

LAUREN DAWKINS • LONDON • LAURENMAY57@GMAIL.COM • 07495 800994

A Grierson DocLab Alumni and experienced Researcher, with particular interest in History, Specialist Factual and Popular Factual programmes. A practicing self-shooter, director, and editor, with broad experience volunteering at national film and book festivals. I thrive working with a variety of people, and pride myself on bringing a distinctively positive attitude to every project.

FILM AND TELEVISION EXPERIENCE

JANUARY 2024 – SEPTEMBER 2024

RESEARCHER • 'MOZART: RISE OF A GENIUS' • EXEC. CATE HALL • 72 FILMS

- Sourcing historical archive, letters, and manuscripts to creatively inform story details, drama and GFX
- Producing in-depth briefing documents to interview high-profile musical and theatrical talent
- Researching 17th century music and socio-historical details, consulting academics from the Open University

SEPTEMBER 2023 – JANUARY 2024

RESEARCHER • STANLEY TUCCI 'HEART OF ITALY' • EXEC. AMANDA LYON • BBC STUDIOS • SPECIALIST FACTUAL PRODUCTIONS

- Preparing specialist research briefs on the microclimate and geography of 10 regions across Italy, which informed the location recces and the travel series itinerary
- Deep-diving into each region's culinary heritage to pitch innovative recipe ideas and compelling contributors
- Editorialising scripts with imagery and specialist factual details, alongside developing the series style guide

JANUARY 2023 – SEPTEMBER 2023

RESEARCHER • 'SECRETS AND SPIES (W/T)' • EXEC. ABIGAIL PRIDDLE • BBC STUDIOS • SPECIALIST FACTUAL PRODUCTIONS

- Investigating pseudonyms, people-tracing, gaining challenging access to UK and US intelligence agencies
- In-depth biographical research on sensitive individuals, assisting with research calls, meetings and interviews
- Sourcing and clearing archive, newspapers and declassified reports to inform drama elements and GFX
- Sourcing and working with historical props as both Researcher and Production Assistant on drama shoots

JANUARY 2023

DEVELOPMENT RESEARCHER • MINNOW FILMS • GRIERSON DOCLAB TRAINEESHIP

- Researching contributors, writing treatments, and pitching ideas for global streamers in Development
- Prioritising contributor care and wellbeing to assess and cast applicants for 'SAS: Who Dares Wins'

OCTOBER 2022 – DECEMBER 2022

RESEARCHER • 'NOT A DRILL' (W/T) • DIR. TOM DALZELL • FLICKER PRODUCTIONS

- Casting local residents, government officials and witnesses to the 2018 Nuclear Missile Alert in Hawaii
- Securing locations, assisting with interview set-ups, sound and lighting during a 1-month shoot in Hawaii, USA
- Supporting contributors as eye-line during intensive interviews and sensitive dramatic reconstruction

JULY 2022 – NOVEMBER 2022

RESEARCHER • 'KELSEY PARKER: LIFE AFTER TOM' • DIR. ROSIE WILCOX • FLICKER PRODUCTIONS

- Forming relationships with national charities, to cast and support grieving and vulnerable contributors
- Assisting observational shoots, ranging from large-scale weddings and holidays to intimate at-home filming
- Logging rushes, creating shooting logs and editorializing transcripts using Trint

APRIL 2022 – NOVEMBER 2022

RESEARCHER • 'KATHY BURKE: GROWING UP' • DIR. LUCY WILCOX • FLICKER PRODUCTIONS

- Partnering with youth groups, care homes and agencies to cast young, elderly and celebrity contributors
- Informing shooting scripts, writing presenter-led COMM and assisting as a Production Assistant on interviews
- Self-shooting B-roll footage, sourcing and clearing social media and news archive whilst working in the edit

TRAINING

OCTOBER 2023

CAMERA TRAINING • BBC STUDIOS

- Collaborative in-person camera training on Sony AS7 III, provided by BBC Production Training Services
- Technical study of camera features, alongside setting-up and shooting interviews and actuality sequences

MAY 2022 – MAY 2023

GRIERSON DOCLAB TRAINEE • GRIERSON TRUST

- Developing factual programming and industry knowledge during an intensive hybrid training programme, receiving ongoing industry mentorship and masterclasses
- Developing and pitching a BBC3 documentary idea to a panel of commissioners
- Supporting talent and backstage crew as Production Runner at the Grierson Documentary Awards, 2023

ACHIEVEMENTS & AWARDS

OCTOBER 2023

STAGE MANAGER • MARGATE BOOKIE FESTIVAL 2023

- Directing volunteers and technical crew to conduct masterclasses and panels with high-profile authors
- Caring for festival talent, such as Deborah Levy (*'Hot Milk'*, 2017) and Sathnam Sanghera (*'Empireland'*, 2021)

OCTOBER 2023

VOLUNTEER • BLACK BRITISH BOOK FESTIVAL 2023

- Collaborating with a selected team of volunteers to co-ordinate the festival's schedule, supporting high-profile talent during large-scale speaking events at the Southbank Centre

OCTOBER 2022

DOCUMENTARY FOCUS GROUP LECTURE • SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY

- Sharing insight into factual filmmaking through a Q+A session with a class of documentary students
- Invited to speak alongside Cherish Oteka, Director of BAFTA-winning documentary *'The Black Cop'*, 2021

OCTOBER - NOVEMBER 2021

'PLAY OBSERVATORY' RESEARCH PROJECT • UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

- Selected filmmaker for the *'Play Observatory'*, exploring the topic of 'Play' during the COVID-19 pandemic
- Shot on iPhone, my short film *'Locked in Character'* features in the Young V & A exhibition and is archived in the British Library to inform researchers and students

JULY 2022

MEDIA MAGAZINE AWARDS CEREMONY • BFI SOUTHBANK

- Created for the 2021 Media Magazine Lockdown Production Competition, my stop-motion, silent-era film *'Recipe for Happiness'* was awarded Best Direction, and screened to an invited audience at BFI Southbank
- As part of a panel, I discussed the creative process of stop-motion animation and filmmaking on iPhone

EDUCATION

SEPTEMBER 2020 - APRIL 2022

FILM & TV PRODUCTION • CITY COLLEGE SOUTHAMPTON

- Awarded Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Creative Media Practice at Distinction***

WIDER SKILLS

- Self-shooting on iPhone and DSLR for Documentary and Drama
- Editing sizzles for Documentary and Drama using Adobe Premier Pro and Final Cut Pro
- Designing professional portfolios and business websites using software such as Wix and Squarespace
- Public speaking, including writing/presenting engaging educational lectures on Media and Filmmaking
- Extensive experience in hospitality, strengthening my social skills and ability to assist on production