



John Bonny

Series Producer and Series Editor

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I am an enthusiastic and creative series producer, series editor and a seasoned self-shooter. Predominantly working in access documentaries and property formats, I have produced and directed series in the UK, US and abroad. Bringing a long track record of building trusting relationships with large corporate and governmental organisations, including the NHS, British Army, Emirates Airline, US Customs and Border Protection, INTERPOL, Nevada State Troopers and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Accomplished in the edit, I have a wealth of experience in overseeing multiple suites and as a strong scriptwriter.

Showrunner/Executive Producer

How Did They Build That • 10x60 for Smithsonian • Curve Media • January 2025 ~ April 2025

Series 4 of the popular architectural series, saw another 30 incredible feats of modern engineering told through the eyes of the people who built and designed them. With filming taking place across the world, each story tells unique perspectives, challenges and achievements.

Executive Producer: Charlie Bunce

Castle Impossible • 8x60 for HGTV • Twenty Twenty • August 2024 ~ January 2025

This new observational documentary series features an American couple undertaking the ambitious renovation of a 16th Century Chateau near Paris. Based on location in France, I led the filming team to deliver compelling, dramatic and high stakes content. Being across the editorial narratives, alongside real-time renovation schedules took meticulous forward planning and relationship building.

Executive Producer: James O'Reilly

Development • Netflix • Storyboard Studios • January 2024 ~ August 2024

I developed a number of documentary series, successfully gaining access and building relationships with a variety of law enforcement agencies, space agencies, engineering companies and charities working in sensitive access.

Executive Producer: James Blue

To Catch a Smuggler • National Geographic • Pernel Media • Jun ~ Oct 2023

I developed the access and successful commission for a National Geographic series featuring border agents and police organisations across Europe. I was able to successfully build relationships with a variety of national agencies and also gained unprecedented access to INTERPOL.

Executive Producer: Samuel Kissous

Surgeons: A Matter of Life or Death • 6x60 for C5 • Brinkworth • Nov 2022 ~ May 2023

This new medical series follows surgeons at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham undertaking highly critical and life-saving operations. Filmed exclusively using handheld cameras, on prime lenses and without commentary, each episode is an immersive and completely unfiltered journey into the operating theatre, documenting the clinicians' and patients' experiences. Robust compliance and patient consent procedures were at the forefront of the production.

Executive Producer: Malcolm Brinkworth

George Clarke's Remarkable Renovations • 12x60 for C4 • *Amazing* • Jan 2022 ~ Nov 2022 Working across series 2 and 3 of C4's prime time property renovation series, the role involved overseeing multiple, long-term narratives across a variety of complex property renovations - some lasting over three years. The series prides itself on filming stunning property imagery, especially for the reveal. Each story needed the development of unique storylines, to give episodes their own identity. I oversaw multiple edits and delivered the series on time and on budget.

Executive Producer: Tania Fallon and Rebecca Mulrairie

Ice Airport Alaska S1&2 • 6x60 for The Smithsonian Channel • *Rare TV* • Sep 2019 ~ Sep 2021

This factual documentary series features the blue-collar heroes at working in aviation across the state of Alaska. More than 80% of America's largest state is inaccessible by road – the only way to reach most of the frozen landscape is by air. Filming across two winters, the series included access to NOAA, Alaska Airlines, Alaska Police, Customs Boarder Protection, amongst others. As well as overseeing the team on location, planning stories, narratives and negotiating access, I self-shot much of the content and subsequently managed the edits, graphics and post production.

Executive Producer: Alexander Gardiner

Vegas 24/7 • 6x60 for C5 • *Viacom International* • April 2019 ~ August 2019

This new 6-part series is an all-access pass to the world's entertainment capital - Las Vegas. From the hotels, casinos, police, weddings and theatre productions, the series included character driven stories to reflect the enigmatic nature of the city. The role included overseeing the filming while on location and both the offline and post production.

Executive Producer: Jeff Anderson

Busted in Bangkok • 6x60 for C5 • *Curve Media* • Nov 2018 ~ April 2019

This new documentary series followed the unique 'Thai Tourist Police' force as it tackles crime throughout the country where Brits travelling abroad are most likely to get arrested, end up in hospital or even dead. Managing a team of 20 crew and fixers, I developed the storytelling, shooting style and tone of the series on location and in the edit.

Executive Producer: Charlie Bunce

Raw Recruits • 6x60 for C5 • *Burning Bright* • Jan 2018 ~ Oct 2018

This access documentary followed the youngest soldiers in Europe as 43 teenagers endured six months of arduous training, hoping to join the British Army. Self-shooting as well as leading a small team on location, character-driven stories were coupled with large-scale events and themes such as family, friendships, discipline and courage. I edit produced all six episodes and managed the online.

Executive Producers: Clive Tulloh/Susanne Curran

Development • 2x60 for C4 • *Electric Ray* • Nov 2017 ~ Dec 2017

I made two separate access documentary pilots for C4, both of which involved sensitive issues including medical procedures and stories involving estrangement. I oversaw the casting, filming and editing of both pilots, with the aim of securing a series commission.

Executive Producers: Meredith Chambers/Karl Warner

Eamonn and Ruth: How The Other Half Lives • 13x60 for C5 • *Spun Gold* • Feb 2016 ~ Mar 17

Eamonn Holmes and Ruth Langsford investigate the world of the mega wealthy to meet some of the world's most successful entrepreneurs and discover the advantages and challenges of having unlimited funds. Managing a large team across two series and a Christmas special, I directed around 80% of the content and oversaw the offline and online through to delivery.

Executive Producer: Fintan Maguire

Taking Flight: Britain's America's Cup Challenge • 1x60 BBC2 • *Arrow* • Jul 2015 ~ Jan 2016

As the most successful Olympic sailor of all time, Sir Ben Ainslie has begun a new chapter in his life by attempting to win the oldest trophy in international sport – The America's Cup. With full access to Sir Ben's personal and work life, I embedded within his professional sailing team, to tell the challenging story of their efforts and struggles to design the quickest boat in sailing history, using advanced technologies from the world of aviation and Formula 1,

Executive Producer: Nick Metcalfe/John Smithson

Ultimate Airport Dubai • 10x60 for National Geographic • Arrow Media • Jan 2015 ~ June 2015
Broadcast in 117 countries and with an audience of over 300 million, the third series of the observational documentary covers stories from across the busiest airport terminal in the world, from huge drug busts to billion-dollar construction projects. As National Geographic's highest rating programme internationally, I was able to continue expanding and revitalising the series, while on location and in overseeing all 10 edits through offline and online.

Executive Producer: Nick Metcalfe/John Smithson

Selected Producer/Director and Series Director:

Gordonstoun: A Very Independent School • 6x60 for Sky One • ITN • Aug 2014 ~ Dec 2014

Executive Producer: Emma Read

Ultimate Airport Dubai • 10x60 for National Geographic • Arrow Media • Feb 2014 ~ July 2014

Executive Producer: Nick Metcalfe/John Smithson

Coach Trip • 30x30 for Channel 4 • 12 Yard • October 2013 ~ November 2013

Executive Producer: Matt Walton

Escape to the Continent • 20x60 for BBC2 • Boundless • June 2013 ~ October 2013

Executive Producer: John Comerford

Little England • 6x60 for ITV • ITV Studios • June 2012 ~ October 2012

Executive Producer: Mark Scantlebury

Selected DV Director/Associate Producer:

The F Word • 12x60 for Channel 4 • Optomen • August ~ November 2009

Executive Producers: Ben Adler/Pat Llewellyn

Hairy Bikers Food Tour of Britain • 30x45 BBC2 • Cactus • Sept 2008 ~ June 2009

Series Producer: Dave Mynard

Selected Runner and Researcher Jobs: Jan 2006 ~ March 2008

The Restaurant • BBC for BBC 2

Executive Producer: Alan Brown

Weakest Link • BBC for BBC 2

Series Producer: Alex McLeod

Time Trumpet • BBC

Producer: Armando Iannucci

Strictly Come Dancing • BBC

Series Producer: Sam Donnelly

Skills:

Project management.

Relationship management - building relationships with corporate and governmental organisations.

Team leadership.

Communication skills – both in personal presentation and in writing.

French and Spanish speaker - fluent.

Hostile Environment Training.

Full, clean driving licence.

Education:

University of the West of England, UK BA Graphic Design (Hons) 2:1
Charterhouse School, Godalming, UK 3 A-levels & 11 GCSEs A* - B

Referees:

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