

CV

MIKE CHRISTIE
Director / Producer
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I make documentaries, shortform and scripted films, and direct multi-camera *and* live broadcasts. This is, everyone tells me, very unusual!

UNSCRIPTED: Principally, I produce and direct factual documentaries and I like to think they're memorable and inventive. They include RTS Best Arts Programme finalist *JUMP LONDON* for Channel 4, work for the BBC such as *SIR ALEX FERGUSON: SECRETS OF SUCCESS*, and a range of arts work including the epic BBC/ARTE/CCTV series *THE ART OF CHINA*, the RTS award-winning and BAFTA nominated, multi-platform *BIG ART* project, and music feature-documentaries including Grierson Awards 2018 shortlisted *HANSA STUDIOS: BY THE WALL 1976-90*, and *NEW ORDER: DECADES* for Sky Arts and ShowTime.

SCRIPTED & SHORTFORM: Secondly, my range of work has also included scripted, commercial, and short-form content for brands like *APPLE*, *LEGO*, *PEPSI MAX* and *RED BULL* - including *DANNY MACASKILL'S IMAGINATE* (90 million views and counting) and the brand new film *HUMAN PINBALL* - plus some occasional movie and drama work, and several films for *LONDON 2012 CEREMONIES*.

BROADCAST & MULTI-CAMERA: Finally, building on a long history of multi-camera projects, I also direct live broadcasts. Large scale work has included a 20-camera OB on *Legacy Of Our Ancestors*, a huge, beautiful, and bloody-expensive, stadium-size theatrical show for the UAE's *48th National Day*.

In 2021, I founded a new production venture called *Supercollider* with Zinc Media PLC, which is dedicated to making films and television for any size screen and in every arena in all the cultural genres I love.

I live in Shoreditch, London most of the time and mid-Somerset the rest of the time.



HUMAN PINBALL (7') Red Bull TV - September 2021

Producer/Director, Supercollider

Red Bull Freerunner 'Pasha the Boss' had a lifelong dream about building a giant pinball machine - because he wanted to be the ball. The nine-month long production centred around designing and constructing the biggest pinball in the world: weighing 23 tonnes, standing 16.5m tall, 20m+ long... at a gravity-bending 45 degrees! Mindbending to make *and* watch - it quickly racked up tens of millions on TikTok and a few mill on Facebook.



OFFENDED BY IRVINE WELSH (60') Sky Arts - November 2020

Producer/Director, Lion TV

Trainspotting author *Irvine Welsh* takes a timely and explosive trip into all-things-that-offend in the arts and life. In a hyper-sensitive world fuelled by social media mania and the culture wars, what is the impact of cancel culture and offensiveness on creative risk, the arts, music, comedy and culture? This lively journey features artists, comedians, musicians and writers including *The Chapman Brothers*, *M.I.A.*, *Geoff Norcott*, *Andrew Doyle*, *Titania McGrath*, *Sarah Maple*, and *Nadifa Mohamed*.



LEGACY OF OUR ANCESTORS: UAE 48TH NATIONAL DAY (60') Dec 2019

Broadcast Director, Betty Productions

Working hand-in-hand with the brilliant **Catherine Ugwu** and her team, I spent four months working as broadcast director on this beautiful, original, stadium-sized theatrical production in UAE. To celebrate their national day, in a major break with tradition, the Royal Family commissioned this ambitious, original, narrative show: a cast and crew of over 5000, a budget of many tens of millions, and a one-off 19 camera, live broadcast.



SUEDE: THE INSATIABLE ONES (1x100') Sky Arts / BMG Films, 2018

Producer, Director and Executive Producer

In 1993, Brett Anderson and Suede took over music. Their debut album was the fastest selling in a generation but the roller-coaster journey that followed was astonishing. The band re-examine their career, international success, self-destruction, and re-birth, with brutal honesty and the help of an eclectic cast of early players and witnesses *Justine Frischmann*, *Mike Joyce*, *Richard Osman*, *Stuart Maconie* and *Ricky Gervais*.



NEW ORDER: DECADES (1x85') Sky Arts & Showtime, 2018

Producer/Director, Caravan Media

Part-concert, part-documentary, this film follows the band's preparations for and re-staging of their acclaimed and spectacular collaboration with the artist *Liam Gillick*. With full access to *New Order* and their collaborators, it's a rare chance to enter the band's private world and an unprecedented and intimate celebration of their lives, work and music. "Gloriously uplifting 5*" – The FT

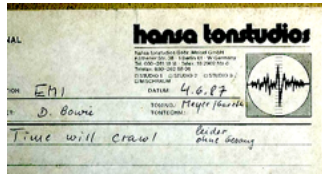


ROAD TO GYMKHANA GRID (1x90') Insight TV, 2018

Producer/Director, LSP TV / Monster Energy

Thanks to his Gymkhana film series, race driver *Ken Block* has half-a-billion YouTube views. This compelling feature length film follows Ken and seven incredible drivers around the world to his event, Gymkhana Grid. Shot in epic locations including Chernobyl, Utah, Sweden and South Africa, it's a gripping and surprisingly moving film culminating with a complex multi-camera finale. 4K UHD, TX: Insight TV and Amazon Prime.

SELECTED WORK
2014-2018



HANSA STUDIOS: BY THE WALL 1976-90 (1x90') Sky Arts, 2018

Producer, Director and Executive Producer, CHQ.london

Shortlisted for *Grierson Best Arts/Music Documentary Award 2018*, this highly evocative film tells the story of Berlin's legendary Hansa Studios. Standing in a bleak wasteland alongside the Berlin Wall, it inspired masterpieces like Bowie's "Heroes", Iggy Pop's *Lust For Life*, and U2's *One*. Featuring *REM*, *Depeche Mode*, *U2*, *Supergrass*, *Nick Cave's Bad Seeds*, and legendary producers *Flood*, *Tony Visconti* and *Daniel Miller*.



THE ART SHOW (8x60) Sky Arts, 2017

Series Director, Infinity Creative Media

Eighteen months in the making, this was first series of a brand new arts magazine show - with a difference. Shot around the globe, it's a beautiful, compelling, intelligent and - most importantly - accessible set of programmes. Each episode contains four strands that give a truly colourful and stimulating glimpse into global artists and art stories, shot in twenty countries.



FOOTBALL: A BRIEF HISTORY BY ALFIE ALLEN (2x60') History, 2017

Series Producer and Director, Woodcut Media

Nominated for RTS southern Best Factual Series award 2018. *Game of Thrones* star Alfie Allen undertakes his first documentary series exploring the roots of football in the UK. From the the origins of the industry through to the power struggle within the game in the 20th century. Featuring *Greg Dyke*, *Andy Cole*, *Sol Campbell*, *Cyrille Regis*, *Jake Humphrey*, and Alfie's father *Keith Allen*.



DARCEY'S BALLET HEROES (1x60') BBC2, 2015

Writer and Director, Leopard.

A Christmas Day special saw Darcey Bussell undertake a very personal journey to meet the heroes and dancers who transformed male ballet. Rich in archive, insightful commentary, personal anecdotes, and uniquely intimate access that few - other than a former Royal Ballet Prima Ballerina - would be able to secure. This is the history of men in ballet told first hand by the best male dancers in the world.



SIR ALEX FERGUSON: SECRETS OF SUCCESS (1x60') BBC1, 2015

Director, Juniper TV.

The BBC's political editor for the past decade, Nick Robinson, who has analysed leaders for a living for many years, gets up close and personal with Sir Alex to uncover the secrets of his success. Also features contributions from notable leaders and sportspeople including *Lord Alan Sugar*, *Tony Blair*, *Cristiano Ronaldo*, *Rio Ferdinand*, *Paul McGinley*, *David Gill*, and *Sir Mike Moritz*.



THE ART OF CHINA (3x60') BBC 4 co-pro with ARTÉ and CCTV, 2014

Series Director/Producer, Renegade Pictures

The striking new series in the BAFTA nominated 'Art Of' franchise told the story of 4,000 years of Chinese art. It's a gripping journey. Much of the early part of the tale is told through a journey across an incredible array of recently discovered sites across the vast land. Presented by the inimitable *Andrew Graham-Dixon*, and critically praised for its visual style and unprecedented (and cheeky) access.

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SELECTED WORK
2010-2013



DANNY MACASKILL'S IMAGINE (1x8', 6x15' & 1x60') Red Bull, 2013

Producer/Exec/Supervising Director, ChristieHQ

This was big in every way: 18 months in the making, the riding film alone has amassed 90 million views to date. I was in charge of the whole project: producing the riding film on a 160 metre long set in Glasgow, filmed over 65 days, and running the production of a six part online series and a TV special to accompany the main event. An amazing and challenging project.



LONDON 2012: THE CEREMONY FILMS (9 x various) LOCOG/Channel 4, 2012

Writer/Producer/Director/Executive Producer, ChristieHQ

I was responsible - in different capacities - for a volume of work for London 2012 Ceremonies, including writing/directing the opening films for both Opening and Closing Ceremonies of the Paralympic Games. I also produced a number of other ceremony films along with the official behind the scenes of the Olympic Opening Ceremony.



DAREDEVILS: LIFE ON THE EDGE (60' + 12x2') Channel 4, 2012

Exec/Producer/Director, ChristieHQ/Renegade.

A Channel 4 Education commission for primetime. The film explores the thrills of actions sports and the science of risk taking, and stars *Danny MacAskill* and *Guy Martin*. Filmed in death defying situations, the film gets to the root of what leads them extreme sport stars to so spectacularly risk life and limb. Accompanied by an online series of twelve short films.



CONCRETE CIRCUS (1x90') Channel 4, 2011

Producer/Director/Exec, ChristieHQ/Renegade.

Commissioned for C4 Arts Street Summer season, I conceived this feature length film to bring together the "stars" of action sport disciplines Parkour, Skateboarding, BMX and Urban Trials for the first time. It's definitive and spectacular. The films within Concrete Circus went viral, amassing over millions views. Narrated by *Dominic West*.



THE SECRET LIFE OF BUILDINGS (3x60') Channel 4, 2011

Producer/Director, ChristieHQ/Renegade.

It took me many years to get this series exploring the relationship between psychology and the design of space commissioned. The resultant three-part series was both popular and RIBA policy affecting. Architecture critic Tom Dyckhoff explored - for the first time - the psychological and behavioural response to architecture at home, work and in 'play' spaces.



INSIDE INCREDIBLE ATHLETES (1x90') Channel 4, 2010

Producer/Director, Renegade Pictures.

This major doc launched C4 Paralympics 2012 campaign. It married intimate profiles and revelatory science with five 'performance' films uniquely re-framing the sports. The Telegraph found it 'visually beautiful and scientifically fascinating' while Heat said "awe inspiring *****". Narrated by *Tom Hardy*. Nominated for *Broadcast's Best Popular Factual Programme Award 2011*.

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**SELECTED WORK
2003-2010**



JO BRAND'S LITTLE CRACKER (1x12') - Sky 1 Comedy Drama, 2010

Director, Renegade Pictures

Comedy drama written by Jo Brand as part of Sky's first Little Cracker series. A great script - set in 1972 - loosely inspired by Jo's teenage years. After the accidental death of Jo's cat, Fluff, events get rapidly out of hand, culminating in a mad comic finalé. Jo Brand's younger self played by *Dani Harmer* supported by the amazing *Amelia Bulmore*, *Elizabeth Berrington* and *Jason Watkins*.



WAYNE ROONEY'S STREET STRIKER (3x60) Sky 1, 2008

Series Director, Plum Pictures

The first series of the hit TV show for Sky 1. Britain's finest footballer takes - quite literally - to the streets, to find a champion of street football. Urban and gritty, the style of this series was a refreshing antithesis to the usual run of celebrity talent shows of the time. Multi-camera and fast turn around, I made the series of three programmes in just 16 weeks.



LITTLE BRITAIN DOWN UNDER (1x60') BBC1, 2007

Producer/Director, Little Britain Productions

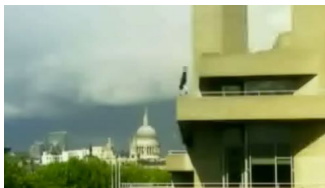
Originally commissioned as a 'video diary' for BBC3, this film grew to become a surreal hybrid of performance, documentary and occasional mocumentary, earning a place on BBC1 primetime. Little Britain duo *Matt Lucas* and *David Walliams* starred, with a host of Little Britain's characters, plus *Kath & Kim*, *Dame Edna*, "*Harold Bishop*" and the cast of neighbours. Narrated by *Rob Brydon*.



JUMP BRITAIN (1x60') Channel 4, 2005

Writer/Director, Carbon Princess

The sequel to its film *Jump London*, this film charted the explosion of Parkour in the UK as *Sebastien Foucan* returned to its shores for another journey. He and a select group of British Free Runners scaled landmarks including the Forth Rail Bridge and the Millennium Stadium. The opening scene of *James Bond Casino Royale* are attributed to my *Jump* films, as is the song and video *Jump* by *Madonna*.



JUMP LONDON (1x60') Channel 4, 2003

Director, Optomen Television.

The legendary C4 film was shown in 70 countries and launched Free Running on a global level. The Guardian said "Mike Christie's film bathed London in a bright new light... a mesmerising bit of television. You could use adjectives like balletic, acrobatic or gymnastic to describe it, but none would quite do it justice." *Finalist, RTS awards, Best Arts Programme 2004.*



BODY TALK (2x60') Channel 4, 2004

Series Producer Director, ITN Factual

Award-winning, two-part series for prime time exploring body language with *Professor Peter Collett* in an entirely new way using extensive archive hand-in-hand with daring forays in to political parties. Prog 1 - *Power* - looked at politicians (and had consequences!) and prog 2 - *Sex* - looked at the body language of lust and love. Revelatory and influential stuff.

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**PROJECT AWARDS/
NOMINATIONS**

HANSA STUDIOS: BY THE WALL 1976-90

GRIERSON AWARDS 2018 - shortlist, Best Arts/Music documentary 2018

FOOTBALL: A BRIEF HISTORY BY ALFIE ALLEN

RTS SOUTHERN - nominee, Best Factual Series award 2018

INSIDE INCREDIBLE ATHLETES

Broadcast Awards - nominee, Best Popular Factual Programme 2011

THE BIG ART PROJECT (TV / multi-platform project)

RTS AWARDS - winner, Innovation Award 2006

BAFTA TV Craft Awards - triple nominee, 2008

MEDIA GUARDIAN Innovation Award - winner, 2008

BODY TALK

FOCAL AWARDS - winner 2005

JUMP LONDON

RTS AWARDS - finalist, Best Arts Programme Awards 2003

SELECTED OTHER DOCS

SO THIS IS CHRISTMAS (1x60') Channel 4 Comedy, 2011 Director, Two Four Television.

YESTERDAY WE WERE IN AMERICA (DRAMA DOC) (1x60') Director, Aquarius Films, 2009

I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M TELLING YOU THIS (60') Aquarius Documentaries 2008

BIG ART (4x60'), C4, 2007. Carbon Princess, Co-director.

THE SECRETS OF THE 12 DISCIPLES (1x120') - Channel 4, 2007 - studio director

THE REAL LITTLE BRITAIN (1x60') BBC3, 2004, Director, Carbon Princess

FOOTBALL STORIES (1x60')- Channel 4, 2002. P/D, Wark Clements

LIVES LESS ORDINARY (2x30') - BBC2, 2002. Director, Wark Clements

FROM HERE TO MODERNITY (3x30') - BBC2, 2001. Series Director, Wark Clements

THE AD FACTOR (1x30') - BBC2, 2002. Producer/Director, Wark Clements

AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 RAVES (3x60) C4, 2001. Producer Rapido

BRITISH TRIBES (1x60') Sky 1, 2000. Producer/Director ep 2, LWT Factual

CREAM (3x60') Sky 1, 1999. Producer, Pacific

CRIME SQUAD (2x60') - BBC 1, 1999. Producer, BBC News and Current Affairs.

TALES FROM THE NET (5x2') - BBC 1 and 2, 1999. Producer/Director, BBC Science

SEARCH FOR THE SEA SERPENT (1x60') Discovery, 1998. Loc. Producer, Cicada

**SELECTED SCRIPTED &
BRAND WORK**

RED BULL: INSIDE TRACK (12') Red Bull Media House, 2019

I AM THE FLAME (SOCHI 2014 CEREMONY) with *Sir Ian McKellen*, IPC 2014

PEPSI MAX CHALLENGE - AMV BBDO, autumn 2014

GARY BARLOW: SINCE I SAW YOU LAST - Tour Opening Film, spring 2014

ST TRINIANS 2 - 2nd Unit Director, Ealing Studios 2009

ROGERS: ROOFTOP RENDEZVOUS - TVC, Publicis / Ruckus, USA 2006

HEROES: A FILM FOR LIVE 8 - Carbon for Live 8 / BBC, 2005