

# MATTHEW SPRINGFORD

## Executive Producer / Showrunner

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### About me

- I'm a versatile and adaptable executive producer and showrunner working across a range of specialist factual programmes.
- Experienced at overseeing logistically complicated international productions and managing large teams with multiple stake holders.
- A reputation for creative thinking and visually innovative approaches to storytelling.
- A passion for shaping complex ideas into compelling emotional stories without compromising editorial integrity.
- Excellent interpersonal skills, with a proven track record in team building, working across multiple bases, problem solving and risk management.
- Extensive network of broadcast contacts in China, including relationships with commissioners in key organisations and in-depth knowledge of the Chinese media landscape.
- Experience of managing talent and working with high-profile presenters and contributors.
- Extensive international filming experience, including in China, North America, Europe, Asia and Africa.
- Business winning and consistently deliver projects on schedule and within budget.

### Selected Credits (BBC Staff from 2005-2021)

2019-2021 BBC Studios Migu, China, 6 x 50'	<b>EXECUTIVE PRODUCER / SHOWRUNNER: One Cup, a Thousand Stories</b> Trailer: <a href="https://vimeo.com/639541644/b3b3e58503">https://vimeo.com/639541644/b3b3e58503</a> Password: Tea1  <i>One Cup, A Thousand Stories</i> was commissioned by Migu Video, China, and is distributed internationally by BBC Studios. A 6-part landmark series exploring the history and culture of tea across the world. It was filmed in six continents and 13 different countries, shot in 4K HDR and delivered in Dolby Vision and Dolby Atmos. I lead a team of over 35 people and oversaw every aspect of production from inception to final delivery.  Since the series was released in China in October it has recorded <b>180 million views</b> and remains the no.1 factual title on Migu Video.
2020 BBC Studios BBC Four, 3 x 60' Commissioner: Mark Bell	<b>EXECUTIVE PRODUCER: Art of Persia / The Persians: A History of Iran.</b> Presented by Samira Ahmed. <a href="https://vimeo.com/639881053/d8d2f892c3">https://vimeo.com/639881053/d8d2f892c3</a> Password: Persia1  I spent 3 years negotiating with the Iranian government and was granted unprecedented access to film in Iran. Having developed the series from initial treatment, I steered the project through to delivery, working closely with a small team and limited budget to achieve a visually and editorially ambitious landmark series.  The series aired on BBC Four and is distributed internationally by BBC Studios, under the title THE PERSIANS: A History of Iran.  <b>Observer 'Ground breaking television'</b> <b>Telegraph - 'enlightening and visually majestic'.</b> <b>The Times - 'it had the heft, educational value and majestic footage of a Schama or Attenborough.'</b>
2018 BBC Studios, Beijing	<b>EXECUTIVE PRODUCER / DEVELOPMENT EXECUTIVE - CHINA</b>  I established new leads for BBC Studios in China and developed original and formatted content for Chinese broadcasters and digital platforms, including Tencent, Bilibili, CCTV and Migu. During this time I was the editorial lead for the first fully-funded commission for BBC Studios in China. One Cup a Thousand Stories. (See above).

2017 BBC Studios BBC Two, 2 x 30' Channel Exec: Adam Barker	<b>Executive Producer: Welcome to Edinburgh</b> Fast turn-around returning strand for BBC TWO, working up to delivery on a tight budget. Presented by Kirsty Wark.
2017 BBC Studios BBC Two, 1 x 60 Channel Exec: Adam Barker	<b>Executive Producer: Festival Tales: Edinburgh at 70</b> An anniversary documentary with high profile cast for BBC Two, presented by Jack Whitehall. I managed talent, dealt with complex legal issues and multiple stake holders.
2017 BBC Studios BBC Two, 1 x 30 Commissioner: L. Dabboussy	<b>Executive Producer: Strong Language Live</b> Created a one-off live programme presented by poet laureate Simon Armitage, in collaboration with Hull City of Culture and Radio One Extra.
	<b>Co-Executive Producer</b> credits: Imagine: Faith Reingold, What Do Artists Do All Day: Mathab Hussein, Rip It Up: The Story of Scottish Pop.
2017 BBC Studios BBC Four, 3 x 60 Commissioner: Emma Cahusac	<b>Series Producer and Director: The Art of Japanese Life</b> I created a distinct editorial approach for this celebrated series on the complexities of Japanese culture. Presented by James Fox.
2017 BBC Studios BBC Four, 3 x 30' Commissioner: Emma Cahusac	<b>Series Producer: Handmade in Japan</b> Worked closely with self-shooting directors to achieve high production values and a distinct series style for this returning BBC FOUR strand.
2017 BBC studios BBC FOUR 3 x 60' Commissioner: Emma Cahusac	<b>Series Producer: An Art Lovers' Guide</b> Refreshed the format for this cultural travelogue, looking at Lisbon, Beirut and Baku. Presented by Alastair Sooke and Janina Ramirez.
2016 BBC Studios BBC TWO 10 x 30 Commissioner: Mark Bell	<b>Series Producer: Artsnight (2015-2016)</b> I managed a large production team, working with high profile talent in a fast turnaround environment. Highlights include: Armando Iannucci, Charlotte Church, David Baddiel, Paul Mason and Ben Okri.
2016 BBC Studios BBC Four 4 x 30 Commissioner: Mark Bell	<b>Series Producer: Hand Made: By Royal Appointment</b> Develop the idea from initial concept to fully fleshed out series exploring the making of special handmade objects, from jewellery to pianos, handcrafted by companies with a royal warrant. RTS CRAFT AWARDS, EDITING - NOMINATED
2013-2015 BBC BBC TWO 16 x 30 Commissioner: Mark Bell	<b>Series Producer: The Culture Show</b> Oversaw successful transition from magazine format to single subject documentary strand – increasing audience share by 50%. I managed large production team in a fast turnaround environment. Highlights include: JJ Abrams, Lady Gaga and Steve McQueen. BAFTA SCOTLAND, BEST SPECIALIST FACTUAL SERIES - NOMINATED
2013-2015 BBC BBC TWO 10 x 60 Commissioner: Mark Bell	<b>Series Producer: The Culture Show Specials</b> Delivered 10 p/year 60-minute single-subject documentaries for BBC TWO. Highlights include: Me, You and Dr Who, The Secret Life of Mary Poppins, The Great War; an Elegy with Simon Armitage, and The Battle for Stonehenge.
2015 BBC BBC TWO Scotland 4 x 60 Commissioner: David Harron	<b>Series Producer: The Story of Scottish Art</b> with Lachlan Goudie Oversaw and developed the series from treatment through to delivery. RTS CRAFT SCOTLAND, BEST GRAPHICS – WINNER, & BEST PRESENTER – NOMINATED
2015 BBC 3 x 60, BBC TWO Scotland and BBC FOUR (2014)	<b>Series Producer: Andrew Marr's Great Scots</b> Worked closely with Andrew Marr to create this series which explores how Scottish national identity was shaped by key literary figures over the last three hundred years.
BBC BBC ONE	<b>Producer/Director: Imagine</b> Produced several stand-out films for the Imagine strand, including a feature-length documentary, <b>Do or Die, Lang Lang's Story</b> . Other highlights include: <b>The Year of Anish Kapoor, Art is Child's Play, Love, Loss and Anthony Minghella, The Art of Stand-Up, Ai Weiwei: Without Fear of Favour</b> - BEST TV DOCUMENTARY, INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF FILMS ON ART, MONTREAL – WINNER
BBC SCIENCE BBC Two	<b>Producer/Director: BBC SCIENCE</b> <b>A Year in Darwin's Garden:</b> How Darwin discovered evolution in his back garden. <b>10 Things You Didn't Know About Avalanches:</b> The science and history of avalanches. <b>The Weather: Rain:</b> Exploring the science, impact and transformative power of rain.

#### Awards

- Ai Weiwei: Without Fear of Favour – Best TV documentary, International Festival of Films on Art (FIFA) – WINNER
- Art of the Sea – in Pictures. Cinematography, Guild of British Cameramen – WINNER
- The Culture Show - BAFTA Scotland, Best Specialist Factual Series – NOMINATED
- Handmade by Royal Appointment - RTS Craft Awards, Editing - NOMINATED
- The Story of Scottish Art - RTS Scotland Craft Awards, Graphics – WINNER,
- The Story of Scottish Art - RTS Scotland Craft Awards, Best Presenter – NOMINATED
- Art of Persia – Broadcast Digital Awards 2021, Best Documentary – NOMINATED