

# Will Yates CV 2023

## Shooting Director/Producer || Writer

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### **HISTORY'S GREATEST || History Channel || Committee Films || Dec 2022 – Mar 2023**

Director/Producer on a new pilot project for which I set up and directed the shoot.

### **Divine Intervention || ABC NEWS 20/20 || Committee Films || August - October 2022**

Edit producer on a 2-hour true crime special looking at the murder of Earl Olander in 2015.

### **SciGirls – National Parks || PBS Kids || July – August 2022**

Director/Producer on this STEM focussed girls science doc which was filmed in the Great Smokies.

### **First Home Fix || HGTV || Committee Films || May - August 2022**

Supervising Story Producer of a 6 x 60 LA-based talent-led home design and renovation series.

### **Into the Abyss / 10,000 Tonne Baby || The Content Engine || Feb – May 2022**

Self-shooting P/D on a talent-led specialist-factual film about deep water drilling, installing at sea pipe-lines and the commissioning of a new semi-submersible production platform.

### **Gone at Dawn || ABC NEWS 20/20 || Committee Films || October 2021 - January 2022**

Producer of a two-hour investigative crime documentary about the 1995 disappearance of news anchor Jodi Huisentrut. Sourced contributors, set up/directed shoots and scripted/edit produced.

### **The Killer Next Door || FOX Nation || Committee Films || May – September 2021**

Supervising producer on a new true crime series of 6 x 30 mins episodes hosted by John Douglas, the FBI's pioneering criminal profiler, as he examines some of America's worst serial killers.

### **Secret History: Covid, Colour and Disinformation || Channel 4 UK || Uplands TV || Mar - Apr 21**

Development producer, working with David Olusoga, resulting in the commission of his new C4 Hidden History doc exposing the origins of medical racism towards people of colour.

### **A Place in the Sun || Channel 4 || Freeform Productions || Oct. 2020**

Self-shooting p/d on another episode of the formatted factual series, this time on location in Abruzzo, Italy, under Covid safe conditions. I filmed glorious countryside G/Vs, local colour and architecture and actuality, wrote shoot scripts, and directed presenter-led sequences.

### **Buried Battles of WW2 History Project || TBC || Little Dot Studios || April 2020 – Sept 2020**

Edit/development producer of a new series to be presented by Dan Snow, on which I researched and developed from concept through access, treatment and edit produced the sizzle tape.

### **Vito – The Future of Deep Water || The Content Engine || Sept. 2019 – Sept. 2020**

Self-shooting Producer/Director / Edit Producer on an ambitious talent-led specialist-factual film. I filmed presenter Kari Byron (Discovery Channel's *MythBusters*) facing the intense challenges - from a simulated helicopter crash at sea to life on a remote drill ship in the Gulf of Mexico. I also developed the story, wrote the shoot script and oversaw complex logistics and safety protocols.

**A Place in the Sun || Channel 4 || Freeform Productions || Jul. 2019 – Sept. 2019**

Self-shooting p/d on three episodes of the formatted travel-property show, producing/directing various presenters and contributors on location in the Costa del Sol where I scouted and selected properties, wrote shoot scripts and filmed PTCs, luscious area footage and property G.Vs.

**Lost Cities with Albert Lin || National Geographic || Blakeway TV || Jun. 2019 - Jul. 2019**

Producer; found stories and secured contributors that led to our presenter taking an epic flight in a Jordanian Black Hawk helicopter to search for the lost Nabatean city of Sela.

**American Unearthed - Season 4 || Travel Channel || Committee Films || Nov '18 – May '19**

P/D / Writer / Edit producer on 3 x 60min episodes of the renewed series. I demonstrated strong editorial judgement, devised compelling stories, found contributors and gained access to sites. I also wrote shoot scripts and field produced with talent Scott Wolter before taking the episodes into the edit. Episodes on Chicago's labour riots, Jack the Ripper and Sir Francis Drake.

**Buried Secrets of the Bible with Albert Lin || National Geographic || Caravan || Apr. – Nov. '18**

Producer on 2 x 60 mins episodes of this primetime science/archaeology/history series. Managing a researcher, I sourced contributors, helped devise editorial and recce archaeological sites and locations in Egypt and Jordan. I oversaw the visa and permitting process for filming. Working with fixers, I helped set up a logistically complex shoot and field produced in Egypt, Greece and the UK.

**Crime Queens || CNN || Barcroft || Oct. 2017 - Jan. 2018**

Development Producer of a crime/social history drama-doc pilot that I'd written the proposal for. I sourced contributors for interviews and set up and produced the drama recon at October Studios.

**The Seven Ages of Elvis || Sky Arts || Raydar Media || Mar. 2017 – May. 2017**

Producer on a fast turnaround feature-length rock-doc marking the 40th anniversary of Elvis Presley's passing. Made approaches to well over 100 contributors (including three ex-presidents); set up and produced on location for US shoot (22 interviewees in 11 shoot days in 6 states.)

**Various Factual Development || Lightbox || Jan. 2016 – Mar. 2017**

Producer working on access and stories on funded doc developments including obtaining access and interviewing a convicted killer on death row and investigating soldiers accused of war crimes.

**Superbug || Theatrical / HBO || Amos Pictures || May 2015 – Jan. 2016**

Feature docs development producer, taking project from blue-sky brainstorming to well-formed written pitch and pre-shoot recce with highly sensitive access to hospitals and patients in Mumbai.

**The People's Health || Al Jazeera || Ronachan Films || Jul. 2014 – Nov. 2014**

Development producer, achieving rare access to US hospitals, clinics and patients for a doc on US health.

**The Thread || X-Box/Netflix || Lightbox || Nov. 2013 – Jul. 2014**

Producer on a feature doc exploring the impact of online citizen journalism in the aftermath of the 2013 Boston Marathon bombings. I tracked down and negotiated participation of hard to find contributors, carried out detailed investigative research, and assisted in post and archive sourcing.

**American Unearthed - Season 1 - 3 || History / H2 || Committee Films || May 2012 – Dec 2014**

Edit Producer / Writer / Producer of the #1 rated series of all time on History's second network, H2. This talent-led history / geology adventure series saw Scott Wolter investigate sites and artefacts that could rewrite the historical record. I developed narratives, found contributors and

gained filming access to historical sites. After writing shoot scripts, I field produced and then edit produced while prepping my next episode. I produced/wrote 13 of the 60" episodes over the first three seasons, including the season 2 and 3 premieres. My stories included **'Mystery of Roanoke'**, **'Motive For Murder'** and **'America's Oldest Secret'**, **'Secret Blueprint of America'**, and, **'Grand Canyon Treasure'** and **'Secrets of the Alamo'**.

**SciGirls – Season 2 || PBS || Twin Cities Public Television || Nov. 2011 – May. 2012**

Producer for national public television's Emmy nominated kid's science series. I developed engaging science stories, cast a racially diverse kids and mentors and field produced.

**Everything Or Nothing || Theatrical || Passion Pictures || Aug. 2011 - Nov. 2011**

Researcher on Stevan Riley's feature documentary marking the 50th anniversary of James Bond.

**Bizarre Foods with Andrew Zimmern || Travel Channel || Tremendous || Nov. 2010 – Jun. 2011**

Associate Producer for this offbeat travel, cuisine and culture series. I cast characters, developed stories and arranged fixer for filming in Suriname, Rio and Morocco. (3 x60)

**Project Nim || Theatrical || Passion Pictures || Aug. 2010 - Nov. 2010**

Researcher on this Sundance award-winning feature doc Directed by James Marsh for which I tracked down elusive contributors and sourced stock footage.

**MonsterQuest – Season 1 - 4 || History || Whitewolf Entertainment || Jun. 2006 – Aug. 2010**

Series Producer/Co-Executive Producer after a first season as associate producer. Over the course of the series I produced 62 hours of this hit mystery-history doc. I had hands on experience of all aspects of production, from managing a \$10 million+ budget, production schedules, crew contracts and broadcaster commissioning exec relationship through to reviewing cuts, rewriting scripts and occasional interviewing contributors in the field. I managed a small production staff of a coordinator and researchers and sent crews around the globe to the US, UK, Mexico, Russia, India, Australia, Papua New Guinea, Canada, Cameroon and the Himalayas. (S1: 13 x 60; S2: 13 x 60; S3: 26 x 60; S4: 1 x 120; 8 x 60).

**Production Coordinator || Various || Mentorn Television || March 2005 – March 2006**

Skilfully organised logistics a variety of documentary projects including **Tsunami: The Day the Wave Struck** (1 x 60; National Geographic), **Tory! Tory! Tory!** (3 x 60; BBC), **Half Tonne Man** (1 x 60; Channel 4), and **The Greatest UFO Stories of All Time** (6 x 60; Discovery).

**The Government Inspector || Channel 4 || Mentorn Television || Aug. 2003 – Mar. 2005**

Researcher of a fact-based drama about the death of British UN weapons inspector Dr. David Kelly. I carried out background interviews and wrote research briefings for Peter Kosminsky's RTS and 3 x BAFTA winner.

**RECENT SPECIALISED TRAINING**

**Presence Public Speaking Course || Online, London || April 2021**

Developed skills of building authentic connection during public speaking.

**Tropical HUET || RTC, Louisiana, USA || Nov 2019**

Helicopter Underwater Emergency Training course certified

**Shoot & Direct: Sony FS7 || DV Talent, London || May 2019**

Enhanced my shooting skills using prime lenses

**WAR TRIALS – INVESTIGATION OF A SOLDIER AND THE TRAUMA OF IRAQ**

My first non-fiction book, which investigates war crimes in Iraq, published in April 2021 by Pen & Sword books to very positive reviews and a mention in *The Times*.

