

KRISTJAN KNIGGE

Director / Producer / Filmmaker



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Work Experience

DIRECTOR/PRODUCER

Freelance
Jan 2010 - present

As a freelance filmmaker I have produced corporate videos, commercials and digital content for various brands and companies. In narrative fiction I have directed three feature films, over 15 short films and I have a new feature script in development, as well as a unique VR short narrative movie. On the following pages of this resume I detail a selection of projects I have produced and directed.

LECTURER AT SAE

Part-time
Oct 2016 - present

SAE Institute offers courses in creative media fields. I teach a number of film modules, including Set Production, Film History, Pitching, Directing and Editing to BA students.

LONGSHIP FILMS

Founder/Director
Jan 2015 - present

Longship Films is the production company I set up to produce long form narrative independent films. I developed the Longship Method for Indie Films aiming to create a solid framework for innovative, engaging, low budget, time constrained feature film production.

CAESAR EXPERTS

Video Content Creator
May 2016 - Nov 2017

Writing, directing, filming and editing in house corporate content, including Client Testimonials, Event Afters, Recruitment Videos and Marketing Videos.

MACGYVER

Director
March 2011 - June 2016

MacGyver is an Amsterdam based commercials production company with in house editing, compositing and audio post-production facilities. I directed commercials and marketing videos for various brands including Heineken, Vögele, Nestlé, Colgate, Nationale Postcode Loterij and De Nederlandse Munt.

GR8 FILMS

Director
Jan 2007 - Feb 2010

Directing commercials and marketing videos for various brands including Aspirin, NOC-NSF, Delta LLOYD, Leenbakker, Leaseplan and the Blue Sky Group.

1ST ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Freelance
Sept 1998 - Dec 2006

1st Assistant Director on numerous commercials, music videos, TV shows, films and corporates for clients including 25 fps, BlauwBlauw, CCCP, Czar, Directors Film Company, Filmz Amsterdam, Hazazah, Jan Faber, LuytenMacrander, Markenfilm Hamburg, Serious Pictures, Signum, Simone van Dusseldorp, Spudnick Productions London, South West Lisbon, Vermaas en van Gennep, Will van der Vlugt.

TMF

Marketing Executive
Sept 1997 - Sept 1998

Marketing Executive at music television station TMF (The Music Factory). I worked on print and broadcast campaigns promoting the network. I helped organise promotional events such as the TMF Awards and the TMF Showcase.

VARIOUS CREW

Freelance
September 1989 - Sept 1997

I started in the film industry as a runner at age 17. Over the next 8 years I worked and assisted on 100s of productions in most on-set departments including Lighting, Production, Locations, Grip, Special Effects, Camera and Casting.

About Me

I'm an all-round content creator. I can produce, I can shoot, I can write, I can edit and I can do the sound design. I'll even take a good stab at designing the poster. My main focus and skills are in directing, with story structure and working with actors as my speciality.

I'm passionate about telling stories through film... which I guess is what every filmmaker would say... doesn't make it less true though!

I speak seven languages. English, Dutch and Portuguese fluently and Danish, French, German and Spanish conversationally.

Skills

I am continually updating and improving my skill set through experimentation and training.

| | |
|----------------|------------|
| Directing | ●●●●●●●●●● |
| Editing | ●●●●●●●●○ |
| Producing | ●●●●●●●●○ |
| Teaching Film | ●●●●●●●○○ |
| Photography | ●●●●●●○○○ |
| Cinematography | ●●●●●●●○○ |
| Audio Post | ●●●●●●○○○ |
| Juggling | ●●●○○○○○○ |
| Cooking | ●●●●●●○○○ |
| Voice Over | ●●●●●●○○○ |
| Interviewing | ●●●●●●●○○ |
| Delivering | ●●●●●●●●● |

Commissioned Work

A selection from the projects I have worked on over the past decade. Click on the [hyperlinked](#) titles to watch

[VOLVO XC40](#)

Brand Activation

For Grey and made.for.digital I directed a brand activation video centred around the Volvo Pop-up Testdrive. The area around Amsterdam's Museumplein was taken over by Volvo XC40s and people were super excited to try out this fantastic car. A campaign centred around people enjoying and loving the product. And I got to ride around in a really great car.

[MOTIV SECURITY](#)

VR Narrative Story

VR Storytellers contracted me to write, produce and direct a narrative VR experience for Motiv ICT Security. The brief was to create a compelling immersive experience highlighting the dangers of ransomware attacks by hackers using human engineering tactics to plant their viruses. The film is successfully being used as part of the company's sales strategy, being showcased at trade events, in one on one sales meetings and as a stand-alone download.

[HELPING HEART](#)

Social Product Short Film

For made.for.digital and N=5 I directed a short documentary introducing the Helping Heart patch. The patch is designed to provide contactless payment options for homeless people. The film was an emotional and informative view into the lives of people living on the streets and showcased the solution the contactless payment patch offered them.

[BILLION SIGNS](#)

Social Awareness Commercial

I directed an artistic and poetic awareness film in support of Warchild, in which former president Obama ruminates on the fate of refugees and his responsibility to peace. Filmed at the iconic Grand Hotel in Amsterdam and featuring Belgian Olympic sprinter Jonathan Borlée as the US president, the film calls on the public to share a peace sign in support of refugees.

[ASPIRIN PLUS C](#)

TVC

For BBDO Europe I directed a commercial for the brand Aspirin Plus C. The concept for the commercial was a departure for Aspirin as the script used comedy for the message. Shot on 16mm film on location in Tanzania, the film won gold at the CPhI Pharma Advertising Awards. And the [making of](#) is almost as cool as the film itself!

[OLYMPIC HEROES](#)

Portrait Documentary Series

For NOC-NSF and Y&R Not Just Film Amsterdam I directed a series of eleven mini documentaries portraying Dutch Olympic heroes. The films were praised for their personal, in depth and human portrayal of the athletes.

[VÖGELE SWITZERLAND](#)

Commercials

Vögele wanted to try something different, for them, so Crossmarks came up with a new take on the classic fashion ad. I directed six commercials for them for their spring, summer and autumn collections.

[HEINEKEN THE LOUNGE](#)

New Product Intro

The Heineken Pop-Up lounge was a new and fun concept whereby a Heineken Star Serve lounge was built using sea containers, such that the whole thing could be transported all over the world and set up quickly. For the launch of the product, I was commissioned to create an adventurous intro to the lounge, charting its first journey from Kalle Krause in Germany to the launch party Amsterdam, and introducing all the fun, stylish and innovative features. The brief was commercial level production value at documentary budget levels.

[CHEF'S CHOICE](#)

Event Opener

For the "Night of Advertising" I wrote and directed an opener film for the Chef's Choice event. The film was weird and artistic and featured an amazing operatic score, a large fish and some carrots. It set the tone for the event which showcased a selection of the years top advertising campaigns, as chosen by the 'Chefs', leading figures in the Dutch Advertising world.

[SLIDE HIDE](#)

Branded Short

A commissioned short film for the 2008 PANL Awards. The film tells the story of hoodlums intimidating a judge on a photography award show and included my first attempt at a chase sequence.

[HEINEKEN HIGHLIGHT](#)

New Product Intro

Heineken actively encourages its employees to come up with innovative product ideas. One such was the Heineken Highlight. A small LED device that attached to the beer tap and lit the beer as it was poured. Sadly the product wasn't implemented, but I did get commissioned to direct a cool product intro film. The client went into the project expecting a competent product film, but was pleasantly surprised to receive a high-end commercial.

[DE NEDERLANDSE MUNT](#)

TVC

For De Nederlandse Munt (the Dutch Royal Mint) I was commissioned to direct a commercial for their yearly special edition €5 commemorative coin. The theme was water and the script called for the camera to dive in and out of various types of water including a swimming pool, a canal and a puddle. After researching possibilities I discovered there wasn't a rig in existence to achieve the camera moves I wanted, so together with Etcon I designed an underwater rig for the Si2K camera system, which worked a treat. If you are interested to see the rig in action, [check the making of!](#)

Filmography

A selection of shorts, features and documentaries I have directed. Click on the [hyperlinks](#) to watch.

[THE RIGHT JUICE](#)

Indie Comedy Feature

The Right Juice was my first feature film. Independently financed, co-written, co-produced and directed by me. The film had a successful theatrical release in its home country Portugal and was picked for TAP's in flight entertainment. It also played at many international festivals, including Atlanta International, Edmonton International, Bahamas International, Berlin Independent, and Caminhos, picking up awards and acclaim along the way. It is currently available on VOD platforms including [Amazon](#), [Vimeo on Demand](#) and [iTunes](#).

[PATCH](#)

Dark Comedy Short

Patch, a dark comedy shot on Guernsey. It has garnered many awards at international festivals, particularly in the United States. It played at, among others, LA Shorts, Global Shorts, Vila do Conde, Madrid International and the Cannes Short Film Corner. The film is in distribution via [ShortsTV](#).

[RESTING PLACE](#)

Portrait Documentary Series

Resting Place (original title: Stillegebie) is a psychological horror short film I produced and directed. Acclaimed and awarded for its intense emotional impact and the use of a single shot to tell the whole story, it has played at various international film festivals, including Chicago Underground, Atlanta International, Bahamas International, Cardiff Independent, Social ClIFF and San Sebastian Horror & Fantasy Fest.

[SECOND HONEYMOON](#)

Indie Dramatic Feature

The first film made according to the Longship method. Written and shot over the course of just 9 days, the production of this film was a triumph of collaboration and cooperation. A tiny team of makers and performers lived together in a villa in southern Portugal and created a unique and compelling movie, pushing boundaries of story-telling and narrative structure. Available on VOD at [Vimeo on Demand](#), [Amazon](#) and [Reelhouse](#).

[IN LOVING MEMORY](#)

Comedy Short

Produced and shot in Melbourne, In Loving Memory is a delightful, funny, poignant look at death and bereavement. I wrote, shot and directed. My first short to actually make it into some festivals!

[SELF PORTRAIT](#)

Dramatic Short

This very personal short film was inspired by the true story of how my wife reconnected with her father as a teenager.

[WILD](#)

Poetic Short

I shot and directed this beautiful poetic script. The dialogue is intensely metaphorical and flowery, and I love it. Dutch language and no subtitles I'm afraid

[THE WAY](#)

Western Short

An early 48 Hour Film Project film. Shot and directed by me and filmed over the course of an evening. The original film was 6 minutes but I later reworked it down to a 3 minutes.

[ROOM 303](#)

Dramatic Short

My first narrative film which I directed and shot. Made during the first Amsterdam 48 Hour Film Competition. The film won Best Film Amsterdam and went on to win Best Cinematography Worldwide.

[DOUBTING THOMAS](#)

Ethnographic Documentary

Thomas is a Masaai warrior who works as a camp manager at a private game reserve. The film follows his journey as he goes through O'ringesher in his early thirties. The week long event is a rite of passage every Masaai man goes through as he transcends from warrior-hood to full blown adult man. The film was distributed by Off the Fence and sold to various television and online broadcasters around the world.

Education

As I started working professionally in my teens I never got round to going to film school. I have, however, taken various courses and masterclasses over the years to improve and better my skills. And I now teach film at Bachelors Degree level.

[MIKE FIGGIS WORKSHOP](#)

May 2011

An intense two day masterclass about film making, time management and dealing with failure.

[RUTGER HAUER FILM FACTORY](#)

May 2011

A week long Masterclass in filmmaking. The course is designed in a unique way, teaming up participants together in to filmmaking teams to shoot a short film besides workshops and lectures. Trainers included Rutger Hauer, Lev Majewski and Robert Rodriguez.

[ACTIIACT](#)

Sept 07 - Sept 08

In order to learn more about directing actors I enrolled on an acting course. Going through the experience of acting and performing not only gave me insights into the techniques and processes involved but also instilled in me a deep respect for the craft of acting.

[OPEN STUDIO](#)

Feb 05 - Oct 05

Video production and videography formative course. Learning the basics such as three-point lighting, effective booming, camera and lenses and basic narrative editing.