

FRANCIS LONGHURST

DIRECTOR/STORY CONSULTANT

Email: flonghurst@gmail.com

Website: www.francislonghurst.com

Exceptionally strong storyteller with extensive experience leading large teams to produce high-end, award-winning documentary content. In recent years, primarily specialized in premium archive and interview-based features. Filmed on location across five continents, working in a wide range of challenging environments - from the Amazon rainforest to the Kenyan savannah. Skilled in managing multiple edits simultaneously and in taking over struggling projects to ensure delivery on time and within budget. Prior to going freelance, spent 10 years at Minnow Films, contributing to dozens of productions from initial development pitch through to final delivery.

SELECTED CREDITS:

DIRECTOR: FROST VS, 2x45' SKY STUDIOS & WHITE HORSE PICTURES FOR SKY DOCUMENTARIES/MSNBC GRIERSON 2025 LONGLISTED: Best Documentary Series

Director of 2 episodes of a major retrospective series on the legendary broadcaster David Frost and his most notable interviews. My episodes focus on Muhammad Ali (Ep 2) and Elton John (Ep 5).

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iOTAI8HDOb0>

Execs: Danielle Peck & Wilf Frost

STORY CONSULTANT: THE GREATEST RIVALRY, 3x45' GREYMATTER ENTERTAINMENT FOR NETFLIX

Oversaw editorial restructure of a high profile documentary series exploring the India-Pakistan Cricket rivalry.

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BwA8db6R3G0>

Comm-Ed: Swati Sapna

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER: CAUGHT OUT, 1x80' PASSION PICTURES FOR NETFLIX

GRIERSON SHORTLISTED: Best Sports Documentary

Archive, recon and interview based feature documentary telling the story of a major cricket scandal. Joined the project in the early edit phase to lead the team through editorial restructuring and reshoots.

Trailer: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZT2P__EQqUE&t

Comm-Ed: Reva Sharma

DIRECTOR: MUMBAI MAFIA: POLICE VERSUS THE UNDERWORLD, 1x90' MINNOW FILMS FOR NETFLIX

FILMARE OTT AWARDS NOMINATED: Best Nonfiction Original

Archive, recon and interview based feature documentary exploring Mumbai's Police's fight against the Underworld. Told without VO, much of the film was made under testing covid circumstances that involved directing a large crew remotely.

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=08alafhCRKU>

Execs: Morgan Matthews and Sophie Jones

DIRECTOR: STIRLING, 1x70' MINNOW FILMS FOR SKY DOCUMENTARIES

Retrospective feature on the life and career of F1 legend Stirling Moss. Made without voiceover, 'Stirling' drew on hours of unearthed audio material to allow the recently deceased Moss to narrate his own story.

Execs: Morgan Matthews and Grace Reynolds

SERIES PRODUCER: BAD BOY BILLIONAIRES, 4x60' MINNOW FILMS FOR NETFLIX

FILMFARE OTT AWARDS WINNER: Best Non-Fiction Series

Archive and interview led series exploring the downfall of four of India's highest profile Billionaires. Oversaw production from initial research and casting to taking the opening episode through the edit.

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YvEzJCGw0xM>

Execs: Morgan Matthews and Ricardo Pollack

DEVELOPMENT PRODUCER: MANCTOPIA, 4x60' MINNOW FILMS FOR BBC2

3 part observational documentary series following characters across Greater Manchester as they navigate the city's fast changing housing market. Spent months in Manchester securing access to a wide range of institutions and casting the main characters for the series.

Exec: Sophie Leonard

PRODUCER: SUE PERKINS AND THE CHIMP SANCTUARY, 1x60' MINNOW FILMS FOR BBC2

GRIERSON NOMINATED: Best Natural History Documentary

Single doc following presenter Sue Perkins as she meets ex biomedical lab chimpanzees. Set up and ran a complex shoot that included installing and operating a fixed rig system in a chimp enclosure.

Director Tom Currie, Exec Sophie Leonard

ASSOCIATE PRODUCER: WILLIAMS, THEATRICAL RELEASE, MINNOW FILMS FOR BBC FILMS

BIFA NOMINATED: Best Documentary & Best Editing

Feature documentary charting the story of Formula One's most celebrated family. Responsible for research and casting the majority of interviews – including with some of the world's most well known drivers.

Director: Morgan Matthews, Exec Colin Barr

OTHER NOTABLE CREDITS (ALL AT MINNOW FILMS)

ARCHIVE PRODUCER: TSUNAMI: SURVIVORS' STORIES, 1x60 FOR ITV - Exec Colin Barr

DEVELOPMENT PRODUCER: CHILDREN WHO KILL WITH SUSANNAH REID, 1x60 FOR ITV - Exec Sophie Leonard

CASTING/OFF RIG/EDIT AP: SAS: WHO DARES WINS SERIES 1 & 2 - 5x60 FOR CHANNEL 4 - Exec Colin Barr

Nominated factual categories: RTS/Broadcast and Grierson awards

ASSISTANT PRODUCER: KIDS AND GUNS, 1x60 FOR CHANNEL 4 - Exec Morgan Matthews

RESEARCHER: DOGGING TALES - 1x60 FOR CHANNEL 4 - Exec Morgan Matthews

Nominated in Documentary Categories – RTS/Broadcast and Grierson awards

EDUCATION

2009: MA Contemporary History, Bristol University – Distinction (2nd highest mark in year)

2005-2008: BA (Hons) History, Bristol University – Upper 2:1

OTHER SKILLS:

- Full clean driving licence and own car
- Comfortable shooting on cameras including the Sony FS7 and Canon C300. Experienced photographer and owner of complete A7IV photography kit
- High level of written English and happy writing pitches/treatments/scripts
- Very experienced in sourcing, clearing and managing archive
- References available on request