

Stephen A Nicholas

Production Designer/Supervising Art Director

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I am an experienced Production Designer/Supervising Art Director with twenty three years experience in the Film and Television industry, I am best known for being a key part of creating the art departments that designed the relaunch of 'Doctor Who' and its spin offs, 'Torchwood', and 'The Sarah Jane Adventures', I was also Supervising Art Director on the 'Sherlock' pilot which developed into a global hit, I have worked on many Feature Films all over the world including South Africa, Romania and the Isle of Man, I have vast experience in production design and art department management as well as budgeting, scheduling and CGI work, I have also Designed sets for various Doctor Who and other show events nationwide whilst Studio Managing for the BBC. I am a verified trainer and mentor and continue to support apprentices and trainee schemes through various development programs to this day.

Television Work

'The Murder Of Jill Dando'

2018
60 minute Drama/Documentary special
London/South Wales

Title	Production Designer
Company	BBC Studios
Director	Marcus Plowright
Producer	Georgina Lee

'Doctor Who Series I – VI & Specials'

2004 - 2011
45 minutes and 1 hour specials
UK, Dubai, Utah, USA

Title	Supervising Art Director
Company	BBC Wales
Designers	Edward Thomas, Tristan Peatfield, Michael Pickwood
Exec Producers	Russell T Davies, Julie Gardner, Piers Wenger, Beth Willis, Steven Moffat, Caroline Skinner
Producer	Phil Collinson, Tracie Simpson, Peter Bennett, Marcus Wilson, Sanna Wohlenberg, Nikki Wilson

'Sherlock'

2008
3 X 1 hour specials
South Wales

Title	Supervising Art Director
Company	Hartwood Films/BBC Wales
Designer	Edward Thomas
Producer	Sue Vurtue

'Sarah Jane Adventures Special'

2006
45 minutes special
South Wales

Title	Chief Supervising Art Director
Company	BBC Wales
Designer	Edward Thomas
Producer	Susie Liggat

'Torchwood series I – III'

2005 - 2008
3 x 1 hour specials
South Wales

Title	Chief Supervising Art Director
Company	BBC Wales
Designer	Edward Thomas, Julian Luxton
Producer	Peter Bennett, Richard Stokes

'Jonathan'

2004
45 minutes Welsh Rugby programme
South Wales

Title	Art Director
Company	Avanti Television
Designer	Edward Thomas
Producer	Emyr Afan

'Prynhawn Da'

2004
45 minute Welsh daytime programme
South Wales

Title	Art Director
Company	Tinopolis
Designer	Edward Thomas
Producer	Glynog Davies

'I-Dot'

2003
60 minute Welsh Music programme
South Wales

Title	Art Director
Company	Boomerang
Designer	Edward Thomas
Producer	Ffion Dafis

'On Show'

2003
60 minute Arts programme
South Wales

Title	Art Director
Company	BBC Wales
Designer	Edward Thomas
Producer	Tina Moss

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Studio Management (2015 – 2018)

Worked as a Studio Manager at the BBC's Roath Lock Studios in Cardiff Bay, managing the operations of the nine studios and backlot sets for Doctor Who, Casualty and Pobol Y Cwm. Working to the Head of Production, my role was responsible for overseeing the smooth operation and Health and Safety processes for all productions shooting at the BBC Roath Lock Studios, I was also responsible for creating budgets and managing various projects for the work at Roath Lock Studios, I line managed project teams and worked as an Designer/Art Director on specific public service events for the shows based at Roath Lock. In addition to this I was the Business Continuity Deputy for Roath Lock working directly to the Head of Production and also the sustainability ambassador for the site which included recycling of assets and sets for the BBC.

Brand and Event Design (2012 – 2017)

'Doctor Who S10 Christmas Screening' 2017	Title Location Company	Art Director Science Museum London BBC London
'The Finale Countdown Concert' 2017	Title Location Company	Designer Cardiff BBC Wales
'Live Lesson - Doctor Who & the micro:bit' 2017	Title Location Company	Designer Manchester BBC London
'Class Series Launch' 2016	Title Location Company	Art Director Shoreditch BBC Wales
'BAFTA Cymru Doctor Who 9 Screenings' 2016	Title Location Company	Art Director Wales BAFTA Cymru/Wales
'Midsummer Night's Dream Screening' 2016	Title Location Company	Art Director Cardiff BBC Wales
'Doctor Who S8 Launch/World Tour' 2015	Title Location Company	Art Director Cardiff/London BBC Wales
'Wizards V Aliens Series Launch' 2014	Title Location Company	Art Director BFI London BBC Wales
'Doctor Who at Buckingham Palace' 2013	Title Location Company	Art Director Buckingham Palace London BBC Wales
'Doctor Who Experience 2012' 2012	Title Location Company	Art Director Cardiff Bay BBC Worldwide

Production Asset Management (2012 – 2015)

I worked as a Production Asset Manager relocating the Drama production assets that had accumulated in the Upper Boat Studio storage areas to the new Studio facility at Roath Lock in Cardiff Bay, this meant employing a large team of people to pack, label and log the assets before the move to the new facility at Roath Lock, alongside this I was also responsible for logging and creating an in-house database so that all BBC productions could share assets across the business which could be accessed through the BBC's internal network. As part of this role, I was also responsible for supplying and tracking production assets to BBC Worldwide and other external partners for global exhibitions and live events, whether it was a digital drawing for a magazine or a practical TARDIS prop for an event, the authorization would be my responsibility.

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Project Management (2011 – 2012)

I have project managed many projects over the years, from setting up the first construction workshop for Doctor Who to the design process of the Upper Boat six Studio complex for BBC Wales, this housed the ever growing 'Doctor Who' show as well as 'Torchwood', 'The Sarah Jane Adventures' and the 'Sherlock' series. As the BBC Wales Drama department grew the BBC decided to relocate to a new bespoke built site in Cardiff bay, so I was asked to project manage the decommission of the Upper Boat site and to manage the move to the new drama village, this would be a purpose build 175,000 square foot Drama Hub for the BBC which would be the home of 'Doctor Who', 'Upstairs Downstairs', 'Casualty' and 'Pobol Y Cwm', this meant that the 22,000 square foot of props store, costume, prosthetics, electrical and the props fabrication workshop would need relocating, on top of this it was my responsibility to decommission the TARDIS interior set that would need flat packing for BBC Worldwide's future use, it also meant that I would need to return the site to the landlords specification as it was when we first moved in.

Feature Film Work

'The Magic Door'

Action Adventure Fantasy Feature Film
United Kingdom 2004
Company: Crimson Knight Productions

Title	Supervising Art Director
Director	Paul Matthews
Producer	Patsy Chesney
Designer	Edward Thomas

'Blood of Vikings'

Action Adventure Fantasy Feature Film
South Africa 2003
Company: Crimson Knight Productions

Title	Supervising Art Director
Director	David Lister
Producer	Patsy Chesney
Designer	Burrie Van-Zul

'Hoodlum & Son'

1930's Comedy Crime Feature
South Africa 2002
Company: Tanmarsh Communications

Title	Art Director
Director	Ashley Way
Producer	Elizabeth Matthews
Designer	Burrie Van-Zul

'Askari'

Family Adventure Film
South Africa 2001
Company: Peakviewing Transatlantic

Title	Art Director
Director	David Lister
Producer	Paul Matthews
Designer	Dennis Kightley

'Beserker'

Action Adventure Fantasy Feature Film
South Africa 2000
Company: Peakviewing Transatlantic

Title	Art Director
Director	Paul Matthews
Producer	Peter Matthews, Elizabeth Matthews
Designer	Edward Thomas

'The Sorcerer's Apprentice'

Family Fantasy Feature Film
South Africa 2000
Company: Peakviewing Transatlantic

Title	Art Director
Director	David Lister
Producer	Paul Matthews
Designer	Dennis Kightley

'Meeksville Ghost'

Fantasy Comedy Adventure Feature Film
South Africa
Company: Peakviewing Transatlantic

Title	Art Director
Director	David Lister
Producer	Paul Matthews
Designer	Edward Thomas

'Dazzle'

Adventure Family Fantasy Feature Film
South Africa
Company: Tanmarsh Communications

Title	Art Director
Director	David Lister
Producer	Elizabeth Matthews
Designer	Edward Thomas

'Hooded Angels'

Action - Western 1865-1874
South Africa 1999
Company: Tanmarsh Communications

Title	Art Director
Director	Paul Matthews
Producer	Elizabeth Matthews
Designer	Edward Thomas

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Training and Mentoring

I have trained as a verified trainer and have been training art departments in the Safe Design and Set Construction courses over the past seven years while being at the BBC; I have also trained as a mentor and have mentored many BBC art department apprentices and trainees while working as a Supervising Art Director and a Studio Manager.

Skills

Experienced in Visual Effects and Computer Generated Imagery
Draftsmanship Skills, practical and Computer Aided Design
P.C. Literate (Adobe Photoshop CS2, Microsoft office etc.)
Fluent in Welsh (Language & Written work)
Art Department Budgeting and Scheduling
Art Department Management

Verified Mentor
Verified Trainer
Full Driver's License
Qualified Craftsman
Full Motorcycle License

Health and Safety Courses

Safe Management of Events – expires 2020 BBC
Construction Design Management (CDM) BBC
Design Risk Management Part 1 and 2 BBC
Data Protection and Cyber Security BBC
Safe design and Set Construction BBC
Asbestos Awareness Course BBC
Train the Trainer Course BBC

Fair Trading BBC
Anti-bribery BBC
Data Protection BBC
Production Safety BBC
Mentoring Workshop BBC
Working with Children BBC

Countries Worked In

Africa, Croatia, Dubai, Isle of Man, Ireland, Romania, UK, South Africa, United Emirates, USA

References

References are available upon request.