

> HUGH BALLANTYNE _ PRODUCER / DIRECTOR

E mail info@hughballantyne.com

Website www.hughballantyne.com

Mobile + 44 7906 870344

./ BIOGRAPHY

Hugh is an Emmy nominated and international award-winning producer and director. He has gained a reputation for creating powerful and emotive character driven specialist factual television and drama documentaries.

Tackling big subjects, Hugh makes his stories accessible through his character; whether exploring the underbelly of society or bringing the past to the present, through epic multimillion pound history series. His films span a range of genres including history, crime, science, religion, travel, music, art and culture.

Hugh has made films for ITV, National Geographic, History, Discovery, SKY 1, CH7 [Australia] FOX and CNN. He has extensive experience in directing actors, presenters and the general public. Hugh has a strong background in directing dynamic action and complex CGI sequences.

Known for his visually striking films, Hugh brings an innovative style and cinematic approach. He graduated from the Sydney Film School in 2003. Hugh draws on a breadth of storytelling skills, including writing and directing short films, high-end music videos and powerful character driven films for brands such as Converse, Nokia and Warner Music.

> SERIES DIRECTOR

Hugh has set the style, vision and been the series director for big budget hits such as ITV's THE INVESTIGATOR and Channel 7's AUSTRALIA: THE STORY OF US. Hugh was both series director and executive producer on last year's INSIDE THE MANSON CULT: THE LOST TAPES.

> CREATIVE DIRECTOR

Hugh has successfully developed, written and won multimillion pound television proposals for some of the UK's leading independent production companies, including Raw, Brook Lapping, Muse [Canada] and Nutopia. See part 2.0 of CV.

Hugh has recently been Creative Director for Apple Tv's first factual commission. Hugh established the series structure, episode content, look and tone for a £20 million factual series. The series went into production 2018 and is due to TX 2020.

1.0 PRODUCER / DIRECTOR _ FACTUAL

> **MANSON: THE LOST TAPES**

_ 2 x 60 mins ITV

Prod Co.

Naked Entertainment

Screened

9pm Thursday ITV

Sept / Oct 2018

THE TELEGRAPH: 'Skillfully assembled. Intriguing and coherent ...an uncomfortable journey into cult indoctrination'

THE TIMES: 4 stars CRITICS CHOICE

Following Manson's arrest in 1969 and whilst the family was still at its height, one young filmmaker gained access into the Cult. He filmed over 100 hours of 16mm interviews with Manson family members and took thousands of photographs. For over 45 years the material has been locked away. Until now.

The films explore the lost tapes to reveal both how Manson brainwashed a group of peace-loving kids and radicalized them into cold blooded killers. These candid 1969 testimonies give a chilling insight into the manipulated minds of the Manson family, combined with present day interviews with some of the same characters, including Catherine 'Gypsy' Share and Dianne 'Snake' Lake.

Even from his prison cell Manson had absolute power over his family. We hear from the core team involved in the case at the time. The prosecuting lawyer, police and journalists explain how even during the trial the Manson family continued to commit murder on Charlie's behalf. In 1971 Manson was convicted for the murder of 7 people, including the movie star Sharon Tate. The Manson family is suspected of killing up to 35 people.

'When somebody needs to be killed, there is no wrong, you do it and you kill whoever gets in your way, this is us.'

Sandra Good _ Manson Family Member

> **INSIDE THE MANSON CULT: THE LOST TAPES** **Prod Co.** **Naked Entertainment**
 _ 2 x 60 mins FOX **Screened** **9pm Sun FOX [US]** **Sept 2018**
3.5 million viewers per episode

Hugh was both an executive producer and series director for this two-part special. The film includes additional contributors, including cult expert Rick Ross and the FBI's most pre-eminent criminal profiler, John E Douglas. John's work as a criminal psychologist inspired the lead characters in both the series MINDHUNTER and the film THE SILENCE OF THE LAMBS. Douglas interviewed Manson and the 6 family members convicted of murder, to gain an understanding of how Manson radicalized his followers.

> **CHINA'S MEGATOMB REVEALED** **Prod Co.** **Brook Lapping**
 _ 1 x 90 mins **Screened** **National Geographic Ch** **2017**
National Geographic worldwide ratings hit. 49 million viewers in China

Hugh wrote and directed this drama documentary history film. From the depths of the First Emperor's tomb comes a thrilling investigation that rewrites the history of China and the man who created it. In 1974, thousands of terracotta statues were unearthed near Xianyang, China, discovered to have been buried in tribute to and in order to protect the nation's first emperor, Qin Shi Huang Di. Archaeologists have recently unearthed extraordinary finds, more important than anything discovered in the last 40 years. In this National Geographic documentary, explorer Albert Lin takes us inside the tomb to uncover the secrets and reveal how their existence rewrites the history of China's First Emperor.

> **THE INVESTIGATOR: A BRITISH CRIME STORY** **Prod Co.** **Shiver [ITV] & Syco Entertainment**
 _ 4 x 60 mins **Screened** **9pm Thurs ITV** **2016**
3.1 million viewers per episode on ITV. The series is now available to watch on NETFLIX.

THE INDEPENDENT: 'Nail biting stuff'

Hugh was the series director for a new cold case murder investigation crime series. Over four episodes, a single unsolved murder is re-examined. Former police detective, renowned criminologist and investigator Mark Williams-Thomas proves that truth can be far more compelling than fiction in this explosive new crime series. Williams-Thomas re-examines a truly chilling murder case that has baffled police detectives for more than 30 years. At the heart of this shocking story of murder, fraud, sexual deviancy and even a faked death, lies a daughter's agonising search for justice after the disappearance of her mother in 1985. For three decades she's been seeking answers. This is her final hope of getting the closure she and her family so desperately deserve. With a dogged determination to get to the truth, Williams-Thomas undertakes a forensic re-examination of the case, unravelling a captivating story that will keep audiences engrossed until its chilling climax.

> **FINDING JESUS: FAITH, FACT & FORGERY** **Prod Co.** **Nutopia**
 _ 2 x 44 mins **Screened** **9pm Sun CNN [USA]** **2015**
Over one million viewers each week
CNN's first factual commission

Hugh wrote one and directed two episodes of this part investigation and part thrilling emotional drama documentary series. Loved and worshipped by billions, Jesus' life and death is the subject of intense debate. But the most famous man in history left no physical trace. Or has he? In this series we discover fascinating new insights into the historical Jesus. We utilise the latest state-of-the-art scientific techniques and archaeological research, to investigate the value and authenticity of six artefacts that could shed new light on Jesus and his world. The series also looks again at the Gospel characters and the stories that these artefacts connect with: the baptism, the mission, the betrayal, the Passion, and the Resurrection.

> **AUSTRALIA: THE STORY OF US** **Prod Co.** **Essential Media [Aus]**
 _ 4 x 44 mins **Screened** **8pm Sun Channel 7 [Aus]** **2015**
THE AUSTRALIAN: 'Pick of the week' THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD: 'A rollicking yarn'
Rated over 1 million each wk on Ch 7 [Australia's highest rating free to air network]
AEAF AWARDS 2015 _ Bronze Award

Hugh was the series director of this epic history drama documentary series. He wrote two and directed the first four episodes. More than 40,000 years in the making, Australia: The Story of Us is an extraordinary narrative about the people, places and events which have shaped the country from the first footprints on the continent to the present day. Using astounding visual sequences, this groundbreaking drama documentary series weaves together stories of Australia's origins and offers an original thesis about how the people came to create the homeland they inhabit today. Alongside amazing CGI and innovative filming techniques, the series features interviews with important thinkers, notable celebrities and iconic national figures who take us inside the stories that have influenced Australia's history.

- > **EXTREME WORLD: LAS VEGAS**
 _ 1 x 44 mins
 Prod Co. Freshwater Films
 Screened 8pm SKY 1 2014
 Ross Kemp looks behind the neon and discovers Sin City's winners and losers. The casinos of Las Vegas generate over \$15 billion a year, yet the city has recently experienced the highest rate of foreclosures, bankruptcies and unemployment in the USA. In the storm water drains beneath the casinos Ross meets some of the city's homeless who inhabit this dangerous underworld. West Las Vegas is less than a mile from the strip but has the city's highest rate of unemployment. Ross meets some of the gangs who rule the streets. The city's illegal sex industry generates an estimated \$5 billion a year. Ross speaks to a vice detective who is bringing down the high rolling pimps and meets a middle-class mum whose daughter has been groomed in high school and is now a sex worker on the strip.
- > **BANGED UP ABROAD: VIETNAM POW**
 _ 1 x 44 mins
 McCAIN & BRACE
 Prod Co. Raw TV
 Screened National Geographic Ch 2013
CABLEFAX AWARDS 2013 _ Winner _ Best documentary Historical / Political
 SERIES PREMIERE _ Hugh wrote and directed this history drama documentary. Ernie Brace is the longest serving POW in Vietnam history and likely endured more than any other prisoner during the war. Held for almost eight years, he faced capture, starvation, sickness, torture, solitude and desperation. After three and a half years, Brace was transported from the jungle to the infamous prison in Vietnam dubbed the Hanoi Hilton and finally heard the voice of another American: Lt. Cmdr. John McCain, a Navy pilot shot down over Hanoi.
- > **MANKIND: THE STORY OF ALL OF US**
 _ 4 x 44 mins
 Prod Co. Nutopia
 Screened History Channel 2012
EMMY AWARDS 2013 _ Nominee [Episode 5]
Transmitted in 150 countries & translated into 37 languages
 Hugh wrote two and directed four episodes of this twelve-part drama documentary series. A genre-defining mini-series narrated by Stephen Fry, this is a gripping adventure story about how we built our world. An extraordinary tale of human endeavor. Struggles against huge odds – and the elements – triumphs of human spirit, inspired innovation, and shared heroism. From the development of tools, to the pyramids and from the fall of Rome to the discovery of the Americas. The greatest landmarks of the human story told from a new perspective using incredible CGI and compelling drama documentary. A tough, exciting action adventure, encompassing astronomy, geology, and the power of science, engineering and technology to transform the world around us.
- > **MAN v WILD: MALAY ARCHIPELAGO**
 _ 1 x 44 mins
 Prod Co. Diverse [Bristol]
 Screened Discovery Ch, CH 4 2011
 Bear Grylls is dropped into a remote archipelago of islands off the coast of Borneo. From the moment he swims ashore Bear is fighting impenetrable jungle, scaling escarpments and navigating inhospitable swamps in his search for freshwater. Desperate for food Bear has no choice but to try and spear fish in the shallows at night. The struggle to survive continues as he tries to catch fish by free diving to depths of 20ft and on land Bear has to use all his skills to drive wild boar into his trap. But will he find the ultimate key to his survival a freshwater source?
- > **FAN v WILD: BRITISH COLUMBIA**
 _ 1 x 44 mins
 Prod Co. Diverse [Bristol]
 Screened Discovery Ch, CH 4 2010
Rated over 1 million viewers in US
 Bear Grylls takes two city slickers into the Canadian wilderness on the adventure of a lifetime. Their journey begins fast roping from a helicopter onto a 10,000ft mountain peak. Their only way out is down an 80ft sheer granite rock face. Sliding through a snowfield they reach a glacier, covered in a minefield of crevasses. A 50ft ice wall is their biggest challenge yet. Exhausted and hungry they have to build a shelter, prepare and cook food before it gets dark. After a freezing cold night their journey continues: navigating a 300ft waterfall, swamps and raging glacial rivers. This will be their toughest personal challenge and a life-changing experience.
- > **AMERICA: THE STORY OF US**
 _ 1 x 44 mins
 Prod Co. Nutopia
 Screened History Channel 2010
EMMY AWARDS 2010 _ 4 times nominee
Episode: 6 rated over 3.3 million viewers
 The riveting adventure of how America was invented. The series focuses on the people, ideas & events. An extensive and in-depth drama documentary series covering 400 years of American history. Episode 6, HEARTLAND, tells the story of the taming of the west. In 1865, the face of America is about to be changed by the internet of the era: the railroad. Within 45 years America's population triples and millions of settlers farm the plains. The traditional way of life for the Native Americans comes to an end and a new world emerges. America grows from an agricultural to an industrial superpower and by the end of the 19th century becomes the fastest-growing single economy in the world.

<p>> HOW TO GET WHAT YOU WANT _ 3 x 44 mins SKY's first factual commission</p>	<p>Prod Co. Screened</p>	<p>Carbon Media 9pm SKY 1</p>	<p>2010</p>
---	---	--	--------------------

Hugh wrote two and directed three episodes of this eight-part series. Three of the world's leading psychologists examine the spectrum of modern thinking, from the spoken and unspoken rules of attraction and love, to the dynamics of power and wealth and the hidden psychology behind winning and lying. Eminent in their respective fields of body language [Dr Peter Collett], social science [Anjula Mutanda] and neuroscience (Dr Jack Lewis), the presenters analyse the behavior of celebrities, politicians and sportsmen and carry out field experiments involving both the presenters and the general public.

<p>> INDUSTRIAL JUNKIE: RUBBER _ 2 x 22 mins</p>	<p>Prod Co. Screened</p>	<p>North One TV 8pm Discovery Ch</p>	<p>2009</p>
---	---	---	--------------------

Hugh wrote one and directed two episodes of this eight-part series. Presenter Jonny Smith, Fifth Gear (Channel 5), gets personal with Europe's biggest industries. In this episode we explore Rubber. Jonny gets a hands-on insight into the world of high-performance rubber production, from creating the sticky mix at Michelin HQ in France to hand building a tyre for the largest commercial aircraft in the world, the A380. Jonny travels to Toulouse to install his pride and joy on an A380 aircraft before both the rubber and Jonny's workmanship are put to the test, on the runway.

<p>> EVOLVE _ 1 x 60 mins</p>	<p>Prod Co. Screened</p>	<p>Optomen [US] History</p>	<p>2008</p>
--	---	--	--------------------

EMMY AWARDS 2009 _ Winner

This series traces the history of the key innovations that have led nature's evolutionary arms race, using docudrama, experimental science and live action natural history sequences. In this episode we explore venom. Scientist Bryan Fry catches and extracts venom from the world's deadliest snake, the inland Taipan. Injecting venom into samples of his blood, Bryan demonstrates how this killing machine has converted the building blocks of its body into lethal toxins.

<p>> NATURAL BORN TRAVELLER: THE GREAT _ 4 x 24 mins</p>	<p>Prod Co. Screened</p>	<p>Lonely Planet Television [Aus] Discovery Ch, Voom [USA], Ch 10 [Aus]</p>	<p>2008</p>
---	---	--	--------------------

ASTRA AWARDS 2008 _ Nominee [Australian television awards]

Hugh wrote and directed all four episodes. Nobody has used a motorbike to traverse the 7,000km spine of Australia, The Great Dividing Range. Steve Crombie is a 29 yr old Australian thrill-seeker who has travelled half way round the world in search of adventure. Now he takes on his own backyard. Steve experiences the culture of this iconic range through its people. He meets a colourful cast of cattle musterers, loggers, hippies, graziers and Aboriginal elders. With the wet season lapping at his wheels, will Steve make it to Far North Queensland?

<p>> BLUELIST AUSTRALIA _ 6 x 24 mins</p>	<p>Prod Co. Screened</p>	<p>Lonely Planet Television [Aus] 7.30 pm SBS [Aus]</p>	<p>2007</p>
--	---	--	--------------------

Second highest rating series in Wed 7:30pm time slot since SBS began

Featuring some of Australia's most unique and thrilling travel experiences as voted by the Australian public. Presented by actor Samuel Johnson, The Secret Life of Us [CH 4]. Each episode contains travel experiences road tested by humorous personalities, from satirical writers exploring Melbourne's underground graffiti culture to an award-winning actress roughing it on a road trip across the outback.

Experience earlier than 2007 available on request

Hugh regularly lectures in Film and TV at both Westminster and Sussex Universities. Previously, he worked as an Architect. Hugh holds both British & Australian passports and is permitted to work in both territories. Hugh currently holds a R1 US work permit, valid until 2023.

// PD REFEREES

Lucy Van Beek
 MD of Blakeway
ivanbeek@blakeway.tv
 0207 428 3100

Greg Sanderson
 MD of Brook Lapping
gsanderson@brooklapping.com
 0207 428 3100

2.0 CREATIVE DIRECTOR _ FACTUAL

> TITLE: Not disclosed _ Apple TV
£20 million landmark new series
_ 12 x 30 mins for Apple TV

Prod Co. Not disclosed
Year 2018 /2019

This series was commissioned in June 2018 and will air in 2020

Hugh is the creative director for an innovative new factual series for Apple Tv. He was asked to develop the controlling idea and devise the editorial structure and content for the series. Hugh's role was also to establish a unique tone, visual style, and soundscape for the series. Hugh explored the Apple brand values and audience to understand how to craft a unique product within the market place. This is Apples' first factual commission. Hugh presented his vision for the series to commissioner Jay Hunt, who was delighted with the proposal. Hugh continues as a creative director with the series.

> TITLE: Not disclosed _ PAID development Nat Geo
_ 3 x 45 mins for Nat Geo

Prod Co. Blakeway
Year 2018

Nat Geo is currently considering the proposal

Hugh developed the series outline and directed a taster tape for this major documentary series. The real story of how America put a man on the moon is revealed in top secret CIA files. Recently declassified files reveal the clandestine operations, stolen Russian technology, shady dealings and multiple surveillance programs. This heist thriller is told through first hand testimony revealing the true story of the race to the moon. Including, NASA's Watergate-esque heist and intercepting top secret test modules before the Russians could retrieve their technology.

> FATHERLAND _ PAID development BBC
_ 1 x 45 mins for BBC2

Prod Co. Wild Blue Media
Year 2017

BBC Arts commissioned this film in May 2017, as part of a larger series, adapting theatre for TV. The series fell over whilst in production, just before the shooting of our film was to begin.

FATHERLAND is a 90 min play, which headlined the Manchester International Festival in July 2017. The play is written by award winning playwright Simon Stephens, songs and music written by Karl Hyde, from the band Underworld and directed by Scott Graham, from Frantic Assembly. Hugh adapted the play to create a 45 min film for BBC2.

The play FATHERLAND is arresting fusion of music and character driven testimony, which holds a mirror and a microphone to the nation. The play explores what it is to be a father in England today. It is character driven, character focused and quotes interviewees verbatim. Transforming ultra-naturalistic dialogue into hypnotic loops, masterfully weaving samples and beats to create huge and emotive compositions. The narrative building blocks of this play borrow from the core values of documentary filmmaking, real life facts about actual people and historical events. Actors embody these real characters and articulate their stories. For the film FATHERLAND, Hugh interweaves the stage performance with docudrama. Taking our principle characters back to the real worlds in which historical events took place. Five principle stories weave past and present to dramatic effect.

> TITLE: Not disclosed _ PAID development Nat Geo Int
_ 8 x 60 mins

Prod Co. Raw Television
Year 2017

Multimillion dollar landmark human & material history proposal

Nat Geo is currently considering the proposal

A new multimillion dollar landmark history series explores eight Ancient Civilizations. Hugh ran a team to devise the concept and deliver the series structure, episode content and creative vision for the series. Hugh produced a detailed 'Prezi,' which provided the client with a 360 degree view of the world proposed for the series.

The series explores lesser known Ancient civilizations, each episode consists of a different civilization and in-depth character driven stories. Each episode will be an extra-ordinary story of discovery and survival. A compelling narrative based around real characters and real events. A story full of plot twists, heroes and villains. We will bring these ancient worlds to life using very innovative and dramatic storytelling techniques for a modern audience. This is ambitious, bold and resolute story telling. Our fully realized ancient world will be immersive, emotional and complete with sound and music score to match any Hollywood movie etc.

> EVOLUTION _ PAID development Nat Geo Int
_ 6 x 60 mins

Prod Co. Raw Television
Year 2017

Multimillion dollar landmark international science proposal

National Geo was very interested in the proposal but did not commission the series

Hugh ran a team to devise the concept and deliver the series and episode breakdown. Hugh determined the creative vision and produced a detailed visual treatment for the series. The pitch involved building a comprehensive website

which painted a unique vision for the series.

For the first time, we will tell the epic story of how our ancestors survived the five great extinctions, dragged themselves out of the water and against the odds, became the most powerful species on earth. This isn't a science lesson, this is an action movie. A tooth and claw fight for existence. In this lavish, beautiful and brutal series, we will dramatize the incredible turning points in our evolutionary journey. The moments when species faced death - and yet survived. We'll traverse huge swathes of time and bring back to life our evolutionary heroes.

> **ROME & JERUSALEM: THE CLASH OF ANCIENT CIVILISATIONS** **Prod Co.** **Muse [Canada]**
_ 6 x 1 hr **Year** **2015**

Multimillion dollar landmark US history proposal

History channel were very interested but did not commission the series

Hugh developed the concept, wrote the series structure and the episode breakdown of this epic 6 x 1 hr high end drama documentary series. The series explores why in 70 AD Roman forces clashed with the Jews, destroying the great city of Jerusalem, its Temple and over one million lives. This is a new take on how this pivotal conflict between two ancient cultures marks the genesis of our modern Western society.

The series begins in Jerusalem in 4 BC. Herod is King. Divisive factions are developing within the Jewish community. Herod brutally quells a rebellion in Jerusalem. Amidst this crucible of insurgency and violence, Jesus of Nazareth is born. Jesus follows in the footsteps of his cousin and mentor John the Baptist, builds his ministry and ultimately leads his followers in protest and insurrection against the Jewish Temple. It's a crime for which he will pay the ultimate price under Roman law, crucifixion. Jesus' prophetic teachings, will live on in the name of his followers, including his brother James and his advisor Peter. This community of early Christians make a momentous decision regarding the future of Jesus' ministry when, at the urging of a young firebrand convert named Paul, the Christian Church is opened to non-Jews.

This revolutionary message will be carried to Rome by Peter and Paul, further fueling the growing unrest developing both within Judaism and between Jerusalem and Rome. In Jerusalem, Jews resist Roman taxation and rule. Rome acts swiftly to crush any possibility of revolution in Jerusalem. The series ultimately culminates in the ruination of Jerusalem at the hands of the Roman Legions led by military commander Titus.

> **THE UNEXPLAINED FILES [Pilot] _ PAID development Discovery Ch** **Prod Co.** **Raw Tv**
Client Discovery Channel **Year** **2012**

Discovery Channel commissioned the series in 2012. The series ran for 2 seasons

Hugh worked on the development of this concept, wrote and directed the pilot. Using raw footage and first-hand accounts of unexplained phenomena, the series brings renowned scientists and eyewitnesses together as they help make sense of the incomprehensible.

> **INXS: THE MAKING OF ELECTROSEXUAL** **Prod Co.** **[Aus]**
Client Petrol Records **Year** **2009**

Hugh directed the film but the album wasn't released and therefore neither was the film

This 60 min documentary film is a brave and honest insight into INXS the band. Since Michael's death in 1997 the band have continued to write, record and perform with a variety of guest vocalists. In 2005 INXS took part in "Rockstar: INXS" an 'American Idol-style' search to find a new lead singer. The process resulted in the band realizing they didn't want a new singer. Chris Murphy, the band's original manager, inspired INXS to embark on a new project, to re-imagine some of their hits and collaborate with some of the world's leading guest vocalists to produce a new album ELECTROSEXUAL.

Through the documentary we get a unique insight into the band, their experiences to date and their hopes for the future. We join Chris Murphy as he travels the world to find the perfect mix of artists for the album, which includes Brandon Flowers from THE KILLERS, TRICKY, MARY J BLIGE, and SNOWPATROL'S Gary Lightbody. Join the band as they team up with one of Australia's hottest electronic producers James Ash and return to the studio. ELECTROSEXUAL is a new INXS album for a new generation.

Experience earlier than 2009 available on request

././ DEVELOPMENT REFEREES

Adam Hawkins

Executive Vice President : US Television

Raw Television Adam.Hawkins@raw.co.uk