



yap films
www.yapfilms.com

Corporate Biography

The Company

Yap films is a highly respected independent production company with broadcast contacts worldwide and production offices in the UK (Leeds) and in North America (Toronto, Canada).

Yap has built its reputation through passion and integrity and embodies the highest standards of professionalism. It specializes in producing entertaining, original and high profile documentary specials, series and events for its domestic markets and for the international market and is now broadening its spectrum to include drama.

Yap's choice of subject matter is driven largely by the personal interests of the company's owners and principals, Pauline Duffy and Elliott Halpern. They jointly devise, create and oversee all productions and believe in passion, integrity, high standards and having fun.

Their continuing aim is to create programmes that entertain and make a difference, building compelling narratives with content that engages viewers, scores ratings and breaks the mould.

The People

Prior to forming yap films, Pauline Duffy and Elliott Halpern were each film-makers in their own right, and have many years of first-hand experience negotiating difficult subjects and making them populist, accessible to the general viewer, and commercially successful without compromising the integrity of the piece.

PAULINE DUFFY trained in pure sciences and began her career as a journalist. Her passion for exploring the human experience led her into television where she soon began making documentaries.

Her own films include: '*Empty Arms*' an ITV documentary about stillbirth that was nominated for the prestigious Prix Italia; *A Very Special Baby* (an unfolding story about surrogacy);

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Deliverance (an investigation into exorcism) *The Gemini Inheritance* (unlocking the scientific mystery behind identical twins); *Daughters of Eve* (Roman Catholic clergy and their mistresses). She was one of the first factual producers to incorporate CGI into live action with *Into The Unknown* an international series about cryptozoology.

ELLIOTT HALPERN is a double Emmy award-winning director and producer who studied political philosophy and trained as a lawyer prior to becoming a film-maker.

As a documentary maker, he has been driven by a desire to engage viewers with compelling and exclusive stories that provoke headlines and change.

Prior to founding yap, Elliott produced, wrote and/or directed many outstanding award-winning films. These include *Deadly Currents*, *The Plague Monkeys*, *The Selling of Innocents*, and *Hollywoodism: Jews Movies and the American Dream*. Among his numerous awards are the Donald Brittain Award, the Silver Nymph Award at Monte Carlo, two U.S. Emmys for Investigative Journalism and the Columbia-Dupont Award of the Columbia University School of Journalism.

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2010/11

Supersnake (1x2hrs)

The incredible story of the discovery of the biggest snake that ever roamed the world...a prehistoric monster: Titanoboa.

Smithsonian, History Television, ORF, France 5

Hi-Def (in production)

Co-pro with Wide-Eyed Entertainment

2010/11

Wickedest City (1x2hrs)

The real life *Pirates of the Caribbean* discovered and explored where it now lies deep under the ocean – a capsule from the past.

Nat Geo US, History Television, France 5

Hi-Def (in production)

Co-pro with Wall to Wall

2009/10

Beast Legends (6x1hr)

An adventure into the unknown: Investigating *Unidentified Mysterious Animals* – mythical creatures that could be real; historical creatures that might be myths.

Hi-Def

Syfy, History Television, BBC Worldwide

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- 2009/10** **Storm Worlds (3 x 1hr)**
The wildest weather in the universe exists on other planets, using powerful CGI, this series shows what would happen if those alien storms were unleashed on earth.
History Television, Nat Geo US, Nat Geo Intl, BBC Worldwide
Hi-Def
- 2009/10** **March of the Dinosaurs (90' Special)**
Full-length animated feature that tells the story of an epic real-life migration undertaken by a herd of dinosaurs in the high arctic.
History Television, Nat Geo US, ProSieben
Hi-Def (in production)
Co-pro with Wide-Eyed Entertainment
- 2009/10** **Dive Detectives (6 x 1hr)**
Father & son divers/explorers Mike and Warren Fletcher are solvers of mysteries: From missing subs to missing millions. Action-packed adventures that unfold in gripping actuality.
Smithsonian, History Television, Nat Geo Intl,
Hi-Def
- 2009** **Ancients Behaving Badly (8 x 1hr)**
aka Absolute Tyrants
Exposing the deeds and motivations of iconic figures from the ancient world.
History Channel, History Television, and ITV Global,
Hi-Def
Co-pro with Blink Entertainment
- 2008-2010** **Street of Dreams (4 x 1hr)**
Self-builders create a unique terrace of houses in a new primetime features series about design and architecture
BBC 2
- 2008/2009** **Fire Jammers (1hr)**
A troupe of pyrotechnic experts, wild inventors, acrobats and dancers have just two weeks to put together their biggest show to date: an explosive aerial spectacle they call the "Jump Jet."
Discovery Canada (Hi Def)

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2008/2009

**Finding the Fallen2/The Trench Detectives2
(6x1hr)**

A 2nd series of the popular Battlefield Archaeology series in which recovered objects and artifacts are forensically investigated and traced back to a named person whose personal story is then told.

**History Television, History Channel UK, BBC
WorldWide (Hi-Def)**

2007/2008

Pet Food: A Dog's Breakfast

We love our pets, but do we really know what we're feeding them? A Dog's Breakfast takes the lid off the can to discover what's going on inside the \$16billion pet food industry.

CBC (Hi-Def)

2007

The Cave

Deep underground, a forgotten cave in France reveals an incredible memorial to the men who fought in the Great War.

**History Television
(Hi Def)**

2007

The Last Soldier

Jack Babcock (109) is the last living Canadian soldier from WW1. Born in the reign of Queen Victoria, he witnessed the birth of manned flight. A first-person story with an original graphic novel approach.

History Television

2007

Revealed: The Captain Bligh Conspiracy

The Mutiny on the Bounty is one of the most infamous episodes in naval history. The Bounty's discarded captain survived and returned to England a hero. Yet his name today is synonymous with inhuman bullying. But is his reputation deserved?

**Five, History Television, History Channel UK
and Pro Sieben**

A co-production with Zig Zag Productions

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2006/2007

VIMY RIDGE: Heaven to Hell

The Battle of Vimy Ridge - a major Allied victory in the First World War. A bold and imaginative strategy played out in three dimensions – in the air, on the ground and in a labyrinth of tunnels under No Man’s Land. An archaeological dig, opening of a tunnel, live fire tests and demos, personal letters and computer-gaming style animation travel from heaven to hell on Vimy Ridge.

History Television, History Channel UK
(Hi-Def)

2006/2007

Tigers Attack (2Hr Special & 2 x 1hr)

A tiger's roar can literally stop people in their tracks. Scientists working in the field of bioacoustics pursue the theory that the roar of a tiger *paralyses* its prey giving the predator time to pounce, catch and kill. A quest with an Apex Predator at its heart that reveals new knowledge, demolishes popular belief and solves a mystery.

Discovery Networks (Hi-Def)

2006/2007

Bloodlines (1 hr series)

The living descendents of iconic chapters in history are tracked down for revealing documentaries that use the present as a lens into the past. An intersection of family history and documented historical events provide a fresh way of bringing history to life, with unpredictable results.

History Television

2006

Battle of the Somme: The True Story
(90min special)

A team of investigators attempts to do what no-one has ever done...use forensic science to solve a mystery trapped on film for over 90 years.

FIVE/History Television/ RDF Rights

2006

The Trench Detectives (5x45)

Battlefield Archaeology Series in which personal stories of individual soldiers are revealed through objects found where they fell.

Five

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2005-2006

Children of the Valley (1 hr)

An avalanche of coal waste kills 116 schoolchildren in Aberfan. LIFE photojournalist Chuck Rapoport travels from America to record a 'town without children'. But some have survived. 40 years on, they are ready to tell their stories and Rapoport returns to hear them.

ITV Network/RDF Rights

2005-2006

Warrior Empire: The Mughals of India (2x1hr and 2 hr special)

They came. They saw. They conquered. The Mughal Emperors - India's rulers for over 300 years. They were a dynasty that created one of the most powerful empires in human history. Their story is one of military might, bloody battles, unsurpassed artistry and almost inconceivable opulence encapsulated in creations like the Taj Mahal. A Hi-Def production.

History Channel US

2005-2006

Put Me Together Again (2 x 1 hr)

Every year millions of people suffer acquired brain injury. The damage is not just physical. Personalities change. Memory and behaviour dramatically affected. This pair of films follows some of the walking wounded—funny, poignant and moving it tells the stories of people like Kay who has a 5-minute memory, Robert - an obsessive hoarder and Helen who can't say no to strangers.

C4/C4I

2005

Finding The Fallen (5x1hr)

Almost 90 years after the end of the First World War, the bloody battlegrounds surrender their secrets. A team of archaeologists, forensics experts and historians work to identify these unknown soldiers and finally lay them to rest. This is contemporary archaeology writ large. It's purpose: to remember the past, lest we forget. Its aim: to identify and honour those who gave their lives in the Great War.

History Television/Disc UK&EMEA/BBCww

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2004 - 2005

Zapped (2hr special)

A wild exploration of electricity and the human body. Shocking, electrifying, sexy...sparks fly as ZAPPED turns pure energy into entertainment with wild and spectacular stunts, extreme experiences and weird phenomena that, like jaw-dropping magic, make the seemingly impossible happen.

Discovery US/Discovery Canada/C4I

A Co-Production with SCREENHOUSE PRODUCTIONS

2004

Canada's War in Colour (3 x 1hr)

The compelling social history of World War II told through personal stories, diaries and letters married to newly discovered *colour* footage of Canadians at war and on the Home Front.

CBC /TWI

2003/2004

Friendly Fire (1hr)

A dramatic, personal and emotionally powerful account of two incidents, separated by 60 years, and their aftermath--each reflecting on the other. It moves beyond the headlines to get at the unchanging nature of loss and grace as a US pilot faces an Allied soldier he bombed sixty years ago.

CBC /CBC Enterprises

2003

First and Last (1hr)

Contemporary 'sleuths' unravel the personal stories of the first and last to die in the Great War - revealing the story of the war itself.

CBC / ITV (reversioned for Nov 2005 TX)

2003

O'Shea's Big Adventure Specials (4 x 1 hrs)

More global adventures this time in Hi-Definition
Animal Planet Worldwide

2002/2003

Going to the Dogs (13 x 30)

Flea-on-the-tail dogu-soap series that lifts the lid on the dog show circuit. The *real* "Best in Show."

Life Network / Animal Planet / ID Distribution

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- 2002/2003** **A Deathly Silence (1hr)**
A mother's crusade to bring her son's killers to justice. Her only clue: a cell phone recording of the last minutes of her son's life. A 1 hr special that travels deep into a community in which black on black killings are escalating and remaining unsolved.
CBC / International Distribution
- 2001/2002** **O'Shea's Big Adventure Specials (4 x 1hr)**
A series of one hour adventures around the globe
C4/Animal Planet US
- 2001** **King Midas' Feast (1hr)**
The remains of a feast found in a 2,700 year old Tomb give up their secrets in an archaeology meets cookery special
C4/History Television
- 2001** **Boxing –In and Out of the Ring (2hr Special)**
Gripping investigation into the business of boxing.
A & E/International
- 2001** **A Child's Choice (1hr)**
Intimate access to terminally-ill children who are making choices about their life and death.
C4/Discovery US /Life Network
- 2001** **Gladiatrix (Gladiator Girl) (1hr /90' special)**
Discoveries in London point to the existence of female gladiators in Roman times and may be the first physical remains of a gladiator ever found.
C4/ Discovery US/History Television
- 2000/2001** **O'Shea's Big Adventure II (13 x 30')**
(O'Shea's Dangerous Reptiles II)
Reptile scientist and adventurer Mark O'Shea undertakes more quests in Australasia/Pacific.
C4 & Animal Planet
- 2000/2001** **Planet Storm (2-hr special)**
Extreme alien weather is brought down to earth by revealing what life on other planets would be like.
C4/Discovery US

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- 1999/2000** **Murder at Stonehenge (1hr)**
A killing has taken place, the victim beheaded by a single stroke from a thin, sharp blade.
Murder at Stonehenge investigates this mystery.
C4 & WNET (PBS)
- 1999/2000** **Criminal Evidence (1hr / 2hr special)**
Exclusive access to world and cases of Dr Kathy Reichs, top forensic anthropologist whose crime novels (eg *Deja Dead*) top lists around the world.
A&E, CBC, C4
- 1999/2000** **Penn & Teller's Magic & Mystery Tour (3x1hr)**
The Las Vegas performers seek out street magic and perform in India, Egypt & China
C4/TLC/CBC
- 1999/2000** **O'Shea's Big Adventure I (13 x 30')**
O'Shea's Dangerous Reptiles
Series in which reptile scientist and adventurer Mark O'Shea tracks and grapples with rare and dangerous reptiles in the Americas.
C4/Animal Planet
- 1999/2000** **Stunt School (3 x1hr)**
Stunt secrets revealed as a group of stuntman wannabes attend Australia's Action Academy
TLC / C5
- 1999** **Frozen Hearts (1hr)**
Incredible story about a method of heart surgery that uses hypothermia.
C4/CBC/Discovery US

Contact:
Pauline Duffy – UK Office
tel +44 (0)113-243-7107
Elliott Halpern – N.American Office
tel + 1 416-504-3662