

Nick Watson

Development Producer
Producer / Director

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References available
i visa USA to 2023

I'm primarily a strong all round developer, creating and writing across wildly different genres, brands and broadcasters. I'm used to pitching, running brainstorming, inventing formats, creating running orders and delivering example eps and sizzle tapes. Hugely experienced at taking single line ideas to detailed series proposals, work which has often produced commissions or paid development. **Please ask for deck examples.**

As a producer I'm used to large scale logistics, heading off problems early and shaping series wide content. In the field I'm calm and practical head, well versed at dealing with fluid situations and changing priorities. I've produced broadcast and branded content for the likes of Nat Geo, BBC1, C4, C5, Discovery, All4 and Porsche.

I've directed both multi and single camera on series such as *Scrapheap Challenge*, *Breaking Magic* and *Bang Goes The Theory*, leading crews of up to 45. Recently shot branded content for Red Bull (World Rally BTS).

Edit producing and script writing experience for broadcasters including BBC, C5, C4, Discovery, Nat Geo. No problem with mucking in - self shooting, rigging grip, sound, lighting etc. Excellent contacts book, especially useful for automotive, build shows, science and engineering. **Please view my website for more...**

Recent credits

Development Producer June - December 2019 **Thunderbird International**

Joined Ed Sayer's start-up operation as his first (and only) hire, developing, creating sizzles and pitching a wide range of content, from gameshows to Nat Geo specialist factual. Got a car show into paid development with Discovery and ended my contract having built a sizeable and well received slate, with many ideas still live and generating interest.

Development Producer June 2019 **Workerbee (Shine North)**

Delivered a large paid development for Simon Raikes at Nat Geo. I created new episode ideas and format points, found experts and delivered an extensive and detailed deck that proved the concept viable.

Development Producer June 2019 **Little Dot Studios**

F1 branded content. I was trusted by LDS to respond to an RFP from F1, which was focused on their ESports F1.

Development Producer June 2018 - April 2019 **Elephant House Studios**

Originating, developing and pitching ideas - from specialist factual to features, for various different broadcasters. Commissioned work included *Attack of the Drones* 1x60, *Wonderful World of Chocolate* 6x60 (now back for another 13), *Engineering Disasters* 1x90, *Then and Now* 6x60. I was also trusted to deliver large paid development projects for Quest Red, UKTV and C4.

Producer April 2018 - June 2018 **Elephant House Studios**

The Jumbo Jet: 50 Years In The Sky, Channel 5.

Myself and another PD produced / self-shot / edit produced 2x60 archive heavy docs on the iconic 747 aircraft. Edit Producer on Ep1, which told the incredible story of the idea becoming reality. Sunday Times critics' choice of the day.

Development Producer March - April 2018 **Elephant House Studios**

Generating dozens of ideas, particularly focusing on a daytime features and formats push, but also coming up with other concepts across a wide range of genres, both for C5 and other broadcasters.

Development Producer January 2018 **ScreenStory**

Generating fact ent and documentary ideas, creating decks for MIP.

Development Producer December 2017 **Elephant House Studios**

Generating ideas and laying out decks for Viacom pre-sales, focusing mostly on engineering and popular science. Also creating and writing up varied thoughts for C5 - fact ent, docs, and features.

Development Producer October 2017 **Fired Up Films**

Developed a unique car build show for Netflix based on my original idea, standing up the concept and creating the deck. Idea is still live.

Development Producer October 2017 **Little Dot Studios**

Generated dozens of AFP concepts to promote the new Honda Type R Civic, securing work for LDS.

Development Producer September 2017 **ScreenStory**

Researched and developed a complex 8x60 military history drama doc series.

Series Producer June - August 2017 **Little Dot Studios**

My Epic Room Makeover, All4

Returning to produce an idea I originated earlier in the year. Script writing, refining ep content and managing a team of set builders and production staff. 4 x huge property transformations in 4 weeks.

Development Producer April 2017 - May 2017 **Hub / Woodcut Media**

Conceived and wrote various survival ideas for an AFP project funded by a Chinese e-commerce giant. Secured the support of A list talent and successfully won a development contract against stiff opposition. For Woodcut Media I developed an epic adventure series *Return to the Nile*, fronted by Ranulph and Joe Fiennes, setting the loose format and providing very detailed episode content (since sold to [Nat Geo](#)).

Development Producer November 2016 - March 2017 **Little Dot Studios**

Returned to Little Dot Studios generating ideas and writing - broadcast and branded development for clients including Red Bull, All4 and Porsche. AFP property transformation / party format for All4 (an idea I originated) was green lit.

Development Producer October - November 2016 **Barcroft Media**

Returned to Barcroft to do MIP prep and general development for FYI, Discovery and others. Two features ideas I took from one liners to series propositions have since sold - *Amazing on The Inside* (Netflix) and *Extreme Love*.

Producer August 2016 - October 2016 **Little Dot Studios**

Produced a commercial quality branded short for Porsche, their first for YT. [Race drones vs. Porsche 718 Cayman](#).

Development Producer July 2016 - August 2016 **Caravan Media**

Stood up a 90 minute science special with an epic engineering stunt at its heart. Having proved the ambitious idea possible, Caravan Media secured further development cash. Project is still ongoing...

Development Producer May 2016 - June 2016 **Barcroft Media**

Idea generation and writing for Discovery, Nat Geo and other broadcasters.

Development Producer March 2016 - May 2016 **Dragonfly TV**

Idea generation, treatment writing and edit producing sizzles - various broadcasters and genres, mostly specialist factual.

Development Producer / Senior Producer May 2015 - December 2015 **Dragonfly TV**

Driving Wild 6x60 Discovery International

An ambitious worldwide 'car subculture / build' show working with petrol heads in Cuba, Sweden, South Africa, Somerset, Thailand and Mexico. Developed content across the series, field produced builds, self-shot.

Development Producer / Producer / Self Shooting PD December 2014 - May 2015 **Shine North**

Idris Elba: No Limits 4x60 Discovery International

I worked directly with Idris, developing ideas alongside Shine North. During this time I was also producing and self-shooting (FS7) on Idris Elba: No Limits, which saw the A lister take on tough motorsport challenges.

Development Producer July 2014 - December 2014 **BBC Entertainment for BBC Worldwide / BBC Brit**

Developing ideas and talent hunting for the new *Top Gear* plus Worldwide channels, BBC Brit and BBC Earth.

Development Producer June 2014 **Betty**

Mission Survive ITV

Developed 80 plus survival challenges for a celebrity packed Bear Grylls series, helping get the series over the line.

Development Producer April 2014 - June **Pulse Films**

Brought in to kick start this entertainment led firms push into fact ent / factual, working with Danny Carvalho.

Development Producer February 2014 - April 2014 **360 Productions**

Originating ideas, finding talent and writing pitches for multiple broadcasters including Smithsonian, Discovery, Nat Geo. Various subject areas including history, disaster, survival, adventure, history, pop science.

Director January 2014 – February 2014 **Wag TV**

How Do They Do It? Discovery International

Directing and taking VT's through the edit for this long running series.

Senior Producer May 2013 - November 2013 **Objective**

Breaking Magic 2 13x60 Discovery International

Developed and produced the larger stunts / tricks across the series which involved 35 plus crew and time pressured, high risk shoots. Also self-shot / directed crew for smaller scale street magic sequences in NYC.

Self-Shooting PD April 2013 - May 2013 **Blink Films**

Top Five 10x60 Discovery International

Bouncing around the world shooting incredible machines doing their thing (Sony F800 XDCAM).

Development Producer / Producer February - April 2013 **Renegade Pictures**

None Of The Above (also known as *Street Genius*) 2x30 National Geographic International pilots

Developed the pop science format from one line idea to fleshed out series and produced two very SFX heavy pilots shot in Las Vegas that led to an immediate commission. Ran for 32 eps.

Series Producer July - November 2012 **North One**

Stephen Fry: Gadget Man 5x30 C4

Refined the format to include an array of gadgetry, celebrities and a big payoff. It was an enormously complex scheduling puzzle, with just 8 days of Stephen's time and a lot of temperamental technology to master. The format returned with Richard Ayode as host.

Producer April – July 2012 **Dragonfly TV**

Beat The Ancestors 6x60 Channel Five

Developed ep content and then field produced on a very ambitious 'build show meets history' series – medieval machine guns, epic cathedral cranes, Greek fire boats etc. I was in charge of delivering the builds safely, on time and on budget. Enormous fun and a real joy to work on.

Earlier selected credits

Development Producer Renegade Pictures *Voyage of the Plastiki* Nat Geo

Development Producer Lion TV *Engineering Giants* BBC 2

Producer / Director *Bang Goes The Theory* BBC1

Producer / Director RDF *Scrapheap Challenge* C4

Challenge Producer RDF *Scrapheap Challenge* C4

Producer Renegade Pictures *Inside Incredible Athletes* C4

Producer / Director Love Productions, *The Great British Weather* BBC1

Producer / Director Windfall Films, *Big, Bigger, Biggest* Nat Geo

Shooting AP Mentorn, *Oil Sweat and Rigs* Discovery

Researcher, The View From The North *Fred Dibnah's Age of Steam* (BBC 2)

Further PD, AP, Researcher positions 2011-2002

Testimonials

We needed a quick turnaround deep dive into a subject matter for National Geographic. We gave Nick a three-page document a verbal brief and a week and a half to produce a substantial document while working remotely. He more than delivered. The 24-page, beautifully designed, well researched, beautifully written document was instrumental in us unlocking paid development funding from the channel which ultimately led to us securing a three-part global commission, Fiennes: Return To The Nile. Suffice to say that I would have absolutely no hesitation in working with Nick again. I found him to be diligent, disciplined, hard-working, enthusiastic, inquisitive, creative and frankly, everything I was looking for from a development producer. Derren Lawford, Woodcut Media.

While working in Development, Nick consistently demonstrated a good journalistic nose for new ideas and the ability to approach subjects in an original and eye-catching way. He proved himself a talented and speedy writer. He has a very strong knowledge of specialist factual television, both in terms of established broadcasters and newer markets plus an excellent black book of contacts. Clare Mottershead, BBC2 Popular Factual (ex Dragonfly).

Nick Watson is a hardworking and talented development producer who has written scores of beautifully crafted, punchy and colourful treatments for me. Several of these great documents have led to commissions and funded development. He blends solid research with writing that brings formats and narratives to life on the page. His ideas are original and often deliciously maverick and he is great at giving formats the twists and layers that make them stand out. A real asset, I would highly recommend him. Ollie Wright, Executive Producer Elephant House Studios.