**IZZY CHARMAN**

 Writer and series/ executive producer

izzy@izzycharman.com

T: 07980 858202

BAFTA-nominated producer with over 10 years’ experience in developing & making factual films for UK, US & European broadcasters & cinema release; and writer of non-fiction books.

EDUCATION:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2000 - 2003 | **Bristol University** | * BA (Hons) 1st Class in History
* George Hare Leonard prize (best degree), Gardenhurst Prize (best 2nd year results), Arts Faculty scholarship
 |
|  |  |  |
| 1998 - 2000 | **Brighton, Hove and Sussex Sixth Form College** | * 5 A-levels: 5 grade As (3 within top 5 people nationally): English, History, French, German and General Studies
 |
|  |  |  |

NON-FICTION BOOKS (as Isobel Charman):

***The Zoo: The Wild and Wonderful Tale of the Founding of London Zoo***

Penguin/ Viking (Nov 2016) in the UK/ Commonwealth and Pegasus Books (April 2017) in the US

* Based on extensive research in the ZSL archives and beyond, this book pieces together the founding and first 25 years of London Zoo (1826-1851), telling the story through the eyes of key protagonists from the keepers to taxidermists to Charles Darwin
* Featured on BBC radio 2 and radio 4, BBC History and New York Times podcasts, Hay and Richmond Literary Festivals etc.

“*An impressive work of imagination and research… a pleasure to read*” (The Guardian), “*Extraordinary*” (Sunday Times), *“astonishing*” (Daily Mail), “*delightful*” (Nature), “*charming*” (Evening Standard), “v*ivid, entertaining and scrupulously researched”* (New York Times)

|  |
| --- |
|  |

***The Great War: The Nation’s Story***

Published in the UK/ Commonwealth by Random House/ Arrow (July 2014)

* Major publication to accompany the BAFTA-nominated ITV series
* Expanding on the content of the series, it used interwoven personal histories to tell the story of the First World War (the home front and fighting fronts) from a human perspective.

“*Deeply moving, fascinating and powerful*” (Sunday Mirror), “*a handful of people dominate* *this wonderful book… their stories will haunt you for a long time*” (Scottish Herald)

|  |
| --- |
|  |

BROADCAST/ FEATURE FILM CREDITS INCLUDE:

|  |
| --- |
| **Executive Producer, *The Making of Marc Bolan***Lion Television 1 x 1 hour for Sky Arts, TX TBC 2017* I developed this one-off film to coincide with the 40th anniversary of Marc Bolan’s death
* I helped the director to plan the interview and GV shoots and give the film a distinctive and cinematic tone
* I oversaw the edit, helping particularly with the scripting and narrative structure
 |
| **Series producer and writer, *The Great War: The People’s Story* (BAFTA-nominated, BANFF winner)**ITV Studios in association with The Imperial War Museum4 x 1 hour for ITV 1, TX August 2014 (Exec: Ollie Tait)* Prime-time drama-doc series to mark the centenary of the outbreak of WW1
* A fantastic cast (Alison Steadman, Danny Mays, Brian Cox, James Norton, Myanna Buring) recreate ordinary people’s lives during the war, based on their first-hand accounts
* I did all the archive research and managed the association with the Imperial War Museum, (I also worked in other archives/ private collections across the UK) to find a cast of characters to reflect Britain and whose stories could be woven together to tell the story of the conflict.
* I wrote the shooting scripts for the drama, produced all four episodes and edit produced one
* I also wrote a book to accompany the series – see below
 |
| **Research, plus edit director for online/ DVD extras, *The Spirit of 1945* (BIFA-nominated)**Sixteen Films, feature doc, International theatrical release 2013 (Director: Ken Loach)* Feature doc exploring the 1945 Labour government and their rebuilding of Britain through a programme of common ownership and welfare provision – and the contrasting picture today.
* I worked with Loach to find and film the contributors and research the content for the film.
* I also produced all the content for the accompanying digital project, directing the edit of over five hours of footage for a DVD sold with the feature, and for the online project.
 |
| **Producer, *The Nazi Gospels***Nutopia, 1 x 90’ for History, TX 2013 (Director: Paul Copeland, Execs: Phil Craig and Jane Root)* Feature length drama-doc exploring the mythical/ mythological underpinnings of Nazi ideology
* I worked with the director to organise and film interviews in the UK, US and Europe and produce large-scale drama shoots.
 |
| **Producer, *Words of Captain Scott* (RTS-Nominated)**ITV Studios, 1 x 1 hour ITV1, TX March 2012 (Director: Paul Copeland, exec: Ollie Tait)* Stylised drama-doc telling the story of the tragic Scott Expedition to the South Pole – and the successful Norwegian expedition - through a wide range of first-hand accounts, brought to life by actors i
* Talent featured included Dougray Scott, Alistair McGowan and Lars Mikkelsen
 |
| **Director/ Producer, *Heath-Wilson: The Duel***Telesgop, 1 x 90 minutes for BBC4, TX May 2011 (Exec: Simon Berthon)* Feature length documentary about Edward Heath and Harold Wilson. The film brings to life the turbulent era in which they governed through the prism of their personal rivalry.
* Interviewees include: Douglas Hurd, Geoffrey Howe, Dennis Healey, Neil Kinnock

*‘Tremendous”* (The Times)*; “utterly engaging viewing”* (The Mail); “*this expert documentary”* (The Telegraph); *“a fascinating insight”* (Time Out) |
| **Associate Producer, *Words of the Blitz* (RTS-nominated)**ITV Studios, 1 x 1 hour ITV1, TX Sept 2010 (Director: Paul Copeland, exec: Ollie Tait)* Stylised documentary telling the story of the Blitz through a wide range of first-hand accounts, brought to life by actors (Dominic West, Romola Garrai, Sheila Hancock, Russell Tovey), the accounts’ authors, and present-day equivalents (nurses, soldiers etc.)

*"Poignant, gripping and impressively produced“* (The Mail); *"understated and arresting."* (Time Out) |
|  |
| **Associate Producer, *The Last Nazis: Most Wanted***Minnow Films, BBC2, TX Sept 2009 (Director: Charlie Russell, execs: Simon Berthon and Morgan Matthews)* Authored obs doc, which follows me and the director, Charlie Russell, as we search for, and spend time with, some of the last surviving participants in the Nazi Regime.

“*An astounding if highly uncomfortable insight”* (The Times);“*The female half of the pairing is pretty impressive: bright, inquisitive and a dab hand at handling tricky situations.*” (Time Out) |
| **Assistant Producer, *The Queen (eps 1 and 2)***Blast Films, 5 x 1 hours for C4 & ABC, TX Nov 2009 (Director: Peter Nicholson, exec: Ed Coulthard)* Historical drama-doc series (with scripted drama, archive and interviews) looking at the changing face of Britain through the prism of the monarchy
 |
| **Co-writer/ co-director, *Pakt mit dem Teufel* (Pact with the Devil)**Context TV (Berlin) 1 x 1 hour for Arte, TX Feb 2007 * Character-led documentary on Indian independence’s forgotten hero: Subhash Chandra Bose, following his daughter as she goes on a journey in her father’s footsteps around India
 |
|  |
| **Director/Producer, *Extraordinary People:* *The Boy With a Tumour for a Face*** 3BM TV, 1 x 1 hour for Five and C4 international, TX April 2006* Follow up obs-doc on the story of a young boy from Indonesia suffering from a disfiguring condition. (I had initially discovered the story and secured access and both commissions)
 |
| **Assistant Producer, *Nuremberg: Goering’s Last Stand***(**BAFTA award winner,** 2007)3BM TV, 1 x 2 hours for C4 and The History Channel, TX August 2006 (Director: Peter Nicholson)* Feature length drama-doc bringing to life the Nuremberg Trial - beyond the courtroom
* I researched all the primary source material that was used in the drama script and worked closely with the director to bring it to life appropriately, helping to organise and oversee a massive drama shoot in a London studio and on location in Ireland
* I sourced interviewees and coordinated interviews and filming in the UK and US
 |

DEVELOPMENT EXPERIENCE INCLUDES:

**Development Consultant, Fly Film**

July-August 2017

* Working with the actor/ writer/ director Samantha Morton to develop a follow up to her BAFTA-winning film, *The Unloved*

|  |
| --- |
|  |

**Development Consultant, See Saw Films**

July 2017, June 2016, June 2015

* I have worked with See Saw on various historical projects over recent years, from researching films in production to exploring potential subject areas to researching specific ideas in development
* Most recently I have been helping to flesh out a feature film in development, substantiating and working up possible storylines

|  |
| --- |
|  |

**Development Producer, Lion Television**

Sept 2016 – March 2017

* Generating and developing factual one-offs and series in a small team
* I had particular responsibility for specialist factual and arts projects
* Development credits include *The Great Fire of London* (3 part series for Channel 5, TX May 2017) and *The Making of Marc Bolan* (one-off special for Sky Arts)
* I also oversaw a successful access bid to a massive archaeological project and then produced the funded development for BBC Two, also commissioned.

|  |
| --- |
|  |

**Development Producer, Blast Televison**

July/ August 2016

* I produced a funded development for Sky Arts about the earliest art in the world (now commissioned as a BBC2 series)
* This included liaising with experts to develop the content and managing approaches to potential artist presenters.

|  |
| --- |
| **Development Researcher, Big Talk Productions**January 2015* I worked with the director Joe Cornish to help develop the script for a historical feature film, set in early twentieth-century Europe/ Britain.
 |
|  |

**Development Producer, Lion Television**

May – Dec 2014

* Generating and developing factual one-offs and series in a small team
* I had particular responsibility for factual drama and big specialist factual projects
* Development credits include *Pompeii: New Secrets Revealed* (BBC One, March 2016) and *Rome’s Sunken Secrets* (Channel 4, April 2017)

|  |
| --- |
|  |

**Development Producer, Blakeway**

Summer 2011

* Generating and developing factual programme ideas, particularly arts and history

|  |
| --- |
|  |