

John Maidens

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Profile

- Diverse background as a creative media professional across broadcast television, film, corporate and commercials
- Prime-time credits with numerous major UK broadcasters in different programme genres from; factual, entertainment, documentary, drama-documentary and drama.
- Exceptional communicator with strong leadership, strategic and management skills and experience
- Profoundly deaf from birth

Employment

Course Leader, Short Film Making BA (Hons), Hereford College of Arts

December 2017 - present

Responsible for leadership and management of new and innovative Short film-making degree course. Includes responsibility for effective delivery of agile and emerging curriculum, teaching and management of student learning and assessment, student recruitment and retention and ensure embedded programme of engagement with industry practitioners and employers. Also line manage freelance lecturers/practitioners and college technical support staff.

Consultant Executive Producer, British Sign Language Broadcasting Trust (BSLBT)

Sept 2017 – present

Manage and support various BSLBT commissioned programmes. These include dramas, dramatized documentaries and factual programmes. Also responsible for formulation and delivery of a new and ambitious 2018 skills and careers development programme for deaf creative media professionals. The scheme will be fully funded by BSLBT and requires me to forge new and collaborative partnership with external training organizations.

Managing Director, InterpreterNow Ltd / SignHealth

January 2014 – Sept 2017

Responsible for managing the development of start-up social enterprise, InterpreterNow which grew quickly to become one of UK's leading providers delivering online video communication support for 9 million deaf people, providing immediate access, through live streaming video connections to British Sign Language (BSL) interpreters. The service runs 0800 - 2400, 365 days a year.

InterpreterNow is fully owned by the national DeafHealth charity, SignHealth. As a member of the charity's Senior Management Team, my responsibilities included delivering business strategy and development, adopting technological solutions and driving innovation to improve access for the UK deaf population to key UK public and private services. Reporting to the CEO, managing P+L and management accounts. Also reporting quarterly to board of trustees. Key achievements:

- Negotiated exclusive long term partnership with nWise, Europe's leading multi-media communications platform for Deaf and Deafblind people.
- Developed and managed a UK-wide supply chain of British Sign Language (BSL) Interpreters to deliver a new service to a young UK market.
- InterpreterNow is the UK's leading public service provider of online communication support for deaf people. Key clients include; NHS England, Public Health England, Scottish Government, NHS111 Wales, Leicestershire Police 101, Vodafone UK.
- Spearheaded new business partnerships with the UK's two leading deaf charities; National Deaf Children's Society (NDCS) and Action on Hearing Loss (AOHL).
- Developing new PILOT services; Text Relay Service for NHS England (NHS111), Video Relay communication support services for Scottish Deafblind people for the Scottish Government.

**Director/co-founder, Angelfish Productions Ltd.****2006 - 2013**

Angelfish Productions was a TV/Film media production and training company. Responsible for executive producing, writing and directing a variety of corporate, charity, commercial idents. Commissioned to write and direct corporate films and commercials by, Vanilla Films, Kaptcha, The Broadcast Business, Citizen Films and the Rocket Science Group. Clients include; BT, AA insurance, Northern Ireland Arts Council, UK Film Council, ITV, HSBC, Carphone Warehouse, Vodafone UK, Royal Bank of Scotland, Epson, Bliss.

Developed and delivered film / TV training courses and modules for Rose Bruford Drama College, Wolverhampton Lighthouse funded by Creative England and managed by Zebra-Uno. Ran film-making weekend courses for young deaf people for the National Deaf Children's Society (NDCS). Also, a judge, panelist and mentor for the UK Deaf Film Festival, Deaffest.

In film, secured feature development funding from Creative England to write feature film; *Jack Jones* (working title). As writer/director of my first short film, *Caterpillar*, commissioned and fully funded by the UK Film Council and premiered at Edinburgh International Film Festival. [*Winner - Royal Television Society \(RTS\) Best Fiction.](#)

In television, I've produced/directed programmes for independent production companies and broadcasters. Credits include:

- Director, 'Holby City' (BBC ONE) – 2 x 60' episodes
- Director, 'Doctors' (BBC ONE) – 57 x 30' episodes
- Director, 'Micah' (Channel4) – 1 x 30' Drama film for Coming Up series. Premiered at Edinburgh International Film Festival
- Director, 'Don't leave me this way' + 'Stand by your man' (BBC TWO) – 2 x 30' standalone dramas.
- Writer/Director – 'Norway Massacre – I was there' (National Geographic) 1 x 60' specialist factual dramatized documentary about the Oslo bombing and shootings on Utoya in Norway, 2011 (Darlow Smithson Films)
- Writer/Director – 'Seconds From Disaster – The Forgotten Bomb' (National Geographic) 1 x 60' specialist factual dramatized documentary on events up to the dropping of an atomic bomb on Nagasaki in WW2 (Darlow Smithson Films)
- Writer/Director – 'Stephen Lawrence - Justice for a murdered son' (ITV1) 1 x 60' Dramatized documentary about the re-trial of Gary Dobson and David Norris for the murder of Stephen Lawrence (ITV Productions)
- Producer/Director – 'A Night of Heroes' (The Military Awards) (ITV1) 2 x 90' live programmes featuring pre-recorded dramatized documentary films about acts of extreme bravery in peace and conflict (TwoFour Productions)
- Producer/Director – 'Hero Animals' (Animal Planet / Channel 5) 2 x 30' dramatized documentaries about how animals across the world saved people's lives in extraordinary circumstances (Big Wave Productions)
- Producer/Director – 'Manhunt' (ITV1) 2 x 90' live programme featuring pre-recorded dramatized documentary appeal films hunting the UK Police's 10 most wanted criminals. (Talkback Thames)
- Producer/Director – 'Virus 2013, Catch Me If You Can' (BBC TWO) 1 x 60' Factual programme documenting the latest research and discoveries in the fight against viruses. Presented by Michael Mosley and Alice Roberts (Tigress productions)
- Producer/Director – 'Dara O'Briain's Science Club' (BBC TWO) 3 x 60' Science & entertainment VT films featuring global cutting edge scientific research and discoveries. Presented by Dara O'Briain. (BBC)

Producer/Director, BBC Television (London)**1996 - 2006**

Produced and directed programmes for BBC departments; Factual & Learning, Specialist Factual, Drama and Documentaries;

- Director, 'Doctors' (BBC ONE) – 13 x 30' episodes
- Writer/Producer/Director – 'The London Nail Bomber' (BBC ONE) 1 x 60' hard-hitting dramatized documentary about David Copeland and his murderous bombing campaign, terrorizing London over April 1999. (BBC)
- Writer/Director – 'DoNation, Casualty@HolbyCity' (BBC ONE) 1 x 60' blended factual and drama interactive programme exploring the issues of organ donation. Presented by Professor Robert Winston (BBC) [*Winner 65th Annual Peabody Award](#)



- Writer/Producer/Director – ‘Trail of Guilt - To be Immortal’ (BBC TWO) 1 x 40’ Dramatized documentary charting the North Wales Police investigation solving the gruesome ritualistic murder of a 90-year old widow (BBC)
- Writer/Producer/Director – ‘Crimewatch Solved’ (BBC ONE) 2 x 60’ Dramatized documentary films on how UK Police Forces investigated and solved serious crimes. Presented by Nick Ross and Fiona Bruce (BBC)
- Writer/Producer/Director – ‘50 Things To Eat Before You Die’ (BBC ONE / WORLDWIDE) 1 x 60’ Factual entertainment programme revealing the nation’s choice of last meal. Presented by Ainsley Harriott. (BBC)
- Cameraman / co-director – ‘Wheels of Gold’ (BBC ONE) 1 x 50’ Primetime observational documentary following the GB Wheelchair Basketball team preparing for the Athens Paralympics. (BBC Television [*Royal Television Society nominee - Best Sports Documentary](#))
- Writer/Director – ‘The Philadelphia Experiment’ (BBC ONE) 1 x 20’ Observational documentary comparing UK and US Police serious crime fighting tactics. Main feature of BBC Cracking Crime Day (BBC)
- AP/Director: Crimewatch UK, Chelsea Flower show, Holiday, Watchdog, Healthcheck, Value for Money, See Hear.

Researcher, BBC Television (Birmingham, Network Features)

1991 - 1996

Credits include: Countryfile, Tracks, Walk on the Wildside, Beast of Bodmin (BBC PILOT)

Researcher, BBC Television (Bristol, Natural History Unit)

1990 - 1991

‘Nature’ (BBC ONE) 1 x 60’ Documentary exploring the issues behind the global capture and keeping of cetaceans (whales and dolphins) in Marine amusement parks. Presented by Michael Buerk. (BBC)

Education

University of Wales (Swansea)

1987 - 1990

BSc Joint (Hons), Zoology + Oceanography 2:2

2 ‘A’ levels + 10 ‘O’ levels (GCE)

Skills & Training

- Registered with Hive with Production Passport
- Registered on DIAMOND database
- BBC Academy Directing multi-camera Drama

Voluntary & Experience

- Mentor / Partner in Business – National Careers Academy (2009 – 2012)
- Trustee – Deaf Direct (registered charity) (2012 – 2015)
- Team leader on Journey of a Lifetime Trust (JoLT), US-Canada Gold rush route expedition (1994)
- Royal Geographical Society research expedition member to Papua New Guinea (1987)
- Raleigh International expedition member to USA (1988)