

JENNY ASH – DIRECTOR

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I'm a bold, boundary-pushing director who helps you tell ambitious stories that are visually extraordinary, deeply human, and never predictable.

My work often tackles taboo subjects and exposes injustice, but it's never preachy. I entertain. I challenge. I trust the audience to meet me halfway.

If you're looking for a director who brings creative courage, cinematic flair, and a deep respect for story and character, I'm that partner.

I take ideas to the edge - and bring the right team with me.

Jenny is one of the most exceptional directors I've ever worked with. She has an individual style of storytelling and a unique eye, which makes her films completely her own, and completely original. It's a joy and a privilege to work with her.

Shaminder Nahal, Head of Specialist Factual, C4

Jenny is a natural creative thinker. She's one of the most passionate filmmakers I've worked with and someone who champions creative storytelling, whatever the project.

Poppy Dixon, Director, Documentaries and Factual, Sky

RECENT WORK

FLIGHT 149: HOSTAGE OF WAR

Sky Docs | 90 min Feature Documentary WORLD PREMIERE AT SXSW 2025

[Trailer](#)

Flight 149 Hostage Of War unravels one of the Gulf War's most controversial chapters. This is a story Jenny originated, tracing the harrowing journey of a British Airways flight that unknowingly landed in Kuwait just hours after Saddam Hussein's invasion, trapping passengers and crew in a war zone. Using a nonlinear narrative, *Flight 149: Hostage Of War* weaves together the chaos of 1990 and the survivors' current legal battle for justice. The film exposes a web of government cover-ups while amplifying the voices of hostages who, after decades of gaslighting and denials, are still searching for the truth.

- *A staggering film... the goal of Jenny Ash's documentary – much like the multi-Bafta-winning Mr Bates Vs the Post Office – is as much to entertain as to shine a light on what may be a colossal miscarriage of justice.*
The Guardian (5 stars)
 - *A gripping and beautifully made new documentary.* **The Telegraph**
 - *Unfolds with the pace and intrigue of a prestige thriller.* **The Sunday Times**
 - *Absolutely gripping. I was hooked.* **Dom Joly, Times Radio**
 - *Flight 149 recounts one of the most extraordinary – and officially denied – chapters of the Gulf War ... it will hopefully help hostages win the legal case against the UK Government and British Airways.* **Deadline Hollywood**
 - *Compelling, blistering, harrowing –* **BBC Radio 5 'Must Watch'**
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BIN LADEN - THE ROAD TO 9/11

Channel 4 | Three-Part Series

<https://vimeo.com/639222230> (P/W Osama)

Bin Laden: The Road to 9/11 shifts away from the usual Western lens, exploring his story through the eyes of those closest to him. How did a quiet, studious billionaire's son who led his school's a cappella group become the mastermind of global terror? His teenage best friend, the Afghan warlord he fought alongside, his right-hand man in Al Qaeda, and the Saudi spy who betrayed him - all reveal the man they knew, the choices he made, and the moments of no return that shaped his path and, ultimately, the course of history.

THE WORLD'S BIGGEST MURDER TRIAL – NUREMBERG

Channel 5 | 90 min Feature Documentary | RTS and Banff Nominated

[Trailer](#)

The World's Biggest Murder Trial: Nuremberg examines one of the most significant moments in modern history, where, for the first time, the international community held a state accountable for war crimes. Using newly discovered 35mm footage, Jenny cut the film like a courtroom drama, weaving in the voices of leading human rights lawyers, the last living Nuremberg prosecutor, the first person to discover concentration camps, and the psychologist who assessed the defendants. Together, they draw disturbing parallels between the horrors of the past and the human rights challenges we face today.

- *This gripping feature documentary distils the almost bland horror of the Nuremberg war trials with stark emotional impact.* **Radio Times**
- *It is that human element of the trial that has always moved Jenny Ash, a British filmmaker whose new documentary feels deeply personal. A fascinating picture of some of history's most evil men at their lowest psychological ebb.* **The Telegraph**

ME AND MY PENIS

Channel 4

[Trailer](#)

Jenny brought a distinctly female gaze to modern masculinity in *Me and My Penis*, in all its complexity and vulnerability. Working with artist Ajamu, she created a film that's part art, part deep dive into male identity. Men open up about things we rarely hear them talk about - trauma, mental health, sexual anxiety, and infertility - all in a raw, unfiltered way. The film is bold and unapologetic, challenging stereotypes and presenting vulnerability as strength. The response was huge, sparking widespread conversation.

- *The companion film to the taboo-busting 100 Vaginas is equally powerful and exquisitely rendered.* **The Telegraph**
 - *A compelling portrait of men and the myriad ways they try, and often fail, to cope. An important, sensitive and emotionally devastating film.* **The Independent**
 - *A beautifully shot documentary and from start to finish, celebratory of its subject.* **GQ**
 - *An illuminating, moving hour. Like all great art it made you think...you've never seen anything like this before and it's very welcome.* **The Times**
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100 VAGINAS

Channel 4 | Broadcast and RTS Nominated | ★ 100% Rotten Tomatoes | ★ 5 stars in *The Guardian*, *Independent* and *Telegraph*

[Trailer](#)

100 Vaginas challenges the shame often surrounding the vagina and female sexuality, smashing taboos and inviting women of all ages to speak their truth. They talk candidly about pleasure, trauma, motherhood, infertility, FGM, rape, and cancer. The film deeply resonated with audiences and critics alike, earning a 100% rating on Rotten Tomatoes and 5-star reviews from numerous newspapers. It became a cultural touchstone, igniting open, honest conversations about women's attitudes to their bodies.

- *Quietly revolutionary...a powerful and essential documentary...it is exquisite.* **The Independent (5 stars)**
 - *Extraordinary and empowering...gently but firmly and relentlessly radical.* **The Guardian (5 stars)**
 - *A perfect combination of directness and compassion...I was moved to tears.* **The Telegraph (5 stars)**
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ANGRY WHITE AND AMERICAN

Channel 4 | Grierson Nominated

[Clip](#)

In *Angry, White and American*, journalist Gary Younge travels across the States to capture the raw emotions and deep divides shaping white America today. From Maine to Mississippi, he meets people on the edge, grappling with identity, fear, and anger. The film's climax—a face-off with white supremacist Richard Spencer—went viral, racking up over 11 million views before it even aired.

- *An unflinching look at American despair and racial hatred. As nationalism and bigotry increase, this documentary examines the fractured psyche of white America with grace and insight...a thoughtful, generous-hearted film. Essential viewing.* **The Guardian**
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OTHER SELECTED CREDITS

THE PITY OF WAR

ITV

[Trailer](#)

This dramatized feature documentary, written and directed by Jenny, tells the story of WWI poet Siegfried Sassoon's secret love affair with fellow poet Wilfred Owen, set against the brutality of war. John Hurt's haunting portrayal of Sassoon in the twilight years of his life was a masterclass in yearning and loss.

- *Playing the aged Sassoon, his eyes clouding with traumatic reminiscence, Hurt's cadence and timbre were so clotted-cream-rich it should have come with a health warning.* **The Telegraph**

AMERICA THE STORY OF US

History Channel | **Emmy Winner**, NAACP Nominee

[Slave auction scene](#)

This landmark series, introduced by Barack Obama, takes viewers on a journey from Jamestown to WWII. Jenny's four-time Emmy-winning film on slavery and the Civil War exposes the brutality of a New Orleans slave auction through firsthand testimony.

- *Visually thrilling.* **New York Times**
- *A smart, provocative look at American History.* **Hollywood Reporter**
- *A masterful example of storytelling – the scene in a New Orleans slave auction, where buyers and sellers prod their merchandise like animals, is like a punch in the stomach.* **Miami Herald**

REMEMBRANCE, 4 CREATIVE, C4

Trailer - <https://vimeo.com/118757852>

A series of short anti-war films for C4. Each featured an actor performing a WW1 poem they'd chosen with contemporary resonances - Sean Bean, Gemma Arterton, Stephen Graham and Sophie Okonedo.

Jenny's films are subtle, modern, beautiful and powerful – **C4 Head of Factual**

DOLLY PARTON: PLATINUM BLONDE, BBC1

An intimate feature doc about Dolly Parton – Jenny spent a few weeks on the road with her.

After Jenny Ash's excellent documentary, I have become one of Dolly Parton's greatest fans. And not a moment too soon. **Observer**

A well-crafted portrait of a clever, assured, talented woman. **Daily Mail**

DRAMA AND COMEDY

PERSONAL AFFAIRS

BBC3 | [Clip](#)

Jenny directed two episodes of this fast-paced comedy-drama set in the cut-throat world of investment banking. Starring Ruth Negga, Annabel Scholey, and Archie Panjabi.

WATERLOO ROAD

BBC1 | [Clip](#)

Directed multiple episodes of this beloved series, set in an inner-city school.

ME AND ALL THE OTHER MOTHERS

BBC2

A half-hour comedy pilot starring Justin Edwards and Katherine Parkinson.

DAYS OF DARKNESS

ITV and Discovery [Clip](#)

Jenny wrote and directed this drama based on a true story about a doctor who is forced to operate on her own breast cancer whilst trapped in a research station in the South Pole. Starring Lesley Sharp and Benedict Wong.

MISSING

BBC1

Jenny directed two episodes of this drama set in a Missing Persons Unit, starring Pauline Quirke.

LANGUAGES

French, German and Spanish

COMMERCIAL AND BRANDED WORK

Alongside her film work, Jenny directs commercials and branded content for a variety of clients including Virgin Atlantic, Google, British Airways, LG, BT, Always, Tena and The Rwandan Genocide Museum.