

Introducing UK Producer Group Attendees at IDFA 2023

Doc Society and the British Film Institute are delighted to introduce a UK delegation of eight documentary producers at IDFA.

The BFI is the UK's lead organisation for film and the moving image. Doc Society is the BFI's delegate partner for independent documentary filmmaking; funding creative short films, nonfiction features and immersive work and fostering connections and opportunities for nonfiction filmmakers from across the UK. The UK Group Attendance is supported by funds from the BFI National Lottery International Connections Fund.



UK Producer Group at IDFA 2023



Annika Ranin

Bio

Annika Ranin is a BIFA long-listed producer with multifaceted experience in film production, financing, and independent film business. In 2019 Annika founded production company Unmannered Limited, which focuses on film and TV projects with a strong artistic approach and international commercial viability. Her debut feature **BOARDERS**, directed by Annika together with Sean Fee, about British skateboarding was released in the UK in July 2021 and was longlisted for the BIFA Discovery and Breakthrough Producer Awards. Her second feature **MY EVEREST** was released theatrically in UK in April 2023. The film premiered at the BFI IMAX to great reviews, including a mention on The Times Critics' 'Best Films of 2023' listing.

Project/s

Sierra (Film)

Everything is Gone is an observational documentary on the people who are being confronted with the hard truths of climate change. The film follows the intimate village in Spain and its 111 inhabitants who have to deal with yearly wildfires.

Project Status: Development/Production

Overseas – The Rise of European Basketball (Doc Series)

This 6-part documentary series connects the dots in European basketball's modern success story where European players have against all odds come to dominate the NBA. The series mixes the format of a travel show with insightful investigative basketball flare. We travel from the sunburnt beach courts of Greece via German basketball labs to back-of-the-alley blacktops in Lithuania in order to find out what is the secret behind the continent's rapid rise in basketball. Think the late great Anthony Bourdain meets Adam Sandler's *Hustle*.

Project Status: Development/Packaging

Looking for sales representation, co-producers, and finance for both projects.

annika@annikaranin.com



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Emma Norton

Bio

Emma Norton is an emerging documentary Producer with an interest in bringing diverse stories to screen that amplify under-represented voices. They have produced a range of short films, including the 360 VR project "Virtually There", which premiered at the London Film Festival 2021, and the BFI Doc Society funded short "Weathering", which was acquired by Al Jazeera Witness. They are currently producing their first feature, "Look At Me Then Up", in addition to two short film projects due for release in 2024. Alongside their work as a freelance Producer, Emma is also a Production Manager, having supported teams on projects including the BIFA and BAFTA nominated "Rebellion", the BIFA award-winning "Evelyn", the Oscar-nominated "The Edge of Democracy", and the Emmy award-winning "Nightcrawlers".

Project/s:

Look At Me Then Up (working title)

"Look At Me And Then Up", is the debut feature documentary of directors Ira Putilova and Tasya Zaslavskaya. This deeply personal film follows Tasya's life as she is forced to flee Russia due to her family's vocal opposition to the war in Ukraine. With her life uprooted, she finds a lifeline through her Jewish ancestry, which grants her Israeli citizenship. Tasya navigates her journey into adulthood, struggling to fit in and far from home. And when another violent conflict suddenly reaches her doorstep, she is left fearing for her life whilst wrestling with the profound costs of war, her national identity, and a deep uncertainty about what her future holds.

Project status: "Look At Me Then Up" is currently in post-production and seeking finishing funds.

Company/contact details: <https://emma-norton.mystrikingly.com/>

I am looking to connect with potential co-producers, grant funders, commissioners or sales agents who may be interested in projects on my current slate. I am also keen to meet directors seeking a producer on projects that tell stories from under-represented groups – with a particular interest in queer / LGBT+ stories.



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Joanna Wright

Bio

Joanna Wright is producer with Tiny City an artist-led company working with a diverse network of creative collaborators, in Wales and internationally. They produce non-fiction projects that crossover between documentary, installation, and digital platforms, to make work that centres inclusive design. She has participated in EAVE producer's lab (as director/ producer) and Rotterdam Lab. Previous work as has screened at BFI, Channel 4, BBC, The Space, Sky, The Institute of Contemporary Art, True/False, UNESCO and Ars Electronica. Joanna is a fellow at MIT Co-Creation Studio/ Open Documentary Lab where she co-convenes the access and disability innovation working group, an advisory member for IDA's Non-Fiction Access Initiative and member of FWD-Doc

Project/s

Field Guide: An anthology of extended reality stories for the landscape, made in collaboration with people, plants, insects, animals, and archive.

Project status: Development

Yn Y Golau (In the Light)

Hybrid doc / dance interactive short, a journey through natural light phenomena

Project status: Post production

Company/contact: joannamartine@gmail.com

I am looking for co-production / project partners for Field Guide. I would also like to connect with others who have interest in innovation in accessible production and distribution..



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Lucy Draper

Bio

Lucy Draper is a London-based documentary producer. She recently completed work on an A24 feature documentary with the American director Sara Goldblatt, and produced a short documentary with the BAFTA-nominated director Rosie Baldwin which was funded by BFI and Doc Society. The film premiered at SXSW and screened at Oscar, BAFTA and BIFA-qualifying film festivals. It was shortlisted for a SIMA and Jackson Wilde Award. She is currently producing a funded commission for WaterBear, a short documentary about a community of women in Turkey after the earthquake which was pitched at DOK Leipzig in early October, alongside a funded development for a feature documentary with the director Matt Kay.

Project/s

Noir: Don't Knock the Afro Rock

Noir: the UK's first Black rock band who disappeared without a trace. Uncovering the shocking history of one of Rock & Roll's forgotten classics, the film follows one band's fight for justice in a prejudiced industry, as they reclaim the story of their phenomenal debut album.

Project status

We have completed a funded development phase, and have a 5 minutes teaser and deck to share. We are looking to move into production in early 2024.

Company/contact:

Lucy@beingfilms.co.uk / 07724 959851

As we have now completed development, I am looking to meet with prospective co-producers, as well as further finance so we can push the project into production.



UK Producer Group at IDFA 2023



Naziha Karima Arebi

Bio

Naziha is a BAFTA nominated British-Libyan artist and filmmaker working at the intersection of art and activism – drawn to stories centering identity, class and collective power. Her films include *Freedom Fields* (TIFF, IDFA, BFI LFF, JCC, Blackstar), *After A Revolution* (IDFA, CPHDox, HotDocs), *Untold Chaos* (The Guardian), *Kings of the Desert* (Aljazeera), *Between The Ropes*, amongst others. Her writing and photography have been published online and in print at Brownbook, Monocle, The Outpost, Critical Muslim, The Guardian, Mashallah News and her artwork and installations have been exhibited globally in Tunis, Marseille, Ivory Coast, Dakar, Libya, Barcelona, Geneva, Paris, Malta and London.

Adjacent to art and filmmaking Naziha also works as a programmer, mentor and cultural facilitator, alongside a love of growing, ecology and exploring sustainable solutions related to food sovereignty and land rights. She is currently developing a hybrid project alongside exploring immersive, expanded forms of cinema, sound and other screens.

Project/s

Fertile Void

An immersive delve into the stories the land holds when collective amnesia becomes the status quo. Reflecting on the Italian Colonial period in Libya, at the sites of the genocidal concentration camps, the plants and soil become a portal and process for descendants, and audiences, to reconnect.

Project Status: Development

THIS is England

On the social housing estate where *This Is England* was shot, and where I currently live, I explore the diverse migration sounds, textures and visuals of an English council estate – human, bird, seed and otherwise – challenging the xenophobic rhetoric in UK immigration discourse and reimagining the environment I was born into. A sensual, humorous rejection of poverty-porn tropes, in playful collaboration with residents (human and otherwise) on what it means to be an immigrant in modern day Britain.

Project Status: Early Development

Contact: naziha.arebi@gmail.com



UK Producer Group at IDFA 2023



Reece Cargan

Bio

Reece Cargan – Bombito Productions

Reece is a BAFTA nominated and Royal Television Society award winning producer and founder of Bombito productions a Glasgow based production company.

In 2022, Reece was selected by Screen International as a 'Rising Star Scotland' and has represented Scotland at IFFR Producer's Lab, BFI Insight and EAVE Producer's Workshop.

Reece has produced numerous award winning short documentaries and has multiple fiction features and a TV series in commissioned development. 'Your Honour' is Reece's first feature documentary with director Bircan Birol – currently in funded development with Screen Scotland.

Reece is attached as UK co-producer to Dutch feature project Where Dragons Live and is currently BAFTA Scotland nominated for Miranda Stern's short documentary 'Clean'.

Reece – as the Bombito slate attests, is passionate about working with multiple generations of queer talent, with a focus on intersectional and international LGBTQIA+ stories & voices.

Project

Your Honour

Set in turbulent Turkey after historic elections, 'Your Honour' follows Efruz, a pioneering trans student completing her law degree. Guided by an "imaginary judge," she embarks on an emotional journey, questioning if her dreams are worth the battle against a country plagued by injustice.

Project status: In development with Screen Scotland, part of Close Up initiative 2023

Contact: www.bombito.co.uk

I am looking to connect with possible co-producers, financiers and sales agents



UK Producer Group at IDFA 2023



Usayd Younis

Bio

Usayd is an award-winning director and producer. He has made feature-length documentaries, documentary shorts, and scripted films. With a background in multimedia and technology, Usayd has been addressing socio-political issues through media for over a decade.

In 2016, Usayd released his debut feature documentary "Generation Revolution," which received support from the BFI, premiered at Sheffield Doc/Fest, and garnered multiple international awards. His documentary short "Reclaiming Work" (2020) amassed over 100,000 online views and was translated into multiple languages. Usayd's short film "Death by Pollution" (2021) received international recognition; featuring at the prestigious Wellcome Collection and the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP27).

Project/s

Malcolm

Blending a true crime, journalistic investigation with rare access to Malcolm X's family, this cinematic feature documentary is a suspenseful and emotional journey of Malcolm Shabazz and his family with historical epic sweep across three generations.

Project Status: Pre-production

Contact: <https://blackbrownfilm.com> / usayd@blackbrownfilm.com

Currently seeking co-production partners



UK Producer Group at IDFA Representatives



Luke W Moody

Head of BFI Doc Society Fund

Luke is a curator, producer and film executive specialising in non-fiction film, new cinema forms and artist's moving images. Previously, Luke was Creative Director at Abandon Normal Devices, Director of Film Programming at Sheffield Doc/Fest. Luke also co-founded and curated Frames of Representation at the ICA and New Cinema Days Lab in Manchester, and was previously Head of Film at Doc Society. As a producer, Luke's film productions have premiered at TIFF, New York Film Festival, Busan, IDFA, IFFR and BFI London Film Festival. In 2021 he was a 2021 Sundance Producers' Summit fellow and 2022 CPH:LAB participant.

www.doc society.org



Fiona Fletcher

Support Programme Manager, BFI Doc Society

Fiona devises a raft of year-round talent development activities for UK documentary filmmakers (delivered as part of BFI NETWORK across the UK), fostering a pathway for filmmakers from early career steps all the way through to making funded features. She has also worked across the production of Doc Society's flagship global programmes such as Good Pitch Europe and Climate Story Lab UK. Previous to Doc Society, Fiona was Hospitality Manager at the BFI London Film Festival and Flare LGBTQI+ Festival and managed the site specific Branchage Film Festival in Jersey. She has produced a portfolio of film commissions, cross-arts projects, events and worked in independent distribution.

www.doc society.org / fiona@doc society.org

