

Stephen A Nicholas

Production Designer

Covid-19 basic awareness on production training 2020

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I'm an experienced Production Designer and Supervising Art Director with twenty three years experience in Film and Television, my latest Production Designer credits include 'Ultimate Viking' (Adventure Living History Series) 'Fflam' (Thriller) 'Keeping Faith III' (Drama Series), 'Cyswllt' (A Lockdown Drama Series, shot during the pandemic in 2020) 'The Tuckers' (Comedy Drama) 'Concrete Plans' (Feature Film), 'The Murder of Jill Dando' (Drama Documentary). My Supervising Art Director credits include over ninety episodes of Doctor Who', nineteen episodes of 'Torchwood', the 'Sherlock' pilot, several episodes of 'The Sarah Jane Adventures' and many Feature Films in various countries around the world, including the Isle of Mann, South Africa, Romania and Croatia. I'm a very passionate Designer and give a hundred percent to each and every project, work hard to achieve the highest of standards whatever the budget. I have also Designed sets for various events nationwide while Studio Managing for the BBC and am also a verified trainer and mentor and continue to support apprentices and trainee schemes through various development programs to this day.

Recent Credits

'Ultimate Viking' (pre production) <i>8 X 60-minute Adventure Living History series</i> Dec/Jan 2020/21 Norway Company: Wilflame Productions Ltd	Title Director Exec Producers Featuring	Production Designer Steve Shearman Paul Islwyn Thomas, Llinos Griffin-Williams, David Royle, Charles Poe., Hilde Nerland, Danny Fenton, Matt Graff Kristofer Hivju (Game of Thrones) and his wife Gry Molvær Hivju
'Fflam Series I' <i>6 X 30-minute Thriller Series</i> November 2020 South Wales Company: Vox Tan Ltd	Title Director Producer Exec Producer Featuring	Production Designer Judith Dine Pip Broughton, Llyr Morus Adrian Bate Richard Harrington, Gwyneth Keyworth , Mali Ann Rees, Pinar Ogun
'Keeping Faith Series III' <i>6 X 60-minute Thriller Series</i> November 2020 South Wales Company: Vox Pictures	Title Director Producer Exec Producer Featuring	Production Designer Pip Broughton / Judith Dine Pip Broughton, Llyr Morus Adrian Bate, Maggie Russell, Eve Myles Eve Myles, Bradley Freegard, Mark Lewis Jones, Hannah Daniel
'Cyswllt / Lifelines' <i>3 X 30-minute Lockdown Drama Series</i> April 2020 South Wales Company: Vox Pictures	Title Director Producer Exec Producer Featuring	Production Designer Pip Broughton Llyr Morus Adrian Bate Mark Lewis Jones, Hannah Daniel, Catrin Stewart, Aneirin Hughes
'The Tuckers' <i>6 X 30-minute Comedy/Drama Series</i> June 2019 South Wales Company: BBC Studios	Title Director Producer Exec Producer Featuring	Production Designer Ian Fitzgibbon Owen Bell Mark Munro, Steve Speirs Steve Speirs, Alexandria Riley, Lynn Hunter, Robert Pugh
BAFTA Cymru Nomination for Best Entertainment Programme		
'Concrete Plans' <i>Contemporary Thriller Feature Film</i> March 2019 Company: Perfectmotion/Fractured Films Mid Wales	Title Director Producer Exec Producer Featuring	Production Designer Will Jewell Rob Alexander/Kathy Speirs Ian Davies Steve Speirs, William Thomas, Amber Rose Revah, Kevin Guthrie,
'The Murder of Jill Dando' <i>60-minute Documentary special</i> December 2018 London/South Wales Company: BBC Studios	Title Director Producer Exec Producer Featuring	Production Designer Marcus Plowright Georgina Lee Joe Mather Nick Ross, Jenny Bond, Moira Stuart, Michael Buerk
BAFTA Cymru Nomination for Best Single Documentary		
'The Finale Countdown Concert' <i>Event Design</i> July 2017 Company: BBC Wales	Title Location Producers Featuring	Production Designer Cardiff Brian Minchin, Steven Moffat Pearl Mackie, Steven Moffat.

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'Live Lesson - Doctor Who & the micro:bit' <i>Set Design for Live Children's Show</i> March 2017 Company: BBC London	Title Location Producers Featuring	Production Designer Manchester Brian Minchin, Steven Moffat Peter Capaldi, Iain Sterling, Julian Hardy
'Doctor Who at Buckingham Palace' <i>Event Design</i> 2013 Company: BBC Wales	Title Location Producers Featuring	Art Director Buckingham Palace London Brian Minchin, Steven Moffat Matt Smith, Tom Baker, John Hurt, Peter Davison, Jenna Coleman
'Roath Lock Studios Royal Visit' <i>Event Design</i> 2013 Company: BBC Wales	Title Location Producer Featuring	Art Director Cardiff Bay Faith Penhale Matt Smith, Jenna Coleman
'Doctor Who Series I – VI & Specials' <i>45 minutes and 1-hour Drama specials</i> Company: BBC Wales 2004 – 2011 UK, Dubai, Utah, USA	Title Designers Exec Producers Producers Featuring	Supervising Art Director Edward Thomas, Tristan Peatfield, Michael Pickwood Russell T Davies, Julie Gardner, Piers Wenger, Beth Willis, Steven Moffat, Caroline Skinner Phil Collinson, Tracie Simpson, Peter Bennett, Marcus Wilson, Sanna Wohlenberg, Nikki Wilson Christopher Eccleston, David Tennant, Matt Smith, Billy Piper, Catherine Tate, Fremma Agyeman, Karen Gillan
BAFTA Cymru Nomination for Best Design ("Adrift") BAFTA Cymru Award for Best Design ("The Waters of Mars") RTS Nomination for Best Production Design ("The Pandorica Opens") BAFTA Cymru Nomination for Best Design ("Voyage of the Damned") BAFTA Cymru Nomination for Best Design ("The Girl in the Fireplace") BAFTA Cymru Nomination for Best Design ("Christmas Special") BAFTA Cymru Award for Best Drama Series BAFTA Award for Best Drama Series		
'Sherlock' <i>3 X 1-hour Drama specials</i> 2008 South Wales Company: Hartswood Films/BBC Wales	Title Designer Producer Featuring	Supervising Art Director Edward Thomas Sue Vurtue Benedict Cumberbatch, Martin Freeman, Una Stubbs
'Sarah Jane Adventures Special' <i>45 minutes Drama special</i> 2006 South Wales Company: BBC Wales	Title Designer Producer Featuring	Chief Supervising Art Director Edward Thomas Susie Liggat Elizabeth Sladen, David Tennant
'Torchwood series I – III' <i>3 x 1-hour Drama specials</i> 2005 – 2008 South Wales Company: BBC Wales	Title Designers Producer Featuring	Chief Supervising Art Director Edward Thomas, Julian Luxton Peter Bennett, Richard Stokes John Barrowman, Eve Myles, Kai Owen, Gareth David-Lloyd
BAFTA Cymru Award for Best Design ("Everything Changes") BAFTA Cymru Nomination for Best Design ("Adrift") BAFTA Cymru Award for Best Drama Series		
'Askari' <i>Family Adventure Feature Film</i> 2001 South Africa Company: Peakviewing Transatlantic	Title Director Producer Designer Featuring	Art Director David Lister Paul Matthews Dennis Kightley Marlee Matlin, C. Thomas Howell, Amanda Fuller
'A Light in the Valley' <i>Action - Western 1865-1874 Feature Film</i> 1998 South Wales Company: BBC Wales	Title Director Producer Exec Producer Featuring	Production Designer Michael Bogdanov Michael Bogdanov Phil George, Victor Glynn Richard Harrington, Nia Roberts, Dorien Thomas

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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, I 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 at Roath Lock Studios, I line managed project teams and with my Design background, I was asked to Design/Art Direct sets for specific public service events for the site. 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.

Production Asset/Project Management (2012 – 2015)

I worked as a Production Asset/Project Manager relocating the Drama production assets from the Upper Boat Studio storage areas to the newly built Drama Studio facility at Roath Lock in Cardiff Bay, employing a large team of people to pack, label and log the assets before the move to the new facility, as part of this project I was also responsible for creating an in-house database so that all BBC productions could to 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.

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 which housed the ever growing 'Doctor Who' show, as well as 'Torchwood', 'The Sarah Jane Adventures' and the 'Sherlock' series. I was asked to project manage the decommission of the Upper Boat Studio site and to manage the move to the new purpose build 175,000 square foot Drama Studio Hub for the BBC which would be the home of 'Doctor Who', 'Upstairs Downstairs', 'Casualty' and 'Pobol Y Cwm', relocating 22,000 square foot of props store, costume stores, prosthetics stores, electrical store and the props fabrication workshop, on top of this I was asked to decommission the TARDIS interior set into flat pack form for BBC Worldwide's creative events team.

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

Coronavirus basic awareness on production training 2020
Safe Management of Events – expires 2020 BBC
CDM Construction Design Management 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.