



Luke Wiles

DOCUMENTARY DIRECTOR

PERSONAL SUMMARY

An accomplished multi award-winning Director with 25 years' experience of making emotionally compelling documentaries and commercials across 5 continents.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Visual Originality

Leading-edge Techniques

Drama-Documentary

Studio Direction

Team Leadership

'A' List Contributors

Hostile Environments

After shooting over 100 commercials, including award-winners in New York and Auckland, Luke now focuses on creating high rating, visually exciting, emotive documentaries in genres that range from cinematic events to intimate portraits.

Consistently Luke makes films that receive Critic's Choice. He's directed two of the highest-ever rated documentaries for Animal Planet, short films for CNN that have won the prestigious Peabody Award, and is widely praised for both his storytelling skills and his distinctive visual style.

In recent years Luke's documentaries have been shortlisted for RTS, Emmy, BAFTA, Banff and Televisual awards.

DOCUMENTARY

Welcome to Earth

1hr

Disney+

Director

Working alongside filmmaker Darren Aronofsky to create a cinematic event series exploring the fragility and wonder of planet Earth - the most peculiar and unique place in the universe. Host Will Smith guides viewers on an unprecedented series of expeditions.

Secret Life of Twins

1hr

ITV

Series Director

Combining emotive stories with cinematic studio sequences the film reveals how, after months together in the womb and sometimes decades of life outside, identical twins possess both astonishing synchronicity and surprising differences.

★ Winner 2015 Royal Television Society Documentary Photography Award

★ Winner 2015 Royal Television Society West Grading Award

<https://vimeo.com/134294687>

The Life of Earth

2hr

Smithsonian

Director

How did the world we call home come to be? It's a question that is as old as humankind itself. Now, space technology is helping us gain new insights into the formation of our solar system and how life on our planet has influenced the rise of our species.

Secret Life of Cats

1hr

ITV

Producer/Director

Innovative filming techniques - and heart-warming storytelling about those that love them - uncover the awe-inspiring qualities that each and every one possesses.

Outstanding. A great balance of storytelling and observation. *Peter Fincham, Director of TV, ITV*

A gorgeous piece of telly. *Grace Dent, Independent* Is this ITV's cutest show ever? *Digital Spy*

<https://vimeo.com/99979645>

Secrets of Growing Up/Old

2x1hr

ITV

Series Director

Character-driven stories united with imaginative explanatory sequences unravel the extraordinary benefits of aging - and astounding facts about our childhood development, so that we never see these remarkable periods of our lives in the same way again.

These uplifting films reveal surprising facts and meet inspiring people. Brilliant! 5* *TV Times*

<https://vimeo.com/165167810>

Flesh Eating River Monster

1hr

Animal Planet

Producer/Director

The film that launched the River Monsters brand - an action-adventure investigation led by Jeremy Wade venturing deep into unmapped Nepalese/Indian borderlands to discover the identity of a predator that's terrorising villagers.

★ Winner 2009 Royal Television Society West Specialist Factual

★ IWFF 2010 Honourable Mention for Storytelling and Investigative Reporting

'The Network's best performing Prime Telecast ever.' *Marjorie Kaplan, President, Animal Planet*
<https://vimeo.com/8697348>

24 Hours Inside the Human Body 1hr C4 Director

A ground-breaking obs doc following two people across one day, discovering the highs and lows of what happens to their bodies in intricate detail using the latest forensic filming techniques in the first full human body rig.

Spawn of Jaws 1hr Discovery Producer/Director

Observational documentary following *Fast and Furious* star Paul Walker as he joins a maverick scientist on a dangerous mission to solve the mystery of where the ocean's fiercest predators are born.

SHORT DOCUMENTARY

Heroes CNN Director

In Bali extraordinary midwife and *Hero of the Year* Robin Lim touchingly reveals her passion for free, heartfelt healthcare to supermodel and activist Christy Turlington.

<https://vimeo.com/33488886>

An affecting tribute to Magnus Macfarlane-Barrow whose work to feed vulnerable malnourished children in Haiti and around the planet is driven by a humble need to make a difference.

<https://vimeo.com/17326271>

★ George Peabody Award 2012

★ My Hero Media Award 2011

DRAMA-DOCUMENTARY

Fatal Attractions 1hr Animal Planet Producer/Director

It's a basic instinct for humans to want to love and be loved. But for some, this simple desire can take them into complex, obsessive and terrifying territory. With revealing interviews and visually powerful drama sequences the film looks deeply into the character of those who take one step too far.

We were on the edge of our seats. Fantastic!! *Erin Wanner, Animal Planet*

<https://vimeo.com/75297848>

The Snake That Exploded 1hr Five Producer/Director

Dramatized reconstruction of the events that surround the discovery of a bizarre, mangled corpse in Florida's Everglades National Park: the bloated remains of a huge, scaly creature with two tails, two legs and no head.

Critic's Choice *News of the World, Daily Telegraph, The Guardian, Daily Record*

<https://vimeo.com/35368319>

Mystery Bear of the Arctic 1hr NGC Producer/Director

An American sports hunter shoots what he believes is a polar bear. He is mistaken. Combining dramatization and science documentary to decode one of nature's great mysteries.

★ IWFF 2009 Honourable Mention for Storytelling

<https://vimeo.com/8704281>

Jago: A Life Underwater 1hr Smithsonian Executive Producer

The 4K visually spectacular and dramatic story of Rohani, an 80 year-old Indonesian hunter, who hobbles around on land, yet dives like a fish on a single breath.

★ Winner 2015 Jackson Hole - Grand Teton Award

PRESENTER-LED

Egypt's Sunken City 1hr BBC2 Director

Overnight a legendary, lost city is re-found in Egypt - discovered by chance – buried underwater for 1200 years. Lucy Blue finds out what the city of Heracleion was, and why it vanished from sight beneath the waves.

Critic's Choice – *Daily Telegraph*

World's Deadliest Towns 1hr Animal Planet Producer/Director

Tiger attacks are devastating Indian communities in West Bengal. Host Dave Salmoni is on a mission to find out why this area has become the frontline in the conflict between man and man-eater.

Critic's Choice – *The Guardian*

<https://vimeo.com/19900309>

COMMERCIAL

Peugeot 206 / Toyota Brand / OCS / Durex

Director

★ Moebius Silver New York

★ Axis Silver Auckland

PERSONAL

Nationality

British

US iVisa

NZ Resident Visa

Industry

Directors UK Member

Documentary Emmy Judge 2011-2021

National Geographic Field Ready Mentor 2020

EDUCATION

Loughborough University

B.A. Hons. Design

Fakenham Grammar School

REFERENCES

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