The 48th British Documentary Awards will be hosted by Sara Pascoe. The ceremony will take place on Thursday, 12 November at 7pm GMT on The Grierson Trust’s YouTube channel.
Welcome to Grierson 2020: The British Documentary Awards

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2020 British Documentary Awards, albeit in a very different form this year. There has never been a more important time to celebrate the achievements of our wonderful industry. We have seen the pivotal role the documentary plays in times of crisis, whether that be a global pandemic or the impact of racism on communities throughout the world. Congratulations to all of the nominees who made the shortlist from our highest ever number of entries. I wish I could toast you in person!

Covid-19 and the lockdown have had a devastating impact on the television sector, but it has been heartening to see the way the creative community has risen to the challenges it presented, overcoming so many obstacles. Many have played their part in supporting freelancers who have faced significant hardship, but I would particularly like to single out Donna Taberer who reacted so quickly to pull together free online training supported by ScreenSkills and Adeel Amini who set up The TV Mindset, highlighting issues around mental health and the way we should improve working practices. The Film and TV Charity have also fulfilled an essential role, providing financial help for freelancers who have fallen through the cracks of government support. I’m delighted to say that they are our charity partners for this year’s awards. Please donate if you can, and if you need their support don’t hesitate to contact them.

We also want to mark the strides taken towards a more diverse and inclusive industry. Broadcasters and production companies have been scrutinising their own unconscious biases and rethinking how to support more diverse talent both on- and off-screen. At The Grierson Trust we have done the same. For the first time, we have incorporated diversity and inclusion criteria into the awards categories and will continue to build on this for future competitions.

The Trust’s outreach programme, Grierson DocLab, actively demonstrates our commitment to helping young people from diverse backgrounds break into the documentary field. Now in its ninth year, it is going from strength to strength under the wonderful leadership of Yen Yau. Although we had to move the selection process and training online this year, the 2020 trainees embraced the course with enthusiasm and great commitment. We are sure they all have bright futures ahead of them, as our ever-growing network of Grierson DocLab Alumni continues to demonstrate.

DocLab is only possible because of the generosity of so many colleagues who volunteer their time to provide knowledge, insight and inspiration to our network of young creative talent. Our heartfelt thanks to all of you, as well as to our supporters, Netflix and The Rank Foundation, alongside The Rumi Foundation and indies Blast! Films, Dragonfly TV, Lightbox, Minnow Films, Plimsoll Productions, Renegade Pictures, The Garden, Wise Owl Films/ All3Media, RAW and 72 Films. Thank you to our partners Clear Cut Pictures, Blueberry Creatives, The Talent Manager and The Kit Room. Your support has a huge impact on the careers and aspirations of our trainees and alumni.

Judging these awards is a painstaking and time-consuming process. Our thanks go to the reviewers who made sure each entry was given fair consideration and to the judges who viewed the shortlist and chose the winners. As always there were many vigorous debates but the one thing everybody agreed was that the standard was higher than ever.

As a small charity we rely on our sponsors to make these awards possible. We are hugely grateful to all those organisations who have loyally honoured their commitments despite facing financial challenges. A big thank you to our headline sponsor for the third year running, All3Media. Our thanks also go to the category sponsors: BBC, BFI Doc Society Fund, Channel 4, Channel 5, Discovery, Envy, Netflix, Real Stories, Sargent-Disc, Storm, The Open University, The Rumi Foundation, Warner Bros Television Production UK and YouTube Originals. Thank you to Televisual, The British Council, The Talent Manager and The Kit Room, too. Your support through this challenging time is much appreciated and crucial to celebrating the creative talent at this year’s Griersons.

We are delighted to have secured one of the UK’s most outstanding comedy talents to host this year’s awards, the writer and performer Sara Pascoe. Thanks to Sara and to our new digital broadcast partners, Little Dot Studios for helping us to navigate the new waters of delivering the ceremony online.

It is my great privilege to be Chair of The Grierson Trust, and I would like to say thank you to the small team who make the awards and Grierson DocLab outreach programme a reality. Special thanks go to our Managing Director, Jane Callaghan. Her attention to detail, ability to cope with every challenge and passion for documentaries are truly amazing. Thank you to my fellow Trustees, too, who give up so much of their time and lend their expertise to guide and promote The Trust.

The Trustees decide the winner of the BBC Grierson Trustees’ Award each year, and we are thrilled that the 2020 award goes to filmmaker, Asif Kapadia. Celebrated for inventing his own genre of documentary and reaching a new audience by creating Britain’s biggest box-office documentary hits, Asif thoroughly deserves this accolade.

Wherever and whenever you are watching the awards, I hope you enjoy them. Let’s come together virtually to celebrate excellence and congratulate all the nominees and the winners!

Please stay safe and well.

Lorraine Heggessey
Chair, The Grierson Trust
Our host, Sara Pascoe

Enormous thanks go to our awards host, award-winning comedian, actress and writer, Sara Pascoe.

Sara is well-known for her regular appearances on television panel shows such as Mock the Week, QI, Have I Got News For You and Would I Lie to You and she has also played guest roles in comedies such as Being Human, The Thick of It and W1A. She is currently starring in her self-penned comedy, Out of Her Mind for BBC Two alongside Fiona Button and Juliet Stevenson.

She regularly tours as a stand-up, has played seasons at the Edinburgh Fringe and her solo stand-up special LadsLadsLads was filmed by the BBC at the London Palladium, following a sell-out nationwide tour and West End run.

Sara co-hosted the BBC Two travelogue Travelling Blind with Amar Latif and will present the upcoming travel series Last Woman on Earth – also for the BBC. She is the host of Guessable (Comedy Central) and Comedians Giving Lectures (Dave).

As a writer, Sara is the author of the critically acclaimed book Animal and the Sunday Times’ Best Seller Sex Power Money for which she also created the companion podcast.

Our host, Sara Pascoe

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The Film and TV Charity needs your help to make sure those groups most affected by the Coronavirus Pandemic can afford to stay in the industry we all love. Donations will help provide support to those in greatest need. If you can, please make a donation today, however large or small. If you need our support, please get in touch. filmtvcharity.org.uk/support-our-work/donate/
Televisual is delighted to support the 2020 British Documentary Awards

television.com
Seven Worlds, One Planet: Antarctica

Jonny Keeling, Fredi Devas, Dave Pearce, Abigail Lees, Michael Becker & Scott Alexander for BBC Studios Natural History Unit

BBC One

On the islands that fringe the Antarctic continent, albatross chicks are hit by the full force of climate change. In the Southern Ocean that surrounds it, leopard seals stalk young penguins and hundreds of whales gather in the greatest feeding spectacle ever seen. These waters and the life within them absorb twice as much carbon as the Amazon rainforest every year. It may be remote, but we are just beginning to understand that what happens in Antarctica affects us all.

The Story of Plastic

Deia Schlosberg, Kyle Cadotte, Megan Ponder, Stiv Wilson, Tony Hale & Brian Wilson. A Pale Blue Dot Media production for The Story of Stuff Project in association with React to Film

Discovery

The Story of Plastic takes a sweeping look at the man-made crisis of plastic and its worldwide consequences. Spanning three continents, the documentary features original animation and first-person accounts of the unfolding emergency, revealing the disastrous consequences of the flood of plastic smothering ecosystems and poisoning communities around the world – and the global movement rising up in response.

Tigers: Hunting the Traffickers

Laura Warner, Jo Prichard, Guy Creasey, Monica Garnsey, Anna Murphy & Orlando Von Einsiedel for Grain Media

BBC Two

Aldo Kane, former Marine, investigates illegal tiger farms feeding the demand for banned tiger products.

The Last Igloo

Christian Collerton, Will Grayburn, Joe Evans, Neil Crombie, Adam Simons & Mick Duffield for Swan Films

BBC Four

This film tells the story of a typical day in the life of an Inuit hunter in Greenland, as he travels across the stunning arctic landscape with his dog sled, fishes through the sea ice, and finally builds an igloo. Documenting the ingenious craft of igloo-building before it’s too late, this film is an extraordinary and poetic sensory immersion in the landscape of ice and snow; an elegy to a world that is melting away.
For most of his adult life, the only news coming out of Zimbabwe has been bad news. Robert Mugabe, the eviction of the white farmers and a general aura of danger have combined to make Zimbabwe a no-go zone in the eyes of the world. Now, with Mugabe finally gone, Rom is travelling around the country to find out if Brits should be holidaying here once more.
EnvY
BEST SINGLE DOCUMENTARY – DOMESTIC

**The Family Secret**
Anna Hall, Sally Ogden, Luke Rothery & Brian Woods for Candour Productions
Channel 4

Kath had a secret she couldn’t tell anyone. She carried it for 25 years. Her brother had raped her when she was seven and he was ten – it lasted for four years. The Family Secret captures the moment when Kath and her brother Rob enter a restorative justice meeting where the truth is laid bare and they face what happened for the first time with their mum as witness.

**Tell Me Who I Am**
Production team at Lightbox
Netflix

Alex wakes up from a coma having forgotten everything. The only thing he does know is that the person next to him is his twin brother, Marcus. Alex relies on Marcus to provide his memories, but the idyllic childhood Marcus paints for his twin conceals a dark family secret.

**War in the Blood**
Arthur Cary, Morgan Matthews, Ben Brown, Saskia Rusher & Andrew Phillips for Minnow Films
BBC Two

An intimate feature length documentary following two patients through ground-breaking ‘first-in-human’ trials for CAR T-cell therapy, a treatment described as the beginning of the end of cancer.

Not allowed to meet, Graham (53) and Mahmoud (18) are nevertheless bound together by their commitment to the treatment and their faith in the science. Terminally ill, the trial represents their only option. How do their ages and life experiences affect their physical and emotional response?

**Suicidal: In Our Own Words**
Rachel Harvie, David DeHaney, Emmanuel Ayettey & Iain Pettifer for Proper Content
Channel 5

One man takes his own life every two hours. In a process never before seen on television, this ground-breaking and unflinching documentary follows the unique work carried out by the Central and North-West London Mental Health Trust and the stories of six men, who have 20 suicide attempts between them.

Each of the men tell their story in a unique and intimate moment – the hours, days and weeks of their unfolding suicidal episodes.
The Rumi Foundation
BEST DOCUMENTARY SHORT

Lost & Found
Orlando von Einsiedel & Harri Grace for National Geographic Documentary Films Presents, in association with The Nobel Prize, a Rideback & Grain Media Production National Geographic

A brutal campaign of ethnic cleansing and violence perpetrated by the Myanmar military has driven more than 700,000 Rohingya from their homes, separating thousands of families from loved ones along the way. Lost & Found is an inspiring story of humanity and heroism in the world’s largest refugee camp, that follows Kamal Hussein, a Rohingya refugee who has dedicated his life to reuniting children with their parents.

That Joke Isn’t Funny Anymore
Hannah Currie & Beth Allan for Forest of Black & SDI – Bridging the Gap Edinburgh International Film Festival

Can Lindsay’s love for her husband Paul sustain her through the trauma of his brain injury, which leaves him in a perpetual loop of memory loss and joke telling?

Witness: The Mortician of Manila
Leah Borromeo, Laura Shacham, Katharine Round, James Scott, Joshua Reyles & Jamie Perera for Disobedient Films & Al Jazeera Witness Sheffield Doc/Fest

Orly Fernandez manages and lives at Eusebio’s – a 24-hr funeral parlour in Manila. His relationships with clients and the journalists he meets daily colour the empathy and contempt he holds for drug war victims who, like him, are struggling to survive. With intimate access, this film gives us a deeper understanding of Rodrigo Duterte’s presidency and war-on-drugs.

Country Girl
Ellen Evans & Pearl Doughty-White for BFI Doc Society Open City Docs Film Festival

Lillith’s benefits have been cut, threatening the thing in her life that gives it shape and purpose: her relationship with a troubled yet beloved horse. Fleeing a difficult past and struggling with rural poverty, she must take matters into her own hands, defying expectations and rising above the judgement of others.

The Rumi Foundation
A focus towards identifying talent and nurturing young people with the potential to be future leaders.

The Rumi Foundation’s mission is to guide talented young people towards having their own space to think, to achieve their potential and realise their dreams.
congratulations
to all nominees and the winner of
best student documentary

Proud sponsors of the
Grierson Awards 2020

All3Media
BEST STUDENT DOCUMENTARY

Bananas
Sara Montoya Sepulveda, Mel Barnes, Rachel Roberts, Ethan Jeffrey, Breen Turner & Marco Valerio Caminiti for NFTS
University/College screening

The humble banana is the cheapest, most popular fruit in the world, but at what cost? This film takes a sardonic look at how life is impacted by boom and bust capitalism.

Bringing Home the Blubber
Molly Adams for London College of Communication
University/College screening

A vulnerable portrayal of a Greenlandic seal hunter, and his journey through pain, loss and addiction to a life of fulfilment on the Arctic Ocean.

Inside a Marriage
Ben Cheetham, Margred Pryce, Adam Spek & Ed Rousseau for NFTS
University/College screening

Shilpa and Dipak have been married for 10 years. But a recent event at home has forced them to separate. Now they are left questioning, when things go wrong, what can hold a family together.

Miss Curvy
Ghada Eldemellawy & Gareth Pugh for NFTS
University/College screening

When Uganda announces its first-ever beauty pageant for plus-size women, schoolteacher and single mother Namukasa Mariam seizes the opportunity. Hoping to gain strength by confronting past traumas (and her abusive ex-husband), she soon finds herself surrounded by national controversy, fierce rivalry and extravagant characters. Exploring timeless yet contemporary issues within a uniquely African context, Miss Curvy takes viewers on Mariam’s unforgettable journey through the extraordinary world of East African plus-size beauty pageantry.
For Sama
Waad al Kateab, Ed Watts, Nevine Mabro, Ben de Pear, Siobhan Sinnerton & George Waldrum for Channel 4 News & ITN Productions for Channel 4 & PBS Frontline

General theatrical release

A love letter from a young mother to her daughter, the film tells the story of Waad al-Kateab’s life through five years of the uprising in Aleppo, Syria as she falls in love, gets married and gives birth to Sama, all while cataclysmic conflict rises around her.

Her camera captures incredible stories of loss, laughter and survival as Waad wrestles with an impossible choice- whether or not to flee the city to protect her daughter’s life, when leaving means abandoning the struggle for freedom for which she has already sacrificed so much.

American Factory
Production team at Higher Ground Productions & Participant Media for Netflix

General theatrical release

In this documentary, hopes soar when a Chinese company reopens a shuttered factory in Ohio. But a culture clash threatens to shatter an American dream.

Honeyland
Tamara Kotevska, Ljubomir Stefanov & Atanas Georgiev

General theatrical release

The last female bee-hunter in Europe must save the bees and return the natural balance in Honeyland, when a family of nomadic beekeepers invade her land and threaten her livelihood.

Midnight Family
Luke Lorentzen & Kellen Quinn

General theatrical release

In Mexico City’s wealthiest neighbourhoods, the Ochoa family runs a private ambulance, competing with other for-profit EMTs for patients in need of urgent help.

¡Viva la docs!

BFI Doc Society Fund
BEST CINEMA DOCUMENTARY

The award will recognise the creative ingenuity that brings the art of non-fiction to life in the most potent and impactful way on-screen. BFI Doc Society is proud to partner with The Grierson Trust, and support a training programme for Fund grantees.

Congratulations to the nominees.
Channel 5
BEST HISTORICAL DOCUMENTARY

Apollo 11
Todd Douglas Miller, Thomas Petersen, Evan Krauss & Stephen Slater for Statement Pictures
General theatrical release

Crafted from a newly discovered trove of 65mm footage and more than 11,000 hours of uncatalogued audio, Apollo 11 takes us straight to the heart of NASA’s most celebrated mission – the one that first put men on the moon. Immersed in the perspectives of the astronauts, Mission Control and the millions of spectators on the ground, we vividly experience those momentous days and hours in 1969 when humankind took a giant leap into the future.

Crip Camp
Nicole Newnham, Jim LeBrecht, Sara Bolder, Howard Gertler, Priya Swaminathan & Tonia Davis for A Higher Ground & Rusted Spoke Production in association with Little Punk, JustFilms & Ford Foundation Netflix

A ground-breaking summer camp galvanises a group of teens with disabilities to help build a movement, forging a new path toward greater equality.

Jade: The Reality Star Who Changed Britain – Episode 1
Robert Coldstream, Clare Cameron, Justin Badger, Jane Greaves & Edmund Coulthard for Blast! Films Channel 4

Jade Goody wasn’t the first Reality TV star – but she was the biggest. The most loved. The most hated. Earning millions from the tabloids and branded products she seemed unstoppable – but flew too close to the sun and became Britain’s most loathed woman. A dark fairy tale, Jade shines a light onto the battleground of class politics and social change in Britain in the early part of this century.

A House Through Time – Episode 1
Eleanor Scoones, Katie Greening, Justin Badger, Mary Crisp, Maxine Watson & David Olusoga for Twenty Twenty Productions BBC Two

David Olusoga explores the remarkable history of an 18th Century sea captain’s house in Guinea Street Bristol. He discovers stories of slavery, piracy, an abandoned baby, a notorious political writer and a runaway black servant.
Storm
BEST ARTS OR MUSIC DOCUMENTARY

Imagine...
Edna O’Brien: Fearful and Fearless
Katy Homan, Tanya Hudson, Jude Suggett & Alan Yentob for BBC Studios
BBC One

In 1960, great literary talent Edna O’Brien published her revolutionary debut novel The Country Girls, which broke down social and sexual barriers for women and was then banned in her native country of Ireland. She now continues to produce some of the most urgent work of her unparalleled career. In this honest and engaging documentary, Alan Yentob meets Edna O’Brien to discuss sex, books and a lifetime of defiance.

The Black Godfather
Reginald Hudlin, Nicole Avant, Byron Phillips, Nelson George, Catrin Rodgers & Andrew Fried for Boardwalk Pictures & Hudlin Entertainment
Netflix

This documentary follows the life of Clarence Avant, the ultimate, uncensored mentor and behind-the-scenes rainmaker in music, film, TV and politics.

Show Me the Picture:
The Story of Jim Marshall
Alfred George Bailey, Adam Biskupski, Ian Arber, Tatiana Kennedy, Amelia Davis & Nicolas Sampson for Bailey Kennedy Production, Modern Films
General theatrical release

An outsider with attitude, Show Me the Picture: The Story of Jim Marshall chronicles the infamous photographer’s life behind and outside the camera. A child of immigrants and a life battling inner demons, Jim fought his way to become one of the most trusted mavericks behind a lens throughout 60’s history, capturing the most iconic figures in music history from Bob Dylan and The Rolling Stones, to the infamous image of Jimi Hendrix burning his guitar.

Terms and Conditions:
A UK Drill Story
Brian Hill, Kandise Abiola, Katie Bailiff, Fraser T Smith, Stuart Briggs & Andre Johnson for Century Films
YouTube Originals

The film is an examination of drill music and the association it has with knife crime in the UK. In examining the links between this musical genre and violence, we went beneath the surface and engaged with the drill community to understand their motivations. We commissioned five drill artists to write and record an original track which would help to dispel some of the myths around drill music.
The Open University

BEST SINGLE DOCUMENTARY – INTERNATIONAL

The Day California Burned
Sarah Waldron, Fiona Stourton, Dan Edge, Ella Newton & Jane McMullen for Brook Lapping Productions & BBC Current Affairs London BBC Two

On 8 November 2018, a megafire swept through northern California. In its path was the town of Paradise. Within four hours, around 30,000 people had lost their homes. It was the deadliest fire in America for a century. Drawing on hundreds of hours of footage, this film tells the chilling and dramatic account of that day.

Crip Camp
Nicole Newnham, Jim LeBrecht, Sara Bolder, Howard Gertler, Priya Swaminathan & Tonia Davis for A Higher Ground & Rusted Spoke Production in association with Little Punk, JustFilms & Ford Foundation Netflix

A ground-breaking summer camp galvanises a group of teens with disabilities to help build a movement, forging a new path toward greater equality.

The Great Hack
Production team at A Noujaim Films Production & others Production Netflix

Explore how a data company named Cambridge Analytica came to symbolise the dark side of social media in the wake of the 2016 US presidential election.

Untouchable: The Rise and Fall of Harvey Weinstein
Ursula Macfarlane, Simon Chinn, Jonathan Chinn, Poppy Dixon & Andy R Worboys for Lightbox BBC Two

A devastating exposé of the meteoric rise and shocking fall of the movie mogul made during the year before he was convicted for rape and sexual assault. At the heart of the film are his victims’ painfully frank accounts of his abuse, of the damage it did to their lives, and the complicity of the Hollywood machine. Untouchable makes clear the vital importance of speaking out and of the entertainment industry’s long overdue cultural reckoning.
DAVID OLUSOGA for The Unwanted: The Secret Windrush Files

Uplands Television
BBC Two

David Olusoga opens secret government files to show how the ‘Windrush Scandal’ and the ‘hostile environment’ for black British immigrants has been 70 years in the making. The film features Sarah O’Connor, Anthony Bryan and Judy Griffith. Settled here legally since childhood, they were re-classified as illegal immigrants by new regulations. Unable to show proof of their nationality status, they lost jobs, savings and their health, facing deportation back to countries they could barely remember.

EMILY MAITLIS for Prince Andrew & the Epstein Scandal: The Newsnight Interview

BBC Newsnight
BBC Two

In a Newsnight special, Emily Maitlis interviews the Duke of York as he speaks for the first time about his relationship with convicted paedophile Jeffrey Epstein and allegations which have been made against him over his own conduct.

STACEY DOOLEY for Stacey Dooley: On the Psych Ward

True Vision
BBC Three

For three weeks Stacey joins staff on the wards at Springfield mental health hospital to see how they deal with the pressures of an increasing number of young people struggling to cope. Working alongside the frontline mental health professionals, Stacey also hears from the young patients themselves during moments of crisis.

MOBEEN AZHAR for Hometown: A Killing

Forest & 7 Wonder
BBC Three

Award-winning journalist Moeen Azhar moves back to his hometown of Huddersfield to cover the death of Mohammed Yassar Yaqub, but realises that there is a much bigger story in town.
Real Stories

BEST CURRENT AFFAIRS DOCUMENTARY

Al Jazeera Investigations: Diplomats for Sale
Deborah Davies, Kevin Hirten, Nicholas Dove, Craig Pennington, Emmanuel Panaretos & Phil Rees
Al Jazeera Media Network
Al Jazeera

Diplomats for Sale exposes a global trade in diplomatic appointments that has helped Caribbean politicians retain power and provided immunity to criminals. Broadcast shortly before a general election in Dominica, the documentary shows how the leaders of both main political parties are willing to accept secret campaign contributions from foreigners seeking the privileges of diplomatic status.

Sex for Grades
Kiki Mordi, Ogechi Obidiebube, Chiara Francavilla, Charlie Northcott, Andy Bell & Marc Perkins
BBC World Service
BBC Africa Eye

Female students in Nigeria and Ghana have been complaining of sexual harassment by their university professors for decades. Now, in this investigative documentary, local journalist Kiki Mordi goes undercover to capture evidence of this behaviour first-hand by uncovering shocking abuse in West Africa’s top universities.

Undercover with the Clerics: Iraq’s Secret Sex Trade
Paddy Wells, Mais Al-Bayaa, Nawal Al Maghafi, Monica Garnsey, Chris Mitchell & Gary Beelders
BBC News Arabic

In this undercover investigation, Nawal Al Maghafi exposes a secret world of sexual exploitation in Iraq. She uncovers how some Shia clerics are grooming and exploiting vulnerable girls, leaving them trapped in prostitution. A young widow alleges that a cleric sold her to his friends in a prostitution ring, while secret filming reveals another cleric conducting a so-called ‘pleasure marriage’ with a girl he believes to be only 13.

Undercover: Inside China’s Digital Gulag
Robin Barnwell, Gesbeen Mohammad, Guy Creasey, Simon Russell & David Henshaw
Hardcash Productions
ITV

ITV goes undercover into China’s secretive Xinjiang region. The Chinese government is holding an estimated million or more Muslims in detention camps – the largest incarceration of an ethnic group since WW2. This unprecedented investigation reveals how twelve million other Muslims are living in a human laboratory where the world’s most invasive surveillance state is being created to control them, destroying their cultural identity and creating technologies that are being exported to authoritarian states worldwide.
**Sargent-Disc**

**BEST SCIENCE DOCUMENTARY**

**War in the Blood**

Arthur Cary, Morgan Matthews, Ben Brown, Saskia Rusher & Andrew Phillips for Minnow Films

_BBC Two_

An intimate feature length documentary following two patients through groundbreaking ‘first in-human’ trials for CAR T-cell therapy, a treatment described as the beginning of the end of cancer.

Not allowed to meet, Graham (53) and Mahmoud (18) are nevertheless bound together by their commitment to the treatment and their faith in the science. Terminally ill, the trial represents their only option. How do their ages and life experiences affect their physical and emotional response?

**The Big Picture – The World According to AI: The Bias in the Machine**

Sanjeev Johal, Cori Crider, Nicholas Muirhead, Ryan Kohls, Sean Griffin & Denise Lister for Al Jazeera

_English_

_Al Jazeera_

Artificial Intelligence is changing how we live and how our lives are governed, from predictive policing and criminal sentencing to loan assessments and health care. Far from creating a brave new world, AI is replicating and amplifying the prejudices of the world as it already is – unjust and unequal. We show how people of colour and minority communities from China to the US are the guinea pigs and victims in a world according to AI.

**Einstein’s Quantum Riddle**

Jamie Lochhead, David Dugan, Clementine Cheetham & Alastair Auld for Windfall Films

_BBC Four_

_Einstein’s Quantum Riddle_ tells the remarkable story of perhaps the strangest phenomenon in science – Quantum Entanglement. It’s a story of mind-bending concepts and brilliant experiments, which lead us to a profound new understanding of reality.

**Mad Cow Disease: The Great British Beef Scandal**

Will Lorimer, James Gold, Liesel Evans & Pamela McIntyre for RAW

_BBC Two_

Since 1996, almost 200 people have died from vCJD, whilst the cattle disease BSE has been responsible for the death of over four million cows. It has cost the NHS over a billion pounds. Beneath the statistics is a story of greed, corruption and catastrophic political misjudgement. With access to all the politicians, scientists and families who have been defined by this epidemic, this film pieces together a forgotten chapter of our recent history.
BBC GRIERSON TRUSTEES’ AWARD
Asif Kapadia

Credited as the filmmaker who reinvented the documentary form, Asif Kapadia is a multi-award winner with a trophy cabinet showcasing an Oscar, five BAFTAs, a European Film Award, Sundance and Grammy Awards as well as a Grierson for Best Arts Documentary for his landmark, Amy – one in his acclaimed trilogy Amy, Senna and Diego Maradona, focusing on the rise and fall of child geniuses and the price of fame.

Chair of The Grierson Trust, Lorraine Heggessey sums up the Trustees’ decision: “The genius of Asif is that he manages to really get under the skin of his subjects, drawing viewers in and making you feel like you know them personally but with such a sophisticated use of archive footage to paint them anew. His works are a masterclass in the subtle art of slowly peeling away the layers until their inner soul is laid bare. “As a result, his films aren’t just a hit with reviewers, but audiences too – making him Britain’s biggest box-office-breaking documentarian. Not content with having invented his own genre of documentary, Asif continues to innovate and challenge himself as evidenced in his current exploration of XR with his next project, Laika. We have always considered The Grierson Trustees’ Award as recognition of a filmmaker’s continued excellence and outstanding contribution to documentary. Asif Kapadia is at the height of his creative powers and we wait with great anticipation to see where he will take us and viewers next.”

Presenting Asif with his award is his long-term friend, colleague, and Home’s Artistic Director for Film and Culture, Jason Wood said: “I can think of few people more deserving than the honour of this award than my friend Asif Kapadia. A filmmaker who works across both factual and fictional filmmaking, he has undoubtedly made a huge contribution to documentary filmmaking as both an art form and as a way of attracting new and diverse audiences. Beyond Asif’s undeniable talents as a director, he is also incredibly supportive of the arts, giving his time, advice and support freely. He also offers proof and hope that success for working-class filmmakers of colour is an attainable goal. He is truly an inspiration.”

Asif is presently directing and executive producing an Apple TV documentary series with Executive Producers Oprah Winfrey and Prince Harry focusing on mental health and well-being. And he recently announced a move into XR, creating a film about Laika, the Russian space dog.
Channel 4
BEST CONSTRUCTED DOCUMENTARY SERIES

Long Lost Family
Sally Benton, Clare Bradbury, Susie Attwood, Rick Barker & Johnny Wagener for Wall to Wall Media
ITV

Long Lost Family follows the twists and turns of searches for people that no one else has been able to trace, reuniting family after years of separation and answering questions that have haunted entire lives.

From the tale of a mother prosecuted for neglect of her children, to unsolved cases of people reported missing to the police; the series provides an insight into some of the most difficult examples of family separation with distinctive sensitivity.

The Rap Game UK
Tom O’Brien, Simon Andreae, Tom Whitrow, Lianne Hickey & Susie Dark for Naked
BBC Three

The Rap Game UK was a six-part BBC series which saw seven unsigned rap musicians compete for a record deal with Play Dirty Records.

Who Are You Calling Fat?
Sara Ramsden, Charlotte Armstrong, Oliver Manley & Nicholas Packer for Love Productions
BBC Two

A quarter of adults in the UK are living with obesity. Nine people who live with obesity move in together to share their experiences and explore what it means to be big in the UK today. The housemates have starkly differing views. The growing Body Positivity movement encourages fat people to be proud of their bodies. Others are concerned about the health risks and believe that weight loss is the only path to true happiness.

The Restaurant That Makes Mistakes
Benjamin Leigh, Trish Powell, Murray Boland, Martin Oxley, Louise Bartmann & Neil Cornish for CPL Productions & Motion Content Group
Channel 4

The UK’s first restaurant staffed by people living with dementia is about to open. In a daring five-week experiment, 14 volunteers all living with some form of dementia are about to make us think again. If diagnosed with this terminal disease whilst of working age four out of five lose their jobs, their independence and sometimes homes. Can taking part in this experiment transform lives and help them rediscover the people they used to be?
Netflix

BEST DOCUMENTARY SERIES

The Devil Next Door
Production team at One Man Show & Submarine Deluxe Production in association with Yes Studios Netflix

A Cleveland grandfather is brought to trial in Israel, accused of being the infamous Nazi death camp guard known as Ivan the Terrible.

Jade: The Reality Star Who Changed Britain
Robert Coldstream, Clare Cameron, Justin Badger, Jane Greaves & Edmund Coulthard for Blast! Films Channel 4

Jade Goody wasn’t the first Reality TV star – but she was the biggest. The most loved. The most hated. Earning millions from the tabloids and branded products she seemed unstoppable – but flew too close to the sun and became Britain’s most loathed woman. A dark fairy tale, Jade shines a light onto the battleground of class politics and social change in Britain in the early part of this century.

Don’t F**k With Cats: Hunting an Internet Killer
Mark Lewis, Felicity Morris, Dimitri Doganis, Adam Hawkins, Michael Harte & Bjorn Johnson for RAW Netflix

A twisted criminal’s gruesome videos drive a group of amateur online sleuths to launch a risky manhunt that pulls them into a dark underworld.

Hometown: A Killing
Jeremy Lee, Wes Thomas & Catey Sexton for Forest & 7 Wonder BBC Three

Award-winning journalist Moeen Azhar moves back to his hometown of Huddersfield to cover the death of Mohammed Yassar Yaqub, but realises that there is a much bigger story in town.
A hearty congratulations to all the nominees and winners of the 2020 Grierson Awards and to all the people in their teams who helped bring these brilliant films to the screen!

From all of us at Blueberry
THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

THE RUMI FOUNDATION
The Grierson Trust supports new documentary and factual talent through its Grierson DocLab outreach scheme. Each year, we recruit UK-based young people aged 18-25 to take part in a year-long programme of intensive training, a shooting and editing bootcamp, mentorship, bursary supported industry placements, a trip to Sheffield Doc/Fest and more.

This year, of course, things have been a little different. However, with the crucial help of our donors and supporters, we have carved out a new pandemic-proof version of DocLab for our 2020 trainees. A big thanks to our headline supporters, Netflix and The Rank Foundation and thank you to The Rumi Foundation for their generosity. Thank you as well to indies Blast! Films, Dragonfly TV, Lightbox, Minnow Films, Plimsoil Productions, Renegade Pictures, The Garden, Wise Owl Films/All3Media, RAW and 72 Films. Your support of DocLab is essential to us helping young documentary talent find their footing in our industry.

After a record number of applications to the scheme throughout January and February this year, the Grierson team were faced with the difficult decision to delay the assessment process and selection day for recruiting our 2020 cohort. Mimicking the pattern of lockdown, a short delay turned into a slightly lengthier one with continuing safety measures and travel restrictions in place. Though with new restrictions came a new approach to DocLab as the decision was taken to go online.

We managed to whittle down our interview shortlist to 15 super talented, creative and enthusiastic budding young documentary makers. And so, the usually Birmingham-based residential training week transferred to Zoom, where our new cohort joined us – during the hottest week in August – for an intensive week covering all things documentary.

Thanks to our trainers, Carol Nahra who led the programme, with input from Deborah Aston on the art of pitching your documentary idea. Covering different formats, platforms, styles and approaches to documentaries, the trainees packed in a huge amount of learning. We also learned a lot about them through their respective pitch ideas, favourite docs and questions about making it in a fiercely competitive industry.

Thank you to our industry colleagues and friends who gave their time to speak to the trainees during the online training week – and also to those who have subsequently done so for the autumn programme of talks and training sessions open to DocLabbers. A special thanks to our alumni Holly Lubran, Calum Bateman, Poppy Goodheart, Rashida Josiah and Mal Senanayake who joined us during the training week to give the group a taste of the years to come in their factual careers.

Other industry colleagues have also volunteered their time to act as mentors for our trainees and alumni. We were blown away by the number of you who got in touch and offered your support. Thank you.

A big thanks also goes to our partners Clear Cut Pictures, Blueberry Creatives, The Talent Manager and The Kit Room who have supported the trainees by delivering in-depth sessions in post-production, offering discounted kit hire and conducting thorough one-to-one career development sessions with them. We couldn’t do this without you.
In addition to our DocLab training and the continued programme of autumn speakers, at the start of lockdown we set up regular video calls with our network of Grierson DocLab Alumni. The sessions aimed to provide a space to share experiences, resources, opportunities and of course documentary recommendations. Many of our Trustees and other industry contacts dropped in on these sessions to offer support, boost morale and provide as much reassurance as possible in a challenging time for all.

We’d like to commend our alumni on their resilience and determination to continue working through unprecedented times, supporting each other and meeting the ongoing challenges of a precarious TV landscape. The Trust is so proud of what they have achieved.

For example, Poppy Goodheart (from 2013’s DocLab) is working for Nick Mirsky’s Five Mile Films in Bristol. She is currently developing an idea for Channel 4’s First Cut strand, which aims to showcase original and bold documentaries from first-time directors.

Michael Jenkins (2012) directed one of Channel 4’s Take Your Knee Off My Neck shorts named Shadow of Slavery and his Bristol-based production company Blak Wave, made We Are Not the Virus as part of the Culture in Quarantine collection on the BBC.

Cherish Oteka (2016) participated in Sheffield Doc/Fest’s panel tackling racism in the film and TV industry. She is also a content strategist working across broadcast TV and digital, currently overseeing the output for the UK’s leading LGBT+ content creator, Pink News.

Dershe Samaria’s (2013) production company, Nuwave Pictures has been selected for The TV Collective and Channel 4’s Indie Accelerator programme and Rowan Ings (2016) has been awarded a Scottish Documentary Institute Bridging the Gap development grant.

Tammie Ash (2018) along with one of our 2020 trainees, Erin Michael, was selected for Edinburgh TV Festival’s The Network scheme. Tammie is also now working on Lime Pictures production, Celebs Go Dating. Eloise Millard (2018) worked as a production assistant for Renegade Pictures’ Channel 4 doc Lost at Sea and has been a VT Researcher for 999: On the Fontline, charting the experience of paramedics working during the pandemic.

Mal Senanayake and Emily McNally (2019) have both worked on Newcastle-set BBC Three reality show, Angels of the North and adapted to new COVID safety measures after restrictions lifted in July. Plus, in true lockdown fashion, several of our DocLab Alumni have worked remotely on the research for Life in a Day, a YouTube Originals documentary directed by Kevin Macdonald.

Although 2020 has been a difficult year for many, our DocLab network included, we would like to say again how impressed we are with their tenacity and the sense of community and support amongst all the iterations of DocLab. We are happy to say we will continue to expand this network with another cohort of Grierson DocLab trainees in 2021, plus two new specialist schemes for production management and editing training; our Grierson DocLab in Focus schemes.

Watch this space.

Images: page 22: top – 2020 Grierson DocLab trainees; bottom – the trainees and Grierson team’s online session with Louis Theroux; page 23: top – online introduction with Lorraine Heggessey.
Grierson 2020: The British Documentary Awards
Thank you to our awards category reviewers, judges and chairs

Lara Akeju is ITV Commissioning Editor for Daytime Entertainment. Previously in commissioning at Channel 5, she has also held senior roles at Channel 4 and directed documentaries and factual series for the BBC and other major broadcasters. George Alagiah is presenter of BBC News at Six; Britain’s most watched news programme. Before that George was an award-winning foreign correspondent. He is the author of two non-fiction books on Africa and multiculturalism. His first novel is The Burning Land.

Toby Amies has not won any awards. Nevertheless, he persists in making short and long form documentaries about art, time, death, love, and the glorious humanity to be found amongst them. Ben Anthony is a director known for documentaries on challenging subjects including BAFTA-winning films Grenfell and 7/7. One Day In London. Ben is currently making a feature length film about the Covid-19 pandemic.

Janey Ayoade is a Grierson-winning documentary filmmaker known for amazing access, observational docs and current affairs films. She has worked across most platforms, has recently founded Black Seed Films and is currently working on MTV’S True Life Crime series.

Ed Balls is a broadcaster, writer and economist. A former MP and Cabinet Minister, he now makes political and economic documentaries. His interests include learning the piano, cooking, sailing and supporting Norwich City.

Yemi Bamiro is a British documentary director from London. Yemi has directed documentary films for a host of UK and US broadcasters, ranging from the BBC, Channel 4, Sky and VICELAND. Yemi’s debut feature film, One Mandal And His Shoes, was released globally in 2020. Zac Beattie is The Garden’s Head of Documentaries. Credits as an exec and filmmaker include Gun No. 6, 24 Hours in Police Custody, Our Borough, Keeping Britain Alive, Make Me Normal and The Trouble With Love & Sex.

Ninder Billing is the Head of Specialist Factual at The Garden. Most recently she created the twice BAFTA-nominated Operation Live and is responsible for new specialist factual formats and documentaries. She was previously Commissioning Editor for Factual and News at Channel 5. Sreyas Biswas is a Commissioning Editor in Science and Natural History at the BBC, overseeing a number of series including Surgeons: At the Edge of Life, The Diagnosis Detectives and Animals With Cameras II. Formerly Sreyas was an Executive Producer at Naked, US.

Liz Bonnin is a science and natural history broadcaster who has presented such programmes as Blue Planet Live and Drowning in Plastic. She is currently fronting What Planet Are We On?, a new BBC Podcast that explores our impact on the natural world. Jack Bootle is Head of Commissioning for Science and Natural History at the BBC.

Ben Brown is a documentary film editor barely nudging 20 years in the job. Carl Callam works across BBC One, BBC Two and BBC Three. He is currently working on an authored film about race by Leigh-Anne Pinnock and the award-winning Hospital series. Recent commissions include Models: Street to Catwalk, House Share and Shame in the Game.

Jamie Campbell is co-founder and co-creative director of Eleven. Recent credits include Sex Education for Netflix. Mukti Jain Campion is founder of Culture Wise. She trained at the BBC and produced television and radio documentaries for over 30 years. Currently she serves as a panel member for the Audio Content Fund and is Chair of the Advisory Board of the Sir Lenny Henry Centre for Media Diversity.

Gurinder Chadha, OBE is a filmmaker with an illustrious body of work over 30 years. She is known for directing feature films Blinded by the Light, Viceroy’s House and Bend It Like Beckham.

Mandy Chang is the Commissioning Editor of the BBC’s feature documentary strand, First Cut. Recent credits include One Child Nation, Welcome to Chechnya, The Fourth Estate and The Trials of Oscar Pistorius. She is also an award-winning filmmaker with two Grierson Awards.

Harjeet Chhokar is commissioning editor at Channel 4, working across Documentaries and Specialist Factual. Recent commissions include Is Covid Racist? and Sing It Loud. Before joining the broadcaster, Harjeet was a series producer across documentaries.

Guy Davies’ commissions include Michael Paine In North Korea, the RTS-winning Raped: My Story, and 999: Critical Condition. He was previously Head of Documentaries at ITN Productions and Senior Executive Producer at Wall to Wall.

David DeHaney is Creative Director of Proper Content. He is an award-winning director and executive producer who has held senior positions in the UK’s leading production houses, including Love Productions, Nutopia, Victory, Firecracker and the BBC.

David Deviney is Head of Development in BBC Studios’ Documentary Unit, where he has developed award-winning titles across documentary, history and arts including BBC Two’s This Farming Life, The Flu That Killed 50 Million and drama, Queers for BBC Four.

Poppa Dixon recently joined Sky as Director, Documentaries and Factual, where she looks after commissioning for Sky Documentaries, Sky Crime and Sky Nature. Previously she was a Producer of feature docs and factual television.

Lucie Duxbury is an Executive Producer at The Garden where she is currently overseeing a new series of 24 Hours in A&E. She previously worked as a producer/director across a range of fixed-rig, history and arts documentaries for the BBC and Channel 4.

Liesel Evans is Creative Director of UK Factual at RAW: an award-winning company with a reputation for producing high quality factual programming. She is currently overseeing a raft of projects for all the key broadcasters and SVODs.

Sara Evans is an award-winning documentary series editor and series producer. Her recent credits include 24 Hours in Police Custody, Hospital and Educating Greater Manchester.
Claire Ferguson has edited documentaries such as the award-winning Alieen: Life and Death of a Serial Killer and The End of the Line. Her directorial work includes Destination Unknown, nominated for a Grierson Award in 2017.

Amy Flanagan is Head of Documentary, History and Arts at BBC Studios. Previously Co-Creative Director at Expectation and Deputy Head of Factual at Channel 4, she commissioned The Murder Detectives, My Son the Jihadi and The Romanians Are Coming.

Ashley Francis-Roy is a filmmaker from Leeds. In 2019 she was the winner of Channel 4’s prestigious First Cut Pitch. He’s recently produced and directed two acclaimed single films for Channel 4.

Cate Hall is a Creative Director in the Documentary Unit at BBC Studios, she has worked at 72 Films and Wall to Wall and has a background in history programming.

Monty Halls is a television producer, travel writer, biologist, expedition leader, and presenter. He has been telling stories – many of them rather tall – from around the world for thirty years.

Oli Harbottle is Head of Distribution and Acquisitions at Dogwoof and is responsible for acquisitions and overseeing all film releases, which in recent years have included Three Identical Strangers, Free Solo and Apollo 11.

Sarah Harris has been Deputy Head of Development at RAW since 2018, working on a broad range of factual content for all the major UK broadcasters and streaming platforms.

Michael Harte is a BAFTA-winning, Emmy-nominated editor. He is best known for editing Three Identical Strangers and Don’t F**k With Cats.

Neil Harvey is an award-winning documentary cinematographer. His work spans the genre, from feature docs for the likes of BBC, Netflix and theatrical release.

Craig Hassall is CEO of the Royal Albert Hall and prior to this was CEO of Opera Australia. He is also the former CEO of English National Ballet, COO of Raymond Gubay Ltd and consulted on cultural aspects of the London 2012 Olympic Games.

Paul Heaney co-founded Distributor Bossanova to work closer with the production community across co-development, co-creation, co-production and more. Previously he founded unscripted distributor TCB Media Rights and he also started Cinelfix Rights (néé International).

Lorraine Heggessey is a trailblazing media executive who has held some of television’s most demanding roles. She was the first female Controller of BBC One and former CEO of talkbackTHAMES. She’s an advisor to Channel 4’s Growth Fund.

Danny Horan is Head of Factual at Channel 4. Recent successes include Grayson’s Art Club, Jade, Barrymore, Snackmasters and The Dog House. He is particularly keen to work more across the nations and regions, increase diversity on and off screen, and increase the number of female and black and ethnic minority directors.

James House is director of the Grierson and BAFTA-nominated first episode of Thatcher: A Very British Revolution. Previous work includes Grayson Perry: Rites of Passage, and the BAFTA-winning first series of One Born Every Minute.

Bettany Hughes, FSA OBE is an award-winning historian, author and broadcaster, specialising in international history. She is Creative Director of Sandstone Global Productions and has written and presented over 50 TV and radio documentaries for all major broadcasters in the UK and North America.

Craig Hunter is Creative Director, Factual at STV Studios and responsible for its new factual and daytime slate. Formerly Lead Commissioning Editor for Specialist Factual and Natural History at the BBC, Craig commissioned Drowning in Plastic and The Parkinson’s Drug Trial: A Miracle Cure?

Rachel Johnson is a journalist, author, and broadcaster who hosts LBC on Sunday evenings.

Sophie Jones is an Executive Producer at Minnow Films. Prior to this she was producing and directing credits include Losing It: Our Mental Health Emergency, NHS Heroes: Fighting to Save Our Lives, Hospital and BAFTA-nominated 24 Hours in A&E.

Asif Kapadia is a BAFTA, Academy Award, Grierson and Grammy-winning director. He has directed fiction and non-fiction, his drama includes The Warrior’s Crown and is best known for his trilogy of archive constructed biographical documentaries Senna, Amy and Diego Maradona.

Marjorie Kaplan was President of Global Content at Discovery. Currently Head of Faculty at Merryc & Co and a creative mentor for the Channel 4 Indie Growth Fund, she is also a member of the board of The Grierson Trust and NED at ProSiebenSat.1.

Liam Keelan is the VP for Original Production for Disney across the EMEA region. He was formerly Director of Scripted Content at BBC Studios and before that, Controller of BBC Daytime.

Lizzie Kempton is an award-winning director. Films include Manchester Bomb: Our Story, The Case of Sally Challen and recently she directed her first film for Netflix. Prior to directing Lizzie was a producer on films How To Die: Simon’s Choice and Chris Packham: Asperger’s & Me.

Fozia Khan is a Commissioning Editor for Documentaries at Channel 4 where she oversees 24 Hours in Police Custody and more recently commissioned Damilola: The Boy Next Door. She joined Channel 4 from BBC Two and prior to this, Fozia was an Executive Producer at The Garden.

Elise King is an award-winning interdisciplinary filmmaker and current 2020: Field of Vision, Firelight Documentary Lab, John Brabourne Award and Logan non-fiction fellowship grantee. As a former commissioner and Global Executive Producer at VICE, she led a multi-award-winning international documentary team.

Nicole Kleeman is an award-winning Exec and MD of Firecrest Films. Her credits include The Truth About Amazon, Lifers Behind Bars and undercover investigations Inside Facebook and The Truth About Chlorinated Chicken.

Michele Kurland is a Grierson, RTS and BAFTA-winning executive producer. Her credits include Gareth Malone’s The Choir: First Dates, First Dates Hotel, The Apprentice and Junior Apprentice.

Emily Lawson is an executive producer and award-winning documentary maker behind multiple documentaries including Crime and Punishment, Secret Life of 4, 5 and 6 Year Olds and Supervet for Channel 4, plus Reported Missing for BBC One.

Jago Lee is Creative Director at Blakeway Productions. Previously founder and Managing Director at Nerd, his credits include How to Rob a Bank and Orangutan Jungle School.

Jane Lush was a producer at the BBC, becoming Commissioner BBC Daytime before heading up Entertainment and Comedy. She commissioned hits including Strictly Come Dancing, The Apprentice and The Weakest Link. She was Chair of BAFTA from 2016-18.

Nevine Mabro is Deputy Editor of Channel 4 News and executive producer of the Oscar-nominated feature documentary For Sama.

Franny Moyle worked extensively for the BBC as a Creative Director and ultimately Commissioner for Music and Arts, before becoming a freelance executive in 2005. She is now a full-time writer.

Tom McDonald is the Director of Factual for BBC Studios Productions. He oversees three factual units, currently in production with close to 100 projects for the BBC, Channel 4, Discovery, Apple TV+, Netflix and more. He was previously in commissioning at the BBC.

Laura McNaught is an award-winning producer with a background in current affairs who is currently producing a feature-length documentary about the Covid-19 pandemic.

Jane Merkin is a multi-award-winning freelance executive and series producer in social issue documentary and current affairs programming, including Exodus: Our Journey to Europe, Carry on Brussels: Inside the EU and Shame in the Game.

Nick Metcalfe is an award-winning Executive Producer at Arrow Media. Recent credits include Apocalypse Cow for Channel 4, America in Color for Smithsonian, and Body Cam for Investigation Discovery.

Felicity Morris is an award-winning filmmaker and Head of US Documentary Development at RAW where she has both originated and produced a number of documentaries and series including, Don’t F**k with Cats. She is currently directing her first feature documentary.

Tanya Motie is a former Channel Exec for BBC One and Three and Commissioning Exec for CBBBC. Whilst in newsgathering, she produced the award-winning series What’s Left of Communism?. Now retired, Tanya is a diversity mentor and advisor.

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Nina Nannar is the Arts Editor of ITV News, which she joined in 2002 from the BBC and where she covers specialist arts and media stories. She is also a reporter on ITV’s On Assignment documentary series.

Thandie Newton OBE is a BAFTA and Emmy-winning actor well-known for roles in Beloved, Crash, Mission Impossible 2, BBC drama, Line of Duty and most recently HBO’s Westworld. Activist and philanthropist, she is board member for V-Day whose goal is to end violence against women worldwide.

Emily Ng is a media industry professional and a keen enthusiast for media culture, dedicating her career to supporting and promoting innovation within the media industry. Emily holds a BSc Economics from the London School of Economics and MA Documentary Films from London College of Communication, UAL.

Fergus O’Brien has had an illustrious career in factual as a producer/director and an executive producer. He’s now directing drama with credits that include the award-winning factual dramas, Against The Law and Mother’s Day.

Emeka Onono is an executive producer and award-winning director, known for The Doctor Who Gave Up Drugs, Unsolved: The Man with No Alibi and Land of Anarchy.

Cherish Oteka is an award-winning documentary filmmaker who produced and directed BBC One’s Too Gay for God?. Cherish is also a content strategist working across broadcast TV and digital, currently overseeing the output for the UK’s leading LGBT+ content creator, Pink News.

Zak Ové is a multi-disciplinary British/Caribbean artist. His work focuses on the history and lore carried through the African diaspora to the Caribbean, Britain and beyond focusing on traditions of masking and masquerade.

Marina Parker is an award-winning winning filmmaker. Her credits include Between Life and Death, The Murder Trial, Life and Death Row, Ugly Me and Anna: The Woman Who Went To Fight ISIS.

Terry Payne has been a journalist for more than 40 years, the last 20 of which have been spent at the Radio Times commissioning the magazine’s factual content.

Dienne Petterle is Darlow Smithson’s creative director, where most recently she exec’d the critically acclaimed feature documentary, In Cold Blood. She was a commissioning editor in Specialist Factual at the BBC and is a BAFTA and Emmy-winning filmmaker.

Lucy Pilkington is the founder and CEO of Milk and Honey Productions. Throughout her distinguished career as a commissioning editor, executive producer and award-winning programme maker, she has championed diversity of thought and vision.

Katie Piper is a best-selling international author, inspirational speaker, TV presenter and charity campaigner.

Alisa Pomeroy is a Commissioning Editor for Documentaries at Channel 4. She commissioned the multi-award-winning Jade: The Reality Star Who Changed Britain as well as The Family Secret, Crime and Punishment and the feature, Barrymore: The Body in the Pool.

Ashok Prasad is an Emmy award-winning producer/director making observational docs, specialist factual and international current affairs. Recent productions include Rhythms of India for BBC Arts and Has Political Correctness Gone Mad? for Channel 4.

Anna Price is a film editor. Projects include Grierson-winning The Trial of Ratko Mladic and Once Upon a Time in Iraq: Fallujah, as well as many programmes for Louis Theroux.

Abigail Priddle is a BBC Commissioning Editor, her projects include What’s the Matter with Tony Stattery?, BAFTA-winning The Yorkshire Ripper Files and Confronting Holocaust Denial with David Baddiel.

James Quinn is CEO of Big Wheel Film & Television and a Trustee of The Grierson Trust.

Amol Rajan is a broadcaster at the BBC. The corporation’s first Media Editor, he also presents for The One Show, on Radio 2, and Radio 4; is a judge on MasterChef; and presented BBC Two documentary, How To Break Into the Elite. He used to be Editor of The Independent.

Sophie Raworth is a journalist and broadcaster, who regularly presents the 1, 6 and 10 o’clock news on BBC One. She has presented many other BBC programmes from Watchdog and Crimewatch to Panorama documentaries.

Gagan Rehli is a feature documentary producer and BAFTA-winning TV producer of the 2019 series Louis Theroux: Altered States. Before working across a number-of-award-winning documentaries, Gagan had a career in marketing in-house at Channel 4.

Clare Richards is a documentary director with 13 years’ experience of making series and singles across broadcast TV. Her last film What’s The Matter With Tony Stattery? went out on BBC Two’s Horizon strand.

Lucy Sandsy-Winsch is a multi-award-nominated executive producer, development executive and series producer who has worked for all the major broadcasters and has a strong track record across landmark documentary strands.

Catey Sexton is an award-winning documentary maker, most recently double Grierson-nominated and BAFTA-nominated for 90-minute documentary Raped: My Story and this year nominated for Hometown: A Killing.

Reva Sharma is an executive producer and Head of Global Development at Minnow Films. With a career rooted in journalism, Reva spent more than a decade making current affairs programmes at the BBC and most recently series produced the Netflix series Bad Boy Billionaires.

Victoria Silver is a freelance documentary director and executive producer. She mostly makes films for Channel 4 and the BBC.

Simon Singh worked alongside John Lynch on the BAFTA-winning documentary Fermat’s Last Theorem, and then went on to write a book on the same subject. He has since written several international bestselling science books.

Sanjay Singh is co-founder of the factual indie, Voltage TV. He oversees a wide-ranging slate including Ant and Dec’s DNA Journey for ITV, The British Tribe Next Door for Channel 4, Inside The Factory for BBC Two and feature-documentary, One Deadly Weekend in America for BBC Three.

Susan Spindler made scientific and medical documentaries at the BBC and was later Controller of Drama Production and Deputy Director of Drama, Entertainment and Children’s. Her first novel will be published by Virago in 2021.

Liana Stewart is a freelance producer/director making observational documentaries. Recent productions include Black and Welsh, My First Time and The Next Step With George the Poet.

Donna Taberer is Head of Talent, BBC Content and is also director of the prestigious ScreenSkills Series Producer Programme. She is a former Sky and Channel 5 commissioner and a documentary producer.

Louis Theroux is a filmmaker, journalist, broadcaster, and author. He is best known for presenting BBC documentaries like Louis Theroux’s Weird Weekends and more recent Life on the Edge and Altered States series.

Mysterious Murder of Nipsy Hussle for BBC Three.

Stephen S. Thompson is a novelist, screenwriter and documentary filmmaker. Known for novels Toy Soldiers, Missing Joe, Meet Me Under The Westway and No More Heroes and his TV drama Sitting in Limbo, he is also editor and publisher of literary journal, The Colverstone Review.

Kate Townsend is Director of Original Documentaries for Netflix. Recent projects include the series Tiger King, Don’t F**ck with Cats and Bad Boy Billionaires and the features, Dick Johnson is Dead, FYRE: The Greatest Party That Never Happened and Tell Me Who I Am.

Liz Tucker is an award-winning documentary executive producer and director as well as the Chair of Women in Film and TV, UK.

Andy Whittaker is Founder and Chair of Dogwoof. He founded the company in 2003 as a film distributor and financier, with a focus on social issues and true stories. Films include Apollo 11 and Free Solo.

Sian Williams is a journalist and broadcaster who’s made around fifteen thousand hours of radio and TV over the past 35 years. She’s also an author, a registered psychotherapist and a final year doctoral student.

Joff Wilson is Executive Producer at Remarkable Television. He was central in devising the highly acclaimed Your Home Made Perfect series for the BBC, using visual effects and virtual reality in a TV first.

Pat Younge is an award-winning journalist and former head of BBC Television Production and US Cable network, Travel Channel Media. He co-founded Sugar Films in 2015, which he left to launch Cardiff Productions in May 2020.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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The Grierson Awards are cast from an original sculpture of John Grierson by Ivor Roberts-Jones and manufactured by Articole Studios.

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