

LEILA BATTISON

PRODUCER DIRECTOR

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

I am a versatile **Factual PD** 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. With a meticulous eye for detail and a skill for finding compelling stories from factual content, I can confidently take on all aspects of an editorial 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

- Nov 2022-Mar 2023 **Writer, *Jessica Out Of The Closet*, YouTube – Jessica Kellgren-Fozard**
- Apr-Nov 2022 **Writer, *Crash Course Climate and Energy*, YouTube – Complexly**
- Writing 10 min-long educational videos to a syllabus, sponsored by the Gates Foundation
- Feb-Dec 2022 **PD & Edit Producer, *Lift The Ice (6 x 60')*, Curiosity Stream – Beach House Pictures**
- Producing and directing adventure science sequences in challenging environments worldwide. Directing master interviews and VO and developing CGI sequences. Edit producing two full episodes.
- Dec 2021-Feb 2022 **Executive CGI Producer, *Vision 2030* – OR Media**
- Overseeing creative for top-end CGI sequences for various factual strands documenting Saudi Arabia's ambitious Vision 2030 programme.
- Sept-Dec 2021 **Shooting PD, *Oops I Changed The World (15 x 60')*, Curiosity Stream - Arrow**
- Jun-Sept 2021 **Development Producer - Wildstar Films**
- Developing innovative natural history and science content for SVOD platforms.
- Apr 2021-Present **Writer, *History of the Universe*, YouTube – Clockhouse LTD**
- Mar-Oct 2021 **Writer Producer, *BBC Bitesize Science (45 x 2')* - ITN**
- Feb-Mar 2021 **Producer, *Planet of Possibilities (4 x 30' and 20 x 6')*, BBC World – Lion TV**
- 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**
- 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 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.

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- Sept 2019-Mar 2020 *Science Producer, The Great Escapists (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 Consultant, 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.
- 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 current space-related subjects.
- Sept 2018-Present *CEO and Content Creator, Something Incredible (YouTube and Social Channels)*
- 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

- 2014-2021 *Trustee, Festival Organiser and Publicity – Hastings Traditional Jack in the Green*
- 2013-2015 *Teacher of Science – Buckswood School, Hastings*

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P R O D U C E R D I R E C T O R

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AWARDS

- 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**

EDUCATION

- 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 – 1st class honours**
- 2006-2008 **King Edward VI College: 6 Science A-Levels including Maths – 6As**

SKILLS AND INTERESTS

- Editing and animating – Adobe Premier Pro, After-Effects.
- Shooting – Canon DSLRs (70D, 5D), C100, C300, FS7, FX9, GoPro, DJI Mini
- Computer skills – Windows and Mac OS. Microsoft Office, Adobe Creative Suite.
- Hiking and Expedition – various locations worldwide inc - Greenland, Madagascar, Scottish Highlands, Canadian High Arctic, US Rockies.
- Languages – English (native), French (intermediate)
- Illustration and Design – Pen and ink detailed illustration, digital illustration and design.
- Full UK driving license

REFEREES AVAILABLE ON REQUEST
