

# Sasha Djurkovic

website <http://sashamdjurkovic.co.uk>

# Shooting Director/Producer

agent <http://www.sternwild.com/>

BAFTA nominee and Grierson and RTS award-winning director/producer making observational documentaries for the UK and international broadcasters since 2005. I have a strong background in negotiating difficult access, including New York gangs, drug addicts and neurosurgeons, and maintaining essential and long-term relationships with contributors. I'm a confident self-shooter with a passion for cinematic documentary films.

## PRODUCTIONS

**Currently:** developing a feature documentary set in Sarajevo, Bosnia

**Welcome to Belmarsh with Ross Kemp** two- part series **ITV** 2019-20

A mixture of presenter-led and observational documentary that looks at the UK most notorious high security prison Belmarsh.

Executive Producer: James Cohen, Yvonne Alexander

Series Producer: Jamie Berry

**Libyan conflict: Suspected war crimes shared online** 15min BBC Arabic for **Newsnight** 2019

A Newsnight / BBC Arabic investigation into the conflict in Libya has uncovered evidence of suspected war crimes being widely shared on Facebook and YouTube.

Executive Producer: Simon Cox and Mustafa Khalili

**The Fight for Women's Bodies** 33min **BBC Three** 2018

In the months leading up to, and the days following Ireland's historic referendum to repeal the eighth amendment, investigative journalist Ellie Flynn presents this story of the landmark vote to legalise abortion. Edit producing and directing / shooting the referendum week.

Executive Producer: Laura Bowen

**Addicted: Last Chance Mums** 30min **Antidote Production** for **BBC Panorama**; 2017-18

This moving ob doc Panorama questions if a drug addict mother can change and keep her child or should the State take away the baby. This challenging project involved creating strong, ongoing relationships with the contributors

Executive Producers: Laura Jones, Leila Monk

**Things I Can't Unsee** shorts; **BBC** in house for **BBC Three**; 2016

Two thought-provoking shorts reflecting on unforgettable experiences. A fireman talks about attempts to save a baby in the film *Into the Fire*. The *Water Rescuers* captures the thoughts and feelings of the River Search and Rescue team in Belfast, a city with the highest suicide rate in the UK

Executive Producers: Max Gogarty; Claire Hughes

**People's Health** 6x60min; ep 2 and 3 **Ronachan films** for **Al Jazeera**; 2014/15

The impactful series examines healthcare systems in 6 countries around the world. I produced and directed 2 films, in Canada and the UK. The Canadian film shows how to train a good doctor and the UK episode questions the role of primary care in our health system.

Executive Producers: Sam Collyns, Sun Shuyun, & Angus Macqueen Series Producer: Anna Murphy

**Rookies** 3x48min; **Plum Pictures** for **ITV1**; 2014/15

This observational series follows Lincolnshire student police officers as they learn how real policing works and what effect it has on their lives.

Executive Producer: Stuart Cabb; Series Producer: Kari Lia

**Liberty of London:** 3x48min; ep 2 **Rize USA** for **Channel 4**; 2013

This observational series looks behind the scenes of London's most charming department store.

Executive Producer: Emma Loach; Series Producer: Tanya Stephan

**Married to the Job** 6x30min; ep 1- 4 **Landmark Films** for **ITV1**; 2013

This unique six-part series shows how senior women inspectors juggle their demanding job with family life.

Executive Producer: Nick O'Dwyer; Series Producer: Tanya Stephan

**Brain Doctors** 3x60min; **Landmark Films** for **BBC2**; 2012

Three dramatic and intensely moving one-hour films from the neurosurgery department of Oxford's John Radcliff Hospital.

Executive Producer: Nick O'Dwyer; Series Producers: Mandy Chang, Monica Garnsey

**Protecting Our Children** 3x60min; ep 1 and 3 **BBC Bristol** for **BBC2**; 2010

Three-part series examining the challenging work of child protection social workers in Bristol.

Executive Producer: Julian Mercer

**Our Drugs War** 3x48min; **Ronachan Films** for **Channel 4**; 2010

This wide-ranging three-part series examines the global story of our drugs policies, from the poppy fields of Afghanistan, via drug dealers in New York to the users on the streets of Edinburgh

Directors Angus Macqueen, Monica Garnsey Executive Producer: Angus Macqueen

**The Hospital** 3x60min; ep 3 **North One** for **Channel 4**; 2009

Three-part series looking at teenagers being treated by the NHS. The episode I produced and directed followed three young women struggling with obesity.

Executive Producer: Simon Ford; Series Producer: Monica Garnsey

**Playing the Fool** 42min; **Tarmac Films** for festivals; 2008/2012

Three years in the making, this film is about the man who pretended to be insane in order to escape the war in Bosnia by joining a group of psychiatric patients that were taken to a refugee camp in Hungary. He then spends the next 18 years locked up with them. This is a documentary Balkan version of "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest"

Executive Producer: Angus Macqueen, Paul Dosaj and Stephen Shotnes

**My New Best Friend** 3x60min; ep 2 **Blast! Films** for **BBC4**; 2008

This three-part series follows the lives of four children as they move from primary school to secondary school, making new friends.

Executive Producer: Ed Coulthard

**Last Men Standing** 20min; **NFTS**; 2005

Observational film showing the bleak prospects facing local youths in a dying mining village in Wales.

## **AWARDS, NOMINEES AND FESTIVALS**

**Awards:**

- **Grierson and RTS Award** 2013 for Best Series Protecting Our Children
- **Jerwood First Cuts Documentary Award** 2005 Last Men Standing
- **The Best Short Documentary Film** Last Men Standing Britspotting –2005

**Nominations:**

- **Association of International Broadcasting Award** 2019 Libyan conflict
- **BAFTA Arts and Crafts** 2012 **Protecting Our Children**
- **Broadcast Best Series Awards** 2011 and 2010 for Hospital and Our Drugs War
- **Grierson New Comer Award** 2005 Last Men Standing

**Festivals:**

- Playing the Fool International competition **HotDocs** Toronto Documentary Film Festival 2012
- Sons and Soldiers / Last Men Standing **Sheffield International Documentary Festival** 2006 /2005
- Sons and Soldiers / Last Men Standing / Alex **Birds Eye View Women Film Festival** Lnd 2006
- Last Men Standing **Edinburgh International Film Festival** Edinburgh 2005
- Last Men Standing **13th Annual Hamptons International Film Festival** New York 2005
- Last Men Standing **Britspotting** Berlin 2005
- Last Men Standing/ Alex **Leipzig Festival for Documentary Film** Leipzig 2005

## **SKILLS**

**Access:** Very good at delicate and difficult access (negotiated access to NYC drugs gangs, neurosurgeons, child protection social workers, drug addict mums in recovery)

**Cameras:** Sony FS7; Canon C300; Canon 305; Sony PMW200

**Languages:** English, Serbian, Croatian, and Bosnian

**Hostile Environment Training:** Completed in 2010