

# Louis Paxton

Writer / Director

Louis Paxton is a writer and director from Edinburgh, Scotland. After studying at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, he completed an MA in Directing at the National Film and Television School in London. His award-winning short films—spanning comedy, drama, horror, and musical—have screened at festivals including Flickerfest, Glasgow Short Film Festival, LOCO Film Festival, and London Short Film Festival. His debut TV project, the sci-fi comedy *The Spare Room*, was selected for the BAFTA Rocliffe Drama Forum. In 2021, Louis directed the BBC Three comedy-drama *Ladybaby*, which was nominated for Best Comedy at the Broadcast Awards. In 2022, he received a BAFTA Scotland nomination for his short film *Neville Is Dead*, and was also nominated for Best Director at the New Voice Awards. His RTS- and Digital Broadcast-nominated BBC comedy short *Calamity James* followed in 2024. Louis has since directed episodes of the BBC One prime-time crime drama *Shetland*, as well as the BBC Three horror-comedy *Wreck*. He is currently developing original comedy series including *Shearlings* with BBC Comedy and *Breadwinner* with Birdie Pictures. His feature debut, *The Incomer*—an offbeat comedy supported by BFI and Screen Scotland, starring Domhnall Gleeson, Gayle Rankin and Grant O'Rourke, premiered at the 2026 Sundance Film Festival and won the 'NEXT Innovator Award'. WEBSITE: [www.louispaxton.com](http://www.louispaxton.com)

## FEATURE FILM

PRODUCTION (ROLE)	COMPANY	PROJECT DETAILS
THE INCOMER	Pilea Pictures / Creative Scotland	Premiered at the 2026 Sundance Film Festival - Winner of the NEXT Innovator Award  Writer/Director  Starring Domhnall Gleeson, Gayle Rankin and Grant O'Rourke

## TELEVISION

DATE	PRODUCTION (ROLE)	COMPANY	PROJECT DETAILS
2023	WRECK S2	Euston Films and BBC3	Director of Block 2 (3 x 60')
2022	SHETLAND (Series7)	ITV Studios / BBC One	Block 2 (Eps 4 - 6) - 3 x 60'
2021	LADYBABY (Director)	Kudos / BBC3	Directed pilot, written by Kirstie Swain  Broadcast Awards shortlist 2022 'Best Comedy Programme'  Nominated for THE VICTOR ADEBODUN DEBUT DIRECTOR AWARD at the 2022 New Voice Awards

## IN DEVELOPMENT

DATE	PRODUCTION (ROLE)	COMPANY	PROJECT DETAILS
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	BREADWINNER	Birdie Pictures	Co-writing with Grant O'Rourke
2023	SHEARLINGS	House Productions / BBC Comedy	6 x 30 BBC Comedy Commission Writer / Director
2023	BIG MAN	BBC Studios	Thriller 6 x 60 Writer
2023	GOON	Ranga Bee Productions	Writer/ Director  8 x 30'
2023	THE BILGE	Western Edge Pictures	Writer  Feature Horror
2019	CARNAGE		TV Comedy/ Drama  6 x 30  Writer
2018	SPARE ROOM		6 x 30 minutes, TV comedy drama Official selection BAFTA Rocliffe TV Drama Forum April 2014 Developed with BBC Comedy  Writer

## SHORT FILM

DATE	PRODUCTION (ROLE)	COMPANY	PROJECT DETAILS
2023	CALAMITY JAMES	Emanata Studios and BBC3 / BBC Scotland	Writer / Director  BBC Comedy Short Films  Available on BBC iPlayer  Nominated for Best Comedy at the RTS Scotland 2024 Awards  Nominated for Best Short-Form Scripted at Broadcast Digital Awards 2024  Has led to a pilot script commission with BBC Studios
2020	NEVILLE IS DEAD		Nominated for best Short at Glasgow short Film Fest Selected for LOCO Film Festival Selected for Short Com Film Festival Nominated for best Short at BAFTA Scotland

2014	SATAN HAS A BUSHY TAIL (Writer / Director)	Film London	Comedy drama Commissioned for 'London Calling' scheme.
			<p>Selected - Aesthetica Short Film Fest, York, November 2015  Winner - Best Comedy, The Smalls Film Festival, UK, September 2015  Winner - Best Comedy, Worldfest, Houston, USA, March 2015  Winner - Best Narrative Short, PRaxis Film Fest, London, February 2015  Winner - Bronze Audience Award, 8th Lichtspeilklub Short Film Festival, Berlin, January 2015  Nominated - Best Editing, Underwire Film Fest, November 2015  Selected - Heartland Film Fest, Indianapolis, October 2015  Selected - Cambridge Film Festival, September 2015  Selected - Loco Film Fest, London, January 2015  Selected - Cuculoras Film Festival, Wilmington NC, USA, November 2014  Selected Aesthetica Short Film Fest / York / Nov 15  Winner Best Comedy / The Smalls Film Festival / UK / Sept 15  Winner Best Comedy / Worldfest Houston / USA / Mar 15  Winner Best Narrative Short / Praxis Film Fest / London / Feb 15  Winner Bronze Audience Award / 8th Lichtspeilklub Short Film Festival / Berlin / Jan 15  Nominated Best Editing / Underwire Film Fest / Nov 15  Selected Heartland Film Fest / Indianapolis / Oct 15  Selected Cambridge Film Festival / Sept 15  Selected Loco Film Fest / London / Jan 15  Selected Cuculoras Film Festival / Wilmington Nc / USA / Nov 14</p>
2013	MUSICAL STAR! (Writer / Director)	NFTS	<p>Comedy musical  35mm  NFTS graduation film</p> <p>Selected - 8th Lichtspeilklub Short Film Festival, Berlin, January 2015  Selected - Praxis Film Fest, London, February 2015  Selected - Cuculoras Film Festival, Wilmington NC, USA, November 2014  Screened - Short Sighted 'Retro Night' UK, July 2014  Selected - Latitude Festival, UK, July 2014  Selected - London Short Film Festival, UK, January 2014</p>
2013	VOODOO MOUSTACHE (Director)	NFTS	<p>Comedy</p> <p>Nominated - Underwire Film Festival, London, November 2014  Selected - Short Sighted Cinema @ In The Woods Festival, Cambridge, June 2014  Distribution - Snag Films USA, March 2014  Selected - Strawberry Shorts, Cambridge Short Film Festival, Cambridge, June 2014  Selected - Portland Facial Hair Fest, USA, March 2014  Nominated - Best Production Design, Watersprite Film Fest, Cambridge, March 2014  Selected - Loco London Comedy Film Festival, UK, London, January 2014  Selected - Southend on Sea Horror Festival, UK, January 2014  Winner - Best Student Film, Screen Stockport International Film Festival, October 2013  Winner - Best Comedy, Portobello Film Festival, London, September 2013  Nominated - Grass Roots Film, Van D'Or Awards for Independent Film, London, September 2013  Shortlisted - Tropfest International, Australia, February 2013</p>

2013 DOLLFACE (Writer / Director)

NFTS

Black comedy

Commended - Strawberry Shorts, Cambridge Short Film Festival, June 2014  
Selected - Wiz-Art International Short Film Festival, Ukraine, May 2014  
Selected - 7th Lichspeilklub Short Film Festival, Berlin, January 2014  
Selected - London Short Film Festival, Berlin, January 2014  
Selected - Southend on Sea Horror Festival, UK, January 2014  
Selected - Leeds International Film Festival, November 2013  
Nominated - Best Horror/Sci Fi Short, Crystal Palace Film Festival, London, November 2013  
Winner - Best Comedy, Van D'Or Awards for International Film, London, September 2013  
Nominated - Best Short Film, Best Director, Best Actress, Best Cinematography, Van D'Or Awards, London, September 2013  
Nominated - Best Short Film, Portobello Film Festival, London, September 2013  
  
Nominated - Best Scottish Short, Glasgow Short Film Festival, February 2013  
Nominated - Silver Melies Award (Melies d'Argent), Hoff, Estonia, March 2013  
Shortlisted - Dead by Dawn, Edinburgh, April 2013  
Selected - Flat Pack Festival, Birmingham, March 2013

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2010 POUNCER (Writer / Director /  
Producer / Editor)

Comedy mockumentary

Distribution - Snag Films USA, March 2014  
Screened - Write Shoot Cut, Edinburgh, February 2013  
Selected - Screened before general release of feature film UP  
THERE (Zam Salim), GFT Glasgow, November 12  
Selected - The Short Film Showcase Suitcase, London, February 2012  
Nominated - Best Scottish Short, Glasgow Short Film Festival, February 2012  
Selected - London Short Film Festival, January 2012

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2009 CHOREOMANIA (Writer / Director /  
Co-Producer)

Action / Comedy  
Prod. Stuart Ewan (Graduation Film)

Screened - Halloween Special, British Shorts Film Festival, Berlin, October 2013  
Selected - Glasgow Short Film Festival at Edinburgh Fringe, August 2011  
Selected - Strawberry Shorts, Cambridge, June 2011  
Selected - London Short Film Festival, January 2011  
Selected - New York City Horror Film Fest, November 2010  
Selected - IETM Screening, Glasgow, November 2010  
Selected - Abertoir Horror Film Festival, Aberystwyth, November 2010  
Nominated - Best Cinematography, Exposures Film Fest  
Selected - Exposures Film Festival, Manchester, November 2010  
Selected - Lund Fantastisk Film Festival, Sweden, September 2010  
Selected - Film4 Frightfest, London, August 2010  
Selected - Strawberry Shorts Film Marquee at Fordham Fest, August 2010  
Screened - Caught Short, Filmhouse Cinema Edinburgh, May 2010  
Winner - Best National Undergraduate Drama, Royal Television Society, London, May 2010  
Winner - Best Student Film, Celtic Media Festival, Newry, Northern Ireland, May 2010  
Screened - Electric Sheep Post Apocalyptic Night, April 2010  
Selected - Sci Fi London Film Festival, April 2010  
Selected - Sesuchte 39th International Student Film Festival, Postdam-Babelsberg, Germany  
Selected - Flatpack Film Festival, Birmingham, March 2010  
Selected - Film Insiders Talent Festival, Cumbria, March 2010  
Selected - Glasgow International Short Film Fest, February 2010  
  
Winner - Best Student Drama - Scottish Royal Television Society, Glasgow, January 2010  
Selected - Jaipur International Film Festival, Jaipur, India, January 2010  
Selected - Lichspielklub Kurzfilmfestival, Berlin, Germany, January 2010  
Screened - Electric Shadows, Beijing, September 2009

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## COMMERCIAL

DATE	PRODUCTION (ROLE)	COMPANY	PROJECT DETAILS
2013	A PENGUIN WALKS INTO A BAR (Writer / Director)	Kopparberg	30 second commercial, 16mm Kodak Commercial competition entry  Screened Brainwrap Comedy Shorts / London / Feb 2014 Selected NFTS Stars Of Tomorrow At BAFTA / London / Sept 2013 Winner Best Script / Kodak Awards / London / April 13 Winner 2nd Best In Brief / Kodak Awards / London / April 13

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## SKILLS / QUALIFICATIONS

EDUCATION:

MA Directing Fiction - National Film and Television School, 2011 - 13

BA (Hons) Degree in Digital Film and Television - Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama, 2007 - 09

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WRITERS ROOM EXPERIENCE

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DATE	PRODUCTION (ROLE)	COMPANY	PROJECT DETAILS
2021	BASH ST	Beano Studios	Comedy / Drama

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