

PAUL BURGESS Editor, Producer/Director

- 30+ YEARS EXPERIENCE MAKING HIGH QUALITY DOCS AND DRAMA-DOCS
- MULTIPLE AWARDS AND NOMINATIONS
- RUNS A PROFESSIONAL NORTH LONDON EDIT SUITE – AVID AND PREMIERE PRO

Editing credits - long form and feature length docs

HEILIG SCHUIM (SACRED BEER) (1 x 54m) VPRO

The David and Goliath story of the once exiled brewer John Kavakure who returns to Burundi to build his own brewery and challenge the dominance of Heineken.

Zeppers Film & TV. Directors: Thomas Blom, Misha Wessel

World Premiere at Movies That Matter Festival, The Netherlands 22 March 2026

FREE AT LAST: UNRESOLVED STORIES OF APARTHEID (3 x 54m) ARTE/SABC/VPRO/ZDF

The moving stories of both victims and perpetrators reveal the true story of Apartheid

Storyscope/Gebrueder Beetz. Producer: Xoliswa Sithole, Directors: Thomas Blom, Misha Wessel

Winner - Outstanding Documentary Series, South African National Arts and Culture Awards (2025)

Winner – Prix Italia - Global South Award (2025)

Nominated for a Rockie Award (2026) at Banff World Media Festival

Nominated for De Tegel Journalism Award, Holland. (International Category)

ROCK OUT (116 MIN) TBC

The untold story of the culture-defining influence of gay managers, producers and artists of the 60's and 70's, who disrupted the hyper-masculine worlds of heavy metal, punk and rock & roll.

Live Nation (USA) Dir: Dustin Lance Black (Oscar winner: Milk 2008)

Festival screenings: Sheffield Doc Fest, Outfest LA, Doc Point Helsinki, New Fest, New York.

ART THAT MADE US (58m) (co -Editor Ep 8) BBC

From Anglo Saxon sculpture to Tracey Emin's bed – the history of Britain told through art.

ClearStory / Menace Prods. Exec Producer: Denys Blakeway. Series Producer: Melanie Fall

"Outstanding" Financial Times

THE DAYS THAT SHOOK THE BBC - Ep 3: "Whose BBC?" (60m) BBC

David Dimbleby investigates the BBC's struggle to fairly represent the nation.

ClearStory Prods. Series Dir: Daniel Bogado. Producer: James Parris

"Incisive and absorbing scrutiny into impartiality" iNews;

"Best Hour of the Week" Worth Watching

ARENA: MAGGI HAMBLING – MAKING LOVE WITH THE PAINT (58min) BBC

An intimate portrait of one of the UK's most unique and brilliant artists.

Menace Prods. Dir: Randall Wright.

Nominated for a Grierson Award - Best Arts Documentary

"A definitive and moving film" TV Guide

EMPIRE STATE OF MIND (2x50m) Ch 4

Sathnam Sanghera offers a brave, personal and damning take on Britain's racist legacy.

Sandpaper Films. Dir: Helen Nixon. Exec Producer: Henry Singer

Nominated for a Grierson Award – Best Documentary Presenter

'Within moments, I am crying on to my laptop' Chitra Ramaswamy - The Guardian

<p>STUDIO 17: THE LOST REGGAE TAPES (85m) The rise and fall of the legendary Studio17 in Jamaica, home to Reggae's greatest artists. Iambic Dream. Exec Producer: Wael Kabbani. Dir: Mark James. <i>"An amazing film that uncovers forgotten recordings from reggae's golden age." Quincy Jones.</i></p>	BBC
<p>THE TRAFFICKERS (50m) Nelufar Hedayat goes undercover to investigate the illegal trade in endangered pangolin. Lightbox Media. Dir: Alicia Arce. Exec Prods: Simon Chinn / Jonathon Chinn</p>	Netflix
<p>WRITE AROUND THE WORLD with Richard E. Grant (50m) The Hollywood star explores the countries and cultures that inspired great writers. Storyvault Films. Producer: Anne Elletson. Director: Southan Morris <i>"An utter delight" Substack/Worth Watching</i></p>	BBC
<p>BRAZIL with Michael Palin (2x60m) The Ex-Python witnesses the supercharged development of this amazing country. Prominent Palin Prods. Dir: JP Davidson <i>"Fantastically interesting" The Guardian</i></p>	BBC
<p>MANDELA : THE LIVING LEGEND (2x 60m) The epic story of one the greatest icons of our time, with unprecedented access to Nelson Mandela A BBC/SABC Co-Production. Dir: Dominic Allen Nominated for an International Emmy - Best Documentary</p>	BBC, SABC
<p>LAST CHANCE TO SEE with Stephen Fry (60m) Britain's favourite eccentric travels to Borneo in search of endangered species. Westpark Pictures Dir: JP Davidson <i>"worth the license fee alone." The Times "Very funny; absolutely charming" The Guardian</i></p>	BBC
<p>STEPHEN FRY'S BIG FAT ADVENTURE (46m) Travelling through central America Fry discovers paradise and a land with a tragic past. Sprout Prods. Dir: JP Davidson</p>	ITV
<p>PLANET WORD with Stephen Fry (2x60m) Stephen Fry explores language and discovers literature that makes him laugh and cry. Sprout Pictures. Dir: JP Davidson</p>	BBC
<p>THE A-Z OF WAGNER (50m) The staging of 'Tannhauser,' interwoven with details of the composer's life. Oxford Television. Dir: Peter Webber Winner - Best Documentary at Lyons Music Film Festival Finalist - RTS Best Arts Programme.</p>	Ch 4
<p>THE 27 INCH MAN (50m) The dramatic life story of Edward Hernandez - the shortest man in the world. Ronachan Films. Dir: Nick Read <i>"A tactful and affecting documentary" Daily Telegraph</i></p>	BBC
<p>CHILD OF THE REVOLUTION (75mins) BAFTA winning producer Xoliswa Sithole's personal account of Zimbabwe's struggle for independence. Nayanaya Pictures. Dir: Xoliswa Sithole</p>	SABC

NAKED CLASSICS (2x50m)	Ch 4
The classical music industry's hidden battle between art and commerce. Oxford Television. Dir: Henry Singer Nominated in the BANFF awards - Best Arts Documentary. <i>"a highly entertaining documentary" The Daily Telegraph (Ep 2:'The Boss')</i>	
CHURCHILL'S DARKEST DECISION (50m)	Ch 4 / PBS
The tragic story of Churchill's attack on the French navy, killing 1300 men. Furnace TV. Dir: Richard Bond. Exec Prod. Phil Craig <i>"This intelligent, thought provoking documentary..." Daily Express.</i> <i>"Riveting" Daily Mail. "A fine and meticulously researched documentary" Independent</i>	
FINEST HOUR (Assoc. Producer/Editor) (3x 50m)	BBC
How 5 months of British heroism, sacrifice and endurance prevented a Nazi invasion. Brook Lapping Prods. Dir: Nick Read Nominated as Best Documentary Series at the U.K. Broadcast Awards. <i>"This exceptional series...beautifully made, achingly vivid." The Guardian.</i> <i>"a pace that could put a lot of thrillers to shame. Television at its very best." Time Out</i>	
EQUINOX: DO PARENTS MATTER? (50m)	Ch 4
Exploring the theory that peers, not parents, shape a child's personality. Lion TV Dir: Henry Singer <i>"An extraordinary story...A thought-provoking film." The Scotsman</i> <i>"A charming film" The Daily Telegraph</i>	
WHITE HEAT (3x 50m)	BBC
A landmark series, exploring the relationship between technology and culture. TLC/ Uden Associates Dir: Henry Singer <i>"One of the most thoughtful series for a long time". The Financial Times</i>	
BBC HORIZON: SHIPWRECK (50m)	BBC
History, marine archaeology and science help identify the first Elizabethan shipwreck. <i>"a beautifully crafted film" Daily Mail.</i> Dir: Isobel Rosin	

Producing & Directing credits - long form and drama documentaries

STORYVILLE: THE CURSE OF OIL Ep3 The Wilderness (54m) (Dir/Editor)	BBC/PBS
Oil companies want to drill in Alaska's pristine wilderness. Can they be trusted to protect it? PITV. Exec Producer: Bill Cran. Winner : Cine Golden Eagle Award for News Analysis. New York Festivals Finalist Award	
CATHERINE THE GREAT (50m)	BBC / PBS / ARTE / NDR
A young German princess becomes one of the most influential rulers of the 18th century, in this lavish dram-doc filmed in Russia, Romania and the UK. Brook Lapping Prods. Exec Producer: Phil Craig <i>"Where this film really excels is in conjuring an atmosphere of paranoia, intrigue and treachery..." (The Sunday Times). "An excellent documentary... intelligently and vividly told" The Times.</i>	
LIVE 8 - A BITTERSWEET SYMPHONY (80m)	BBC
Behind-the-scenes intrigue at the largest politically charged pop concert in history. Brook Lapping Prods. Exec Producer: Phil Craig	

<p>SUMMER OF HEAT BBC (60m)</p> <p>Drought, water rationing, forest fires, riots and Punk made the tropical summer of 1976 one of the most dramatic in the UK's history.</p> <p>Blakeway Prods. Exec Producer: Denys Blakeway</p> <p><i>"Superior popular history" The Sunday Times. "Gritty, subtly integrated..." The Independent</i></p>	BBC
<p>CRIME AND PUNISHMENT (2x 50m)</p> <p>Tony Robinson 's fascinating and often bizarre journey to reveal the origins our legal system.</p> <p>Firefly Prods. Exec Prod: Magnus Temple</p> <p><i>"Spirited, witty...with verve and humour" The Guardian</i></p> <p><i>"Never a dull moment" The Times. "Edifying Viewing" Time Out</i></p>	Ch 4
<p>VERSAILLES TRILOGY (Director/Editor) (3x60m)</p> <p>Three drama-docs tell the extraordinary stories of the last three kings of the Ancien Régime.</p> <p>Brook Lapping Prods. Exec Producer: Phil Craig</p> <p><i>"This picturesque, entertaining and educational series" The Guardian.</i></p>	BBC
<p>QUEEN VICTORIA'S EMPIRE (Director/Editor) (2x 50m)</p> <p>Exploring the great moral dilemma of empire – to spread democracy or to plunder and colonise? Shot in S. Africa, Zimbabwe & U.K. using fully costumed reconstructions.</p> <p>Brook Lapping Prods. Narrator: Donald Sutherland. Exec Producer: Brian Lapping</p> <p>New York Festivals Finalist Award – International Competition</p> <p><i>"Intelligent, romantic reconstructions, moving commentary, great stories" Time Out</i></p> <p><i>"This excellent series..." The Observer.</i></p>	Ch 5 / PBS
<p>ROME: THE MODEL EMPIRE (50m)</p> <p>Journalist and author Jonathan Freedland's argues that American imperialism echoes the Romans' strategy for world domination.</p> <p>Mentorn Prods. Exec Prod: John Bridcut.</p> <p><i>"Clever and thought provoking...timely, topical television." Daily Telegraph</i></p> <p><i>"Informed and persuasive...impressively nifty study." The Guardian</i></p>	Ch 4
<p>THE YEARS THAT ROCKED THE PLANET (45m)</p> <p>A musical history of the green movement, told through news, rock and comedy archive.</p> <p>Fulcrum Prods. Exec Prod: Shauna Brown</p> <p>Nominated for a British Environment & Media Award.</p> <p><i>"Turn on, tune in and enjoy." Evening Standard</i></p> <p><i>"A magnificent programme." Daily Express</i></p>	BBC
<p>VATICAN: THE HIDDEN WORLD (60m)</p> <p>A rare look at this tiny secretive sovereign state, full of hidden treasures and secret archives.</p> <p>Nutopia Prods. Exec Prod: Phil Craig</p>	BBC
<p>SECONDS FROM DISASTER (2x 47m)</p> <p>Powerful survivor testimonies and an intriguing investigation unravel the chain of events behind a train derailment in Alabama and a runway collision of 2 jumbos in Tenerife.</p> <p>Darlow Smithson Prods. Exec Producer: John Smithson</p>	NAT GEO
<p>WE BUILT THIS CITY: LONDON (50m)</p> <p>Reconstructions and CGI bring to life the major engineering feats over the last 2000 years that made London the great city it is today.</p> <p>Darlow Smithson Prods. Series Producer: Gina Marsh</p> <p><i>"Sleek and snazzy" The Sunday Times. "Don't Miss" Evening Standard</i></p>	C5

LIVE AID - TENTH ANNIVERSARY (Creative Director/Editor) (6hrs 30m) BBC
A six-hour special commemorating the world's greatest fundraising event, with spine-tingling reminiscences from stars such as Bob Geldof, Paul McCartney and Elvis Costello.
BBC in-house production. Executive Producer: Peter Firstbrook

KING'S CROSS: BENEATH THE FLAMES (30m). BBC
Dramatic reconstructions and powerful testimonies reveal the real causes of this tragic fire: Government cuts combined with London Underground's dreadful safety record.
Co-Production with Open University. Exec Prod: Laua Granditer
"touchingly moving" The Guardian. "Don't Miss" The Evening Standard

Co-Producer/Edit Producer and other editing credits

REAL LIVES: THE WORLD AT THEIR FEET (1x 50m) I.T.V.
Young football stars and hopefuls describe their struggles to reach the top.
Granada Television. Dir: Mel Archer.
"interesting, engaging and a little bit heartbreaking..." Daily Express.
"This well-made and very watchable documentary" Time Out

AN INSPECTOR CALLS (4x 30m) Ch 4
A light-hearted series that places British inspectors under inspection.
Twenty Twenty Television. Series Prod: John Pitman.

PLEASURE BEACH (6x 30m) BBC
A pulse-racing fly-on-the-wall series about Britain's largest amusement park in Blackpool.
Double Exposure. Dir: Todd Austin
"The brilliantly edited Pleasure Beach is a likely blockbuster" The Sunday Times.
"inspired cutting" Victor Lewis Smith, Evening Standard.

DISPATCHES: CHOSEN - PART 2 (30m) Ch 4
Follow up to Brian Wood's powerful BAFTA winning film on a shocking child abuse case.
True Vision. Exec Producer: Brian Woods

ULTIMATE WARFARE: THE BATTLE FOR HUE (Edit Director) (1x 45m) Discovery
The bloodiest battle of the Vietnam war, using powerful testimonies, recon and CGI .
Arrow Media. Exec Producer: Tom Brisley

ROCKET MAN UNDER FIRE (30m) BBC
A militant Palestinian fighter abandons his rocket-firing group and is later imprisoned by Hamas and accused of being a spy.
BBC World News & Features. Producer: Paul Martin. Exec: Mary Wilkinson

ALTERED STATESMEN: J. F. K. (50m) Discovery
John F. Kennedy - an amphetamine addict, spent his life fighting disease and acute pain.
Outline Prods. Dir: William Hicklin

THE STANFORD PRISON EXPERIMENT (30m) BBC
The gripping story of this ground-breaking, psychological experiment. Dir: Kim Duke

TIMEWATCH: GREY OWL - THE HOAX OF THE CENTURY (50m)	BBC
Eco-warrior and literary hero, Grey Owl was the great 'Red Indian' celebrity of the 1930's, until he was finally exposed as an imposter from Hastings. Lion TV. Dir: Richard Bradley	
FILMS OF FIRE: THE FACE OF DEBT (50m)	Ch 4
Journalist Maggie O'Kane sees the horrific consequences of debt in Africa's poorest country. October Films. Dir: Nick Read. Exec Producer: Tom Roberts	
THE LONG GOODBYE (2x 40m)	BBC
A powerful series confronting the painful issues surrounding bereavement. Lion T.V. Dir: Richard Bradley	
TIMEWATCH: LAS VEGAS AND THE MORMONS (50m)	BBC
How America's most pious religious group helped develop 'Sin City' Lion T.V. Dir: Richard Bradley	
SLICE OF LIFE (2x 30m)	BBC
A taste of British social history - through the food we eat. Wall To Wall. Dir: Laura Hastings-Smith	
THE LOWDOWN: "SAM" (1x30m).	BBC
A ten year old boy with cerebral palsy tells his own story. Dir: Ceska Eaton. Nominated for the RTS award for Best Children's Factual programme.	
CRITICAL EYE: HOW LOW CAN YOU GO? (50m)	Ch 4
A truck driver meets some of the 12 million people living in poverty in the U.K. Vanson Wardle Prods. Dir: Yvette Vanson	
DISPATCHES: RED STAR (40m)	Ch 4
An investigation into corruption at British Rail's parcel service. M.G.M. Prods. Dir: John Mair.	
THE GAY ROCK 'N ROLL YEARS (40m)	BBC
A musical review of four decades of gay culture. Fulcrum Prods. Dir: Shauna Brown Nominated for a B.F.I. Archival Achievement award.	
THE FRAUD OF THE CENTURY (50m)	Ch 4
A special report on the B.C.C.I. banking scandal. Bandung Prods. Dir: Anjana Patel.	
CRITICAL EYE: THE BATTLE FOR ORGREAVE, THE SEQUEL (30m)	Ch 4
A critique of police methods employed since the miners' strike. Vanson Wardle Prods. Dir: Yvette Vanson	
PUBLIC EYE (2x 30m)	BBC
Investigating why dyslexics end up in prison and the dangers of Human Growth Hormone. Pillarbox Prods. Dir: Clare Richards	

EVERYMAN: THE BIRMINGHAM WIVES (50m)

BBC

The wives and daughters of the Birmingham Six tell their harrowing story.
Vanson Wardle Prods. Dir: Yvette Vanson

Documentary shorts

SCOTLAND: A QUESTION OF INDEPENDENCE (Prod/Dir/Editor) (1x 24m)

VRT

The real issues in the fight for Scottish Independence.

MONBIOT MEETS...(Producer/Director/Camera/Editor) (6 X 5m)

Guardian Films

Journalist George Monbiot exposes "greenwashing" in large corporations.

THE LOST WHALE (Producer/Director/Camera/Editor) (1x 10m)

Guardian Films

A poignant short film about the Thames Whale and the doomed attempt to rescue it.