

ALEX BRISLAND

Producer/Director / Development Executive

- **Award-nominated Director** (RTS / Broadcast / AIB awards). Also a senior development creative with a successful track record of commissions.
- Have worked for **all major broadcasters in UK, US, Europe, and SVODs**.
- Very experienced in **premium factual**. Directed fact-ent, obs-doc, travelogue, and archive-led programmes also.
- Very experienced storyteller and used to crafting films in the **edit**.
- Worked with many high-profile **presenters / talent**. Known as a **strong writer** and **skilled interviewer**.
- Confident leading teams and **directing large crews**. Overseen many complicated **overseas shoots** in challenging environments.
- In development, known as an effective manager, idea generator, stylish deck writer and designer, able to secure difficult access.

Head of Development (Acting)

August 2024 – Present

I have been managing a large development team at this premium documentary company for the last 8 months. Responsible for winning multiple funded developments and several commissions (soon to be announced) with Netflix, CNN, BBC2, C4, Sky and private funders. Particularly focussed on developing premium factual docs and series for the US and international market. Overseen a broad slate across true crime, sports, celebrity biography, history, investigative journalism and other genres. Pitched regularly to all major streamers and channels. Built relationships with key funders and agents, and worked with A-List talent. Written and designed decks, directed sizzles, led brainstorming, generated ideas, secured difficult access.

PASSION®

Producer/Director | *This Is Not Eurovision* | 1x90' | BBC Storyville / ZDF / ALL3

December 2023 – present

I'm currently in pre-production on my first 90' feature documentary for cinema and television. I developed this idea, won the commission with BBC Storyville, and built a coalition of European broadcasters and international distributors. I'm directing this film, and co-producing it with Lion TV.

lionTV

Development Executive

March 2024 – August 2024

Developed a major feature documentary biopic about the life of an iconic US comedian - working closely with the estate, accessing archive, crafting story, writing and designing deck, directing sizzle.

PASSION®

Producer/Director | *Britain Behind Bars: A Secret History* | 3x60' | C4

July 2023 – October 2023

History series presented by Rob Rinder, exploring Britain's prison system - including MIVs with former prisoners.

I directed lead film, focussed on HMP Dartmoor, and the creation of long-term imprisonment. Took through edit. TX in July 2024.

TWENTY
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Producer/Director | *Africa Rising with Afua Hirsch* | 3x60' | BBC2 / International

August 2022 – June 2023

Travelogue documentary series profiling African art and culture (in Nigeria, South Africa, Morocco) presented by Afua Hirsch.

Immersive sequences explored music, art, photography, fashion. Directed lead film (Morocco). Took through edit. TX'ed on BBC2 in 2023.

CLEARSTORY

Development Executive

Various periods from October 2015 – December 2023

I managed entire slate for this independent company over several years. Developed a variety of premium factual, fact-ent, doc ideas for all major UK and US broadcasters, and SVODs. Directed, filmed, and edited tasters. Cast talent, wrote outlines, and created stylish decks. Pitched to commissioners.

Commissions include: *Art That Made Us* (8x60'), *African Renaissance: When Art Meets Power* (3x60'), *Oceans Apart: Art and The Pacific* (3x60'), *Utopia: In Search of The Dream* (3x60'), *Handmade in the Pacific* (4x30'), *Damien Hirst by Harry Hill* (1x60').

CLEARSTORY

Producer/Director | *Bruce Lee: A Life In Ten Pictures* | 1x60' | BBC2 / ABC / CBC / Apple TV+

April 2022 – August 2022

Biographical documentary charting the life of martial arts superstar Bruce Lee through 10 iconic photographs. Each photo is explored by his closest family and friends. I directed and took through edit. TX'ed on BBC 2 in 2024.

BBC
STUDIOS

Development Executive

Various periods from Jan 2020 – December 2023

Managed the slate, devised development strategy. Developed premium factual and docs ideas for BBC/C4/C5/Netflix/Amazon/NatGeo.

Commissions include *Get On Up: The Triumph of Black America* (2x60', BBC2).

MILK&HONEY
PRODUCTIONS

Edit Producer | *Ben Fogle: New Lives In The Wild* | 1x60' | C5

April 2023 – May 2023

Edit Produced an episode of this returning formatted documentary series, set in Sri Lanka.

RICOCHET

Senior Producer | *Jimmy Carr Destroys Art* | 1x60' | C4

August 2022

Jimmy Carr hosted this unique as-live television experiment which explored cancel culture in art.

A live audience decided whether to save or destroy genuine offensive artworks by artists including Rolf Harris, Picasso, and Hitler.

CLEARSTORY

Series Producer | *Get On Up: The Triumph of Black America* | 2x60' | BBC2

December 2021 – April 2022

I developed and planned this series, presented by David Harewood, charting the story of African-American performance.

MILK&HONEY
PRODUCTIONS

Series Producer/Director | *Nature and Us: A History Through Art* | 3x60' | BBC4 / ARTE / ZDF

July 2020 – September 2021

Series Producer (and Director of Ep 2) of a landmark series that explores humanity's changing relationship with nature, through the lens of art.

Presented by art historian Dr. James Fox, the series features some of the world's greatest artworks, master interviews with scientists and philosophers, and contributor-led sequences directed remotely across the globe (incl. Guatemala, NZ, Japan, India, Norway, USA). I produced the series throughout Covid lockdowns and took through the edit.

KEO films

Edit Producer | *Sue Perkins: Big American Road Trip* | 2x60' | C4

September 2021 – November 2021

Sue Perkins explores the nomadic 'vanlife' subculture in the US. I crafted a story from observational rushes in the edit.

Renegade

Development Producer/Director | *Good Fight Club* | 4x60' | SKY Documentaries

Across 2021

I filmed on-off for a year, gaining access, and developing an obs-doc series about young MMA fighters. TX in 2023.

Producer/Director | *Ben Fogle: New Lives In The Wild* | 1x60' | C5

August 2019 – December 2019

P/D on C5's returning hit adventure documentary series, following Ben Fogle as he meets people who've given up the rat-race to live off-grid lives in remote parts of the world. P/D'ed an episode in Croatia, with crew, and took through edit.

Renegade

Development Producer | *Womanhood* | 3x60' | BBC2

November 2019 – December 2019

Paid development, working up a BBC2 factual format about feminism, presented by Kirsty Wark. Commissioned.



Development Producer | *State of the Nation* | 3x75' | Sky Arts

July 2019 – August 2019

Paid development, working with three of Britain's biggest artists (Rankin, Gavin Turk, and Michael Landy).



Series Producer/Director | *African Renaissance: When Art Meets Power* | 3x60' | BBC4

November 2018 – July 2019

Art/history series nominated for Broadcast and RTS awards, about the culture of three African countries, presented by Afua Hirsch, with immersive sequences exploring music, art, dance, cinema, literature, fashion. I developed series, acted as solo producer and set up all shoots, and directed crew across Africa.

[Ep 1: ETHIOPIA](#) | [Ep 2: SENEGAL](#) | [Ep 3: KENYA](#)



Series Producer/Director | *Handmade in the Pacific* | 4x30' | BBC4

December 2017 – September 2018

Obs-doc anthropological series exploring indigenous cultures. 2 months filming across Pacific. I developed, managed, directed series, and took through edit.

[Ep 1: AUSTRALIA](#) | [Ep 2: POLYNESIA](#) | [Ep 3: HAWAII](#) | [Ep 4: NEW ZEALAND](#)



Series A/P | *Oceans Apart: Art and the Pacific* | 3x60' | BBC4

November 2017 – May 2018

Art/history series exploring the impact of Cook's voyages to the Pacific 250 years ago. Told through the encounter between European and indigenous art. Filmed in Hawaii, Tahiti, NZ, and Australia. Developed and produced series.



A/P | *Gold Rush* | Series 8 | Discovery

June 2017 – September 2017

Filmed at a goldmine in Colorado USA, for Discovery's long-running hit constructed reality series, *Gold Rush*.



Series A/P | *Utopia: In Search of The Dream* | 3x60' | BBC4

January 2017 – June 2017

Art/history series exploring visions of 'utopia' and what they reveal about our dreams and fears.

Filmed across UK, Europe, USA. I developed idea, and worked as the solo AP across series, with 30+ filming days.



A/P | *The Great Village Green Crusade* | 1x90' | BBC4

September 2016 – January 2017

Science film exploring renewable and battery technology, with Red Dwarf actor Robert Llewellyn. Filmed in UK and USA.



A/P | *History Trippers* | 1x30' | BBC2

April 2016

Produced a funded pilot for a new character-led BBC2 popular history format.



A/P | *Damien Hirst by Harry Hill* | 1x60' | SKY Arts

Feb 2016 – April 2016

Inventive and humorous arts film, following comedian Harry Hill as he gets inside the mind of his hero, Damien Hirst.



A/P | *The People Remember* | 6x60' | BBC1

July 2015 – October 2015

History series telling personal stories of heroism on the battlefield and home front in both world wars. Directed VTs and archive.



A/P | *Britain's Medieval Vampires* | 1x60' | C4 / PBS

July 2015 – October 2015

History and archaeology doc exploring the fear of the undead in Medieval England. Filmed in Romania, Bulgaria, UK.



Various Roles [Director | Development AP | Researcher]

Sep 2012 – July 2015

- As **'Director'** I directed 9 short films for the Whitley Awards with V/O by Sir David Attenborough.
- As **'Development AP'** I managed slate and a team of researchers. Pitched to commissioners at *Realscreen* (D.C.), *Science Congress* (Montreal & Hong Kong). Developed UK and US ideas, nat-hist and specialist factual.
- As **'Researcher'** I worked on several VT inserts for the BBC1's 'The One Show'.



EDUCATION

University of Bristol | *Master of Arts (MA)* in History | **Distinction** (awarded AHRC scholarship prize)

University of Bristol | *Bachelor of Arts (BA, Hons)* in History | **First Class Honours**

South West Academy of Dramatic Arts | *Diploma* in Music | **DDD: Triple Distinction** (equivalent to 3 **As** at A-Level)

Barton Peveril Sixth Form College | *A-Levels* | History – **A**, English Literature – **A**, Politics – **A**, Classics – **A**

St. Mary's | *GCSEs* | 12 **A*s/As**