

Grant Alan Waterston

AWARD WINNING CREATIVE PROFESSIONAL

Technical Media Production • Cinematography
Teaching and Training • Motion Graphics, Animation & Visual Effects

A globally recognised Production Lead with 25+ years of creative and technical media production expertise. Proven strong business acumen and a diverse creative content portfolio, including strategically driving the production and release of reputable film and television projects. Demonstrates success in training, mentoring and inspiring students with diverse talents and abilities and from varied cultural backgrounds.

Skilled in guiding and directing teams while providing artistic insight to increase team performance and achieve production quality excellence. A multi-award-winning innovative leader committed to developing a creative vision to ensure the delivery of authentic and compelling stories that fulfill their mandate.

NOTABLE CAREER HIGHLIGHTS


- **Founded and managed over 5 industry-related companies over the years.**
- **Filmed on every continent including Antarctica as well as documenting the first ever full circumnavigation of the Arctic.**
- **Invented, co-developed and secured patents for a video compositing system for mobile devices.**
- **Founded and led a technical research and development (R&D) team for an innovation grant - completed the project within set deadlines and budget.**
- **Contracted by Steven Spielberg to document the stories of Holocaust Survivors living in South Africa for Spielberg's Shoah Foundation.**
- **Director of Photography/Lighting Cameraman on some of the most popular format shows in television history including:**
 - Survivor
 - Shark Tank,
 - High School Musical (Disney),
 - Come Dine with Me (BBC),
 - Bake-Off (BBC) and
 - Project Runway

- **Created content for top global broadcasters, including the Discovery Channel, National Geographic, History Channel, Travel Channel, Disney and BBC.**
- **Provided training at the national broadcaster (SABC) for their Internship Training Programme.**
- **Guest Lecturer on Cinematography at Tshwane University of Technology film school.**
- **Co-founded a tech company that was one of the Top 150 start-ups at the Pioneer Festival in Vienna in 2014.**
- **Cinematographer on international award-winning documentaries such as *Circle of Ice*, *Miracle Rising* and *Whispering the Wild*.**



PERSONAL DETAILS

 Pretoria, South Africa

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 <https://www.waterston.tv/about-waterston>

Citizenship: South African

Nationality: South Africa

Passport Number: A04743478

Languages: English (Native/Full Professional Proficiency), Afrikaans (Second Language)

KEY SKILLS

- Cinematography
- Film and TV Lighting, Editing, Visual Effects Production
- Motion Graphics and Animation
- Teaching and Mentoring
- Project Planning, Financing, Guidance and Direction
- Team Management and Effectiveness
- Client and Stakeholder Relationship Management (Global)
- Workflow and Process Optimisation
- Marketing Campaign Management
- Strategy Development and Implementation

PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES

- Creative Guidance and Direction
- Entrepreneurial Visionary
- Self-motivated, Proactive and Consistent
- Deadline-driven
- Adapt to Change
- Interpersonal Communication
- Critical Thinking and Decision-making
- Complex Problem-solving

QUALIFICATIONS

Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Film and Video Technology

1988

Tshwane University of Technology, South Africa

TECH START-UP EXPERIENCE

2012-2020 (8+ years)

- Developed the idea and concept for a video compositing system for mobile devices
- Bootstrapped the start-up, sourced, hired and managed the team to develop the application for Android and iOS
- Sourced innovation R&D grant funding
- Managed product design from the ground up, headed up the UI and UX design team
- Managed patent application with Hahn & Hahn patent attorneys to secure S.A., E.U. and U.S. product patents
- Worked with content owners to develop global user entertainment content
- Worked with ex IBM and Hollywood executives to co-found FlicJam, the U.S. start-up based on our tech patent
- The application garnered 8 international start-up and tech industry awards and nominations over the years including 'Best Software Innovation' and 'Best Entertainment App'
- Over 1 million downloads with no marketing budget

PROFESSIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

South Africa | January 1988 to Present

Freelance Cinematographer

<https://www.waterston.tv/about-waterston>

- Extensive global involvement in:
 - Cinematography: documentaries, television, commercials and corporate productions,
 - Film and TV Lighting,
 - Film and TV Productions,
 - Film and TV Editing and
 - Motion Graphics and Animation.
- Train and mentor students that form part of SABC's Internship Training Programme in camerawork and lighting.
- Guest Lecturer on Cinematography at the Tshwane University of Technology Film School.

MovieRide FX, United Kingdom | November 2010 to Present

Creator and Founder

<https://www.movieridefx.com>

- UI and UX development
- Product development

FlicJam - Las Vegas, United States of America | August 2016 to July 2021

VP Product and Content Development

<https://www.movieridefx.com/flicjam>

- UI and UX development
- Product development

Waterston Digital Media, South Africa | January 1988 to May 2019

Managing Owner

<https://www.waterston.tv>

- Cinematographer
- Film and Television Producer
- Film and Television Editor
- Marketing and Sales

PROJECT PORTFOLIO (some select titles)

Documentaries

- DP, Lighting Camera Operator, Editor and Producer:
 - *Antarctica: Ice World Pioneers* – (TVF International/Discovery Channel) The epic story of the men and women who designed and built one of the continents most advanced research bases over 5 years. (Producer, Camera, Editor)
 - *Steven Spielberg's SHOAH Foundation* - Documenting the harrowing experiences of survivors of the Holocaust. (Camera)

AWARDS

- **Double Gold Award Winner at Mobile Marketing Awards (August 2016):**
 - *Best in Show* and *Innovation* Gold Winner at the Mobile Marketing Awards (Region 7).
- **Best Software Innovation, TTE Awards Finalist, London (August 2015):**
 - Finalist in the *Best Software Innovation* category at *The Technology Expo Awards* in London.
- **Best Entertainment App 2014, Appsters Awards Finalist, London (October 2014):**
 - Finalist in two categories, *Best Entertainment App* and *Most Innovative App*, for the Appsters Awards at Apps-World in London.
- **Most Innovative App, Appsters Awards Finalist, London (October 2014):**
 - Finalist in two categories, *Best Entertainment App* and *Most Innovative App*, for the Appsters Awards at Apps-World in London.
- **One of the Top 150 Start-ups at the Pioneers Festival, Vienna (September 2014):**
 - Selected by Pioneers Festival Judges as one of the top 150 start-ups out of 1 000 start-up applications from 58 countries globally.
- **Accolade International New Media Award Winner, Los Angeles (August 2013):**
 - Winner - Waterston Entertainment in the category *mobile/cell phone new media* for MovieRide FX App.

- *Miracle Rising* – (History Channel) The epic legacy of South Africa's political transformation that culminated in the first free and fair elections in April 1994, an inspiring story of a journey from apartheid to democracy. (Camera)
- *Circle of Ice* - (Discovery Channel/E-TV) Documenting the first ever full circumnavigation of the arctic on the Russian Ice breaker 'Kapitan Dranitsyn' (Camera)
- *Confluence of Dreams* – (SABC) Documenting the planning and construction of one of Africa's largest dams and tunnel water schemes in Lesotho. (Camera)

Corporate Media

- DP, Lighting Camera Operator, Editor, Motion Graphics and Animation:
 - Anglo American (Merchant Cantos, London),
 - Discovery Health (WCM, South Africa)
 - Discovery Vitality (WCM - South Africa, U.S., China),
 - SAB / Anheuser-Busch InBev
 - Microsoft, Coca Cola,
 - Standard Bank, ABSA Bank, Nedbank.

Magazine series

- Lighting Camera Operator:
 - *Eastern Mosaic/Mela* - (Red Carpet Productions/SABC 2) a weekly, one-hour glossy magazine show that has been running for over 10 years on SABC. Shoot exotic travel features, fashion inserts, story features and the highly popular cooking features segment, Hot Stuff, and the annual International Indian Film Academy Awards (IIFA) for the show.
 - *Africa Within* - (Red Carpet Productions/SABC 2) a weekly glossy travel magazine programme with stories across Africa.
 - *Options* - (Red Pepper Pictures/SABC 3) - 90 episodes of the multi-award-winning magazine show.
 - *African Diaries* - (TVF International/Foxwood Pictures) - a travel series showcasing over 15 luxury 5-star lodges in Africa.
 - *Ride the World* - a biking travel pilot produced, shot and edited by Grant.

Reality Series

- DP and Lighting Camera Operator:
 - *Survivor: South Africa* (M-NET/Afrokaans)
 - *Come Dine With Me* (BBC/Rapid Blue)
 - *Bake Off* (BBC/Rapid Blue)
 - *Project Runway* (Rapid Blue/SABC 3),
 - *Disney's High School Musical: Spotlight* (Disney/Edenrage/M-NET),
 - *Superdance* (E-TV),
 - *Fight Off* - various martial arts fighting against each other - Pilot episode (Edenrage),

COMPUTER SKILLS

- Microsoft Office: Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook
- Final Cut Pro 7, Motion
- Adobe Premiere, Adobe Encoder
- Da Vinci Colour

Commercials

- DP and Camera Operator:
 - Kellogg's, Romans Pizza, PSG Wealth, Huggies, AVBOB, Christopher Consulting, KeyHealth, Sally Williams, Auto Pedigree, Slumberland "Tiger", MTN Uganda, Ecotel Nigeria among many others.

Hard Journalism

- Lighting Camera Operator:
 - Shot over 100 short-form documentaries for M-NET's longest running, top-rated and award-winning investigative journalism programme, *Carte Blanche*.

Sports

- DP and Lighting Camera Operator:
 - *TopCar* (M-Net/Supersport) - vehicle profiles and new vehicle launches for Jaguar, Subaru, Toyota, Hyundai, etc.
 - *TopCar Rally's* (from ground and helicopter),
 - *Behind the Blue Curtain* – Rugby documentary on the Blue Bulls,
 - *Supersport channel promo's* – Rugby and Cricket

Animation & live action

- *Scrapmac and the Sky Raiders* - a combination of animation and live-action, brings the world alive for 6 to 12-year-olds, (Producing, shooting (all green screen VFX, live-action) and editing the pilot episode for this series.

Music Videos and Live Music Productions

- Lighting Camera Operator, Director and Editor (not all artists):
 - Hugh Masekela Live Concerts,
 - Global Citizen Concert / MTV - various international artists,
 - Sony's top-selling artists, Mafikizolo and Mdu,
 - Standard Bank Jazz Festival,
 - Other artists and bands include R.O.Y., Nathan Smith, Riana Nel and Doxology.

Features & Short Films

- Director of Photography:
 - A Fire in Africa,
 - Dwarsboom,
 - The Miner,
 - The Confidant
 - Street Child