



yap films

www.yapfilms.com

CORPORATE BIO

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.

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 *Ice Bridge* for CBC, Smithsonian Channel, France 5, UKTV and SBS; *Mosquito* for Discovery Channel (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 international awards are two Emmy Awards for Investigative Journalism for *The Plague Monkeys* (writer/director/producer) and *The Selling of Innocents* (producer); the highest Canadian award for documentaries (the Donald Brittain Award); the Silver Nymph Award at Monte Carlo; the duPont-Columbia Award; the Banff World Media Festival's Rockie Award; the Gemini Award for Best Theatrically Released Documentary (*Deadly Currents*) and FIPA - Le Festival de La Création Audiovisuelle Internationale (*Pandemic*).

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 *Ice Bridge* for CBC, Smithsonian Channel, France 5, UKTV and SBS, about a group of archaeologists who set out to prove their theory of a cross-Atlantic migration 20,000 years ago, 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/Arena and Sony Music.

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Filmography

2017

Made By Destruction Season 2 13 x 30 min Series

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

Hi-Def

Discovery Canada, Discovery International

2016/2017

Ice Bridge 1 hr 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

CBC, Smithsonian Channel, France 5, SBS, UKTV

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

2015/2016

Building Star Trek 2 hr 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

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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 min Series

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

Hi-Def

Science Channel, Discovery Canada, Explora, NTV, Discovery International

2014/2016

Loretta Lynn: Still A Mountain Girl 2 hr 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 Four/Arena, Sony Music, CBC's Documentary Channel

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2014/2015

Battle Factory 14 x 30 min 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 1 hr 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

Co-produced with ZigZag Productions for OLN, SyFy, and Discovery International

2013/2014

Camp X: Secret Agent School 2 hr 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 2 hr 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

Co-produced with Blink Films for History Channel, Channel 4, PBS Nova, National Geographic International, and France 5

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2013

Warehouse Wonderland 2 x 30 min Pilots

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

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Slice

2012/2013

Shred! 13 x 30 min 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 1 hr Series

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

Hi Def

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

2011/2012

Things You Need to Know Season 2

6 x 30 min 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

2011/2012

Curse of the Axe 2 hr Special

A new archaeology dig unearths a First Nations city from the early 16th 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

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2011/2012

Dig WW2 4 x 1 hr Series

Dramatic events in the Second World War brought to life through revelatory contemporary archaeology. Presented by Dan Snow

Hi Def

Co-produced with 360 Productions for History Channel, BBC2, BBCNI, BBCWW.

2011/2012

Explosion 1812 2 hr 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 min 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

2010/2011

March of the Dinosaurs 90 min 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 2 hr 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 2 hr 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 17th Century

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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

2009/2010

Beast Legends 6 x 1 hr Series

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

2009/2010

Storm Worlds 3 x 1 hr Series

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

2009/2010

Dive Detectives 6 x 1 hr Series

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.

Hi-Def

History Television, Nat Geographic, Smithsonian Channel.

2009

Ancients Behaving Badly aka Absolute Tyrants 8 x 1 hr Series

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

Hi-Def

Co-produced with Blink Entertainment for History Channel, History Television, and ITV Global

2008/2009

Fire Jammers 1 hr 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

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Award for Best Performing Arts Program or Series.

Hi Def

Discovery Canada

2008/2009

**Finding the Fallen 2/The Trench Detectives 2
6 x 1 hr Series**

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.

Hi-Def

**History Television, History Channel UK, BBC
WorldWide**

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

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

HistoryTelevision

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

HistoryTelevision

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?

Hi-Def

**Co-produced with Zig Zag for Five, History
Television, History Channel UK and ProSieben**

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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

2006/2007

Tiger's Attack 2 hr Special & 2 x 1 hr

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 *paralyses* 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 90 min 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 5 x 45 min Series

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

Five

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2005/2006

Children of the Valley 1 hr Special

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

2005/2006

**Warrior Empire: The Mughals of India
2 x 1 hr 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.

Hi-Def

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 5 x 1 hr Series

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/Discovery UK &
EMEA/BBCWW**

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2004/2005

Zapped 2 hr 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.

Co-produced with SCREENHOUSE PRODUCTIONS for Discovery US/Discovery Canada/C4I

2004

Canada's War in Colour 3 x 1 hr series

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 1 hr Special

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

O'Shea's Big Adventure Specials 4 x 1 hr

More global adventures this time in Hi-Definition
Animal Planet Worldwide

2002/2003

Going to the Dogs 13 x 30 min Series

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

2002/2003

Witness: A Deathly Silence 1 hr Special

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

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2001/2002

O'Shea's Big Adventure Specials 4 x 1 hr Series

A series of one hour adventures around the globe

C4/Animal Planet US

2001

King Midas' Feast 1 hr Special

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 2 hr Special

Gripping investigation into the business of boxing.

A & E/International

A Child's Choice 1 hr Special

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

C4/Discovery US /Life Network

Gladiatrix (Gladiator Girl) 1 hr/90 min 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 (O'Shea's Dangerous Reptiles II) 13 x 30 min Series

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

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1999/2000

Murder at Stonehenge 1 hr Special

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 1 hr/2 hr 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

1999/2000

Penn & Teller's Magic & Mystery Tour

3 x 1 hr Series

The Las Vegas performers seek out street magic and perform in India, Egypt & China.

C4/TLC/CBC

O'Shea's Big Adventure/O'Shea's Dangerous Reptiles I 13 x 30 min Series

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 x 1 hr Series

Stunt secrets revealed as a group of stuntman wannabes attend Australia's Action Academy.

TLC/C5

1999

Frozen Hearts 1 hr Special

Incredible story about a method of heart surgery that uses hypothermia.

C4/CBC/Discovery US