



GWEN ISAAC

TELEVISION + FILM DIRECTOR • SERIES PRODUCER
SELF-SHOOTING DIRECTOR • RESEARCHER
CONTENT-CREATOR • UNIVERSITY LECTURER

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» WWW.GWENISAAC.CO.NZ «

An award-winning producer and director with over twenty years experience across broadcast and digital content, spanning format and genre.

Directed and produced teams within factual and documentary television for the BBC and ITV in the UK and NBC in the USA. In 2018 directed acclaimed feature documentary in NZ for theatres and broadcast. Selected to direct self-conceived documentary for prestigious documentary series in the UK.

Edit producing experience of both programmes and series. Extensive script-writing, platform start-up and programme development experience.

Skilful self shooter, proficient on the Sony, Canon and Panasonic 4K digital cameras. Both multi-camera studio and location directing/producing experience. Experience building audiences for content and cross-platform development and engagement.

WORK HISTORY

MASSEY UNIVERISTY

2018 – 2019

LECTURER, TELEVISION AND FILM PRODUCTION,
PATHWAY CO-ORDINATOR: PRODUCING AND DIRECTING

Creative Media Production Degree,
College of Creative Arts.

WHERE THERE IS LIFE

2011 – 2017

Directed and Produced Feature Documentary selected for NZIFF and Docs without Borders festival, Wayward and Blow-Up International Arthouse Festival.

Best First-Time Director, London Independent Film Awards.
National theatrical run. Sell-out screenings at 2017 NZIFF.

Broadcast on Rialto Channel in NZ.

2010 – 2011

USA BASED

Founder/Director Midnight Swim Productions.
Formed Midnight Swim Productions with war-zone producer Roger Jackson.

Developed series to pitch stage of character-led episodic content aimed at UK market.

Freelance location directed for BBC's landmark series, The Human Project and ITV's Noel Edmonds Christmas Party and This Morning series.

LINDSAY LOHAN IN INDIA

(TX: APRIL, 2010)

PRODUCER • 1x 60MINS

Ten Alps Productions, UK for BBC3

Developed pitch to commission and co-ordinated USA based preproduction on headline-grabbing documentary that took Lindsay Lohan into India to investigate child trafficking.



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WORK HISTORY - CONTINUED

THE REAL... WASHINGTON DC

DIRECTOR • 6x 30MINS

Uproar Productions for BBC World News

(TX: CONTINUOUS
FROM AUG. 2010)

Three local celebrities show us a version of their home city not found in the guide books.

HEROES UNMASKED

DIRECTOR • 13x 17MIN EPISODES

BBC Television/NBC Co-production

(TX: 2008 + 2009)

Directed behind-the-scenes on the third series of this hit US drama series.

RAMBO 4 - BLU-RAY & DVD EXTRAS

PRODUCER DIRECTOR

Millennium Films/Nu Image

(RELEASED
OCT. 2010)

Directed behind-the-scenes during the making of the last in the Rambo series on location in Thai jungle.

Directed broadcast crew for official EPK interviews of Sly Stallone, cast and crew.

SUMMER AT YORK MINSTER

TEAM LEADER / PRODUCER DIRECTOR • 6x 30MIN EPISODES

Lion Television for BBC Two.

(TX: DEC. 2006)

Intimate and affectionate portrait of the community at York Minster cathedral.

Directed and produced multi-episodic doco series that was highly rated and 'Pick of the Week' in UK press.

THIS MORNING

ITV PLC

Directed crew freelance from 2003 - 2006 for multiple strands.

NURSE SCHOOL

PRODUCER DIRECTOR • 2x 60MIN EPISODES

Friel Kean Films for BBC Scotland

(TX: 2006)

Hard-hitting observational documentary following nurses in training at an isolated hospital in the Outer Hebrides of Scotland.

MUM'S ON STRIKE

LEAD PRODUCER DIRECTOR • 30x 45MIN EPISODES

Lion Television for ITV

(TX: 2006)

Popular and internationally sold format in which fathers are followed coping with the house and kids with mum away setting the agenda.

Coordinated research and production team, simultaneously crew and self-directed high rating formatted reality series.

BABY HOUSE

PRODUCER DIRECTOR • 10x 45MIN EPISODES

RDF for ITV

(TX: 2005)

Self-directed and crew-directed for unscripted reality / magazine hybrid following four couples living together in lead-up to births and beyond.

EXTREME FERTILITY

DEVELOPMENT PRODUCER • 1 HR EPISODE

Fulcrum Television for Sky One

Researched content and participants (scientists and patients) for documentary about science of assisted conception.

Co-wrote treatment for documentary.

HAVE I BEEN HERE BEFORE?

EDIT PRODUCER • 20x 30MIN EPISODES

ITV PLC for ITV One

(TX: 2005)

Coordinated and directed multiple simultaneous edits for studio and reenactment series with tight delivery schedule.



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WORK HISTORY - CONTINUED

BEAUTY AND THE FEAST (TX: 2004)

PRODUCER DIRECTOR • 15x 30MIN EPISODES

Shine Television for UK Food

Developed format and directed series focussing on cooking advice for men.

Led research team plus directed inserts and operated camera for studio record.

Supervised off- and on-line edit.

OLD DOGS, NEW TRICKS (TX: 2004)

DIRECTOR • 30MIN EPISODE

Carlton Television for ITV London

Directed self-conceived documentary for award-winning series, Metroland. Victor Lewis-Smith (Evening Standard, London 24/9/03);

“The film had heart without being over-sentimental and that’s a hard balance to achieve”.

ONLINE STORIES & TOTAL GARDENS (TX: 2003)

DIRECTOR • 15x 30MIN EPISODES

Endemic UK for Discovery UK

Self and crew-directed on location VT packages for formatted observational series’ following contributors through their dream projects.

Supervised off-line edits.

CELEBRATIONS WITH NANETTE NEWMAN (TX: 2000)

PRODUCER DIRECTOR • 12x 30MIN EPISODES

Brian D’eath Productions for the Carlton Food Network

Observational, behind-the-scenes series featuring top UK chefs in the lead up to high profile events.

POWER FOOD (TX: 1999)

PRODUCER DIRECTOR • 12x 30MIN EPISODES

Brian D’eath Productions for the Carlton Food Network

Developed format of successful series examining the effects of the modern lifestyle on diet.

FAMILY CHALLENGE ON THE WEB (TX: 1999)

ASSISTANT PRODUCER / DIRECTOR • 5x 30MIN EPISODES

BBC Television, BBC One

Cast family were teamed up with presenters to test on-line services.

Managed research team, developed format and self-directed inserts across series.

LIVEWIRE (TX: 1998)

PRODUCER DIRECTOR • 26x 30MIN EPISODES

Carlton Television for Carlton World

Devised concept and format for studio-based presenter-led multicamera discussion series featuring experts discussing the latest in science, technology and gadgets.

OUT THERE (TX: 1998)

PRODUCER DIRECTOR • 26x 90MIN EPISODES

Carlton Television for Carlton World

Developed concept and format and supervised gallery output. Topical and irreverent chat centred around the paranormal.



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EDUCATION

BACHELOR OF COMMUNICATIONS DEGREE

AUCKLAND UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, NZ

1993 - 1996

Majored in *Documentary: Theory and Practice*.

CERTIFICATE IN MEDIA LAW FOR TELEVISION RESEARCHERS AND JOURNALISTS

UK SKILLSET

2000

SKILLS

- Extensive broadcast shooting experience of all current industry standard 4K cameras
- Full clean driver's license USA, UK and NZ.

REEL

SEE WORK EXAMPLES AT

WWW.GWENISAAC.CO.NZ