Edward Watts

Emmy award-winning

Filmmaker

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Profile

*I am an Emmy award-winning, Bafta-nominated filmmaker, best known for my film* Escape from ISIS*, which told the story* *of an underground network trying to rescue kidnapped women from Islamic State militants.*

*My film-making aspires to tell visceral, gripping stories about people who live in far flung corners of the world, to bring their humanity, courage and humour to audiences at home.*

Education

**First Class Degree in Modern History**

Oxford University, 1999 - 2002

Select Filmography

**OSKIJAN (Writer/Director)**

Independent short film – premiering BFI London Film Festival - Oct 2017

Independent narrative film telling the true story of an Afghan boy who saved 15 refugees from suffocation as they were smuggled to the UK in a lorry.

**ESCAPE FROM ISIS (Director/Producer/Camera)**

Channel 4 – 1 x 60” – July 2015

Documentary film exposing what life is like for women living under the brutal regime of ISIS and following an underground network trying to rescue them.

*\* Winner – International Emmy for Outstanding Current Affairs 2016*

*\* BAFTA nomination – Best Current Affairs 2016*

*\* Winner – Amnesty International, Best Human Rights Documentary 2015*

*\* Winner – Royal Television Society, Best International Current Affairs Doc 2016*

*\* Other awards at* [www.edwardwattsfilms.com/portfolio/escape-from-isis/](http://www.edwardwattsfilms.com/portfolio/escape-from-isis/)

**NIGERIA’S HIDDEN WAR (Edit Director)**

Channel 4 – 1 x 60” – August 2014

The culmination of a year-long investigation, this film exposed crimes committed by Nigeria’s army against civilians in the country’s north-east.

*\* Winner – Emmy, Outstanding Investigative Journalism 2015*

**WELCOME TO RIO (Series Director/Camera)**

BBC2 – 3 x 60” – June 2014

Observational series following the lives of inspirational people living in the favelas of Rio de Janeiro, at a time of great upheaval in the city.

**CHINESE MURDER MYSTERY (Director/Camera)**

Channel 4 – 1 x 60” – November 2012

Traces the life and death of British businessman Neil Heywood, whose murder led to one of China’s biggest political crises in decades.

**NORWAY’S MASSACRE (Director/Camera)**

BBC2 – 1 x 60” – April 2012

The story of the 2011 terror attacks in Norway told by survivors, the Norwegian Prime Minister and the writings of the terrorist, Anders Breivik.

**SECRET PAKISTAN (Series Director/Producer/Camera)**

BBC2 – 2 x 60” – October 2011

The history of Pakistan’s secret war against the West through told the testimony of soldiers, politicians and Taliban commanders.

**DEFENDERS OF KARACHI (Director/Producer/Camera)**

Channel 4 – 1 x 30” – April 2011

Observational documentary following an ambulance driver and police officer trying to survive the war on the streets of Pakistan’s largest city.

**FOREST OF THE DEAD (Director/Producer/Camera)**

Channel 4 – 1 x 30” – March 2009

We were the first television crew to reach the sites of massacres committed by the Lord’s Resistance Army in the jungles of Congo, to interview survivors.

**SEA OF TEARS (Director/Producer/Camera)**

Channel 4 – 1 x 30” – November 2008

Documentary following the torturous journey of refugees from Somalia, who flee across the seas and deserts of Arabia in search of a better life.