

# MELANIE LIGHT

## WRITER / DIRECTOR

E: [misartressmelanie@gmail.com](mailto:misartressmelanie@gmail.com)

T: + 44 07590691586

**Showreel:** [MELANIE LIGHT](#)

**Website :** [www.melanielight.co.uk](http://www.melanielight.co.uk)

**Instagram :** [misartressmel](#)

### BIO:

Melanie is a writer-director who started her filmmaking career as an art director in the horror genre. She has worked on the critically acclaimed horror film **The Autopsy of Jane Doe** as-well as the smash hit action series **Gangs of London**. She has worked on productions for **Netflix, Sony, SKY, HBO and Apple**.

Her multi-award-winning short film **The Herd** has reached over 4.8M views on the US short horror platform ALTER alone and was in official competition at the Oscar-qualifying film festival **Sitges**. Her work has been studied and published in **Taylor & Francis** which is **one of the world's leading academic publishers**.

Melanie makes powerful genre films that are influenced by her activist and punk ethics. Her work centres on female protagonists and she looks to focus more on the LGBTQA+ community within her work. Melanie has worked alongside Oscar-winning writers and producers developing feature scripts out of the US where she continues developing her bond with the genre community.

### Awards/Nominations:

#### THE HERD

Off Fantastic Comp (Oscar Qualifying Festival) - Sitges Int Film Festival (Spain)  
Best Short film – Festival Boca do Inferno (Brazil)  
Best Cinematography- Bart Sienkiewicz – British Horror Film Festival (UK)  
Best Short Horror Film – Celluloid Screams (UK)  
Best Foreign Short film – Russian Annual Horror Film Awards (Russia)  
Best Horror Short – London Independent Film Festival (UK)  
Best Horror /Sci Fi – Sunderland Shorts (UK)  
Best Short film – Obscura Film Festival (Germany)  
Best Supporting Actress Pollyanna McIntosh – South Africa Indie Film Festival

#### TRUST

Best Short Film - Boundless Film Festival (UK)

#### SWITCH

Best Short Film - Queen of Horror Festival (UK)

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### MEMBERSHIPS:

BAFTA Connect, Directors UK and Cinesisters

### EDUCATION:

- Working with Actors - Short Course: National Film and Television School, London, UK 2024.

### OTHER STUFF:

- Curator & Programmer of 'WOMEN MAKE HORROR' short film fund-raising event, Bristol Watershed 2023.
  - Associate Lecturer. UWE Bristol. BA Film, specialising in Production Design, Oct 2023 - May 2024.
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## KEY SKILLS:

- Experience shooting overseas as an art director in countries such as Morocco, Hungary, Czech Republic and Sweden and Jamaica.
  - Knowledge of how fast-paced and tight schedules work for large scale television and film.
  - An understanding of budget due to self producing and working as a production designer on indie feature films.
  - The ability to think quick on her feet in challenging situations.
  - A large range of contacts from working as a crew member with the understanding of the demands needed from her for a shoot.
  - Communication skills for working with on screen talent at different levels from being on set for actions requiring props and set dressing.
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## SELECTED DIRECTOR/ 2ND UNIT CREDITS:

**TRUST** - Short Film. Honeybee Films. 2020.

**FEAR HAUS** - Online series. Moonshine Productions. 2019.

**THE HERD** - Short Film. Eat Your Heart Out Films. 2015.

**ANTI-SOCIAL** - Feature Film. 2nd Unit. Director Reg Traviss. RST Pictures. 2015.

**ESCAPE** - Short Film. Eat Your Heart Out Films. 2012.

## WRITER/DIRECTOR CREDITS:

**SWITCH** - Feature film. Pinball Pictures & Little Monk Pictures. Currently in development.

A transgressive and shocking feminist inversion of what is conventionally a very masculine genre. Currently securing finance with US distribution interest. Working with producer Keith Bell who put out debut feature films **Dog Soldiers** and **Harry Brown**.

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## SELECTED ART DEPT EXPERIENCE:

**BLACK MIRROR** - Standby Art Director - Prodicle Pictures - Writer: Charlie Brooker  
(Joan Is Awful) TV Series Netflix Producer: Joel Stokes  
Director: Ally Pankiw  
Production Designer: Udo Kramer

Overseeing the art dept whilst shooting, breaking down the script. Working with the director, DOP and actors to provide adequate props, set dressing and graphics within the department.

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**GANGS OF LONDON** - Standby Art Director - Pulse Films - Writer/Director: Gareth Evans  
**Season 1 & Action Unit.** Sister Pictures Corin Hardy  
Sky Atlantic Producers: Thomas Benski & Hugh Warren  
Production Designer: Matt Gant

Working closely with the director and stunt dept in co-ordination with the art dept to provide safe set dressing and demanding re-dress for large continuous fight scenes shot over continuous days.