

PRESS RELEASE

ROYAL TELEVISION SOCIETY SCOTLAND CROWNS 2021 AWARD WINNERS

Glasgow, 7 February 2022 – The **Royal Television Society's (RTS)**, Britain's leading forum for television and related media, Scotland Centre has unveiled the winners of the RTS Scotland Awards 2021. The prestigious awards were announced during a virtual ceremony last night hosted by Scottish stand-up comedian and presenter Des Clarke.

The RTS Scotland Awards celebrate excellence in television across a range of platforms and aim to recognise the huge variety of skills involved in programme production across the nation. Across the 22 categories the BBC led the way with 17 awards, with CBeebies' *Hushbye Lullabye* winning both **Animation and VFX** and **Children's**, and BBC Scotland's *Murder Trial: The Disappearance of Margaret Fleming* taking home wins for **Director, Factual – Documentary and Specialist Factual** and **Professional Excellence (Craft) – Post Production: Editing**.

Sky garnered two nods, for **Factual - Documentary and Specialist Factual: Arts and Sport – Live Event** and Channel 5, also received two wins for **Factual – Factual Entertainment and Features** along with Susan Calman for **On Screen Personality**.

The **Special Contribution Award** goes posthumously to Donald John Macdonald, who was Editor of News at STV and sadly died in December 2020. Through an esteemed career spanning five decades, Donald John was an enthusiastic supporter of future talent, generous with his time and the sharing of his experience to inspire new entrants to the industry. His passion for journalism, regional broadcast news and supporting new talent saw him make a huge impact on so many individuals and the industry in Scotland.

The **Outstanding Contribution Award** was awarded to Phill Differ and Jonathan Watson for *Only an Excuse*, a programme that has become an integral part of Hogmanay in Scotland. Born from a one-off special on BBC Radio Scotland in 1986, it became a TV show in 1993 and has entertained the nation every year until the final episode in 2020, with over 30 shows including specials and spin-offs over the years. In 2020, the iconic *Only An Excuse*, was the most watched TV show in Scotland.

The **RTS Scotland Award** went to the Production Management community, whose resilience and commitment ensured that TV didn't grind to halt during the first year of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Stephen O'Donnell, Chair of RTS Scotland said: "There's an incredible wealth of talent working in the TV industry in Scotland and we're delighted to recognise these people and productions through our Awards. Every award – and nomination – is so well deserved, and we're particularly pleased to recognise the production management community in 2020 at what was an incredibly challenging time for the business; and to grant a post-humous award to DJ Macdonald, who made a huge impact on the Scottish broadcast news industry and was a real inspiration to new talent."

For more information please visit: <https://rts.org.uk/award/rts-scotland-awards-2021>

Please see below the full list of winners and nominees:

Animation and VFX

WINNER - *Hushabye Lullabye* - Wild Child Animation and Maramedia for CBeebies

Nominees:

Space Resources – Revenant for Vimeo

Children's

WINNER - *Hushabye Lullabye* - Wild Child Animation and Maramedia for CBeebies

Nominees:

Let's Go For A Walk - Hello Halo Kids for CBeebies

Tiny Wonders - Freak Productions for CBeebies

Comedy

WINNER - *Frankie Boyle's Tour Of Scotland* - Two Rivers Media and Cheeky Grin for BBC Two

Nominees:

Limmy's Homemade Show - Permo Productions for BBC Scotland

Only An Excuse: The Final Whistle - The Comedy Unit for BBC Scotland

Director

WINNER – Matt Pinder - *Murder Trial: The Disappearance of Margaret Fleming* - Firecrest Films for BBC Scotland

Nominees:

Anne-Claire Pilley - *Being Gail Porter* - Tern Television Productions for BBC Scotland

Stephen Bennett - *Eminent Monsters* - Hopscotch Films for BBC Scotland

Drama

WINNER – *Control* - BBC Scotland Productions for BBC Social (bbc.co.uk, Facebook, iPlayer)

Nominees:

Bannan – Young Films for BBC Alba

The Nest – Studio Lambert for BBC One

Factual Daytime

WINNER - *Paramedics on Scene* - Firecrest Films for BBC One

Nominees:

Antiques Road Trip - STV Studios for BBC One

Kirstie's Keep Crafting & Carry On - Raise The Roof Productions for Channel 4

Factual - Documentary and Specialist Factual

WINNER - *Murder Trial: The Disappearance of Margaret Fleming* - Firecrest Films for BBC Scotland

Nominees:

Murder Case: Season 2 - Firecrest Films for BBC Scotland and BBC Two

NY2SY – Moja for BBC Alba

Factual - Documentary and Specialist Factual: Arts

WINNER - *Boswell & Johnson's Scottish Road Trip with Frank Skinner and Denise Mina* - IWC Media for Sky Arts

Nominees:

Ivor Cutler by KT Tunstall – STV Studios for Sky Arts

Muriel Spark by Ian Rankin - STV Studios for Sky Arts

Factual - Documentary and Specialist Factual: History

WINNER – *Harry Birrell: Films Of Love And War* - Hopscotch Films for BBC Scotland

Nominees:

Ceòl na Loidhne / Song of the Track - Sgeul Media for BBC Alba

Fight: The Jim Murray Story – Finestripe for BBC Scotland

Factual - Documentary and Specialist Factual: Science and Natural History

WINNER - *Cheetah Family & Me* - Hello Halo Productions & Oak Island Films for BBC Two

Nominees:

Is Covid Racist? – STV Studios for Channel 4

Jimmy's Big Bee Rescue - Red Sky Productions for Channel 4

Factual - Factual Entertainment and Features

WINNER - *A Country Life for Half the Price* - Raise the Roof Productions and Motion Content Group for Channel 5

Nominees:

Dear NHS Superstars - Mighty Productions for BBC One

Kirstie and Phil's Love It or List It - Raise The Roof Productions for Channel 4

News and Current Affairs - Current Affairs

WINNER - *Disclosure: Scotland's Lockdown* - BBC Scotland

Nominees:

Scotland Tonight - STV News

The Trial of Alex Salmond - Two Rivers Media for BBC Two

News and Current Affairs - News

WINNER - *Eorpa, Episode 1 Slavery* - BBC Scotland Productions for BBC Alba

Nominees:

STV News North - STV News at Six – STV North for STV

The Nine – BBC Scotland for BBC

On Screen Personality

WINNER - Susan Calman - *Secret Scotland* - IWC Media for Channel 5

Nominees:

Amy Irons – BBC News for BBC Scotland

Professional Excellence (Craft) - Camera

WINNER – Fergus Gill, Neil Anderson, Asgeir Helgestad, and Pete Barden – *Stormborn* – Maramedia for BBC

Nominees:

Gavin Hopkins – BBC Scotland

Professional Excellence (Craft) - Post Production: Editing

WINNER – Audrey McColligan - *Murder Trial: The Disappearance of Margaret Fleming* – Firecrest Films for BBC Scotland

Nominees:

Berny McGurk - *Eminent Monsters* - Hopscotch Films for BBC Scotland

Ewan Denny - *This is Our Land* – Finestripe for BBC Scotland

Professional Excellence (Craft) - Post Production: Graphics and Titles

WINNER - *Space Resources: Driving the future of Space Exploration* – Revenant for Luxembourg Space Agency

Nominees:

Flooded Tombs of the Nile – Revenant for National Geographic

Professional Excellence (Craft) - Sound

WINNER - Kahl Henderson - *The Nest* - Studio Lambert for BBC One

Nominees:

Hamish Allison and Alistair George - *Tiny Wonders* – Freak Productions for CBeebies

Sound Team – *Stormborn* – Maramedia for BBC

Short Form

WINNER - BURDS - *The Colour Wheel* - BBC Studios for BBC Scotland - BBC Short Stuff

Nominees

BBC Ideas – *What Do Our Eyes Say About Us?* - BBC Scotland Productions for BBC Ideas (YouTube)

InterConnected - *Psychic Overload* - BBC Writersroom for BBC Online

Sport - Live Event

WINNER – *Serbia v Scotland* – Sky Sports

Nominees:

Sportscene, Scottish Cup Final - BBC Scotland Productions for BBC Scotland

Womens' Champions League - Glasgow City v Peamount United - Nemeton TV for BBC Alba

Sport - Programme

WINNER – *The Women Who Built Glasgow City* – purpleTV for BBC Alba

Nominees:

A View From The Terrace – Studio Something for BBC Scotland

The Boxer - Matchlight for BBC Scotland

Young Journalist

WINNER – Hope Webb – BBC Scotland

Nominees:

Brandon Cook – STV News for STV

Laura Alderman – STV News for STV

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About The Royal Television Society:

From glamorous award ceremonies to lively debates, the RTS embraces all aspects of television, and is open to anyone with an interest in the medium.

As an educational charity, we encourage and celebrate work in television and its related fields, from finding out how the nation's favourite shows are made in our Anatomy of a Hit series, to celebrating burgeoning talent at our annual Student Awards.

The industry's most talented individuals give us an insight into the work that goes into making cutting edge contemporary TV. From Government ministers and CEOs to workshops with great runners, our events look at every part of the business.

Our annual Television Journalism, Programme, Craft and Design, and Student Awards celebrate achievements across the broadcasting industry.

Each year, we offer Television Production and Technology bursaries to help those from less affluent backgrounds get a foothold in the industry, and Masterclass sessions bring together students, academics and industry heads.

Global television leaders gather to discuss what the future holds for television at our London Conference or the RTS Cambridge Convention.

Alongside our engaged community of around 4,000 full members, the Society is supported by Britain and the world's biggest broadcasters, producers and consultants, including Principal Patrons BBC, Channel 4, ITV and Sky.

Originally founded as the Television Society in 1927, the Society was granted its Royal title in 1966 and HRH The Prince of Wales became Patron of the RTS in 1997.

Today, 15 regional and national groups curate lively events and awards around the UK and Ireland, from Glasgow to Galway.

RTS Futures, which is aimed at those in their first two years of employment, organises an exciting roster of discussion, training, and social occasions. Recent events have included workshops on learning how to format shows and how to survive as a freelancer, and expert panels explaining how to be the best researcher and how to make it on-screen.