

Agent: Peter MacFarlane

Robert Gray **Writer/Producer/Showrunner**

Robert started his career working for a commercial production company as a runner/researcher on commercials and pop promos which led to researching on Channel 4 documentaries. Simultaneously he was writing and developing various screenplay ideas, one of which became the Channel Four film **LIKE IT IS** starring Roger Daltrey.

He also developed some other projects including a soap set in Kings Cross called **N1**, **SIX PACK** a modern version of The Monkees, a drama series **HOME TOWN** about gay dads and a sitcom **THIRTY SOMEONE**.

His television entertainment career has always run in parallel with his writing career and he became an associate producer on the BBC 1 primetime series **THE LILY SAVAGE SHOW** a comedy show with sketches and music which aired Sunday nights in 1997. He was part of the team of writers, as well as the talent booker. He also worked with Lily on the UK version of The Match Game called **BLANKETY BLANK** which ran on BBC1 for two years until Lily jumped network to **ITV1**

In 2000 he was the Associate Producer of the primetime and primetime outrageous live comedy sketch show **LILY LIVE!** hosted by the legendary drag queen and featuring big name star guests. For the second series in 2001 he was promoted to Producer and was also part of the writing team. In 2002 he produced **BRITAIN'S SEXIEST**, a live primetime reality show and beauty contest which ran for seven nights stripped on ITV1. Viewers voted for Britain's Sexiest man and Woman.

That same year he launched **TODAY WITH DES AND MEL** a new daily talk show similar to **Live with Regis and Kelly**. It aired every lunchtime on ITV1 and won 'Best Daytime Show Award' at the Royal Television Society Awards. He produced 270 shows and then left to develop a new

show for the very competitive 5pm slot. ITV1 was failing in this slot and alongside Paul O'Grady he developed **THE PAUL O'GRADY SHOW**. At launch he was the Showrunner/Series producer and it was an instant hit with viewers and critics alike. The chat show featured star guests, stunts comedy sketches, record breakers, animals and children doing amazing things. It ran two years on ITV1 before a headline making move to Channel 4 for another 4 years. In all this daily entertainment show ran for 11 series and was number one in its timeslot every series and was Britain's most popular daytime entertainment show for all six years of its run. The show ended when Paul O'Grady signed up for a new 9pm primetime show on ITV1 starting in the autumn of 2010.

Having successfully run the **5 O'CLOCK SHOW** on Channel 4. Robert became the Executive Producer on the new show **PAUL O'GRADY – LIVE** for ITV.

In January 2011 after a very successful time with Olga TV, Robert formed **YALLI PRODUCTIONS** with Shed Media/Warner Bros and The BBC commissioned Yalli to produce **IMPRACTICAL JOKERS** and **THE GINGE, THE GEORDIE AND THE GEEK** both of which have been broadcast on BBC2. **VIRAL TAP** was produced for ITV2. Yahoo! UK commissioned Yalli Productions to produce ***Boris Johnson's Guide to London***. Exclusively for Yahoo!, the five-part comedy series saw 'Boris Johnson' (Marek Larwood) embrace some of the lesser known cultural appeals of London. Each episode was a definitive guide to alternative London as 'Boris' met Londoners to find out how they spend their spare time in the city.

*Yalli also co-produced Reverend Obadiah Steppenwolfe III at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. The star-studded chat show with a twist, which is not for the faint hearted received the following comments: 'The man is a tornado, a fount of pitch-perfect jokes coupled with quite masterful timing and material that flouts the very laws of censure... Utterly challenging and well-crafted, it is, of course, howlingly funny' ***** (Metro). 'Unforgettable character comedy' (Edinburgh Evening News). 'I liked the vicar. That was proper stuff' (Robert Plant). The show also picked up four stars from *The Skinny*.*

Robert developed a Pilot starring Luisa Omelian for ITV2; the concept revolved around funny lady Luisa who looked at modern day dating, haring her high and lows and meeting members of the public with good and bad stories to tell.

In 2016 Robert was involved in several projects. One of them was a studio sitcom for Sky One starring Joanna Lumley titled **PUSHING UP DAISY**, written and directed by Mandie Fletcher. Further development led to a new single camera Pilot written by Tom McRae and directed by Tony Dow. He launched **LOVEFIX** for ITV2, a Valentine's Day special looking at sex and dating for the Love Island generation. This was hosted by 'Made in Chelsea's' Ollie Locke, Comedians Katie Mulgrew, Kojo & You Tube Sexpert Hannah Witton.

Robert also produced on **MILLION POUND LOCKDOWN** for Channel 4 commissioned by Justin Gorman. It is based on 10 strangers who have to agree on how to divide £1 million. The full-scale pilot at Elstree was hosted by Steve Jones. A further project was a 12 episode series with the comedy group, **LATE NIGHT GIMP FIGHT**, consisting of Lee Griffiths, Matt Ralph, Paul Biggin, and David Moon with Matt Edmundson as the narrator.