the United States, Russia and China, and visited Taiwan.

**Music:** guitar and singing / song writing.

**Languages:** basic Italian and A level French.

**REFERENCES:** Available on request.