

PAUL OLDING

Creative Leader

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Senior creative who has worked with many leading clients across broadcast television, branded content and radio, devising, creating and delivering award-winning, high-concept projects. Proven experience winning new business and being responsible for the creative success of projects, whilst ensuring they meet commercial objectives.

Skilled working internationally and at senior management level, overseeing large teams and budgets, organising complex logistics, leading the strategic and editorial vision and introducing innovative creative methods. Currently seeking a new senior-level opportunity within the creative sector which will allow me the opportunity to exercise my versatile skillset whilst furthering my professional development.

CAREER HISTORY

Senior Producer & Director – Freelance – 2013-Present

For the past 5 years I have been taking on freelance senior creative roles within broadcast television, leading a wide range of projects for high-profile clients including the BBC, Channel 4, Channel 5, Discovery, National Geographic, PBS, Reelz and ABC. The focus has been on creating and/or re-branding long-form television programmes which engage and grow audiences and increase revenue, with some recent key successes being the factual drama *Wallis: The Queen that Never Was* (Channel 5, 2017), investigation series *What on Earth* (Discovery, 2016) and innovation series *How we Got to now with Steven Johnson* (PBS/BBC 2013).

Leading both project and creative management, I supervise the initial development of new ideas and concepts and see them through the production stage, employing innovative filmmaking techniques and crafting engaging narratives. I act as a main point of contact for clients and deliver projects on time and to budget. I also deal with legal matters, health and safety and ensure compliance guidelines are adhered to.

I have looked after budgets of up to £5m, managed teams of over 60 people, worked internationally across the USA, South America, Asia, Africa, Australia and Europe and gained access to high-profile institutions for editorial purposes, including NASA, the RAF and the Vatican. I'm confident working with multiple stakeholders, delivering projects which meet each of their goals whilst targeting their very different audiences, for example delivering the drama/doc *Monsters Behind the Iron Curtain* (2014) for both Animal Planet and National Geographic and archaeological expedition *Cleopatra's Lost Tomb* (2015) for both Channel 4 and PBS.

Using my expertise and reputation, I have pitched for, and won, new business, both through identifying new opportunities and exploiting existing relationships. *Albert: The Power behind Victoria* (Channel 5 2018), *Life of a Universe* (ABC, 2017), and *World's Smart Cities: Amsterdam* (National Geographic, 2016) were all developed by me and led to international sales. I've worked with corporate brands including oil company Icolube, Million Mile Light and ecological charity Elephant & Castle Urban Forest, creating ambitious campaigns and engaging content to be distributed across digital platforms.

Producer & Director – BBC – 2002-2013

For over 10 years I led the creation and delivery of numerous television projects for the BBC's broadcast platforms and for resale internationally. Many of these went on to win prestigious industry awards, including *Wonders of Life* (BBC Two/Discovery, 2013), *Wonders of the Solar System* (BBC Two/Discovery, 2010) and *Earth: Power of the Planet* (BBC Two/National Geographic 2017). I also harnessed and grew existing brands, such as the highly-acclaimed science strand *Horizon* (BBC Two), and played a key role in setting the style for the newly launched BBC Three channel, making *Body Hits* (BBC Three), one of its first programmes.

I managed large creative teams, overseeing the development of new ideas and pitching internally and to co-producers, winning many commissions. I also organised complex logistics, managed large budgets and schedules, crafting complex topics into engaging narratives and creating ground-breaking visuals.

I was responsible for the overall creative success of projects, setting the editorial and strategic vision and ensuring it was in line with broadcasters' goals and commercial objectives. This allowed me the opportunity to bring new technologies and experimental filmmaking methods to projects, such as introducing underwater scanning technology and immersive CGI to *City Beneath the Waves: Pavlopetri* (BBC Two/Discovery, 2011) and was the first to use high definition cameras for Specialist Factual programming with the geology series *Earth The Power of the Planet* (2006).

Assistant Producer – BBC – 2001-2002

I directly supported senior management with the creation and production of some of BBC One's key factual brands, including *Animal Hospital*, *Tomorrow's World* and *Holiday*. Responsible for new content ideas, conducting thorough research into a wide range of topics and sourcing stories and contributors. I was also tasked with producing and directing numerous short films to feature in the programmes, managing small production teams and working to tight deadlines.

Researcher – BBC – 1998-2001

I spent three years working across the popular BBC One programme, *Tomorrow's World*. I took a lead in identifying and researching complex scientific topics, and developing them into engaging pieces of content to feature on the programme. Additionally, I became one of the BBC's first "self-shooters", and began filming and directing films.

Operations Manager – East FM – 1997-1998

I came in at point of conception, and played a key role in launching this new multi-lingual radio station in Nairobi, Kenya. I managed daily operations, set the station's objectives and goals, oversaw budgets and schedules and implementing new ways of working. I developed production strategies and was heavily involved in editorial, producing and presenting pieces of content to air.

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

Media Adviser – The Frozen Ark Project – 2016-Present

Working on a voluntarily basis for this conservation project, I advise the board of trustees on all media matters. This includes liaising with the press, implementing the use of content for outreach and developing social media strategies to improve engagement.

Project Manager – Wildwood Vineyard – 2014-Present

I planted and manage a boutique vineyard in East Sussex, overseeing land acquisition, planning permission and sourcing components and materials from across the EU. I now looking after budgets, contractors, stakeholder liaison and day-to-day operations, as well as establishing and maintaining relationships with local authorities and industry associations.

Founder & Filmmaker – Bongo Reef Pictures – 2005-Present

I run a small independent production company, focused on producing short-form drama films for festivals and theatrical release, many of which have been screened internationally. I manage the creative process, from script development and casting to directing and editing, alongside looking after schedules, budgets and recruitment.

Radio Broadcaster – Freelance – 1995-Present

I regularly write, produce and present radio programmes for a variety of networks in the UK and Australia. This includes contributing to existing brands, including Radio National's *The Science Show*, and well as devising and delivering original pieces, such as *The Frog that Croaked* for BBC Radio 4. I identify and research topics to cover and create engaging pieces of content which will attract audiences and prove to be commercially viable.

Early Roles

* College Tutor & Zoology Departmental Demonstrator – University of Oxford – 1994-1998

* Expedition Leader – University of Oxford – 1991-1998

EDUCATION & QUALIFICATIONS

DPhil Australian Frog Calls – Department of Zoology, University of Oxford – 1994-1998

BA Biological Sciences – First Class Honours – Jesus College, Oxford University – 1991-1994

Additional Courses:

* HSE First Aid at Work – 2016

* Raindance Screenwriting Certificate – 2015

* BBC Compliance Course – BBC – 2013

* Raindance Drama Directing Foundation Certificate – 2012

* HSE Media Scuba Diving Course – 2010

4 x A-Levels / 1 x AS-Level / 9 x GCSEs

FURTHER INFORMATION

* Basic French speaker

* Full, Clean UK Driving License

* Winner and nominee of several film and television awards, including BAFTA, Royal Television Society and Peabody

* Hobbies and interests include writing, photography, triathlon and wine growing. Author - *The Urban Vineyard*

REFERENCES

Available on request