

LIBERTY SMITH

DOCUMENTARY DIRECTOR/PRODUCER

Independent documentary filmmaker based in Bristol, with over a decade of experience. From prime-time television broadcasts for major channels, to independent commission by brands, organisations & individuals. Can confidently plan, write, direct, shoot, edit. Driven to tell compelling stories, with an ongoing interest in developing creative & inclusive storytelling techniques based in the documentary genre.

- > Finalist in the NETFLIX Documentary Talent Fund 2023
- > Cornwall Film Festival Pre-Selector 2023

LATEST INDEPENDENT WORK

GREENSOUND | Documentary | 25m | Nov 2024

- Winner of the Listening Pitch 2024
- Commissioned by Aesthetica & Audible

Official Selection: Aesthetica Short Film Festival

This film is based on an original research project which studied the act of listening to natural environments and its benefits on participants' wellbeing. This year, a century of primary steelmaking in the Port Talbot steelworks ended, with the loss of many thousands of jobs and a profound impact on the residents. The GREENSOUND project was made during the closures, in collaboration with local support groups for men on their regular 'walk and talks', for which we provided a new experience of listening through parabolic reflectors and microphones. The result is a 'listening film' - part documentary, part immersive audience experience.

MY EXPLODING HOUSE | Short documentary | 17m 11s | 2024

- Commissioned by: Exeter Phoenix - South West Short Film Commission
- Funded by Exeter Phoenix & The Elephant Trust

Nominated for:

- *Thelma Schoonmaker Award for Short Filmmaking Excellence* - Edinburgh International Film Festival
- *British Short Film Competition* - Leeds International Film Festival

Runner Up: Glaister Award, Braziers International Film Festival

Official Selection: Aesthetica Short Film Festival

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT? | Short documentary | 14m | 2022-23

- Collaborating with an artist on their 'coming out' as blind film, using creative audio description
- Arts Council funded, co-produced with OSR Projects

Vimeo Staff Pick (2024) & Short of the Week (2024)

Official Selection: HOT DOCS, DOC NYC, Ann Arbor, Hot Springs, Original Thinkers

Award Winner: Flickers' Rhode Island, LA Independent, WoFFF

AN ANTIDOTE TO INVISIBILITY | Documentary & Photography Installation | 2022

- Experimental documentary & photography installation artwork
- Arts Council funded, co-produced with Exeter Northcott Theatre & Northcott Archive
- Collaborated with community groups to co-create a piece about representation in theatre

TEACHING

LECTURER | Film Production | University of Gloucestershire | 2022 - 2023

- Wrote & taught multiple modules for BA (Hons) Film Production

BROADCAST, BRANDED & COMMERCIAL

- **DIRECTOR / PRODUCER** | 'The Story of the Prescott Picture Palace' | HISTORIC ENGLAND | 2024
- **FILMMAKER** | 'Still & Still Moving' | Promotional Film for Od Arts Festival | 2023
- **STAFF PRODUCER** | Development & Production for Wild Rice Films | 2023

- **PRODUCER** | BBC TWO | 'I'm An Alcoholic: Inside Recovery' | Daisybeck | 1x60' | 2022

Access-led, highly sensitive subject, Deepfake interviews & anonymous filming. 4* Guardian review.

Dir / Prod: Jemma Gander, Exec: Pamela Gordon, Commissioner: Daisy Scalchi

- **DEVELOPMENT PRODUCER** | Impossible Factual | TV Broadcast Development | 2019 - 2021
- **FILMMAKER** | 'Alone With Everybody' | Od Arts Festival | Digital / online | 2021
- **PRODUCER** | Leicestershire Police, 'We Are You' | Wild Rice Films | 1x5' plus socials | 2020
- **PRODUCER** | Discover Northern Ireland | Seadog Productions | 3x3' plus socials | 2019
- **DIRECTOR / PRODUCER** | The Borne Charity | 1x7' short doc / campaign | 2019

- **STAFF PRODUCER** | Seadog Productions | 2016 - 2019

Helped win multiple commissions for broadcast & commercial clients. Research, writing treatments & scripts, development, pitching to commissioners, casting & interviewing contributors, edit producing.

- **PRODUCER** | Channel 4 | 'WWII's Great Escapes: The Freedom Trails' | Seadog Productions

Commissioner: Rob Coldstream / Alf Laurie | 4x1hr | 2016 - 2017

Nominated: Royal Television Society 'Best Factual Series' 2018

- **PRODUCER** | 'NHS' short film series | Seadog Productions / NHS | Online / App | 6x5' | 2018
- **DIRECTOR** | Royal Society of Sculptors: Rupert Norfolk | Online | 1x8' | 2018
- **DIRECTOR** | Royal Society of Sculptors: Tabatha Andrews | Exhibition / Online | 1x10' | 2016
- **DIRECTOR** | 'Hospice UK' | Campaign film | Online | 1x5' | 2015
- **DIRECTOR** | 'Bideford Black' | Burton Gallery / Arts Council England | 1x30' | 2015
- **AP** | 'Animal Black Ops' | Animal Planet | WMR | 1x1hr | 2015
- **DEVELOPMENT PRODUCER** | Sundog Pictures | 2014
- **AP / PRODUCER** | 'WW2's Greatest Raids' | Nat Geo | Impossible Pictures | 6x1hr | 2013- 2014
- **AP** | 'WW1: First Modern War' | Nat Geo | Impossible Pictures | 6x1hr | 2013
- **AP** | 'The Great Martian War' | History Channel | Impossible Pictures | 1x90' | 2013
- **DIRECTOR / PRODUCER** | The National Trust | Rites of Passage | Online Campaign | 1x3' | 2012
- **SECOND CAMERA** | 'The Art of Cinematography' | CBS Europa Channel | 1x30' | 2012
- **AP** | 'Kris - Dying To Live' | BBC 3 | October Films | 1x1hr | 2012
- **RESEARCHER** | 'The Great Treehouse Challenge' | SKY1 | October Films | 3x1hr | 2011
- **RESEARCHER** | 'Damilola's Friends' | BBC1 | October Films | 1x30' | 2010
- **DEVELOPMENT RESEARCHER** | October Films | 2010 - 2011

EARLY WORK

- **CO-DIRECTOR/PRODUCER** | 'Murmuration' | Viral Short Documentary | 1x3' | 2011
Official Selection SXSW Film Festival (USA), OZU (Italy), GIMLI (Canada)
- **CO-DIRECTOR/PRODUCER** | Short Doc: 'Behind The Light' | 2010
Winner of Shooting People's 'Film of the Month' judged by Nick Cave
Official Selection Branchage Int. Film Festival, London Short Film Festival
- **CO-DIRECTOR/PRODUCER** | Short Experimental Doc: 'Island' | 2010
Winner Audience Award: InShort Film Festival (UK)
Shortlisted UK Film Council Best British Short Film Award
Official Selection London Short Film Festival, Revelation (AUS), MountainFilm (USA)

EDUCATION

- BA (Hons) MEDIA PRACTICE | LCC / University of The Arts | 2007 - 2010 | 1st

OTHER INFO

- Full clean UK driving licence, Owner of vehicle with business insurance
- Widely travelled through Europe, USA & Canada, Central & South America, South East Asia, Uganda

UNICEF & SCY DOCUMENTARY CHARITY (Cambodia) | Assistant Producer | 2009

FIELD ECOLOGIST FOR DEFRA (Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs) | 2006-07