

# LEILA BATTISON

## PRODUCER

43 Priory Road, Hastings, TN34 3JJ, UK ▪ t: 07590 030401 ▪ e: leilabattison@gmail.com ▪ w: leilabattison.co.uk

I am a versatile **Factual Producer** with a PhD in Geobiology and a solid grounding in science and the creative arts. I have extensive production experience, including story development, researching, script writing, storyboarding and consulting on graphic elements, setting up and directing shoots, edit producing, and fact-checking. Recent work highlights have included the landmark astrobiology documentary **Alien Worlds** on Netflix, the ambitious new factual drama format **The Great Escapists** with Richard Hammond on Amazon Prime and a widely successful YouTube natural history series, **History of the Earth**.

I am a confident self-starter with a strong eye for the aesthetic and an eloquent writing and storytelling style, adaptable to any tone and format. With a meticulous eye for detail and a skill for finding compelling stories from factual content, I can confidently take on all aspects of a production role, working closely with effective teams to meet tight schedules and budgets. I am extremely flexible and adaptable to new situations and challenges, and I believe that my wide-ranging experience and dedication makes me a valuable member of any team.

## MEDIA CREDITS

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- Feb-Mar 2021 **Producer, Planet of Possibilities (4 x 30' and 20 x 6'), BBC World – Lion TV**
- Developing and writing sponsored tech stories for broadcast and digital distribution.
- Dec 2020-Feb 2021 **Writer Producer, The Why of Things (10 x 10'), Facebook – BBC Studios**
- Sept-Dec 2020 **Edit Producer, What on Earth 7 (20 x 60'), Science Channel – WAG**
- Writing and edit producing a wide range of science and historical stories.
- May-Jun 2020 **Science Producer, Global Goals: Unite for Our Future (1 x 120'), NBC and worldwide – Done and Dusted**
- Writing and remote edit producing five science films, including interviews with high profile guests (inc. Bill and Melinda Gates), and VO from Thandie Newton.
- May 2020-Present **Writer, History of the Earth, YouTube – Four Lights**
- Researching and writing episodes for an ongoing digital series of Earth Science factual films with a dramatic storytelling format.
- Mar-Aug 2020 **CGI Producer, Strip the Cosmos 4 (8 x 60'), Discovery – Windfall Films**
- Writing, storyboarding and delivering graphics briefs that form the core story elements of space-based shows.
- Sept 2019-Mar 2020 **Science Producer, The Great Escapists (WT 6 x 60'), Amazon Prime – Chimp**
- Developing and producing all science content for the new factual drama format.
- June 2019 **Science Producer, Science of Stupid 8 (16 x 30'), Nat Geo – IWC Media**
- May-Sept 2019 **Science Producer, Science Media Studio with Greg Foot and Maddie Moate**
- Apr-May 2019 **Writer Producer, 99 Percent Invisible podcast**
- Mar 2019 **Script Writer, Cunk on Earth (1 x 30'), C4**
- Feb 2019-Sept 2019 **CGI Producer, Unearthed 4 (22 x 45'), Discovery – Windfall Films**
- Writing, storyboarding and delivering graphics briefs for the core story elements of archaeology-based shows. Liaising between artists, directors, series producers.
- Jan-Jun 2019 **Producer Director, LEGO Explained with... (10 x 10'), LEGO Discover (YouTube)**
- Story finding, researching, writing scripts, collaborating with commercial stakeholders. Producing and directing shoots and providing editorial feedback.

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- Oct 2018-Feb 2019 **Science Producer, Alien Worlds (4 x 45'), Netflix – Wall to Wall**
- Overseeing the science content of the series, working with expert academics to develop story elements, and liaising with Framestore Creative Studio to create plausible but ambitious CGI elements to compliment the astrobiology documentary.
- Oct 2018-Present **Writer Producer, SciShow Space – Complexly**
- Pitching, researching and writing 5-minute scripts for green-screen animated YouTube videos on space-related subjects.
- Sept 2018-Present **Producer Director, Something Incredible (YouTube and Social Channels)**
- Producing short-form factual science content for YouTube channel and social platforms, from conception through filming, editing, and publishing with relevant SEO.
- Aug 2018-Present **Writer Producer, Twenty Thousand Hertz Podcast – Defacto Sound**
- Pitching, researching, casting, interviewing, writing and edit producing 30-minute podcast episodes about sound, with a journalistic, human-centred approach.
- Apr-Sept 2018 **CGI Producer, Strip the Cosmos 3 (10 x 60'), Discovery – Windfall Films**
- Oct 2017-Apr 2018 **Science Producer and Edit Producer, Science of Stupid 6 (20 x 30'), Nat Geo – IWC**
- Leading a team of APs in developing show elements, producing briefing notes and storyboards, supervising scripts through Nat Geo S&P, setting up and directing Phantom Slo mo shoots, and working with production teams to assist with all aspects of episode delivery.
- Feb-Oct 2017 **Digital Edit Producer – BBC Digital Studios**
- Developed, research, wrote, directed, and edit produced over 60 presenter-led videos for BBC Earth YouTube channels, inc. green screen, location shoots, and GFX.
- Feb 2017 **Slo Mo Producer, Science of Stupid 5 (20 x 30'), Nat Geo – IWC**
- Oct 2016-Feb 2017 **Assistant Producer, Secrets of the Brain (10 x 60'), Insight TV – Lambent**
- Dec 2016 **Script Writer – BBC Digital and Natural History Unit**
- Aug 2015-Oct 2016 **Assistant Producer, Science of Stupid 3 and 4 (48 x 30'), Nat Geo – IWC**
- May-Aug 2011 **Science Reporter - BBC Radio and Online Science News**
- June 2011 **Development Work Experience, Horizon - BBC**

## OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

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- 2009-Present **Science writer – Various online and in print publications**
- 2014-2021 **Trustee, Festival Organiser and Publicity – Hastings Traditional Jack in the Green**
- 2013-2015 **Teacher of Science – Buckswood School, Hastings**

## AWARDS

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- 2020 **Webby Award (Podcast, Individual Episodes, Science and Education) – 20k Hertz Podcast**
- 2019 **Webby Award (Podcast, Sound Design) – 20k Hertz Podcast**
- 2018 **Webby Award (Social, Animals) – BBC Earth team for Blue Planet II Campaign**
- 2013 **Hastings Teacher of the Year – Arrow Awards**
- 2011 **British Science Association – Media Fellowship**
- 2008 **NERC – Research Grant**

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### EDUCATION

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- 2012            **NASA Ames Research Centre, CA: Planetary Biology Internship**
- Experimental work in geobiology, looking for ways of detecting extra-terrestrial life
- 2008-2012    **Worcester College, University of Oxford: DPhil in Geobiology**
- Published 4 papers in academic journals including *Nature*
  - Attracted media attention including *BBCR4 Material World* and the Royal Society
- 2004-2008    **Hertford College, University of Oxford: MEdSci in Earth Sciences – 1<sup>st</sup> class honours**
- 2006-2008    **King Edward VI College: 6 Science A-Levels including Maths – 6As**

### SKILLS AND INTERESTS

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- Editing and animating – Adobe Premier Pro, After-Effects, Animate.
- Shooting – Canon DSLRs (70D, 5D), C100, C300, FS7.
- Computer skills – Windows and Mac OS. Microsoft Office, Adobe Creative Suite.
- Languages – English (native), French (intermediate), Italian (basic)
- Illustration and Design – Pen and ink detailed illustration, digital illustration and design.
- Full UK driving license

### REFEREES AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

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