

**Grierson Award Shortlisted film maker, who's worked in the industry for nearly 20 years. Stephen has worked with all the major broadcasters, including the BBC (1,2 & 4), Channel 4, ITV, Discovery, National Geographic, Amazon and Sky. He also has a strong track record of winning his own commissions.**

**Known for a strong visual style, self-shooting skills, high concept ideas and a long list of contacts. He is confident working with either high profile presenters to bringing out the best of first-time contributors. Stephen is also well versed in animation, CGI, motion control, drone and high-speed filming.**

**Stephen began his career working for the BBC on Kilroy and found that he had a talent for finding some of Britain's most colourful characters. Ever since, Stephen has continued to document a diverse selection of people from all walks of life. From North London's Lady pest controllers to Russian scientists living in the North Pole, to the secretive world of McLaren racing, to Welsh Guard veterans.**

**Stephen has spent extensive time filming abroad from Bangladesh, The Falklands, The USA to The North Pole.**

**Stephen has a reputation for making intelligent history and science films, which has led to projects ranging from building an artificially intelligent robot, to unknown math geniuses, to filming Syrian trauma surgeons practicing on cadavers at the Royal College of Surgeons. It has been claimed that he can perform an emergency tracheotomy in pitch black conditions.**

#### LINKS TO SELECTED FILMS BELOW

##### **Tomb Hunters (Lion Television / At Land Productions for The Smithsonian Channel) 2020 / 21**

###### **Producer / Series Director**

Series exploring the mysteries of Egypt's lost necropolis at Saqqara. Exclusive access to a honeycomb of burial chambers, shafts, and rock-cut tombs that belonged to the royal courtiers of the Pharaohs. **Self-shot on FS9** (Exec Caterina Turrone/ Richard Bradley).

##### **Gregg Wallace's Fun Weekends (Rumpus Media for Channel 5) 2020**

###### **Producer / Director**

The Master Chef presenter heads to various city weekends breaks to uncover their history, take part in traditions and indulge in food and drink. Fast turnaround series - I produced and shot two films in just four weeks. **Self-shot on FS7 (SP. Simon Arnold).**

##### **How to Avoid Parking Tickets. (Britespark for Channel 5) 2020**

###### **Producer / Director**

Alexis Conran reports on the tricks unscrupulous parking companies are using against Britain's motorists. **(Exec. Tom Porter)**

##### **The Wonderful World of Cakes (Knickerbockerglory TV for Channel 5) 2019/20**

###### **Producer / Director**

Quirky show meeting the world's most outrageous bakers. (SP. Ben Cook)

##### **Great Canal Journeys (Spun Gold for Channel 4). 2019**

###### **Producer / Director**

Wonderful new series with Sheila Hancock and Gyles Brandreth learning about Britain's waterways and themselves. Self-shot on FS7 (SP. Catrina Lear).

##### **Autobiography: Junior Johnson - *The Moonshiner That Changed NASCAR* (Raw TV for Discovery Channel). 2019**

###### **Producer / Director**

New Landmark series revealing the story behind racing legends. Helped create series style by making the first film. (Exec Mike Griffith).

##### **Icons: The Greatest Person of the 20th Century (72 Films for BBC2) 2018 - 2019**

###### **Producer / Director**

Major BBC series exploring the work of some of the most influential figures from twentieth century history. In my film, Lily Cole presents the case for the artists; Picasso, Woolf, Hitchcock and Warhol. (Exec. Cate Hall & Francesca Maudslay).

##### **The Battle of Britain: Model Squadron. (Love Productions for Channel 4) 2018**

###### **Producer / Director**

James Holland leads a hugely ambitious (and mostly hilarious) 3-part series where we recreate key aerial battles from the Battle of Britain using model aircraft! Filmed with crew and self-shot on **FS7**. (Exec. Sarah Ramsden/SP Carl Hindmarch).

##### **Revolutions: Ideas that changed the world. (Bigger Bang Productions for BBC4/PBS) 2018**

###### **Producer / Director**

New Landmark series presented by Jim Al-Khalili. Science-led journey through human history to explore the incredible story behind six remarkable inventions. My films told the story of flight and the car. (SP. Tim Green).

##### **Secrets of Tutankhamen's Treasures - (Blink TV for Channel 5 and National Geographic) 2017**

###### **Producer / Series Director**

Never before seen access to the Grand Egyptian Museums archive collection showing items found by Howard Carter in the world-famous pharos tomb. Filmed with crew and self-shot on **FS7**. (Exec. Justine Kershaw/SP Michael Douglas).

##### **Panorama: Return to the Falklands – Brothers in Arms (BBC1) 2017**

###### **Producer / Director**

Received commission after pitching a partly animated film about a group of Falkland war veterans going back to the Islands for the first time in 35 years. (Exec. Aisling O Connor).

##### **How to Build a Human (Little Gem for Channel 4 / A&E) 2016 SHORTLISTED FOR GRIERSON AWARD.**

###### **Producer / Director**

Ground breaking film with actress Gemma Chan, star of *Humans*, takes part in a unique experiment to create an Artificially Intelligent robot that thinks, talks and looks just like her... But will it be real enough to convince a real human that it is actually Gemma? Or will it show us that the realms of science fact and science fiction are still further apart than we think? Filmed with crew and self-shot on **FS7** (Exec. Ben Gale).

##### **This World: Inside the Billionaire's Wardrobe (BBC2) 2015/2016**

###### **Producer / Director**

Reggie Yates investigates the lengths that Super brands go to to provide luxury items for the super-rich. Filmed sable hunting in Siberia, python hunting in Indonesia and crocs in Australia. Filmed with crew and self-shot on **FS7** (Exec. Mike Radford).

**Producer / Director**

Drama / Doc revealing the complicated story and science behind the unsung father of the Information Age. High end CGI and interviews with key members of his digital legacy. Won commission. (Exec. Nick Kent).

**The Ladykillers. (Keo Films for BBC2) 2014****Producer / Director**

Ob doc following three female pest controllers and their work. Taking an in depth look at the life of the pests using specialist cameras. The series aims to understand how pests behave, and the science behind why infestations happen. Self-shot on **C300**. (SP Paul Durgan).

**A&E in The War Zone. (Oxford Film and TV for Channel 4) 2014****Producer / Director**

Filed some sequences for a documentary on the medical teams risking their lives to save others in Syria. Unique access to Royal College of Surgeons trauma course. Filming surgical procedures on cadavers. Shot on **C300**. (EP Nick Kent).

**Bang Goes the Theory. (BBC1) 2013 - 2014****Producer / Director**

Popular Science Show tackling the science behind the headlines. My film on ageing investigated the latest research into Alzheimer's disease and how we age at a cellular level. (SP Ed Booth)

**World's Biggest Ship. (Windfall for Discovery) 2013****Producer / Director**

Ob doc about shipping giant Marks's latest venture in South Korea. Human interest and heavy engineering with GFX. Self shot on **Cannon 305**. (SP. Pete Oxley).

**Speed Dreams: The Fastest Place on Earth. (2 x 60' BBC 2) 2012****Producer / Director**

My first commission, which I successfully pitched to the BBC. An ob doc about a group of self-taught engineers building land speed vehicles in their sheds to race at the Salt Flats, Utah. Self-shot on the **Cannon 305, C300** and a lot of toys! (Exec. Gary Hunter).

**North Pole Ice Airport. (3x 60' Darlow Smithson for Ch5) 2012****Producer / Director**

Filed for four weeks at the North Pole. Ob doc about a Russian ice station that is set up every year on just two metres of ice. Filming (in -30 degrees) with a **PMW 500** a variety of explorers, Russian helicopter pilots and champagne tourist. (Exec. Julian Ware).

**Nations Best Am Dram (6 x 44' Sky Arts) 2011****Producer / Director**

Ob doc series following the nation's most ambitious amateur theatre competition. Self-shot on **EX3**. One word; hilarious! (S.P. Ed Booth)

**How to build a....Super car. (BBC2) 2011****Producer/Director**

60' Ob doc with CGI detailing how to make the world's most scientifically advanced super car. Exclusive access to the notoriously secretive McLaren as they venture into the automotive market for the first time. Filmed over six months, we look at never before seen technology and the people behind Britain's biggest car manufacturer. Majority of film self-shot on **Cannon 305**. (SP Steve Crabtree).

**Stargazing Live (BBC2). 2010****Producer / Director**

Hugely successful Live prime-time astronomy event. Presented by Professor Brian Cox and Dara O Briain, running across 3 consecutive nights. (SP Alan Holland).

**Bang goes the theory. (Series 3 BBC1) 2010****Producer / Director**

Popular science magazine series. Devised stories, scripted and filmed through to edit the presenter led films ranging the evolution of the eye to Einstein's theory of relativity to Iceland's volcano. Also involved self-shooting on HD900. (SE – Dermot Caulfield/SP – Ed Booth).

**Brain Test Britain. (BBC1) 2009****Producer / Director**

One-hour special on brain training. Devised stories, scripted and filmed through to edit. Presenter led films ranging from taxis that can be controlled by the power of thought alone to a film about a young man who had half of his brain removed when he was three and how he's retained nearly all of his abilities. Self-shot on **HD 900 & EX1** (SP Zoe Heron).

**Bang goes the theory. (Series 1- BBC1) 2009****Producer / Director**

Relaunch of popular science to BBC1. Films ranging from the rocket men in Mojave Desert to submarine rescue to the science behind lying. Also involved self-shooting on **DSR 450**. (SE – Dermot Caulfield/SP – Ed Booth).

**OTHER CREDITS****How to Avoid Parking Tickets (Britespark Films for Channel 5). 2020****Producer / Director**

Alexis Conran reports on the tricks unscrupulous parking companies are using against Britain's motorists. (Exec. Tom Porter)

**The Wonderful World of Cakes (Knickerbockerglory for Channel 5) 2019/20****Producer / Director**

Quirky show meeting the world's most outrageous bakers. (SP. Ben Cook)

**Great Canal Journeys (Spun Gold for Channel 4****Producer / Director**

Wonderful new series with Sheila Hancock and Gyles Brandreth learning about Britain's waterways and themselves. Self-shot on **FS7** (SP. Catrina Lear).

**Inside Selfridges (Elephant House Prod for Ch 5) 2019****Producer / Director**

Revealing the story behind the company's flagship store on London's Oxford Street. Self-shot on **FS7**. (Exec. Jeff Anderson)

**Inside M&S (Elephant House Productions for Channel 5) 2019****Producer / Director**

**Britain's Greatest Canals (Elephant House Productions for Channel 5) 2018**

**Producer / Director**

Presenter Dan Jones leads us through the history and engineering challenges behind the Kennet and Avon Canal. Self-shot on [FS7](#). (SP. Graham Cooper).

**The Railways that Built Britain – (Channel 5) 2016**

**Edit Producer**

Wonderful series with Chris Tarrant exploring how railways transformed the nation. (SP. Ed Booth)

**What on Earth, (Wag TV for Science Channel) 2016**

**Producer / Director**

20 x 60. Science Channel's most watched series reveals Earth as it's never been seen before. Illuminating views captured by more than 4,000 orbiting satellites, 'What on Earth?' investigates mysteries from strange geological occurrences to weird man-made structures. (SP Paul Oldham).

**Meet the Super Brains (Lime Production for Discovery) 2015**

**Producer / Director**

Lead Director on new format science series. The Real Big Bang Theory filmed as an Ob Doc. Followed scientists and engineers from around the world. Stories covered included NASA, CERN to AI. Filmed with crew and self-shot on [FS7](#) (Exec. Jonah Weston).

**Unexplained Files. (Raw TV for Discovery Channel) 2014**

**Producer / Director**

Factual series recounting remarkable stories of strange phenomena from across the world. My film followed a group of Georgian archaeologist on an expedition into the Georgian wilderness as they look for the remains of a giant. Self-Shot on [PMW 800](#),

**Science of Stupid. (IWC for National Geographic) 2013**

**Producer / Director**

Richard Hammond led science show with user-generated footage and with [green screen slow mo](#) and [GFX](#). (Exec. Hamish Barbour).

**Ancient Impossible. (Wild Dream Film for History Channel) 2014**

**Producer / Director**

Series comparing modern day technology with ancient impossible. Script writing, heading various teams and organising complex shoots. (SP David Coward).

**Cherry Healey's Property Show. (BBC 3 2 x 60') 2013**

**Producer / Director**

Current Affairs for BBC 3. Magazine show on how to get your foot on the property ladder. Self-shot presenter led films on [C300](#). (Exec. Darren Kemp).

**Fiddles Cheats and Scams. (ITV1) 2010**

**Producer / Director**

Prime time series looking at range of fraud cases that have hit the headlines in recent years. Including the pensioners who conned the art world out of millions. Mixing interviews and never seen before footage with stylish drama reconstruction shot on RED and 5D. (Exec – Alex Gardiner).

**Wheeler Dealers. (Attaboy TV for Discovery Channel) 2009**

**Series Director / Producer** 20 x 30' Presenter led series with Mike Brewer and Edd China buying and restoring iconic cars and try to sell them on for a profit. Self-shooting on [DSR 450](#).

**Chop Shop (Series 2 - Raw TV for Discovery Channel) 2008**

**Producer / Director & Edit Producer**

10 x 60' Ob-doc. Discovery's flag ship series. Ob doc following Bangladesh's answer to Enzo Ferrari and a mouthy mechanic who have set up a garage in London's east end to produce super cars for the rich and famous. Directing and shooting on [DSR 450](#) and establishing the format and style for the new series. Filmed car race sequences; use of dolly, crane, and mini- cams throughout. Produced through the edit and E.P on 2 further episodes. (SP - Ed Booth/ Simon Everson).

**Chop Shop (Raw TV for Discovery Channel) 2007**

**Producer / Director**

(3 of) 12 x 60' Ob-doc. Bangladeshi car designer and East End mechanic turn old bangers into super cars - in just three weeks. (SP – Ed Booth).

**How do they do it? (Wag TV for Discovery Channel) 2006**

**Producer / Director**

20 x 30' films on flagship Discovery series. Extraordinary stories behind scientific technology. Coordinating research, shooting, and scripting. (SP – Richard Stansfield)

**Penny Revolution (2 of) 6 x 52' Electric Sky for Nat Geo/Equator HD) 2007**

**Producer / Director**

Observational series showing how micro-financing can transform the lives of people who currently live below the international poverty line - earning less than \$1 a day. Self-Shooting on [HDW 750](#) in Ecuador, Honduras, India and Bangladesh. (SP - Julia Elias).

**Ultimate Tourist Scams (13 x 30' - Electric Sky Productions - Nat Geo 2007**

**Producer / Director HD**

Reconstructing tourist crime from around the world. Locations include Spain, India, US and Thailand. Self-Shooting on [HDW 730](#). Some secret filming was also involved. (SP – N. Khidhayir)

**Baby Genius (Wag TV for CH 5) 2006**

**Producer / Director**

Pilot on gifted children. Self-shooting on [Z1](#), working with a new presenter and format. (E.P – Nick Godwin).

**Good Food Live Special (Prospect Pictures for UKTV) 2006**

**Producer / Co – Director**

Producing presenter led VT inserts on the hippest restaurants, hotels, shops and things to do in Paris, Berlin, Tallin and New York. Shooting on [Z1](#) and [DSR 570](#) for magazine style show.

## EDUCATION

**University:** 1997 - 2000: Canterbury Christ Church University College - BSc (Hons) Radio, Film, Television with Media and Cultural studies - Attained grade: 2:1

## ADDITIONAL SKILLS

- FS7, C300. F5
- Sound - SQN Mixers, Lighting - creative location lighting
- DV Talent Course – Directing and Shooting
- BBC DV cam and sound Workshops
- BBC Researcher workshops, inc. health and safety
- Full driving license.
- Basic Spanish.

## REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

---

### **Tomb Hunters (Smithsonian Channel)**

<https://www.stephenmizelas.com/portfolio/tomb-hunters-smithsonian-channel>

---

### **Panorama: Back to the Falklands: Brothers in Arms (BBC1)**

Commissioned film. Three years in the making from initial taster to broadcast, but entirely worth it!

<https://www.stephenmizelas.com/portfolio/back-to-the-falklands>

---

### **How to build a Human (Channel 4)**

Gemma Chan, the star of Humans, explores Artificial Intelligence and builds a robot version of herself! Are AI humans just around the corner and can Robot Gemma convince anyone she's the real Gemma?

<https://video.com/294185442>

p/w: Hum@n2018!

<http://www.channel4.com/programmes/how-to-build-a-human>

---

### **How to build a supercar (BBC2)**

A six-month access film following McLaren as they make their first production road car.

<https://www.stephenmizelas.com/portfolio/how-to-build-a-supercar>

---

### **The Genius of George Boole (Amazon, Discovery)**

Jeremy Irons narrates a film about George Boole, an unknown British mathematician who came up with the concept for 1's and 0's and laid the ground work for the digital age.

<https://www.stephenmizelas.com/portfolio/the-genius-of-george-boole>

---

### **This World: Inside the Billionaire's wardrobe (BBC2)**

Reggie Yates on the 1% and sustainability of animal products in fashion.

<https://www.stephenmizelas.com/portfolio/reggie-yates-inside-the-billionaires-wardrobe>

---

### **Speed Dreams: The Fastest Place on Earth (BBC2)**

Commissioned idea with Bill Nighy narrating 2 x 60' BBC films about a bunch of bikers and shed builders. They all dream to go and race their hand build machines at the Bonneville land speed event on Utah's Salt Flats.

<https://www.stephenmizelas.com/portfolio/speed-dreams-the-fastest-place-on-earth>

