

Agent: Peter MacFarlane

Russell England **Producer/ Director/ Writer**

Russell England is a highly regarded and versatile Producer, Director, and Writer with a proven track record of delivering critically acclaimed, award-winning content across documentary, drama, and feature film. With over two decades of experience, Russell has become a creative force, known for bringing history, science, and human stories to life through captivating visual storytelling.

Renowned for his distinctive directorial style, Russell skilfully blends creative storytelling with innovative techniques, engaging diverse audiences across major platforms such as the BBC, ITV, Netflix, National Geographic, PBS, and SyFy. His versatility is evident in his work across a variety of formats, from feature-length films to episodic television.

Russell's projects have earned critical praise and numerous nominations, including for the Grierson and Broadcast Awards. His commitment to producing content that resonates with both critics and audiences alike has established him as a sought-after collaborator for ambitious projects requiring a balance of research, creativity, and direction.

Whether delivering gripping historical documentaries or innovative drama, Russell's work consistently reflects his dedication to accuracy, creativity, and engaging storytelling.

IN PRODUCTION

Islands of the Atlantic with Martin Clunes
Buffalo Pictures

Producer/Director

Martin is back for a new series, this time it's the islands of the Atlantic. I've directed episode two, where Martin takes on the mountains of Madeira and patrols the waters of The Azores on the lookout for sperm whales. ITV 1 TX Early 2025.
Commissioning Editor Jo Clinton-Davis

RECENT WORK

Islands of the Pacific Part Two with Martin Clunes Producer/Director
Buffalo Pictures

Martin is back exploring the islands of the Pacific with a further three films for ITV. I've directed two of these – episode 1 The Trobriand Islands and New Britain (part of Papua New Guinea) and episode three, Guam and Palau (part of Micronesia). ITV 1 TX May 2024. Commissioning Editor Jo Clinton-Davis

Islands of the Pacific Part One with Martin Clunes Producer/Director
Buffalo Pictures

Martin Clunes explores the islands of the Pacific. The first three films were completed before the pandemic and transmitted in early 2022. My film 'French Polynesia' opened the series. ITV 1 TX January 2022. Commissioning Editor Jo Clinton-Davis

The Colosseum Writer
October Films

I wrote two episodes for this eight-part drama-documentary series exploring what life was really like in the Roman Empire through the microcosm of its bloodiest arena. A&E Television June 2022. Commissioning Editor Mary O'Donahue

Raiders of the Lost Past with Janina Ramirez Producer/Director
Alleycats TV

Second series of the archaeology series exploring some of the world's greatest discoveries along with the often-controversial stories of the archaeologists and adventurers who found them. I produced and directed episode 3 'World's Oldest City'. BBC Two March 2021. Commissioning Editor Emma Cahusac

Babies Producer/Director
Nutopia

I directed episode 12 about Toddlers for this Netflix-commissioned documentary series exploring the science and experience of Babies.

Netflix September 2020. Commissioning Editor Kate Townsend

Lost Cities – Inca Island in the Sky Director
Blakeway Productions

Utilising ground-breaking technology, Nat Geo Explorer Albert Lin works with boots-on-the-ground archaeologists to discover and re-create unexcavated worlds still hidden beneath the earth. For this film Albert climbed the Peruvian Andes looking for the origins of Machu Picchu. **National Geographic November 2019.**

Commissioning Editor Bernadette McDaid

DOCUMENTARY WORK

Egypt's Great Mummies Unwrapped Producer/Director
Sandstone Global

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Bettany Hughes returns with an exciting countdown of Egypt's Top Ten Mummies on a journey to reveal the secrets that lie beneath the bandages. **Channel 5 & National Geographic. January 2021 Commissioning Editor Lucy Willis** *'A journey of discovery... fascinating.'* *The Times*

The Truth About Sleep
Lion Television

Producer/Director

What happens if we don't get enough sleep and how do we get more? Insomniac Michael Mosley investigates. The film gained an audience of 4.8 million – making it the highest-rated science show on the BBC in the last 17 years.

BBC One. May 2017. Commissioning Editor Diene Pettele

'Like sleep, it was fascinating, and I could have done with more.' *The Telegraph.*

Six Wives with Lucy Worsley
Wall to Wall

Series Director

A groundbreaking approach to popular history as historian Lucy Worsley time travels back to the Tudor Court to witness some of the most dramatic moments in the lives of Henry VIII's six wives. For the first time, it is these women's stories that Lucy wants to uncover, witness and explore. 3 X 1 hour drama-docs. Short-listed for the 2017 Grierson Documentary Awards.

BBC One and PBS. December 2016. Commissioning Editor Martin Davidson

'Lucy Worsley's series has revamped the traditional history documentary.' *The Mail on Sunday.*

The Secret History of Our Streets - Duke Street
Century Films

Producer/Director

Second season for this award-winning series. The story of the longest street in Britain – Duke Street – and how its residents fought to save their homes from being demolished by a misguided council.

BBC Two. May 2014. Commissioning Editor Maxine Watson

Operation Mincemeat
Walker George Films

Director

An adaptation of Ben Macintyre's best-selling book, presented by the author. Operation Mincemeat was the most daring feat of wartime deception since the Trojan horse - to fool the Germans into believing a fake Allied invasion of Greece during World War Two. The plan involved a dead body, a briefcase full of documents and a letter from a girlfriend. Oft repeated. BBC Two. December 2010. Commissioning Editor Martin Davidson

Nominated for the Grierson British Documentary Awards 2011.

Nominated for Broadcast Awards 2012.

Who Do You Think You Are? Jonnie Peacock
Wall to Wall

Director

Paralympic sprinter Jonnie Peacock discovers just who to thank for his sporting prowess but is disturbed to learn about the terrible toll early 20th century diseases took on his great-great grandfather Isaac Robert's family; including Isaac's death from a disease normally associated with biological warfare. Jonnie also solves a family mystery and discovers a strong-willed and independent ancestor – a woman

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ahead of her time. BBC One. August 2018. Commissioning Editor Diene Pettele
BAFTA winner Best Features Series 2019.

The Truth About Carbs

Producer/Director

Lion Television for BBC 1

Self-professed carb lover Dr. Xand Van Tulleken, sorts the wheat from the chaff of dietary science about carbohydrates. June 2018. Commissioning Editor Diene Pettele

Who Do You Think You Are? Amanda Holden

Writer/Director

Wall to Wall

Amanda Holden delves into her ancestors' past lives, bringing to light an extraordinary Napoleonic-era cross-channel romance and the forgotten tragedy of Britain's worst-ever maritime disaster. Part of the 2017 BAFTA award-winning series run. BBC One. December 2016. Commissioning Editor Diene Pettele

Bletchley Park: Code-breaking's Forgotten Genius

Producer/Director

Arrow Media

This BBC/Smithsonian co-production explores the life of forgotten wartime code-breaker Gordon Welchman, and his remarkable legacy to the modern world of intelligence gathering.

BBC One. September 2015. Commissioning Editor Martin Davidson

Who Do You Think You Are? Jerry Hall

Writer/Director

Wall to Wall

A road trip including Texas, Missouri, Kentucky and Oldham (Lancs.), as Jerry Hall traces her ancestors back to the days of American folk hero Daniel Boone.

BBC Two. September 2015. Commissioning Editor Maxine Watson

Jerrybuilding - Unholy Relics of Nazi Germany

Producer/Director

BBC Television

Halloween was the appropriate night for the transmission of Jerrybuilding, the culmination of a long association with the larger-than-life social and architectural commentator Jonathan Meades. This film was a one-off special; examining the cult of the Third Reich through its architectural relics. It was received with widespread critical acclaim, especially from AA Gill:

BBC Two. 1994. Commissioning Editor John Whiston.

OTHER WORK

'Green Wine'

Director

Swipe Films

This feature-doc seeks to right a tremendous wrong. It investigates a claim that has remained hidden for over 300 years; that we should be thanking the Irish for giving us the world's finest wines.

The World's Most Extreme...

Director

Arrow Media for Channel 4

Incredible stories of the World's most extreme structures; including railways, airports, bridges and seaways.

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Kevin's Super-Size Salvage Director
Arrow Media for Channel 4
90' special with Kevin McCloud attempting to recycle and upcycle an Airbus A320 passenger plane otherwise destined for the scrapheap and landfill.

Who Do You Think You Are? Writer/Director
Wall to Wall for BBC One
Footballing legend John Barnes goes in search of his ancestors for the ninth series of this primetime BBC1 series. 1 hour.

The World's Most Expensive Paintings Producer/Director
IWC for BBC One
Art critic Alastair Sooke goes in search of the most expensive paintings ever sold at auction and the people who are prepared to pay over \$100,000,000 to own one – and then mostly hide them from public view. Prime-time 1 hour.

DRAMA AND DRAMA-DOCUMENTARY

Unhallowed Ground Director
Aviary Films Distributed by Kaleidoscope Media
My feature film-directing debut. This British Indie is a Heist-Horror mash-up, set in a Boys' Public School. UK Premiere and winner of 'Best Horror' at the London Independent Film Festival.

Holby City Director
BBC Drama Series BBC One
I directed four episodes for the popular hospital drama series, shortly after completing the BBC Drama Director's Course in 2001.

The Curse of Lonergan Farm & The Bad Man Writer/Director
RAW for SyFy USA
I directed and scripted two further episodes for season three of SyFy series Paranormal Witness - rated in the top-ten cable shows on American television. People's supernatural experiences dramatized as individual horror films.

The Dybbuk Box & The Lady on the Stairs Writer/Director
RAW for SyFy USA
Directed and scripted 2 X 1 hours for season two of the hit US SyFy series Paranormal Witness. The Dybbuk Box was the 'true-life' inspiration for Sam Raimi's feature 'The Possession', released the same year.

Welcome to Leathermill Director/Producer/Writer
Four-Legged Films & Outsider
A Short fiction film intended as a teaser for the feature Leathermill. Winner of 'Challenge Alexa' – run jointly by Arri GB, Skillset and Directors UK. Shown at a special screening of competition winners at BAFTA and receiving its UK premiere at Brief Encounters Film Festival 2012. International premiere at Interfilm, Berlin 2012.

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Secret History – Wartime Crime Director
2am Films for Channel 4

A drama-documentary examining crime on the home front during WW2. Amid the chaos and confusion, looters, thieves, gangsters and murderers took full advantage of wartime conditions.

Secret History - Witch Hunt Director
Twenty Twenty Television for Channel 4

A drama-documentary exploring the events surrounding Britain's wartime Witchcraft Trial, held at the Old Bailey in 1944. Starring Elaine C Smith as Helen Duncan and Daniel Betts as Lieutenant Stanley Worth. A true story of paranormal phenomena and wartime paranoia.

DIGITAL AND BRANDED CONTENT WORK

Pitzhanger Museum and Gallery Director
The Pitzhanger Trust

Fundraiser for the recently-restored Pitzhanger Manor and Gallery in Ealing. Griff Rhys Jones guides the viewer through Sir John Soane's architectural masterpiece.

The Jenson and Lewis Test Director/Producer
Outsider for McLaren Automotive

Put two British F1 World Champions behind the wheel of the hottest new sports car, give them an empty racetrack at historic Goodwood and see what happens... Viral film for McLaren. (HD).

The Office Grand Prix Director
Outsider for Vodafone

A short film featuring two office geeks, Lewis Hamilton and a radio-controlled F1 car. This film for Vodafone went viral and has received over two million hits.

Winner Silver Arrow. British Television Advertising Awards 2010

Winner Bronze Lion. Cannes International Advertising Festival 2010

Chasing the Dream Producer/Director
Outsider for ITV1

A behind-the-scenes look at F1 motor racing team McLaren and driver Lewis Hamilton – not just for petrol heads! Prime-time 1 hour

The Horse Nobody Wanted Producer/Director
Outsider for BBC One

Award-winning film about a 'three-legged' horse that came from behind to win the 2006 Epsom Derby. Originally sold at auction for a loss, Sir Percy is now worth millions of pounds. A true-life four-legged 'rags-to-riches' story. Prime-time.

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