



**yap films**  
[www.yapfilms.com](http://www.yapfilms.com)

## CORPORATE PROFILE

### The Company

Founded by Elliott Halpern and the late Pauline Duffy in 2002, yap films is a highly respected independent production company specializing in entertaining, original and high profile documentary specials and factual series on a wide range of subject matter for broadcast and cable networks in North America and internationally. Current production includes documentaries and specials for NOVA, Discovery, Smithsonian, CBC, and FR5.

### **Elliott Halpern** - Creative Director

Elliott Halpern is an Emmy award-winning producer/director of feature length documentaries for television. Most recently, he was an Executive Producer on *Mosquito* for Discovery Channel (global premiere - July 6 2017), *Black Watch Snipers* for HISTORY Canada (2016); *Loretta Lynn: Still a Mountain Girl* for PBS/American Masters, BBC Four/Arena, and Sony Music (2016); and *Building Star Trek*, the highest rated documentary in the history of Smithsonian Channel (2016), all of which were produced by yap films. Among his numerous awards are two Emmy Awards for Investigative Journalism; the Silver Nymph Award at Monte Carlo; and the duPont-Columbia Award.

### **Elizabeth Trojian** – Director of Development

Elizabeth Trojian is the director of development and an executive producer at yap films as well as an award-winning producer, writer and director. She has worked on and created many television documentaries and series for North American and international broadcasters including *Made by Destruction*, *Battle Factory* and *Shred!* Most recently, Elizabeth was the executive producer and producer on *Mosquito* for Discovery Channel, a film narrated by Jeremy Renner, executive producer on the *Black Watch Snipers* documentary for HISTORY Canada, the epic story of five men who travelled through WWII together as snipers and scouts, and producer and executive producer on *Building Star Trek*, a documentary for Smithsonian Channel and Discovery Canada chronicling the impact the original television series had on the advancement of science and cultural change. As well, she was the producer and executive producer on *Loretta Lynn: Still A Mountain Girl*, a feature length documentary about the country music legend for PBS' American Masters, BBC Four's Arena, and Sony Music.

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### Filmography

**2017**

**Made By Destruction Season 2 13 x 30' series**

Made By Destruction explores how discarded products around the world are split apart, stripped down, melted, shredded and re-invented in ingenious and extraordinary ways.

*Hi-Def (In Production)*

**Discovery Canada, Discovery International**

**2016/2017**

**Ice Bridge 1hr Special**

A group of archaeologists are on a mission to prove their theory of an epic cross-Atlantic journey that Europeans took 6000 years before inhabitants arrived in the Americas from the West. The evidence they find could change everything we know about the history of our continent.

*Hi-Def (In Production)*

**CBC, Smithsonian Channel, France 5, SBS**

**2015/2017**

**Mosquito 90 min Special**

Narrated by two-time Academy Award nominated actor Jeremy Renner and featuring exclusive interviews with Bill Gates, co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, former CDC director Dr. Thomas Frieden, and several other high-profile experts, *Mosquito* focuses on the single greatest agent of death in modern human history and what must be done for the good of humanity to address this global threat that continues to evolve every year.

*Hi-Def*

**Discovery Channel**

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**2015/2016**

#### **Building Star Trek 2hr Special**

When "Star Trek" first aired in 1966, it expanded the viewers' imaginations about what was possible in their lifetimes. Today, many of the space-age technologies displayed on the show, like space shuttles, cell phones, and desktop computers, have already gone from science fiction to science fact. Other innovations, like warp drive, teleportation, and medical tricorders are actively in development. Building Star Trek celebrates the 50th Anniversary of "Star Trek" - a show that continues to inform, enrich, and inspire.

*Hi-Def*

**Smithsonian Channel, Discovery Canada**

**2015/2016**

#### **Black Watch Snipers 90 min Special**

Black Watch Snipers tells the epic story of five men who travelled through WWII together as snipers and scouts. Their mission: to clear towns of German snipers that would decimate the advancing Allied soldiers. This is a band of brothers story that follows the intimate and dangerous story of five men who fought together, did the dirtiest work in the war with all but one surviving to finally tell the tale.

*Hi-Def*

**History Channel**

**2014/2016**

#### **Made By Destruction 13 x 30' series**

Made By Destruction explores how discarded products around the world are split apart, stripped down, melted, shredded and re-invented in ingenious and extraordinary ways.

*Hi-Def*

**Science Channel, Discovery Canada, Explora, Discovery International**

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**2014/2016**

**Loretta Lynn: Still A Mountain Girl 2hr Special**

Loretta Lynn: Still a Mountain Girl explores country music legend Loretta Lynn's hard-fought road to stardom, her struggles to balance her marriage to Oliver "Doolittle" Lynn and six children with her music career, her friendships and collaborations with Sissy Spacek, Patsy Cline, Conway Twitty, Johnny Cash, June Carter Cash and music producer Owen Bradley, along with her life on the road, her Nashville and Hurricane Mills communities, her songwriting inspirations and her music's lasting impact on her peers and fans.

*Hi-Def*

**PBS American Masters, BBC's Arena, Sony Music**

**2014/2015**

**Battle Factory 13 x 30' series**

Battle Factory explores how many of the critical objects or products that troops use every day are constructed, taking viewers into the hidden world of military and frontline gear factories all over the world - where raw materials become finished products.

*Hi-Def*

**History Channel, Historia, UKTV, Discovery International**

**2014/2015**

**Close Up Kings 8 x 1hr series**

Close Up Kings follows the adventures of three best friends who happen to be some of America's best magicians. In each episode, Magick Balay, Loki and Johnny Blaze travel from city to city, performing magic and accepting challenges to perform certain feats.

*Hi-Def*

**Coproduced with ZigZag Productions for OLN, SyFy, and Discovery International**

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**2013/2014**

### **Camp X: Secret Agent School 2hr Special**

This special tells the story of how a secret agent training school established in Canada during World War Two - and the training manual created specifically for it - laid the foundations for modern espionage in North America and gave birth to the CIA.

*Hi-Def*

**History Channel, Smithsonian Channel, Channel 4, Historia, BBC Worldwide**

**2013/2014**

### **The Real Noah's Ark 2hr Special**

This special embarks on an epic journey to investigate who authored the 3700 year old tablet that inspired Noah's Ark – an ancient instruction manual for building a massive boat to survive a flood.

*Hi-Def*

**Coproduced with Blink Films for History Channel, Channel 4, PBS Nova, National Geographic International, and France 5**

**2013**

### **Warehouse Wonderland 2 x 30' Pilots**

This series takes you inside one of the fastest growing retail businesses in the United States.

*Hi Def*

**Slice**

**2012/2013**

### **Shred! 13 x 30' Series**

A Portland Oregon company custom builds incredible machines to destroy stuff that was *never* meant to be destroyed.

*Hi Def*

**Discovery Channel CAN, Science Channel, Discovery UK/Europe, NGCI Latin America**

**2012**

### **World's Strangest 8 x 1hr Series**

A series that explores the most bizarre and surprising inventions and scientific developments in different fields, from geminoids to bomb-sniffing rats.

*Hi Def*

**Discovery Channel Canada/UK/Europe/Science US, Fremantle**

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- 2011/12**                      **Things You Need to Know Season 2 6 x 30' series**  
A highly entertaining animated series that provides essential facts about populist subjects like chemistry, evolution, and the brain.  
*Hi Def*  
**Co-produced with 360 Productions for BBC2, BBC Worldwide, Science Channel and Discovery Channel Canada**
- 2011/12**                      **Curse of the Axe 2 hr Special**  
A new archaeology dig unearths a First Nations city from the early 16<sup>th</sup> Century which challenges all commonly held notions about native American life prior to contact with the Europeans. Narrated by Robbie Roberston.  
*Hi Def*  
**History Channel, Discovery UK**
- 2011/2012**                      **Dig WWII 4 x 1hr Series**  
Dramatic events in the Second World War brought to life through revelatory contemporary archaeology. Presented by Dan Snow  
*Hi Def*  
**A coproduction with 360 Productions for History Channel, BBC2, BBCNI, BBCWW.**
- 2011/2012**                      **Explosion 1812: 2hr Special**  
A radical reinterpretation of this famously misunderstood war. Presented by Dan Snow.  
*Hi Def*  
**History Channel, UKTV, DRG**
- 2010/2011**                      **Things You Need to Know 3 x 30' series**  
A highly entertaining animated series that provides essential facts about populist subjects like the weather, the universe and the human body.  
*Hi Def*  
**Co-produced with 360 Productions for BBCNI, BBC Worldwide, and Discovery Channel Canada**

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**2010/2011**

### **March of the Dinosaurs (90' Special)**

Full-length animated feature that tells the story of an epic real-life migration undertaken by a herd of dinosaurs in the High Arctic. 2011 Gemini

Nomination for Best Animated Program or Series.

Best Directing in an Animated Program or Series.

*Hi Def*

**Co-Produced with Wide-Eyed Entertainment for History Television, National Geographic US, ProSieben, France5, and ITV**

**2010/2011**

### **Monster Snake: Titanaboa 2hr Special**

The history-making story of the recent discovery of the fossilized remains of the largest snake which ever lived.

*Hi-Def*

**Co-Produced with Wide-Eyed Entertainment for History Television and the Smithsonian Channel**

**2010/2011**

### **Pirate City 2hr Special**

It was known as the “Wickedest City on Earth” – a haven for the British pirates who pillaged the Carribean. Through marine archaeology and dramatic reconstruction, the notorious 17<sup>th</sup> Century British town of Port Royal Jamaica is brought to life.

*Hi Def*

**Co-produced with Wall-to-Wall for National Geographic, France 5 and History Television**

**2009/10**

### **Beast Legends (6x1hr)**

Adventure into the unknown: Investigating *Unidentified Mysterious Animals* – mythical creatures that could be real; historical creatures that might be myths.

*Hi-Def*

**Syfy, History Television, BBC Worldwide**

**2009/10 Cont'd**

### **Storm Worlds (3 x 1hr)**

The wildest weather in the universe exists on other planets, using powerful CGI, this series shows what would happen if those alien storms were unleashed on earth.

*Hi-Def*

**History Television, Nat Geo US, Nat Geo Intl, BBC Worldwide**

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**2009/10**

**Dive Detectives (6 x 1hr)**

Father & son divers/explorers Mike and Warren Fletcher are solvers of mysteries: from missing subs to missing millions. Action-packed adventures that unfold in gripping actuality.

**History Television, Nat Geographic, Smithsonian Channel.**

*Hi-Def*

**2009**

**Ancients Behaving Badly (8 x 1hr)**

**aka Absolute Tyrants**

Exposing the deeds and motivations of iconic figures from the ancient world.

**History Channel, History Television, and ITV Global,**

*Hi-Def* a co-production with Blink Entertainment

**2008/2009**

**Fire Jammers (1hr series pilot)**

A troupe of pyrotechnic experts, wild inventors, acrobats and dancers have just two weeks to put together their biggest show to date: an explosive aerial spectacle they call the "Jump Jet. Gemini Award for Best Performing Arts Program or Series.

**Discovery Canada (Hi Def)**

**2008/2009**

**Finding the Fallen 2/The Trench Detectives 2 (6x1hr)**

A 2nd series of the popular Battlefield Archaeology series in which recovered objects and artifacts are forensically investigated and traced back to a named person whose personal story is then told.

**History Television, History Channel UK, BBC WorldWide (Hi-Def)**

**2007/2008**

**Pet Food: A Dog's Breakfast**

We love our pets, but do we really know what we're feeding them? A Dog's Breakfast takes the lid off the can to discover what's going on inside the \$16billion pet food industry.

*(Hi-Def)*

**CBC**



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2007

### **The Cave**

Deep underground, a forgotten cave in France reveals an incredible memorial to the men who fought in the Great War.

*(Hi Def)*

**History Television**

2007

### **The Last Soldier**

Jack Babcock (109) is the last living Canadian soldier from WW1. Born in the reign of Queen Victoria, he witnessed the birth of manned flight. A first-person story with an original graphic novel approach.

*(Hi Def)*

**History Television**

2007

### **Revealed: The Captain Bligh Conspiracy**

The Mutiny on the Bounty is one of the most infamous episodes in naval history. The Bounty's discarded captain survived and returned to England a hero. Yet his name today is synonymous with inhuman bullying. But is his reputation deserved?

**Coproduced with Zig Zag for Five, History Television, History Channel UK and Pro Sieben**

2006/2007

### **VIMY RIDGE: Heaven to Hell**

The Battle of Vimy Ridge - a major Allied victory in the First World War. A bold and imaginative strategy played out in three dimensions – in the air, on the ground and in a labyrinth of tunnels under No Man's Land. An archaeological dig, opening of a tunnel, live fire tests and demos, personal letters and computer-gaming style animation travel from heaven to hell on Vimy Ridge.

*(Hi-Def)*

**History Television, History Channel UK**

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**2006/2007 Cont'd**

### **Tiger's Attack (2Hr Special & 2 x 1hr)**

A tiger's roar can literally stop people in their tracks. Scientists working in the field of bioacoustics pursue the theory that the roar of a tiger *paralyzes* its prey giving the predator time to pounce, catch and kill. A quest with an Apex Predator at its heart that reveals new knowledge, demolishes popular belief and solves a mystery.  
*(Hi-Def)*

**Discovery Networks**

**2006/2007**

### **Bloodlines (3 x 1 hr series)**

The living descendents of iconic chapters in history are tracked down for revealing documentaries that use the present as a lens into the past. An intersection of family history and documented historical events provide a fresh way of bringing history to life, with unpredictable results.

**History Television**

**2006**

### **Battle of the Somme: The True Story (90min special)**

A team of investigators attempts to do what no-one has ever done...use forensic science to solve a mystery trapped on film for over 90 years.

**FIVE/History Television/ RDF Rights**

**2006**

### **The Trench Detectives (5x45)**

Battlefield archaeology series in which personal stories of individual soldiers are revealed through objects found where they fell.

**Five**

**2005-2006**

### **Children of the Valley (1 hr)**

An avalanche of coal waste kills 116 schoolchildren in Aberfan. LIFE photojournalist Chuck Rapoport travels from America to record a 'town without children'. But some have survived. 40 years on, they are ready to tell their stories and Rapoport returns to hear them.

**ITV Network/RDF Rights**

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2005-2006 Con'td

### **Warrior Empire: The Mughals of India (2x1hr and 2 hr special)**

They came. They saw. They conquered. The Mughal Emperors - India's rulers for over 300 years. They were a dynasty that created one of the most powerful empires in human history. Their story is one of military might, bloody battles, unsurpassed artistry and almost inconceivable opulence encapsulated in creations like the Taj Mahal. A Hi-Def production.

**History Channel US**

### **Put Me Together Again (2 x 1 hr)**

Every year millions of people suffer acquired brain injury. The damage is not just physical. Personalities change. Memory and behaviour dramatically affected. This pair of films follows some of the walking wounded—funny, poignant and moving it tells the stories of people like Kay who has a 5-minute memory, Robert - an obsessive hoarder and Helen who can't say no to strangers.

**C4/C4I**

2005

### **Finding The Fallen (5x1hr)**

Almost 90 years after the end of the First World War, the bloody battlegrounds surrender their secrets. A team of archaeologists, forensics experts and historians work to identify these unknown soldiers and finally lay them to rest. This is contemporary archaeology writ large. It's purpose: to remember the past, lest we forget. Its aim: to identify and honour those who gave their lives in the Great War.

**History Television/Disc UK&EMEA/BBCww**

2004 - 2005

### **Zapped (2hr special)**

A wild exploration of electricity and the human body. Shocking, electrifying, sexy...sparks fly as ZAPPED turns pure energy into entertainment with wild and spectacular stunts, extreme experiences and weird phenomena that, like jaw-dropping magic, make the seemingly impossible happen.

**Discovery US/Discovery Canada/C4I**

*A Co-Production with SCREENHOUSE PRODUCTIONS*

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- 2004**                    **Canada's War in Colour (3 x 1hr)**  
The compelling social history of World War II told through personal stories, diaries and letters married to newly discovered *colour* footage of Canadians at war and on the Home Front.  
**CBC /TWI**
- 2003/2004**            **Friendly Fire (1hr)**  
A dramatic, personal and emotionally powerful account of two incidents, separated by 60 years, and their aftermath--each reflecting on the other. It moves beyond the headlines to get at the unchanging nature of loss and grace as a US pilot faces an Allied soldier he bombed sixty years ago.  
**CBC /CBC Enterprises**
- 2003**                    **First and Last (1hr)**  
Contemporary 'sleuths' unravel the personal stories of the first and last to die in the Great War - revealing the story of the war itself.  
**CBC / ITV (reversioned for Nov 2005 TX)**
- O'Shea's Big Adventure Specials (4 x 1 hrs)**  
More global adventures this time in Hi-Definition  
**Animal Planet Worldwide**
- 2002/2003**            **Going to the Dogs (13 x 30)**  
Flea-on-the-tail dogu-soap series that lifts the lid on the dog show circuit. The *real* "Best in Show."  
**Life Network / Animal Planet / ID Distribution**
- A Deathly Silence (1hr)**  
A mother's crusade to bring her son's killers to justice. Her only clue: a cell phone recording of the last minutes of her son's life. A 1 hr special that travels deep into a community in which black on black killings are escalating and remaining unsolved.  
**CBC / International Distribution**
- 2001/2002**            **O'Shea's Big Adventure Specials (4 x 1hr)**  
A series of one hour adventures around the globe  
**C4/Animal Planet US**

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2001

**King Midas' Feast (1hr)**

The remains of a feast found in a 2,700 year old tomb give up their secrets in an archaeology meets cookery special

**C4/History Television**

**Boxing –In and Out of the Ring (2hr Special)**

Gripping investigation into the business of boxing.

**A & E/International**

**A Child's Choice (1hr)**

Intimate access to terminally-ill children who are making choices about their life and death.

**C4/Discovery US /Life Network**

**Gladiatrix (Gladiator Girl) (1hr /90' special)**

Discoveries in London point to the existence of female gladiators in Roman times and may be the first physical remains of a gladiator ever found.

**C4/ Discovery US/History Television**

2000/2001

**O'Shea's Big Adventure II (13 x 30')**

**(O'Shea's Dangerous Reptiles II)**

Reptile scientist and adventurer Mark O'Shea undertakes more quests in Australasia/Pacific.

**C4 & Animal Planet**

**Planet Storm (2-hr special)**

Extreme alien weather is brought down to earth by revealing what life on other planets would be like.

**C4/Discovery US**

1999/2000

**Murder at Stonehenge (1hr)**

A killing has taken place, the victim beheaded by a single stroke from a thin, sharp blade.

Murder at Stonehenge investigates this mystery.

**C4 & WNET (PBS)**

**Criminal Evidence (1hr / 2hr special)**

Exclusive access to world and cases of Dr Kathy Reichs, top forensic anthropologist whose crime novels (eg *Deja Dead*) top lists around the world.

**A&E, CBC, C4**

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**1999/2000 Cont'd**

**Penn & Teller's Magic & Mystery Tour (3x1hr)**  
The Las Vegas performers seek out street magic and perform in India, Egypt & China.  
**C4/TLC/CBC**

**O'Shea's Big Adventure I (13 x 30')**  
**O'Shea's Dangerous Reptiles**  
Series in which reptile scientist and adventurer Mark O'Shea tracks and grapples with rare and dangerous reptiles in the Americas.  
**C4/Animal Planet**

**1999/2000**

**Stunt School (3 x1hr)**  
Stunt secrets revealed as a group of stuntman wannabes attend Australia's Action Academy.  
**TLC / C5**

**1999**

**Frozen Hearts (1hr)**  
Incredible story about a method of heart surgery that uses hypothermia.  
**C4/CBC/Discovery US**