

James Dann

Director / Producer

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📍 London / Manchester

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Who Am I?

Hi there, I'm James Dann, a producer / director with experience in directing multi-cam crews and filming solo on location. I run New Take Films, my documentary production company, and have filmed across the world in hostile situations and remote locations. My company was recently commissioned to film an investigative documentary in Pakistan, which is currently in post-production due for theatrical and film festival release.

I'm a self starter and have built my company and career through my passion for film making a love for adventure and travel. I've filmed with the last survivors of the holocaust, persecuted minorities in Asia, beatboxers in Manchester and Brits in Benidorm.

The pride of my work comes from being on location with crew, talent and contributors and my love for the job comes from building a rapport with the people I meet and learning about their stories, history and future.

Key Skills

USA I-VISA Holder
Editorial Mindset
International and remote directing
Hostile and remote location filming
Scripting and directing crew
Producing talent and contributors
Camera, Sound and Lighting
FX9 / FS7 / Blackmagic Filming
Working with fixers and translators
Spanish Speaking

Links to work:

[James Dann - Portfolio](#)

[New Take Films - Company](#)

Career History

JANUARY 2021
(Pre production) -
JANUARY 2022

PRODUCER / DIRECTOR | 'SECTION 295C' PAKISTAN - MRG DISTRIBUTION

- My company, New Take Films was commissioned by MRG to direct and produce SECTION 295 - an investigative documentary focusing on the lives of persecuted minorities filmed on location across Pakistan.
- I developed the concept, pitched the idea and gained the commission. I then crewed up remotely and based myself in Pakistan for 12 days during production.
- Working with fixers, local crew, translators and NGO intelligence.
- Casting contributors, storyboards, pre-production and edit producing.

NOVEMBER 2021

PRODUCER / DIRECTOR | WHY WE MARCH, POLAND - DISTRIBUTION

- New Take Films was commissioned by March of the Living to produce a 30 minute obs-doc filmed on location in Poland. For this role I directed, produced and edit-produced the documentary.
- Filmed on location with survivors of the holocaust in Auchwitz, Poland. Theatrical release at Everyman Cinema and educational institutes.
- Working with contributors, all aspects of production and post production.

SEPTEMBER -
OCTOBER 2021

SHOOTING P/D | COSTA LIVING, SPAIN, RED SAUCE TV, CHANNEL 5

- Directing contributors and talent, producing scenes, working in Spanish and English.
- Self shooting on location, managing all aspects of production
- Producing story plans, script writing, master IV's, actuality and sequences.

AUGUST 2021

DV DIRECTOR | ZANTE PARTY ISLAND, OPTOMEN, GREECE, CHANNEL 4

- Ob-Doc series following the lives of young British holidaymakers in Zante
- Producing scripts, capturing master IV's, actuality and sequences

JUNE - AUGUST 2021

SHOOTING AP | A MOMENT OF PROOF, BROWN BOB TV, UK, BBC

- Filming with detectives, police and crime investigators across the UK,
- Visiting scenes of the crime, filming actuality, sound operating and data wrangling on location

JUNE 2021

DV DIRECTOR | THE ONE SHOW, UK, BBC

- Shooting solo on location, interviewing contributors and producing segments on location in Northumberland.

MAY 2021

PRODUCER / DIRECTOR | OUT ON A LIMB, SWITZERLAND - DISTRIBUTION

- New Take films was commissioned by Disability Ski Group to create a short form documentary on skiers with disabilities who are overcoming all odds.
- Shot on location in Switzerland, single ob-doc, theatrical release across the UK and Europe.
- Out on a Limb obtained distribution on Amazon Prime UK and US.

NOV 2020 - MAY
2021 (Ad-Hoc)

SHOOTING AP | OLD HOUSE NEW HOME, AMAZING PRODUCTIONS, UK, C4

- Presenter led property show, shooting on location
- Working with contributors, solo filming demolitions and restorations in t hazardous environments

OCT - NOV 2020

SHOOTING AP | AT HOME WITH THE NOLANS, UK, DISCOVERY / QUEST RED

- Shooting on location across the UK - cross shooting, go-pro rigging and filming with animals.
- Assisting in story development and editorial structure

SEPT - OCT 2020

SHOOTING AP | THE BIDDING ROOM, UK, BBC

- Working with talent and contributors, shooting on location
- Filming B-Roll, GV's and before / after interviews with contributors

JULY - OCT 2019

SHOOTING AP | TOMORROW'S WORLD, UK, BBC

- Creating and producing episode storylines, shooting in studio and location.
- Script writing for live action, podcasts and online content for celebrity talent