

BENJAMIN JACOB SMITH

Producer

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SUMMARY

Ben is an internationally award-winning producer with work that has won a **Critics Circle Award**, nominated for a **British Independent film award** and long-listed for the **BAFTA short film award**.

His work traverses narrative short form and long form, commercial and XR/VR storytelling, with a broad group of collaborators, such as the National Theatre. Some work explores the transformative power of documentary others push the boundaries of narrative storytelling. His projects have been profiled at Tate Modern, Times Square and BAFTA and OSCAR qualifying festivals such as Sundance, Tribeca, London Film Festival, IDFA among others.

Ben is a member of **BAFTAConnect** and is a **BIFA voting member**.

EXPERIENCE

Creative Director/Producer

RAW inventive

📅 04/2021 - Present 📍 London / Ireland

Specialising in visual storytelling, **RAW Inventive** is forward thinking and imaginative in its approach to production. From development to production, our company is here to transmit your ideas into visceral realisations. Explore our site for videos, services and information.

- Within my role as Creative Producer my responsibilities included:
- Developing scripts alongside writers, script editors and directors at inception stage and curating writers rooms.
- Running 'producer passes' across work that is pitched to RAW Inventive and selecting a diverse range of work that seeks to challenge and entertain. In addition to this investing financially and creatively into a pool of emerging writers and directors, pairing them with industry mentors and supporting their visions.
- Budgeting for quarterly investment and release of funds such that a slate of work can be developed across the year and open funds or co productions can be applied for with time and dedication.
- As the Producer of RAW Inventive, it was my remit to take responsibility for the delivery of productions from creation to completion. Being the first point of call for all execution of the projects.
- Managing budgets and preparing pitches for investors and key collaborators.
- Creating a network of like-minded organisations and individuals.

PROJECTS

A Fox in the Night (short)

📅 2021 📍 London

A south London story in which opposites attract, appearances deceive and bravery reaps rewards. Selected for international Film Festivals such as BFI Flare, Tribeca Film Festival, Outfest, Asethica Film Festival.

- **Winner - Critics Circle Best British/Irish Short film of the Year**
- **Longlisted - BAFTA Best British Short Film**
- **Nominated - BIFA (British Independent Film Awards) Best British Short Film**
- **Winner - Jury Prize at British Shorts Berlin**
- **Special Commendation award - Iris Prize 2022**

Crusts (short)

📅 2023 📍 Northern Ireland

A month after the death of her husband, a Northern Irish widow gathers her family around his grave to mark the occasion with a picnic. But as words and memories are shared, what is left unsaid threatens to boil over.

- **Currently in festival circulation**

All Kinds of Limbo (Commercial)

📅 2022 📍 Location

All Kinds of Limbo, advertising campaign.

- **Featured in NY Times**
- **Featured in Forbes**
- **Presentation in Times Square**
- **Featured on BBC Click**

A War Within (Short/Dance)

📅 2023 📍 London

The War Within is a war of becoming. Loosely inspired by Freud's The Ego & The Id, the story unfolds in a liminal space inside the mind. Three parts of the self, the Unconscious, the Self Conscious & the Aware Self, journey towards awakening. The Unconscious, leading by instinct, finds freedom in the mind, but this is dashed by the Self Consciousness (an egoic part of the self), which subdues the Unconscious and begins to overwhelm the mind. This imbalance leads to the rational mind, the Aware Self, to rise up. Finally, all these parts converge to form a unitary self, in harmony, arriving at an awakening

- **Currently in festival circus and online at Flux Projects**

Soil

📅 2021 📍 United Kingdom

Short summary of your work

- What was a successful outcome of your work? (e.g. Raised \$3,000 for the charity)

EXPERIENCE

Digital Producer

National Theatre

📅 04/2019 - Present 📍 London

The **National Theatre** is a cornerstone of a nation's cultural landscape, embodying artistic excellence, cultural preservation, education, and community engagement.

- Within my role as Producer my responsibilities included:
- Leading the development and execution of projects from concept to completion, ensuring that each project aligns with our artistic vision and goals.
- Developing and managing budgets for productions, including allocating resources, securing funding, and ensuring financial sustainability.
- Fostering a collaborative environment where writers, directors, actors, and digital artists work cohesively and developing new talent.
- Stay updated on the latest developments in digital technologies and ensure their effective incorporation into projects.
- Develop production schedules, oversee logistics, and coordinate all aspects of filming, editing and VFX pipelines, from pre-production through post-production.
- Exploring innovative ways to engage and interact with audiences, including festivalisation of productions. Collaborating with marketing teams to develop strategies for promoting and distributing productions, considering both physical and digital platforms.

- In my role with the Digital team at the National Theatre I was involved in groundbreaking initiatives that bridge the gap between theater and digital technology, making world-class theatrical productions accessible to audiences around the globe.
- Transforming the way people experience theater the National Theatre's continued success reinforces its position as a trailblazer in the evolving landscape of performing arts.
- As the Producer for the National Theatre **Immersive Storytelling Studio**, I was responsible for overseeing the production of immersive experiences and film that integrated traditional theater with immersive technologies, such as virtual reality (VR), augmented reality (AR), and mixed reality (MR).
- I was fortunate to collaborate with a diverse team of artists, writers, directors, and technologists at the top of their respective roles, to create unique, multi-sensory narratives that push the boundaries of live performance.

Artistic Associate

DAVID GLASS ENSEMBLE LTD

📅 08/2021 - 01/2022 📍 Location

Company Description

- I spent time with the **David Glass Ensemble** as a Digital Associate creating film and working within Drama Schools, RADA, East 15 and LAMDA, to engage the actors and creatives in acting for camera and film technique.

Casting Intern

Dan Hubbard Casting

📅 09/2016 - 09/2016 📍 Soho

Company Description

- I spent one of my first jobs in London as an Intern at **Dan Hubbard Casting**, Working on the Professor and the Madman with, Mel Gibson Sean Penn and Natalie Dormer
- My role involved creating Character breakdowns, actor research, availability checks, and auditioning as well as administrative office work.

PROJECTS

All Kinds of Limbo (XR short)

📅 2021 📍 Location

Premiering at the 2020 Sundance Film Festival, and commissioned by the Royal National Theatre in London, All Kinds of Limbo is a communal VR performance film and holographic installation that takes you through the genres of reggae, grime, classical and calypso in a musical journey inspired by the influence of Caribbean culture on the UK's music scene.

- **Official Selection - 2020 Sundance Film Festival**
- **Official Selection - 2020 BFI London Film Festival**
- **Installation - Tate Modern, London 2020**
- **Installation - Lyttelton Theatre, National Theatre 2020**

Madame Kalamzoo's Magical Mail (Online Storytelling)

📅 2021 📍 Online

Escape with Madame Kalamzoo! National Theatre launches children's story service. The NT's online platform offers personalised, interactive adventure tales for young children during the summer holidays.

- **Reviewed in the Guardian**
- **Reviewed in New York Times**

Museum of Austerity (XR)

📅 2021 📍 United Kingdom

Museum of Austerity is more than an exhibition; it's a blend of theatre, history and humanity. Witness the human stories of Austerity Britain in this arresting mixed reality installation.

- **Selected for BFI London Film Festival in 2021**
- **Winner International Documentary Festival Amsterdam's (IDFA) Best Immersive Production in 2021.**
- **Nominated for Best Digital Innovation at the UK Theatre Awards**
- **Nominated for Best Digital Innovation at the UK Theatre Awards**
- **Selected for BFI London Film Festival 2021**
- **Winner International Documentary Festival Amsterdam's (IDFA) Best Immersive Production in 2021.**

AWARDS



Critics Circle Award - Best British Short Film 'A Fox in the Night'



British Independent Film Awards Nomination 2022



BAFTA Longlist 2023



IDFA Doc prize for immersive non-fiction

FESTIVAL RELATIONS



Festival Relations

Sundance Film Festival
Tribeca Film Festival
London Film Festival
BFI Flare
IDFA Doc Fest
Aesthetica Film Festival
Oxford International Film Festival

PASSIONS



Soundtracks and Scores



Travel



Animals (My pug called Bear!)



Climate Change



Rugby

TRAINING / COURSES

First aid Trained

Mental Health First Aid
Certified

SKILLS

Digital Strategy

Producing

Project Management

Budgeting

Virtual Reality

Pitching

Presenting

Stage Management

Creative Production

Script Editing

LANGUAGES

English

Native



Spanish

Advanced

