

STEPHEN BONSER

Series Producer & Series Director

+44 (0)7973 198853 | steve@bonbonfilms.co.uk | www.stevebonser.com

With over 25 years of diverse experience in television production spanning various genres, I bring a wealth of skills and expertise in crafting top-tier TV content, tailored to a broad spectrum of audiences. I am capable of turning my hand to any challenge, although my experience sits within the realms of observational documentaries, motoring, cookery, science and engineering.

I have an ability to energise both talent and crew, fostering a dynamic and enjoyable atmosphere throughout every production. As a level-headed Series Producer & Director, I possess a keen grasp of the visual and editorial intricacies inherent in program development, from the inception stages to post-production. Additionally, I actively contribute as a hands-on member of the team, equipped with proficiency as a licensed drone operator and adept camera operator.

In my most recent endeavour, I took on the role of Series Producer, spearheading the revamp of a longstanding flagship car series for Discovery, orchestrating its triumphant return to the UK. Overseeing six consecutive series, including two spin-off shows, I navigated pivotal visual and format changes whilst managing a sizable editorial and filming team. During that time, I helped to propel the show to the pinnacle of Discovery's global ratings, with a staggering viewership exceeding 200 million worldwide. To commemorate the show's 20th anniversary, we embarked on a groundbreaking World tour spanning 10 episodes, filming across Europe, the US, and Australia. Despite monumental logistical and editorial hurdles, this project will no doubt go on to elevate the brand as a whole.

I embrace challenges with unwavering resolve, constantly striving to deliver exceptional shows while fostering a collaborative and enjoyable work environment for all involved.

SERIES PRODUCER

Discovery Channel 'Wheeler Dealers - World Tour' (10 x 60')	2023 - 2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Series Produced a special 20th Anniversary series of this popular motoring programme.Responsible for planning and executing a challenging 10 part series set in 7 different countries worldwideDealing with the logistical and editorial challenge of filming in multiple foreign countriesManaged a large team on location and back in the UK as well as a remote working edit team. .Worked closely with the edit to set a style for the anniversary seriesShooting the majority of drone footage across the seriesCreative Director: David Harrison. Executive Producer: John Widdup. Commissioner: Steven Fullagar	
Discovery Channel 'Wheeler Dealers' Series 17 and 18 (40 x 60')	2020 - 2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Series Produced a revamped series of this flagship motoring show, welcoming it back to the UK.Responsible for making dramatic format changes and engaging with channel commissioners.Designed a workshop studio, working closely with builders and set designersManaged a large team on location, who were filming continuously over a 2 year period.Worked closely with the edit to set a style and feel for the new seriesShooting the majority of drone footage across the seriesCreative Director: David Harrison. Executive Producer: David Sayer. Commissioner: Oliver Wilson	
Discovery Channel 'Wheeler Dealers - Dream Car' Series 2 (10 x 60')	2021 - 2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Series Produced the return of this Wheeler Dealer spin off showManaged a punishing schedule that saw 60 cars bought, fixed and sold in just 5 months.Responsible for keeping on top of complex storylines and tricky compliance issues.Creative Director: David Harrison. Executive Producer: David Sayer. Commissioner: Oliver Wilson	
ITV4 'Cornish Car Hunters; Studio Ramsay (2 x 60')	2019 - 2020
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Series Produced and Directed this two part broadcast pilot for ITV4.Responsible for developing this new car show format, producing new talent and securing access.Edit Produced the two shows, scripting and creating a new returnable formatChief Creative Officer: Lisa Edwards. Executive Producer: Tom Willis. Commissioner: Amanda Stavri	

SERIES DIRECTOR

- BBC2 'Inside The Factory' Series 5; Voltage TV (8 x 60')** **2018 - 2019**
- Series directed this highly successful specialist factual series for BBC2.
 - Responsible for logistics, scripting and directing a large team, including two presenters and three cameras.
 - Executive Producer: Amanda Lyons. Series Producer: Michael Rees.
- UKTV 'Lazy Boy Garage'; October Films (10 x 30')** **2018**
- Series directed and self-shot this new motoring series for UKTV.
 - Responsible for creating a look and style for the series, working within an incredibly tight budget.
 - Assisted in developing the format points, schedules and scripts for the series, alongside the Series Producer.
 - Executive Producer: Gareth Cornick. Series Producer: Laura Offer. Commissioner: Joe McVey
- BBC2 'Britain's Ultimate Pilots - Inside The RAF'; Archie Productions (4 x 60')** **2015**
- Series directed this prime-time documentary series about the RAF display teams.
 - Developed the format, schedule and scripted the series from day one alongside the Exec Producer.
 - Worked with the RAF to gain unprecedented access to the various display teams and pilots.
 - Organised the filming of large scale events and directed multiple camera crews.
 - Edit produced the final episode and oversaw the other edits alongside the Exec.
 - Executive Producer: Jenny Cole. Commissioner: Lindsay Bradbury.
- Founding Director BonBon Films** **2015**
- Co-directed a new start up Production company, specialising in Factual programming.
 - Currently producing a funded pilot for a new motoring documentary series.
 - Developed and shot a funded cookery pilot for C4
 - Currently developing a wide range of new talent led formats
 - Scripted, directed and edit produced a music video for an up and coming rock band.

PRODUCER DIRECTOR

- C5 'Building Britain's Canals – The Grand Union'; Elephant House Productions (1 x 60')** **2018**
- Scripted, directed, self-shot and edit produced an episode of this three part documentary series.
 - Executive Producer: Jeff Anderson. Series Producer: Graham Cooper. Commissioner: Adrian Padmore
- National Geographic / More 4 'Car SOS' Series 1-6; Renegade Pictures (17 x 60')** **2012 - 2018**
- Directed, scripted and produced this presenter-led, classic car restoration series across 6 seasons.
 - Crew and self-shot, using the Sony FS7 and PMW300.
 - Series Producer: Stephen Taylor-Woodrow. Commissioner: Carolyn Payne.
- C5 'World's Greatest Bridges' Series 2; Elephant House Productions (1 x 60')** **2017**
- Edit produced an episode of this popular engineering series.
 - Series Producer: Graham Cooper.
- C4 'Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast' Series 5; Jamie Oliver Productions.** **2017**
- Scripted and directed twelve DIY Food VT's with presenter Jimmy Doherty.
 - Managed a team of up to 15 crew and production on location.
 - Multi-camera directed three cameras, shooting on Amira's.
 - Executive Producer: Sam Beddoes. Series Producer: Dunk Barnes. Commissioner: Sarah Lazenby.
- C5 'Billionaire Kids'; Elephant House Productions (2 x 60')** **2017**
- Directed on this two-part documentary about the services industry for the super wealthy.
 - Scripted and self-shot on the Sony FS7 and PMW300.
 - Series Producer: Kyle Prince.
- C5 'How The Other Half Lives' Series 2; Spun Gold TV (6 x 60')** **2016**
- Produced, directed and self-shot this Fact Ent programme working with two prime time presenters.
 - Secured filming access with high net worth individuals, filming in both the UK and US.
 - Executive Producer: Fintan Maguire. Series Producer: John Bonny.
- UKTV 'World's Most Talented'; Renegade Pictures. (1 x 60')** **2014**
- Scripted and directed an episode of this world-wide talent show, filming in Japan.
 - Worked with crew and a presenter within a logistically complex shoot.
 - Executive Producer: Suzanne Readwin. Series Producer: Jaime Brannan.

National Geographic 'Ultimate Airport – Dubai' Series 2; Arrow Media. (10 x 60')	2014
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Directed crew and self-shot on this ambitious observational documentary series. ● Based entirely on location in Dubai, shooting on the Sony F800 with a Sound Recordist. ● Executive Producer: Nick Metcalfe. Series Producer: Craig Blackhurst. 	
ITV1 'Hunting The Doorstep Conman'; Tiger Aspect. (2 x 60')	2013
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Self-shot and directed this two-part prime time, presenter led current affairs show. ● Worked closely with the police and Trading Standards in often hostile situations. ● Executive Producer: Lionel Mill. Series Producer: Katy Ferguson. 	
National Geographic 'Kingfisher'; ITV Studios. (1 x 60')	2012
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Directed, scripted and edit produced an episode of this competitive fishing series. ● Filmed with crew and contestants in three locations around the world, US, Costa Rica and UK. ● Executive Producer: Jeremy Phillips. Series Producer: Simon Bisset. 	
Discovery 'World's Top 5'; Blink Films. (5 x 60')	2012
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Self-shot and directed this engineering series in the US and Canada using the Sony F800 ● A logistically challenging series, with a new location every three days for six weeks. ● Filmed aerials from a helicopter and worked in extreme weather conditions. 	
ITV1 'Britain's Best Dish – The Chefs'; ITV Studios. (1 x 60')	2011
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Directed multiple crew on this shiny floor cooking competition series. ● Edit produced the final one hour episode. ● Executive Producer: Ed Sayer. Series Producer: Rory Dalziel. 	
ITV1 'Pride of Britain Awards'; ITV Studios. (1 x 60')	2011
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Directed, scripted and produced high end drama reconstructions for this award show. ● Directed crew and actors on set, recreating real life events. ● Executive Producer: Jeremy Phillips. Series Producer: Lee Servis. 	
Good Food Channel 'Bill's Tasty Weekends'; Optomen Television. (10 x 60')	2010
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Series directed, scripted and self-shot this brand-new travel cooking format. ● Worked to a tight 3-day filming schedule to produce episodic content. ● Series Producer: Charlotte Winby. 	
C5 'Monster Moves'; Windfall Films. (4 x 60')	2008 / 2010
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Filmed at locations all over the globe Inc. US, Caribbean, Quebec, Italy and Florida. ● Shot air to air with a WW2 aircraft and wrote the lyrics to the theme song for an episode. ● Scripted and edit produced all four of my episodes. ● Executive Producer: David Dugan. Series Producer: Carlo Massarella. 	
C5 'Big Bigger Biggest'; Windfall Films. (2 x 60')	2009
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Scripted, directed and edit produced two episodes. Filming in both the US and Japan. ● Designed and scripted CGI graphics to demonstrate complex scientific and engineering problems. 	

OTHER PRODUCER DIRECTOR CREDITS

Food Network – Pioneer Woman. C5 – Rolf's Animal Clinic. TV3 – Celebrity Come Dine With Me. BBC – You've Been Scammed. BBC – Escape To The Country. BBC2 - Great British Menu. Sky 1 - Show Me Your Garden. C4 - Ramsay's Best Restaurant. BBC - Alan's Garden Secrets, Scam Squad, See Hear, Watchdog, Chelsea and Hampton Court Flower Show, Crimewatch and Level Up. ITV - Police Camera Action. Sky1 - Road Wars.

KEY SKILLS

- Experienced and licensed drone operator
- Proficient user of Sony FS7, Sony F800, PMW350 and 500, Canon XF305 and Sony FS700.
- Highly experienced in working globally, in extreme conditions and conducting both aerial and air to air filming.
- Talented and confident multi camera Series Director.
- Experienced in scripting and edit producing across a wide range of programme genres.
- Full driving and motorcycle licence.
- Complete Albert training for Editorial 2022

EDUCATION

- 2:1 BSc Hons. Construction, Technology and Management.
- 3 A-Levels. Chemistry, Physics and Math Mechanics and 10 GCSE's.

REFERENCES

David Harrison, Creative Director, Betty TV - Wheeler Dealers. Tel: +44 (0)7702 281110
Email: david.harrison@betty.co.uk

David Sayer, Executive Producer, Betty TV - Wheeler Dealers. Tel: +44 (0)7985 919665

Tom Willis, Executive Producer - Cornish Car Hunters. Tel: +44 (0)7979 542849
Email: tomwillis@studioramsay.com

Jenny Cole, Executive/Series Producer – Britain's Ultimate Pilots. Tel: +44 (0)7876 775262.
Email: jenny@jelleeproductions.co.uk

Laura Offer, Series Producer – Lazy Boy Garage. Tel: +44 (0)7883 067393.