

DAVID ANDREW WARD – Director - www.davidwardfilms.co.uk

David is a double-Emmy Award winning director of drama and commercials, with a particular emphasis on comedy and character/performance-driven work.

He has been directing since 1995. He firmly believes in listening to and working closely with both writers and actors in order to hone stories and to draw out meaningful and powerful performances. He also has strong technical skills with a background in editing and twelve years experience in commercials and short film direction in 35mm film and HD.

David has worked in the UK and extensively overseas, firmly believing that with an outsider's eye one can view things afresh and turn the everyday into something remarkable on screen. This approach has garnered two Emmy Awards in the US and has taken him from Dubai to China directing character-focused films and commercials that require subtle but strong performances.

In April 2009 David directed a documentary for Dubai-based Phoenix Films following Nabs Al Busaidi, the first Arab from Oman to make the trek to the North Pole as part of the Polar Race. In extreme conditions David tracked Nabs' progress from their Canadian base camp to his arrival at the Pole.

He is happiest on set with a script and actors he really believes in. He relishes the editing process and tries where possible to inform the post-production process alongside the editor.

Drama/comedy

THE LOST CHRISTMAS – 2nd unit work on John Hay's Manchester-set film starring Eddie Izzard about a series of tragic events in the life of a young boy which get reversed on Christmas Eve (Impact Pictures/Hyde Park Entertainment/Imagination Abu Dhabi/BBC TV, 2011).

SIXTY CUPS OF COFFEE - black comedy set in a Texas diner (written by Robbie McCallum and produced by Raygun Films, US, 2001), screened at over 60 international film festivals and picked up the following awards:

- Best Short Film – HYPTV 'X-Box' Short Film Competition, 2006
- Second Place – BBC New Filmmakers Award, 2003
- Bronze Award – USA 'Worldfest' Film Festival, Houston, 2003
- Finalist – Ruses Soho Film Festival, London, 2002
- Finalist – Chrysler Million Dollar Film Festival, 2002

THE FALL OF SHUG MCCRACKEN - 35mm short black comedy (Posh Pics/Raygun Films/Scottish Screen, 2002) won the following:

- Best Short Film – Santa Monica Film Festival 2004
- Best Comedy – Deep Ellum Film Festival, Dallas, 2004
- The Panavision Award (USA), 2004

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ALL OVER BRAZIL - coming-of-age drama set in 1974 (Flechette Films/BBC Scotland/Scottish Screen, 2003) is a Tartan Shorts award-winner 2004. The film has screened at over eighty international film festivals including Stockholm, Edinburgh, Palm Springs, Sydney, Rio de Janeiro, London and the Berlinale.

TUG - shot in HD and written by Heather Dixon (Angelic Films/Screen South/UK Film Council, 2006), is a Gothic fairytale of revenge and rough justice set in a 19th century fishing community.

- Best Cinematography Award – Beverly Hills Film Festival, 2007

Acclaim for David's short films:

"(**SIXTY CUPS OF COFFEE**) is one of the most accomplished shorts I've ever seen (and I've seen a lot). Great ensemble performances, well-edited and compulsive in a "what if" sort of way... I programmed this in a short film event some years ago and the audience reaction was immense... a concise, self-contained and unexpected story exceptionally well-told."

Gavin Boyter, Film Festival Programmer

"Watching lots of short films there are certain story lines that come round time and again. Just at the point where I start to despair, something like (**ALL OVER BRAZIL**) comes along and shows me that with performances this controlled, photography this beautiful and a soundtrack this good any story is worth revisiting"

Ben Blaine, SHOOTING PEOPLE, 2005

Current development

Projects in development include **BAD MONKEY** a 'slacker' comedy set in India written by Simon Mayle (**THERE'S ONLY ONE JIMMY GRIMBLE, DOC MARTIN**) and to be produced by John Hay (**THE TRUTH ABOUT LOVE, JOURNEY THROUGH MIDNIGHT**). This was selected for the UK Film Council's Trade Mission to Los Angeles in November 2008. **THE ROAD TO MARFA LIGHTS** a hysterical, whirlwind road movie set in Texas with Raygun Films and **NEW INSTRUCTION** an outrageously black comedy about property and market economics remain on the wider slate.

Commercials

David is represented for commercials in London by Itch Film (www.itchfilm.com). See David's website for details.

Education

Video and Photographic Arts, University of Westminster, BA First Class (1995)

Technical Equipment

AVID DV Xpress Pro (also on lap-top for in-the-field editing)
Sony PD170 camera kit (incl. wide angle lens, radio mic and Vinten tripod)

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