

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 Roccliffe 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, will premiere at the 2026 Sundance Film Festival. WEBSITE: www.louispaxton.com

FEATURE FILM

PRODUCTION (ROLE)	COMPANY	PROJECT DETAILS
THE INCOMER	Pilea Pictures / Creative Scotland	Premiering at the 2026 Sundance Film Festival 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	<p>Comedy drama</p> <p>Commissioned for 'London Calling' scheme.</p> <p>Selected - Aesthetica Short Film Fest, York, November 2015</p> <p>Winner - Best Comedy, The Smalls Film Festival, UK, September 2015</p> <p>Winner - Best Comedy, Worldfest, Houston, USA, March 2015</p> <p>Winner - Best Narrative Short, PRaxis Film Fest, London, February 2015</p> <p>Winner - Bronze Audience Award, 8th Lichtspeilklub Short Film Festival, Berlin, January 2015</p> <p>Nominated - Best Editing, Underwire Film Fest, November 2015</p> <p>Selected - Heartland Film Fest, Indianapolis, October 2015</p> <p>Selected - Cambridge Film Festival, September 2015</p> <p>Selected - Loco Film Fest, London, January 2015</p> <p>Selected - Cuculoras Film Festival, Wilmington NC, USA, November 2014</p> <p>Selected Aesthetica Short Film Fest / York / Nov 15</p> <p>Winner Best Comedy / The Smalls Film Festival / UK / Sept 15</p> <p>Winner Best Comedy / Worldfest Houston / USA / Mar 15</p> <p>Winner Best Narrative Short / Praxis Film Fest / London / Feb 15</p> <p>Winner Bronze Audience Award / 8th Lichtspeilklub Short Film Festival / Berlin / Jan 15</p> <p>Nominated Best Editing / Underwire Film Fest / Nov 15</p> <p>Selected Heartland Film Fest / Indianapolis / Oct 15</p> <p>Selected Cambridge Film Festival / Sept 15</p> <p>Selected Loco Film Fest / London / Jan 15</p> <p>Selected Cuculoras Film Festival / Wilmington Nc / USA / Nov 14</p>
2013	MUSICAL STAR! (Writer / Director)	NFTS	<p>Comedy musical</p> <p>35mm</p> <p>NFTS graduation film</p> <p>Selected - 8th Lichpeilklub Short Film Festival, Berlin, January 2015</p> <p>Selected - Praxis Film Fest, London, February 2015</p> <p>Selected - Cuculoras Film Festival, Wilmington NC, USA, November 2014</p> <p>Screened - Short Sighted 'Retro Night' UK, July 2014</p> <p>Selected - Latitude Festival, UK, July 2014</p> <p>Selected - London Short Film Festical, UK, Janaury 2014</p>
2013	VOODOO MOUSTACHE (Director)	NFTS	<p>Comedy</p> <p>Nominated - Underwire Film Festival, London, November 2014</p> <p>Selected - Short Sighted Cinema @ In The Woods Festival, Cambridge, June 2014</p> <p>Distribution - Snag Films USA, March 2014</p> <p>Selected - Strawberry Shorts, Cambridge Short Film Festival, Cambridge, June 2014</p> <p>Selected - Portland Facial Hair Fest, USA, March 2014</p> <p>Nominated - Best Production Design, Watersprite Film Fest, Cambridge, March 2014</p> <p>Selected - Loco London Comedy Film Festival, UK, London, January 2014</p> <p>Selected - Southend on Sea Horror Festival, UK, January 2014</p> <p>Winner - Best Student Film, Screen Stockport International Film Festival, October 2013</p> <p>Winner - Best Comedy, Portobello Film Festival, London, September 2013</p> <p>Nominated - Grass Roots Film, Van D'Or Awards for Independent Film, London, September 2013</p> <p>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, Janaury 2014
			Selected - Southend on Sea Horror Festival, UK, Janauary 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, Edinburg, April 2013
			Selected - Flat Pack Festival, Birmingham, March 2013
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

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 Festical, 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

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

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

WRITERS ROOM EXPERIENCE

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