

# TOM CHOLMONDELEY

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## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

I am a BAFTA-nominated and award-winning director with over 25 years TV experience and a passion for gripping human stories in history, arts and science.

I have directed high-profile talent including Mikhail Gorbachev, Lucy Worsley, Dermot O'Leary, Tony Robinson, Paul Merton, Jim Al-Khalili, Anita Rani, David Suchet and Andrew Graham-Dixon. I have helped new presenters like Lisa Hilton, Lucy Betteridge-Dyson and Harry Potter make their first series. **(RTS Best New Talent 2013)**

I have led teams from 2 to 50 working on everything from prime-time military history to major three-part drama documentaries.

I have extensive overseas filming experience in USA, Russia and across Europe.

My goal is visually stylish, calmly led, exemplary storytelling.

## AWARDS

Winner **Best Specialist Factual** - RTS Regional Awards 2011

**Best Documentary** – RTS Regional Awards 2006

Finalist **Best Director** – RTS Regional Awards 2013

**Best Specialist Factual Series – BAFTA 2010**

**Best Documentary Series** – Broadcast Awards 2007

## FEEDBACK

*'Tom is a versatile, stylish and gifted director – a real team player' –  
Exec Producer - Mike Poole*

*'...an object lesson in salient, pithy and brilliantly done story-telling on a  
challenging budget' - Cassian Harrison – Channel Editor BBC4*

*'Tom was an inspiration to the crew- indefatigable, always positive and  
possessed of an unflagging attention to detail' -Presenter - Lisa Hilton*

## SELECTED WORK

### SERIES PRODUCER

**Charles I – Downfall of a King** – BBC4 3 x 60' **Drama Doc**

Opened with 675,000 viewers – 2<sup>nd</sup> highest rated show 2019  
Lisa Hilton finds how Charles I's rule collapsed in 50 days.

*'...thrilling.' FT '... enthralling and exciting...'*- The Tablet

### SERIES DIRECTOR

**48 Hours to Victory with Dermot O'Leary** C4 3 x 60'

Three presenters in Dunkirk, Waterloo and the Somme give gripping minute-by-minute accounts of these key battles.

*'...an excellent watch' – Times*

*'...engrossing, informative and often emotional.'* - The Sun

### PRODUCER / DIRECTOR

**Britain By Beach** C4 1 x 60'

**Anita Rani** explores the secret history of Kent's beaches

**PRODUCER  
/ DIRECTOR**

**Royal History's Biggest Fibs** – BBC4 – Queen Anne  
**Lucy Worsley** unearths the savage propaganda used  
against Queen Anne by her favourite.  
**American History's Biggest Fibs** – BBC4 –  
**Lucy Worsley** uncovers the American Dream's dark side.  
'...mesmerising TV.' Guardian '**an eye-opening series...**' Times  
**Art, Passion & Power – The Story of the Royal Collection**  
**Andrew Graham-Dixon** travels to Venice exploring the  
extraordinary story of the Royal works of art.  
**Walking Through History** – Wildfire for C4 1 x 60'  
Tony Robinson roams the dramatic Peak District.  
My film launched the series which ran for four seasons.  
**The Strange Case of the Law** BBC4 2 x 60'  
'...**this exemplary series...clear, persuasive and  
entertaining.**' Times '**absolutely engrossing**' Financial Times

**David Suchet on Sid Field - Last of the Music Hall Heroes**

Actor David Suchet's debut presenting role.

**Revealed: The Virgin Queen's Fatal Affair – 1 x 60'**

I developed this film from first idea to transmission.

This Tudor murder mystery was a hit for FIVE and Nat/Geo.

**Winner– RTS Regional Award 2011-** Best Specialist Factual

**Chemistry - a Volatile History 1 x 60'**

BBC4's most successful science series.

Prof Jim Al-Khalili turns chemistry's breakthroughs into  
exciting, explosive, and lucid TV

**BAFTA nominated Best Specialist Factual Series 2010**

**The Worlds of Fantasy** Blast Films for BBC4

'*BBC4 at its best – this is just beautiful television*' – Scotsman

**Big Ideas that Changed the World – Communism FIVE 60'**

Former President Mikhail Gorbachev presents his personal  
history of communism.

'**It's a thrilling, not-to-be-missed opportunity...**' Radio Times

'**truly gripping stuff.**' Independent

**EARLY CAREER**

I trained at BBC Newsnight and spent four years at BBC  
Horizon making films on cloning, Gulf War syndrome and  
the science of addiction during its BAFTA winning era.

**EDUCATION**

Highbury College NCTJ trained journalist -90wpm shorthand  
University of Reading - Pathobiology with Chemistry BSc.  
Hons 2:2 (Study of disease)

**REFERENCES**

Chris Granlund – exec producer – *American History's Biggest Fibs*

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Judith Winnan – Exec Producer - *Art, Passion & Power*

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Seb Barfield – Series Producer

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Robert Murphy – Series Producer – *Sword, Musket and Machine Gun*

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