

# MICHAEL FORD PRODUCER, VR & DRAMA

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#### BIOGRAPHY

Michael Ford has spent the last 12 years as an independent producer. His experience spans international feature films, broadcast drama development, VR and digital production, including promos for high-profile clients such as Sony Pictures, Merlin Entertainments and The BRITs. In 2017, together with Kew Media, Michael released the innovative docufiction feature film 'BASE', which he developed, financed and co-produced with Vertigo Films (*Britannia, Monsters*). Prior to this he was involved in co-financing children's feature 'PUDSEY THE DOG' with Vertigo Releasing (*StreetDance, Horrid Henry*) and Simon Cowell's SYCO Entertainment. 'Pudsey' became one of the Top 20 UK Independent Films of 2014 at the UK Box Office and featured the voice talents of comedian David Walliams alongside the winners of *Britain's Got Talent*.

Michael's experience as a producer encompasses international shoots, rights negotiations, drafting and amending contracts, budgeting and scheduling, as well as scriptwriting, editing and pitching. In 2016, he was invited to speak alongside GoPro and The Foundry on a VR panel for IBC Rising Stars in Amsterdam, and in 2017, Michael consulted on the design and delivery for an immersive storytelling initiative known as 'Reframed' in association with Lighthouse Arts and Creative England. An alumni of the prestigious Guiding Lights programme (British Film Institute), Michael has also had the privilege of being mentored by top British producer Andrew Macdonald (*Trainspotting, Dredd, ExMachina*).

Early in his career, Michael founded a small indie after successfully securing investment from the West Midlands Screen Agency. Since then, he has gone on to raise over \$1M in private equity finance and has personally managed budgets large and small for a variety of moving image projects ranging from drama to branded content and 360 VR.

In the last 18 months, Michael has negotiated live-action scripted rights to the smash-hit arcade game 'TIME CRISIS' from Bandai Namco Entertainment Inc. (*Pac-Man, Tekken*); and made shifts into children's drama, securing a pilot script commission from CBBC, alongside a multi-script series development deal with Nickelodeon International.

## **RELEVANT SKILLS**

IT LITERACY: Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint), MovieMagic Budgeting & Scheduling, Final Draft

ADOBE CREATIVE SUITE: Photoshop, Premiere Pro (inc. 360 Immersive Tools)

## CAMERA TRAINING:

**Stereo:** Nokia Ozo, Jaunt One **Mono:** GoPro, Richo Theta V, Nikon, Kodak SP360 Dual-Pro (inc. Underwater Housing)

# FULL CLEAN DRIVING LICENCE (16 YEARS)

#### **REFEREES** available on request

# **EXPERIENCE (SAMPLE)**

- **TIME CRISIS** (2017 Present) (Digital Scripted) (Development Producer)
  - live-action drama series development in partnership with Bandai Namco Entertainment Inc.
  - action / thriller based on the global arcade game phenomenon 'Time Crisis'
  - franchise est. 90M players worldwide per annum
- BERMUDA BAY (2017 Present) (TV) (Development Producer)
  - original live-action children's series development with Nickelodeon International
  - responsible for multi-script deal, bible development, budgeting and scheduling
  - series ranked #2 in global greenlight dev review Feb 2018 (#1 comedy drama)
- BASE (2017) (Feature) (Producer)
  - film distribution by Kew Media Group (formerly Content Media)
  - produced by Vertigo Films & Infinite Wisdom Studios
  - filmed on location in Brazil, Switzerland, Italy, France, Norway and UK
  - Chat Fiction spin-off in development with Tap by Wattpad
- HUSH (2016 2017) (TV) (Development Producer)
  - original sci-fi fantasy series development with CBBC
  - development of Pilot script from concept to 2<sup>nd</sup> draft (feat. Deaf protagonist)
  - responsible for Deaf & CODA Focus Group in association with Deaffest
- EXPLORE360 (2015 Present) (Executive Producer)
  - producing 360 VR video content for brands including Aerobatic Tactics, Origo, Aston Martin: London Motorshow, University of Birmingham, Jameson Irish Whiskey
- BOW STREET RUNNERS (2015) (TV) (Development Co-Producer)
  - co-developed crime series treatment with World Productions (*Line of Duty, Bodyguard*) - originated tv proposal and negotiated co-production deal
- **PUDSEY THE DOG: THE MOVIE** (2013 2014) (Feature) (Co-Producer)
  - directed by Nick Moore (Wild Child), written by Paul Rose (My Parents Are Aliens)
  - co-financed British children's feature with Vertigo Releasing and SYCO Entertainment
- LIVEWIRE (2008 2012) (Feature) (Development Producer)
  - feature screenplay development in association with UK Film Council & Screen WM
  - originated feature proposal and developed to 4th draft with Universal Pictures
  - casting by Michelle Guish (Nanny McPhee) and Karen Maxwell (Da Vinci's Demons)
- CATERPILLAR (2008) (Short) (Producer)
  - Midlands Royal Television Society Award Winner 'Best Fictional Drama'
- INFINITE WISDOM STUDIOS (2007 Present) (Executive Producer)
  - development and production executive for 12 years
  - negotiated and acquired options to children's books, YA novels and video games
  - writing briefs, treatments and scripts for a range of story content
  - producing digital moving image content for brands including Jaguar, Sony, Oxfam, Merlin Entertainments, The Ministry of Justice, Mercedes, NHS and The BRITs