

NELLA GOCAL-MCCONKEY

SHOOTING RESEARCHER



CONTACT

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- Bristol with bases in London.

PROFILE

Dynamic shooting researcher & camera assistant with strong editorial & interpersonal skills, experienced working on location, both domestically and internationally, as well as in studio. Having worked on a diverse range of programming, I am confident collaborating with experts, referencing journals & fact checking. The proudest moment of my career so far was remotely casting and directing Indian transgender people in Mumbai. This proved my ability to build strong relationships with a variety of first time contributors, including those from marginalised communities. My work as part of a production management team allowed me to gain experience of setting up & coordinating complex wildlife VTs as well as supporting the logistics behind live TV locations.

SKILLS

LANGUAGES

- Bilingual (English & Polish)

EDITORIAL

- Qualitative Research (Primary & Secondary Resources incl. case studies, journals, interviews)
- Quantitative Research
- Directing high profile talent
- Negotiating & securing access to marginalised contributors
- Research & Reference Management
- Fact Checking
- Archive Sourcing & Clearance
- Casting Research (Social Media)
- Monitoring & logging continuity
- Logging (Timecode)

TECHNICAL

- Shooting & assisting (SONY FX9, FS7, FX6, A7S, ARRI AMIRA & ALEXA MINI)
- Wireless monitor systems (Teradek & Vaxis)
- Editing (Premiere Pro)
- Data Wrangling PSC & Multi-cam Location & Studio Shoots (ShotPutPro)
- Stills Editing (Adobe Lightroom & Photoshop)
- Stills Photography (35mm & Digital)

PRODUCTION

- Budget Forecasting & Management
- Writing call sheets & itineraries.
- Scheduling & organising complex VT shoots

OTHER

- Skiing & Sailing
- Creative - Painting, drawing.
- Sourcing props & materials for set.

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Runner/Camera Assistant (Dailies) - *The Piano* - Channel 4

Love Productions 11/22 - 11/22

- Assisted the SP, PD & 2 cam ops backstage at the Royal Festival Hall, London.
- Stepped up & Shot GV's in crowded public setting when SP had to attend to an editorial emergency.
- Lead a small team of PSC runners, teaching them to change batteries & carry tripods.
- Created a labelling system to organise the rushes, in collaboration with the DIT.

Continuity Researcher - *Mary Berry's Ultimate Christmas* - BBC 1

Rumpus Media 10/22 - 10/22

- Monitored continuity & worked closely with the executive producer & series director - advising on continuity issues that may show up in the edit.
- Directed talent in 2nd passes, taking the lead with reference to my continuity sketches, photographs, & detailed logs of the scenes' sequences.
- Supported the art department on-location, dressing the set, organising & making props.
- Assisted with lens changes, resetting the studio and general upkeep (watering flowers, changing fairy light batteries, set dressing).

DIT/Logger - *EkinSu & Davide: Homecomings* - ITV

Lifted Entertainment 09/22 - 09/22

Alongside my responsibilities as a DIT/Logger, I also:

- Worked closely with JPM, Producers & Fixers in Turkey & Italy to ensure release forms were completed by members of the public.
- Assisted B-Cam with lens & battery changes and directed non-english speaking contributors throughout Italy & Turkey, including the fast-paced spice markets in Istanbul.

PSC Runner/3rd AC - *Queen of the Universe S2* - Paramount+

World of Wonder 08/22 - 09/22

Queen of the Universe is a Drag singing reality & competition series.

- I worked with the PSC crew, assisting 6-cam reality shoots.
- Rigged wireless monitor systems (Vaxis/Teradek)
- I was the single assistant on MIV shoot days and ensured batteries were charged, cards changed & re-rigged the cameras for the following TX day.
- Shot portraits of the contestants for use in studio & filmed social media interviews & promos for TikTok.

Production Management Assistant - *Springwatch* - BBC 2

BBC Studios 03/22 - 07/22

- Organised catering, accommodation, travel, hire cars and booked kit for a 3 week live OB shoot for a crew of 11 people in remote areas (eg. Isle of Mull, Scotland) whilst simultaneously coordinating the OB base of 35 people.
- Scheduled & organised complex wildlife VT shoots, created call sheets, travel itineraries & maintained budgets.
- Cleared archive footage & stills, maintained footage logs, and liaised with various departments to access internal BBC archive.
- Negotiated access/rates & raised contracts for locations & crew.
- Liaised with a mixture of organisations/experts (eg. National Trust Scotland, Hotels, Tour Boat companies) to secure locations and licences.

Shooting Researcher, AC/DIT - *God Shave the Queens* - WOWPresents+

World of Wonder 03/22 - 07/22

BTS Drag documentary filmed on tour across the UK.

- Nurtured trust & built relationships with 2 key contributors - enabled SP to secure interviews.

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WRITTEN WORK

'In correcting my pronouns, am I risking my job?' - [Blog Article](#), Gritty Talent.

March 31, 2022

'Propagating a Trans-Ecological Cinema: Trans-Consciousness, Third Cinema and Liberation' - Dissertation (6.5k Words), awarded 83%.

Sept 2020 to Feb 2022

[Being Non-Binary - 'Gender' Voices, Volume Seven](#)

November 30, 2018

QUALIFICATIONS

Screenskills 10/22

- Coronavirus basic awareness on production training

BBC Studios, Training 03/22

- **Courses:** Archive Clearance, Safeguarding Children & Vulnerable Adults, Editorial policy, Impartiality, Budgeting, Setting Up International Shoots, SAP.

Adobe 03/20

- Adobe Certified Associate in Digital Video Editing using Adobe Premiere Pro

EDUCATION

BA(Hons) Film - 1st (85%)

Falmouth University

2018-2021

- Specialism: Documentary direction, production & theory.
- Extracurricular: Secretary on the Pride Society committee - hosted queer film screenings and craft nights.

A Levels & GCSE's

Waldorf Steiner School, UK

2012-2017

(cont.)

- Worked independently from the rest of the team - Managed time & priorities across a huge variety of creative & technical tasks.

Runner - *The Career Games* - BBC 3

BBC Studios

01/22 - 01/22

Location-based factual entertainment competition series for BBC 3. My responsibilities included:

- Stewarded on location & dealt with the general public & crowds.
- Took coffee & lunch orders & liaised with local eateries.
- Tended to high profile talent & their Glam/PA teams.

B-Cam Operator, BTS Videographer, DIT - *Our Untold Story* -

N/A

01/22 - 01/22

Music video for metal band Our Untold Story and BTS documentary for short film 'The Gig'.

Lighting & Camera Assistant (Dailies) - *Promo* - Penguin Random House

Will Carne Studio

09/21 - 02/22

- Rigged panel lights, Aputure soft-box lights & FS7 for interviews & GV's.
- Transported kit from studio to location.
- Worked with renowned authors and comedians.

Logger, Camera Trainee & Chaperone - *Queen of the Universe* - Paramount+

World of Wonder

09/21 - 10/21

- Logged interviews & actuality with the edit in mind.
- Provided comfort and affirmations to talent during moments of stress, pre-show, post-show and after disqualification.
- Chaperoned Drag Queens & fragile outfits between hotels, in-studio performances & helped manage their schedules, whilst ensuring the identity of each queen remained secret.

Producer/Director - *Astitva* - Graduate Documentary Project

Falmouth University

10/19 - 07/21

- Successfully cast, secured access & built trust remotely over 6 months - directing 3 contributors to self-shoot, resulting in beautiful and vulnerable footage of Indian trans folk in their safe spaces.
- Investigative outreach using social media & targeted research via subject-specific events.
- Conducted research interviews with a mixture of organisations/experts (eg. Art historians, Humsafar Trust, documentary filmmakers, Indian trans artists & activists).
- Designed, scripted & presented pitch & sales decks for my final documentary at University, and was awarded 86% - one of the highest marks in my year.
- Critical & meticulous approach to research & reference management; fact checking & gathering statistics for pitches/scripts.
- Curated & held an instagram showcase of Indian trans & non-binary activists & artists, gaining prior consent from all practitioners.

2nd AC, Data Wrangler - *Temple* - Short Film

Temple Productions

06/21 - 06/21

Videographer, Editor - *Extinction Rebellion Newsreel* - ITV Southwest

N/A

02/20 - 06/20

OTHER EXPERIENCE

Student Ambassador, Unibuddy, COVID-19 LFT Test Site Assistant

Falmouth University

05/19 - 09/21

Shop Assistant & Waiter

Music festivals, restaurants, antiques markets & food stores

06/13 - 03/18

HOBBIES & SPECIALIST KNOWLEDGE

My subject expertise include whales, trans rights, climate change, sustainability, arts, human rights and travel. In my spare time, I am a photojournalist at protests. I also attend archive & found footage conferences & workshops. As a child, I sailed to the Antarctic & from the Canaries to Morocco, and so am happy during long stints at sea.