

LEILA BATTISON

PRODUCER

43 Priory Road, Hastings, TN34 3JJ, UK ▪ t: 07590 030401 ▪ e: leilabattison@gmail.com ▪ w: leilabattison.co.uk

I am a versatile **Factual Producer** with a PhD in Geobiology and a solid grounding in both science and the creative arts. I have extensive production experience, including story development, researching, script writing, storyboarding and consulting on graphic elements, setting up and directing shoots, edit producing, and supervising scripts through the Nat Geo S&P and other fact-checking processes.

I am a confident self-starter with a strong eye for the aesthetic and an eloquent writing and storytelling style, adaptable to any tone and format. With a meticulous eye for detail and a skill for extracting and communicating relevant details, I can confidently take on all aspects of a production role, working closely with effective teams to meet tight schedules and budgets. I am extremely flexible and adaptable to new situations and challenges, and I believe that my wide-ranging experience and dedication makes me a valuable member of any team.

TV/MEDIA EXPERIENCE

Oct 2018-Present ***Science Producer, First Contact (4 x 45'), Netflix – Wall to Wall***

- Overseeing the science content of the entire series, working with expert academics to develop and fine-tune story beats, and liaising with Framestore Creative Studio to create plausible but ambitious CGI elements to compliment the documentary.

Oct 2018-Present ***Writer Producer, SciShow Space – Complexly***

- Pitching, researching and writing 5-minute scripts for green-screen animated YouTube videos on space-related subjects, including the moon, and superhabitable planets.

Aug 2018-Present ***Writer Producer, Twenty Thousand Hertz Podcast – Defacto Sound***

- Pitching, researching, casting, interviewing, writing and edit producing 30-minute podcast episodes about sound. Subjects include birdsong, and alarm fatigue and take a human-centred, journalistic approach to the stories.

Apr-Sept 2018 ***GFX Producer, Strip the Cosmos (3 x 60'), Discovery – Windfall***

- Writing, storyboarding and delivering graphics briefs that form the core story elements of space-based shows. Liaising between artists, directors, execs and series producer to provide feedback from previz to final comp.

Oct 2017-Apr 2018 ***Science Producer, Science of Stupid 6 (20 x 30'), Nat Geo – IWC***

- Leading a team of APs in developing show elements, producing briefing notes and storyboards, supervising scripts through Nat Geo S&P, setting up and directing Phantom Slo mo shoots, and working with production teams to assist with all aspects of episode delivery.

Feb 2018 ***Edit Producer, Science of Stupid 6 (1 x 30'), Nat Geo – IWC***

- Story writing and cutting. Working closely with editor and SP to ensure tone and content to match the format of the hit Nat Geo series.

Feb-Oct 2017 ***Digital Edit Producer – BBC Digital Studios***

- Developed, research, wrote, directed, and edit produced over 60 presenter-led videos for BBC Earth YouTube channels, incorporating green screen, location shoots, and GFX.

Feb 2017 ***Slo Mo Producer, Science of Stupid 5 (20 x 30'), Nat Geo – IWC***

- Developed and tested high-impact science experiments, before setting up, conducting, and directing during a two-week Phantom Slo Mo Shoot

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- Oct 2016-Feb 2017 **Assistant Producer, *Secrets of the Brain (10 x 60')*, Insight TV – Lambent**
- Researching and devising science experiments with members of the public and scientists to illustrate aspects of neuroscience and psychology. Working directly with PDs to organize and run shoots to a demanding schedule and budget.
- Dec 2016-Present **Script Writer – BBC Digital and Natural History Unit**
- Researching and writing short factual scripts for videos published on [BBC Earth Lab](#) and [Earth Unplugged](#) YouTube channels, and NHU social channels.
- Oct-Nov 2016 **Researcher, *Space Oddities (6 x 60')*, Discovery – WAG TV**
- Scientific fact checking and story development focused on the trading of space memorabilia.
- 2015-2016 **Assistant Producer, *Science of Stupid 4 (14 x 30')*, Nat Geo – IWC**
- Supervising the science across all episodes, working directly with the edit, graphics and clips teams. Working closely with consultants and the Nat Geo S&P department to sign off scripts at every stage of the edit. Designing, running, and helping to direct science demos for slo-mo phantom shoots.
- 2015-2016 **Assistant Producer, *Science of Stupid 3 (34 x 30')*, Nat Geo – IWC**
- Supervising the science across all episodes, working directly with the edit, graphics and clips teams. Working closely with consultants and the Nat Geo S&P department to sign off scripts at every stage of the edit. Designing, and running science demos for slo-mo shoots.
- Summer 2011 **Science Reporter - BBC Radio and Online Science News**
- Co-produced *Science in Action* for BBC World service, targeting international lay audience
 - Wrote for BBC News website, providing unbiased and clear coverage of science news
- June 2011 **Development Work Experience, *Horizon* - BBC**
- Contributed to the research and development of new programmes for BBC *Horizon*

OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

- 2014-Present **Trustee, Festival Organiser and Publicity – Hastings Traditional Jack in the Green**
- Coordinating festival partners and interested parties in the run up to, and during, the annual May Day festival. Production and distribution of print and online publicity material
- 2012-Present **Specialist Copy Editor – Cactus Global Communications**
- Editing scientific manuscripts in preparation for publication
- 2009-Present **Science writer – Various online and in print publications**
- Online blog ([leilabattison.wordpress.com](#)), copy and features for science magazines and websites, including [StatisticsViews.com](#)
- 2013-2015 **Teacher of Science – Buckswood School, Hastings**
- Teaching combined science to KS3 and KS4, in addition to providing off-specification science enrichment at and away from school
- 2009-2011 **Editor and Creative Director - Bang! Science Magazine**
- Established non-profit Oxford Science magazine, expanding readership to 6000 and adding digital and social media outlets

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AWARDS

- 2018 **Webby Award (Social, Animals) – BBC Earth team for Blue Planet II Campaign**
2013 **Hastings Teacher of the Year – Arrow Awards**
2011 **British Science Association – Media Fellowship**
2008 **NERC – Research Grant**

EDUCATION

- 2012 **NASA Ames Research Centre, CA: Planetary Biology Internship**
▪ Experimental work in geobiology, looking for ways of detecting extra-terrestrial life
2008-2012 **Worcester College, University of Oxford: DPhil in Palaeobiology and Astrobiology**
▪ Published 4 papers in academic journals including *Nature*
▪ Attracted media attention including *BBCR4 Material World* and the Royal Society
2004-2008 **Hertford College, University of Oxford: MEdSci in Earth Sciences – 1st class honours**
2006-2008 **King Edward VI College: 6 Science A-Levels including Maths – 6As**

SKILLS AND INTERESTS

- Editing and animating – Adobe Premier Pro, After-Effects, Animate, Blender.
- Shooting – Canon DSLRs (70D, 5D), C100, C300, FS7.
- Computer skills – Windows and Mac OS. Microsoft Office, Adobe Creative Suite.
- Languages – English (native), French (intermediate), Italian (basic)
- Illustration and Design – Pen and ink detailed illustration, digital illustration and design.
- Production - Nat Geo S&P script annotation, storyboarding.
- Traditional English Folk Dance and Song – Morris Dancing with Mad Jack's Morris, Sussex Junction Morris, and RX Sword.
- Full UK driving license

REFEREES

Nigel Paterson (Wall to Wall, Series Producer)
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07968542044

Robert Hartel (Windfall, Executive Creative Producer)
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020 7251 7676

Dominic Bowles (IWC, Executive Producer)
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