

SUMMARY

When beginning his career, James created short and long-form documentary projects as a way of meeting people, exploring new cultures and seeing the natural world. He developed and self-shot these projects firstly because of the subject matter and love of storytelling. Secondly, to gain more experience behind the camera. He is an operator and photographer through and through. James has shot three features over the last six years, directing two of them. He combines a strong technical knowledge with an artistic sensibility - ensuring his images compliment story, character and emotion in search of building a connection. As a former combat videographer, he is adept at working under pressure, in small teams under challenging conditions. To improve his craft, James works as a camera trainee/assistant on high-end productions to learn from an experienced crew and continues to receive mentorship from James Friend ASC BSC under the Screen Skills and BSC programmes.

EXPERIENCE

On a technical level, James has been shooting 5K resolutions for many years, on various camera systems including Red, Sony and Arri. As a former DIT consultant at Apple, he possesses a strong digital skills base, which has enhanced his ability to acquire digital imagery and understand its treatment in post. Coming up as an independent documentary filmmaker, James understands the requirements of content-making and the role of the operator in a production. With three features under his belt, he focuses on blurring the lines between observational and scripted filmmaking; winning awards for organic performances and artistic production values. His military expertise and hazardous environment training make him well suited to physical roles; he is an advanced driver with off-road skills and has worked with boats, helicopters and planes. James continues to develop as a cinematographer, with a focus on building a connection with the audience. That tingle, we all get when a moment resonates; be it's expressed as an adrenaline-fuelled chest-bump, a cascade of goosebumps, a barrel roar of laughter or a simple, knowing smile.

DOCS / FACTUAL

A Twist on Reality - Commercial - DP - UK, 2020

An abstract exploration of Ilford photographer Lucy Ridges and her work. Lucy is a visual artist working with analogue and alternative processes. *Red Scarlet-W + Cooke Panchro's, Dolly, Ronin 2 Gimbal, Diopter & Underwater Housings (A7S).*

RAAM - Feature Doc - DP - UK & USA, 2018-2020

4 British cancer survivors take on the world's most challenging ultra-marathon cycling race across the USA in 9 days. *Red Scarlet-W, Arri Amira + Zeiss Cinema Zooms.*

Last Fisherman - Feature Doc - Filmmaker - UK, 2017

Feature length, theatrical release, multiple award winning doc about the last traditional fisherman of Rame, Cornwall. *Sony F3 + Sony CineAlta Primes & Canon C300 + EF 70-200.*

Anholt - Feature Doc - Filmmaker - EU, 2014

Produced for TV 2 Denmark and created with two universities to entertainingly inform educational policy across Europe. *Sony F3 + Sony CineAlta Primes & Canon C300 + EF 70-200.*

Royal Northern Sinfonia - Online - Operator - UK, 2019

Official filmmaker for the RNS 2019 season at the Sage Gateshead, creating multiple films and content strands all under the Digital Guide to a *Chamber Orchestra* campaign. *Multi-Camera Sony FS7 II + Fujinon Cabrio Zoom's.*

KEY CREDITS

Mental Health Motorbike - Commercial - DP - 2020

Ad for the MHM charity, produced by Anattic, Manchester. *Alexa Mini, Movi Pro, Black Arm, Inspire Drone, Canon K35's.*

The North Water - Camera Trainee - 2020 - BBC

Additional photography at Black Hanger Studios with operator Danny Bishop, 1st AC Tom Dunne & DP James Friend. *Arri Alexa XT & Mini + Hawk Mini's, 70ft Crane, Remote Head.*

Chevalrex - Music Video - Camera Assistant - UK, 2020

High-end music video working under DP Simon Plunket. *Sony Venice + Sigma FF Cinema Lenses + Arri WCU 4.*

Just Keep Making - Commercial - DP - UK, 2020

A rally cry to the artists and creative businesses of Manchester - designed to inspire and motivate the creative community during a difficult time. *Red Scarlet-W + Cooke Anamorphic Lenses, Dolly, Sky Panels, Arri HMI Lighting.*

Resilience - Commercial - Operator - UK, 2020

A short form ad with the extreme athlete, sports scientist and writer Ross Edgley for the UK nutrition brand PhD. *Red Scarlet-W + Zeiss Super Speeds MkII / Easy Rig.*

Countryfile - BBC Series - Operator - 2017

Additional photography for the prime time BBC series, featured in two episodes while filming in Cornwall. *Sony F3 + Sony CineAlta Primes & Canon C300 + EF 70-200.*

TRAINING & SKILLS

NFTS - 16/35mm Film Loading - 2020

Arri SR3, 146, ArriCam LT & ST + Panavision Millennium cameras, led by Rod Marley and Tom Storey in Beaconsfield.

Arri - Camera Systems Course - CVP - 2020

S35mm and LF Camera certified & HDR Masterclass attendee.

NFTS - Camera Assistants Course - BBC - 2019

Camera assistants short course a BBC Glasgow, led by camera operator Alan McSheehy on Arri camera systems.

BECTU - Safety Passport - IOSH - 2019

Certified by IOSH I completed a one-day health and safety course designed specifically for workers, employed or freelance, working in film, TV, theatre and live events.

Royal Air Force - Combat Camera Operator/Photographer

606 Squadron, RAF Benson, Oxford UK - 2007-2011
Advanced training at the Defence School of Photography - Hazardous Environments and Videography. Winner of the JHC Photography Award and three RAF service awards in 2011.

Misc. Skills

Clean UK driving license & ROSPA Advanced driver.
BSc Hons. Computer Science / Applied Multimedia Tech.
Analogue photographer and darkroom developer.
Completed COVID-19 Safe Set & Screen Skills training.
Climber, martial artist and squash player.

GDPR - This CV may be kept on file and distributed for employment purposes. Thank you.