

PAUL OLDING

Writer/Director • PD • Executive Producer • Series Producer

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BAFTA nominated (Best Director), multi award winning Writer/Director and Series Producer with over 20 years' experience, delivering ambitious and visually creative films across Factual programming, scripted drama docs and branded content, for the UK and American markets

- Executive Producer of Dionysus Films, delivering short form narrative docs to a wide range of clients
- Effective leader of large creative teams (up to 60 people), creating a positive working environment where colleagues feel valued and challenged, placing importance on mentoring and skills development
- Experienced across multiple genres: Spec Fac, Pop Feat, Drama, Dramadoc, Studio, Obs-Doc, Fixed-Rig
- Adept with archive, able to conjure an engaging narrative with well-worn footage
- Created highly-acclaimed single films and tv series for all BBC channels, Channel 4, Channel 5, Discovery, Animal Planet, The Science Channel, National Geographic, PBS, Reelz, ABC and ZDF with high ratings and generous AIs
- Wide experience of development, plus pitch polishing
- Experienced with resource and budget allocation, film schedules, overseas shoots
- Helped train and nurture new presenters (Prof Brian Cox, Prof Alice Roberts, Dr Michael Scott)
- Skilled at devising, remotely directing and integrating CGI and VFX
- Proficient self-shooter and now adept at editing (Premiere)
- Accomplished writer, from series-wide scripts to drama screenplays to branded content shorts

Selected Credits

Vaccine Hunters

Location Director
Infield Fly for CBC 2020

Following the attempts by various UK based researchers to develop, trial and produce a vaccine for the Covid-19 pandemic. Securing access, plus in-depth interviews and actuality. **Exec Duguld Maudsley**

Lockdown Shorts

Exec Prod, Writer, Director, Editor
Dionysus Films
3 x 10mins 2020

Three drama shorts shot on mobile phones and cut in the 'zoom genre' style. Stranded: a woman is stuck in New York while her husband tries to get her home. Quiz Night: an old college friend joins an online quiz but his past actions come to haunt him. Writers' Room: 3 writers share their recent inklings

WineGB Awards Ceremony

Exec Prod, Camera, Director, Editor
Dionysus Films, 30mins 2020

The online awards ceremony for 2020 WineGB Awards, hosted by Peter Richards MW, featuring judges' interviews, and narrative films about the trophy winners

Uplift

Exec Prod, Camera, Director, Editor
Dionysus Films, 8mins 2020

A touching and emotional film exploring the drive and ambition behind inventor Tom Lawton and his latest artwork, Uplift

Open House: Freemasons' Hall

Exec Prod, Camera, Director, Editor
Dionysus Films, 10mins 2020

A presenter led narrative doc taking a tour around Freemasons' Hall for London Open House weekend

Ancient Mysteries Decoded

Writer
Rare Tv for Science Channel

Scripting investigative narratives and historical mysteries for this returning series. **Exec Edward Hart**

Digging for Britain (S.8)

Series Producer/Director & Camera
Rare Tv for BBC4
4 x 59mins 2019

Rejuvenated, revamped and re-energized this much loved BBC4 brand presented by Prof Alice Roberts, including new graphics, stronger storytelling and better self-shot camera work. Oversaw all edits remotely. "Absolutely Brilliant" said Cassian Harrison. **Comm Abigail Priddle**

Eye Witness: D Day

Writer & Producer
Rare Tv for National Geographic
44mins 2019

Brought in to rescue this scripted drama doc exploring five key turning points on D Day. Integrating archive footage with drama re-enactment and original testimony, driving a compelling narrative plus innovative CGI design. **Comm Simon Raikes**

<p><i>Egypt's Unexplained Files</i> Series Writer 360 Prods for Science Channel 2019</p>	<p>Brought in as Series Writer to help deliver 9 episodes of this 10-part investigation series exploring secrets unearthed from Ancient Egypt. Working remotely. Comms Neil Laird & Hannah Demidowicz</p>
<p><i>Secrets of Egypt's Valley of the Kings</i> Edit Producer Windfall for C4 & Nat Geo</p>	<p>Brought in to help finish this 6-part embedded obs-doc series following teams of archaeologists through a season digging in Egypt. Comm Carolyn Payne.</p>
<p><i>Albert: The Power Behind Victoria</i> Writer/Director & Producer Elephant House Studios for C5 94mins 2018</p>	<p>Scripted drama doc starring Gareth David-Lloyd (<i>Torchwood</i>) and Olivia Hallinan (<i>Larkrise</i>), exploring Prince Albert's rise to power and Victoria's dependence on him. With 60mins of period drama (shot in 6½ days) plus new BAME experts. Narrated by Samantha Bond (<i>Downton</i>). Comm Lucy Willis</p>
<p><i>Wallis: The Queen that Never Was</i> Writer/Director & Producer Elephant House Studios for C5 94mins 2017</p>	<p>Rebooted C5's drama doc output with this scripted period piece starring Georgina Rich (<i>Black Mirror</i>), examining the life of Wallis Simpson from her point of view. Weaving 60mins of scripted drama with insightful doc interviews. Narrated by Ivanno Jeremiah (<i>Humans</i>). Comm Lucy Willis</p>
<p><i>What on Earth (S.3)</i> Series Producer & Writer Wag TV for Science Channel 10 x 44mins 2016</p>	<p>Showrunner on this 10-part series investigating unusual structures seen on Earth captured by satellite imagery. Successfully rebooted the creative vision, the on-screen aesthetic and the graphic style, scriptwriting multiple narratives in multiple edits and supervising a team of 20. Comm Neil Laird</p>
<p><i>Autopsy: The Last Hours of... (S.5)</i> Writer/Director & Producer ITV Potato for Reelz 2 x 44mins 2015</p>	<p>Investigative narrative exploring the lives and deaths of Rodney King and Bee Gee Maurice Gibb, writing and directing emotional and violent drama scenes (including firearms and drugs) drawn from interviews and clues hidden in their autopsy reports. SP John Fothergill</p>
<p><i>Cleopatra's Lost Tomb</i> Writer/Director & Producer Dragonfly for Channel 4 & PBS 46mins 2015</p>	<p>Conducted complex access negotiations to follow a maverick archaeologist searching for Cleopatra's lost tomb. Used innovative blueprint CGI visuals and stylized drama motifs shot on location at Cleopatra's temple in Egypt. Narrated by Paul McGann. Comms Rob Coldstream & Steve Burns</p>
<p><i>NASA's Unexplained Files (S.3)</i> Series Drama Director Wag TV for Science Channel 2014</p>	<p>Wrote and directed over 130 drama sequences for this 8-part scientific drama doc series, delivering a new creative aesthetic. With alien sightings, UFOs, weird visions seen in space and covert secrets, from the Middle Ages, to the modern day, on Earth and in space. Exec Greg Chivers</p>
<p><i>Monsters Behind the Iron Curtain</i> Writer/Director & Producer Pioneer for Animal Planet & Nat Geo 1 x 94mins & 2 x 44mins 2014</p>	<p>Combined investigative documentary filming in Russia with extensive drama recon for this feature length drama doc, exploring strange creatures, unsolved deaths and mysterious and violent occurrences hidden behind the Iron Curtain. Narrated by Iain Glen. Comm Patrick Keegan & Hannah Demidowicz</p>
<p><i>How We Got to Now with Steven Johnson</i> Producer/Director Nutopia for BBC 2 & PBS 2 x 52mins 2014</p>	<p>Helped devise the series concept, narrative landscape and award-winning graphical design for this series presented by US tech author Steven Johnson. Took on two films of the 6-part series, exploring the invention and use of glass, and the innovations surrounding light. Comms Martin Davidson & Bill Gardner</p>
<p><i>The Mystery of Rome's X Tombs</i> Writer/Director & Producer BBC Prod for BBC 2 & PBS Nova 59mins 2013</p>	<p>Secured access to the Vatican to investigate an ancient mass grave, using forensic cold case techniques and employing innovative CGI, to name the dead and shine a light on life in Rome. Presented by Dr Michael Scott. Comms Martin Davidson & Evan Hadingham</p>
<p><i>Doctors</i> Director BBC Prod for BBC 1, 6 x 29mins 2013</p>	<p>BBC Serial Drama telling standalone stories alongside ongoing series narratives, covering diversity issues, sexuality, aging and family fallouts. Featuring Dudley Sutton & Jeff Rawle. Prods Jonathan Philips & Carol Harding</p>
<p><i>Wonders of Life (ep 4 Size Matters)</i> Producer/Director BBC Prod for BBC 2 & Science Channel 1 x 59mins 2013</p>	<p>Working with Prof Brian Cox on this multi-layered award winning 5-part series, investigating the physics of life at the very small and the very large scales. With innovative macro CGI, lavish visuals and fun in-vision demonstrations. Comm Martin Davidson</p>
<p><i>City Beneath the Waves: Pavlopetri</i> Writer/Director & Producer BBC Prod for BBC 2 & Discovery 59mins 2011</p>	<p>Underwater archeological documentary (narrated by Philip Glenister) using cutting-edge scanning technology and embedded CGI to reveal the secrets of a submerged Bronze Age city. Became one of the most repeated specialist factual docs on the BBC. Comms Martin Davidson & Susan Winslow</p>

Britain's Secret Seas (ep1 & 3)

Writer & Shooting PD
 BBC Prod for BBC 2
 2 x 59mins 2011

This 4-part series explored the wonders in the waters off the British coast, presented by Paul Rose. Managing and leading a large team from development and research through to production and post, above and below the waves. Became the British Sub Aqua Club's most promoted DVD. **Exec Gary Hunter**

Wonders of the Solar System (ep 4 Dead or Alive)

Writer/Director/Producer
 BBC Prod for BBC 2 & Science Channel
 1 x 59mins 2010

Raised the bar in science programming with this ambitious, multi-award winning 5-part series presented by Prof Brian Cox. Helped shape and develop the series, then filmed around the globe to explore the alien worlds of the planets and moons of our solar system, including a lava lake in Ethiopia and a total solar eclipse over the Ganges. **Exec Andrew Cohen**

What on Earth is wrong with Gravity?

Writer/Director/Producer
 BBC Prod for BBC 2 & Science Channel
 49mins 2008

Rebooted the BBC *Horizon* brand and was responsible for bringing new talent Prof Brian Cox to the BBC for his first presenting role. Filmed as a road trip of discovery across the USA, including ground-breaking CGI to visualise four dimensional spacetime. **Exec Andrew Cohen**

Earth the Power of the Planet (ep1 Volcano)

Writer/Director/Producer
 BBC Prod for BBC 2, Nat Geo & ZDF
 1 x 59mins 2007

Managed complex global filming logistics making this award-winning 5-part series with Prof Iain Stewart, exploring Earth's geology and the heat engine that powers it. First BBC specialist factual series (outside of the Natural History Unit) to use high speed slow-motion cameras on location, helicopter mounted camera gimbals and Hi-Def cameras. **Exec Phil Dolling**

The Genius Sperm Bank

Writer/Director/Producer
 BBC Prod for BBC 2
 49mins 2006

Created a playful scripted drama doc about Robert Clarke Graham and his drive to breed intelligence with his Repository for Germinal Choice. Adeptly weaving documentary interviews with drama reconstruction, with contributors often speaking through the actors. **Exec Andrew Cohen**

PLUS

Tomorrow's World. Holiday on a Shoestring. Holiday You Call the Shots. Summer Holiday. Harry Enfield's Big Arts. Body Hits. Child of our Time. Animal Hospital. Little Angels. Horizon. Origins of Us. Darwin's Dangerous Idea

Awards

EMMY **Winner** 2015
 BAFTA Nominee (Best Director) 2011
 BAFTA Nominee (Specialist Factual) 2008
 Broadcasting Press Guild **Winner** 2010
 EuroPAWS **Winner** 2013
 Rob Knox Film Festival Best Picture **Winner** 2009
 Saltburn Shorts **Winner** Best Film 2010

Peabody Awards **Winner** 2011
 SCINEMA **Winner** 2016 & 2011 & 2010
 BANFF **Winner** 2013 & 2011
 RTS Nominee 2013
 RTS **Winner** 2010
 Athens Science Film Festival **Winner** 2010 & 2008
 Televisual **Winner** 2008

Additional Roles**Drama Short Films** - Bongo Reef Pictures (2005 - 2014)

Independently produced and directed 12 Short Film dramas, exploring dementia (*Losing the Plot*), loss (*Grandma's Funeral*), lust (*Junkie Love*), homicidal grannies (*Help Wanted*) and life in the back of black cab (*Taxi*)

Branded Content - Dionysus Films Ltd (2014 - Present)

Wrote, directed and Executive Produced films for digital and social media platforms, including *Icolube* product launch, kickstarter campaign video *Million Mile Light*, *Discover Freemasonry* and online resources for *Plumpton College*

Radio Broadcaster - Freelance (1995 - Present)

Wrote and presented science and history reports for **The Science Show**, Radio National, Australia, plus **BBC Radio 4** (*The Frog that Croaked*). Operations Manager for Kenya's **Metro East Fm** plus 350 hours of live shows for **Oxygen 107.9fm**

Education & Courses

DPhil Australian Frog Calls - Department of Zoology, University of Oxford (1994-1998)
 BA Biological Sciences (First Class Honours) - Jesus College, Oxford University (1991-1994)
 4 x A-Levels / 1 x S Level / 1 x AS-Level / 9 x GCSEs - Colfe's School (1984-1991)

HSE First Aid at Work (2016) / Raindance Screenwriting Certificate (2015) / Robert McKee Story (2012) / Raindance Drama Directing Foundation Certificate (2012) / BBC Compliance Courses (1998-2011) / HSE Media Scuba Diving (2010)

Professional Associations: Fellow of the RGS, member of BAFTA, DACS, ALCS, WGGB and Directors UK
 Leisure: Triathlon, viticulture (Wildwood Vineyard), clarinet