

KOSTA PAPANICOLAS

PRODUCER DIRECTOR · EDIT PRODUCER · DRONE OP

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ABOUT ME

Senior self-shooting PD with 10+ years crafting emotionally complex, character-led obs-docs with heart for C4, ITV and BBC — *The Piano*, *The Savoy*, *School Swap: UK to USA*. Strong editorial track record, a reputation for always coming back with a story, and have taken films from development through to the edit. Known for gaining and sustaining trust with even the most reticent contributors, I work closely with executives and editors to shape narratives that carry real weight. Guild of Television Camera Operators member, A2-certified drone op with covert filming experience."

INDUSTRY SKILLS & CERTIFICATIONS

Cameras: FX9/6/3, DJI Ronin 4D

Drone license: A2 CofC certified

Enhanced DBS Check

Lighting and MIV set ups

Multi camera + Drone directing

I-Visa + UK, CAN, EU passports

Covert filming / compliance

UK Driving License

Languages: French, Greek

CREDITS

THE PIANO, SERIES 2 & 4 - CHANNEL 4 (7 X 60 MIN)

Producer Director (Self-Shooting) & Drone Operator, January – April 2024

Love Productions. Exec: Martha Delap

- Filmed character-driven backstories for a heartwarming documentary on amateur pianists, seamlessly integrating with multi-camera setups while capturing spontaneous, documentary-style moments.

YOUR SONG – CHANNEL 4 (6 X 60MIN)

Producer/Director, June – December 2025

Love Productions: Executive Producer: Martha Delap

- A celebration of song - produced and directed character-driven backstories of amateur singers celebrating their unique connections to a special song and following their journeys as they prepare to put on a special concert.

CHAMPIONS: FULL GALLOP (SERIES 2) – ITV (6 X 60MIN)

Producer/Director & Drone Operator, November – May 2025

Southshore: Series Editor: Sarah Burton, Executive Producer: Tom Willis

- Sports obs-doc series capturing the highs and lows of the National Hunt race season through the eyes of Jockeys, Trainers, Owners, Fans, and Pundits during another epic dramatic title race.

FAKING IT! – CHANNEL 5 (3 X 60MIN)

Producer/Director & Drone Operator, September – November 2024

Darlow Smithson Productions: Line Producer: Zeenat Butt, Series Producer: Jaimie Simpson

- Reboot of the early 2000s Channel 4 classic reality series - filming a luxury estate agent as he transforms— from a polished southern luxury property expert to a Northern market trader selling meat at value prices.

SCHOOL SWAP: UK TO USA - CHANNEL 4 (4 X 60 MIN)

Producer Director (Self-Shooting) & Drone Operator, September – October 2023

Love Productions. SP: Emily Smith SD: Oli Tridgell

- Filmed a cultural exchange between teenagers from SE London and rural Arkansas, exploring their school and home lives to highlight cultural similarities and differences.

ANT ANTSTEAD: BORN MECHANIC – DISCOVERY CHANNEL (6 X 60MIN)

Producer/Director (Self-Shooting) & Drone Operator, April – September 2024

ITN Productions: Series Editor: Audrey Neil, Exec: Jeremy Daldry

- Observational documentary following master mechanic Ant Anstead restoring a Grade 2 listed farmhouse for his family by doing what he does best: buying, restoring, and flipping classic cars.

WILL YOU MARRY ME? - CHANNEL 4 (3 X 60 MIN)

Producer Director (Self-Shooting) & Drone Operator, April – Aug 2023
Button Down. Exec: Louis Bamber SP: Rob Clifford

BRITAINS MOST BEAUTIFUL ROAD – CHANNEL 4 (4 X 60 MIN)

Producer Director (Self-Shooting), October 2022
Purple. SP: Gill Hennessey PM: Matt Bridger

EMERGENCY ON SUNNY BEACH – CHANNEL 4 (6 X 60 MIN)

Producer Director (Self Shooting), August 2022 - September 2022
Parable Works. Series Producer: Simon Davies. Exec: Ben Leigh.

THE SAVOY, SERIES 2 – ITV (5 X 60 MIN)

Senior PD (Self Shooting), August 2021 - March 2022
Studio Ramsay Global. Series Director: Martha Delap. Exec: Tom Willis.

TRUE LIFE CRIME – MTV (1 X 60 MIN)

Producer Director, May 2021 - Aug 2021
MTV. Series Producer: Tom Olney. Exec: Nick Kenton.

MAKE A WISH FOUNDATION: MAKE A WISH AT CHRISTMAS – CHANNEL 5 (2 X 60 MIN)

Producer Director (Self-Shooting), October - December 2019
Tern TV. Exec: Chloe Court.

BRITAIN’S BEST PARENT? – CHANNEL 4 (3 X 60 MIN)

Producer Director (Self-Shooting), February - August 2019
Monkey Kingdom. Exec: Jess Orr. Series Editor: Jeremy Daldry.

BIKE GANGS: THE HUNTERS AND THE HUNTED – CHANNEL 5 (1 X 60 MIN)

Producer Director (Self-Shooting) and Edit Producer, July - December 2018
Knickerbockerglory. Exec: Jenny Popplewell.

FAST FIX: DIABETES – ITV (2 X 60 MIN)

Producer Director (Self-Shooting), April - June 2018
7 Wonder. Exec: Eve Kay.

BRIDE AND PREJUDICE – CHANNEL 4 (2 X 60 MIN)

Producer Director (Self-Shooting), February - March 2018
7 Wonder. Exec: Duncan Coates. SP: Martin Conway.

BODY BIZARRE – DISCOVERY (10 X 60 MIN)

Producer Director (Self-Shooting). January - March 2017
Barcroft Productions. Exec: Sam Barcroft. SP: Brent Baker

STARTING UP, STARTING OVER / BEN FOGLE: MAKE A NEW LIFE IN THE COUNTRY – C5 (2 X 60 MIN)

Producer Director (Self-Shooting) & Edit Producer, June - December 2016 & March 2020
Pi Productions. Exec: John Silver. SP: Ross Anderson.

EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Drone License (CAA, A2 CofC + EASA/EU), UAVHUB, UK, 2023

Edit Producing Masterclass, NFTS, UK, 2020

Craft Editing (Avid) Certificate + Film Scoring and Sound Design, NFTS, UK, 2020

BA with Distinction (Film Studies & French Literature), University of Alberta, Canada, 2003

Certificate in 16mm Filmmaking, New York Film Academy, USA, 2001