Contact

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Hello I'm David Smith.

Excelling in live television, I have directed at some of the UK's key events over the years. As an accomplished multi camera television director for entertainment, current affairs and live events, I am continually trusted to direct a wide range of successful and highly popular TV programmes including RTS Award winning and BAFTA nominated shows. I encourage a creative and collaborative ethos within every project I take on and can be relied upon to get the very best out of a programme from broad stroke concept development to the specifics of visual storytelling. I am renowned for creating a calm and controlled environment for others to work in and I am well respected as someone who enables those around me, from runners to on screen talent, to thrive.

Highlights

This Is MY House (Expectation/BBC 1)

Series 1 was one of the BBC's big hits during lockdown. Major format changes for series 2 created challenges to be overcome in order to continue this success. My planning and direction successfully transitioned the show from a presenter led 60 minute show to a presenter free 30 minute show within an extremely tight schedule. I was able to record 3 episodes a day featuring 16 different celebrity panellists and over 30 contestants, while enabling editorial to focus entirely on their job. The series went on to fill a Friday night primetime slot and attracted 7 figure audiences to BBC1 and iPlayer each week.

Debate Night (Mentorn/BBC1 & BBC Scotland)

When BBC Scotland launched as a channel, Debate Night was one of it's most significant commissions. I have been the director from the beginning and the low budget of the travelling weekly OB generates constant logistical and production challenges for me to overcome. I have led the development of the look and style of the show in order to continually make improvements. Now in it's fifth series and after becoming an integral part of the Scottish political landscape, the show held BBC1's televised live Leaders Debate for the next First Minister. Debate Night is consistently the most watched programme on the BBC Scotland channel, more than doubling it's audience share target each week as well as spawning a radio phone-in show and podcast.

















Credits

2022 2023	Have I Got News for You (Hat Trick/BBC 1) Long running popular satirical quiz show.
2021 2022	Frankie Boyle's New World Order (Zeppotron/BBC2) Weekly satirical comedy panel show starring Frankie Boyle.
2022 2023	Channel 4 News - live debates (ITN/Channel 4) Director of live OB audience debates for Channel 4 news.
2023	SNP Party Conference 2023 (BBC News/BBC 2) Live coverage of the 2023 conference and Keynote speech across BBC networks.
2022	This Is MY House (Expectation/BBC 1) Prime time celebrity panel game show.
2022	Richard Osman's House of Games (Remarkable/BBC 2) 2 x BAFTA nominated celebrity general knowledge quiz.
2019 2023	Debate Night (Mentorn/BBC1 & BBC Scotland) Series director (S1-5) audience led weekly political debate programme.
2023	Scotland Tonight (STV News/STV) Daily late night current affairs show.
2022	The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebration (Impact/HPower) 12 Camera OB from Windsor, first of a series of national celebrations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee
2022	Everyone's an Expert (Two Rivers/Channel 4) Museum based quiz show pilot starring Susie Dent.
2022	The Pride of Scotland Awards (Jet TV/STV) Award show celebrating remarkable people and their achievements.
2022	The Remotely Amusing Gameshow (DLT Ent/BBC Scotland) Comedy entertainment gameshow pilot starring Karen Dunbar.
2020 2023	The Nine (BBC News/BBC Scotland) Flagship 60 minute news programme.
2020 2023	Seven Days (BBC News/BBC Scotland) Weekly news based discussion show.
2014 2022	STV News at Six (STV News/STV) Scotland's most watched evening news programme.
2021	BBC Radio 2 Live: Texas (Standby TV/BBC Radio 2) Concert celebrating the return of live music and audiences for iPlayer/BBC Red Button.
2021	Election Scotland 2021, the Leaders Debates (Mentorn/BBC 1) Series of two live debates featuring the leaders of the main political parties.
2020	Hogmanay 2020 (BBC Studios/BBC 1) Live multi camera OB from the world famous Stonehaven Fireballs procession.
2018	STV Children's Appeal (STV Productions/STV) Live charity telethon hosted by Lorraine Kelly and Ross King.
2018	The Edinburgh Festival Show (STV Productions/STV) 8 episode Multi camera OB celebrity chat show from the Edinburgh Festival.
2016 2018	Live at 5 (STV 2) RTS Scotland - Best Daytime (2018) winning daily live magazine show.