

Steve Nicholls

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EMPLOYMENT

2016 -	Senior Tutor	National Film and Television School MA Directing and Producing Science and Natural History
2014 -	Freelance producer/director	Hooded Crow Pictures
2013-2014	Senior Executive Producer	Warehouse 51 Productions
2012-2013	Senior Executive Producer	SkyVision (BSkyB)
2009-2012	Executive Producer	Parthenon Entertainment.
1998-2009	Company Director/Owner and senior producer	Burning Gold Productions
1995-1998	Producer/Series Producer	Partridge Films
1986-1995	Producer/Series Producer	BBC Natural History Unit
1981-1985	Post Doc	University of Bristol, Dept of Physics
1978-1981	Ph.D Dept of Zoology	University of Bristol

EDUCATION

1978-1981	PhD. Dept of Zoology Thesis; <i>Ion balance and excretion in Libellula quadrimaculata (Odonata: Libellulidae).</i>	University of Bristol
1973 -1976	BSc. Hons (2.1) Zoology	University of Bristol.

MEDIA

Summary of Recent Awards

Unnatural Selection

- IWFF - International Wildlife Film Festival 2016 (Montana, USA): Award (Category: Environmental) 2016
- Deauville Green Awards 2015 (Deauville, France): Silver Award (Category: Sustainable Nature & Preservation) 2015
- Green Screen Festival 2014 (Eckernförde, Germany): Heinz Sielmann Award 2014
- New York Festivals® International TV & Film Awards 2014 (New York, USA): Silver World Medal (Category: Nature & Wildlife) 2014
- Jackson Hole Wildlife Film Festival, Science Media Awards 2014 (Jackson, USA): Best Biological/Life Sciences Program, 2014

Plants Behaving Badly

- US International Film & Video Festival 2014 (Redondo Beach, USA): S-Silver Screen (Category: Documentary Programs - Nature & Wildlife) (EP 01 - Murder and Mayhem)
- US International Film & Video Festival 2014 (Redondo Beach, USA): G-Gold Camera - (Category: Documentary Programs - Nature & Wildlife) (EP 02 - Sex and Lies)
- CINE Golden Eagle Awards 2013 (Bethesda, USA): Special Recognition for Televised Series

O2 – The molecule that changed the World

- Winner Jackson Hole Wildlife Festival 2009 for Best Earth Science Program.
- *Golden Camera U.S. INTERNATIONAL FILM AND VIDEO FESTIVAL, 2009* for Sciences, Research, Exploration

Reindeer Girls

- Winner of Best Use of Music and Best TV program within budget constraint at Missoula Wildlife Festival 2008
- 3rd ROSCAR film festival, April 2009, Winner for Best Use of Music in a Natural History production and Winner: best eco-tourism, travel and/or culture production

Time Limits

- Winner CINE Golden Eagle Award 2008 in Science & Technology category; nominated for "Best of the Best" in the Spring 2009 gala

Nature Tech

- Winner Best Scientific Content and Best TV Series Between \$250,000 and \$500,000 Budget at 32nd International Wildlife Film Festival, Missoula
- Winner *29th Annual News and Documentary EMMY AWARDS* for Outstanding Individual Achievement in a Craft: Cinematography - Nature Documentaries/Dramatic Recreations
- Winner of Best Limited Series, Jackson Hole Film Festival, 2007
- Winner Science award, Naturvision Film Festival, Germany, 2007

First Flight

- Winner 'Golden Camera' award for documentary at International Film and Video Festival, California, 2004
- Winner of Best in Festival, Telenatura (Spain) 2004

Publications

1) Research papers

S.P. Nicholls, L.J. Gathercole, A. Keller, J.S. Shah 1983;
Crimping in rat tail tendon collagen: morphology and transverse mechanical anisotropy;
International Journal of Biological Macromolecules Volume 5, Issue 5, Pages 283–288

Nicholls, S.P. 1983a
Ionic and osmotic regulation of the haemolymph of the dragonfly, Libellula quadrimaculata (Odonata:libellulidae);
Journal of Insect Physiology Volume 29, Issue 6, Pages 541–546

Nicholls, S.P. 1983b;
Ultrastructural evidence for paracellular fluid flow in the Malpighian tubules of a larval mayfly;
Tissue and Cell Volume 15, Issue 4, Pages 627–637

S P Nicholls, L J Gathercole, J S Shah 1984;
Morphology of human palmaris longus tendon.
Ann Rheum Dis 43:477-482 doi:10.1136/ard.43.3.477

Nicholls, S.P. 1985;
Fluid Secretion by the Malpighian Tubules of the Dragonfly Libellula quadrimaculata;
J Exp Biol 116, 53-67.

2) Books

Nicholls, S.P *Paradise Found; Nature in America at the Time of Discovery*
University of Chicago Press 2009

3) Films

- 2015 **The Last Buffalo** 1 x 60 min, Smithsonian Networks
The story of William Hornaday and how he saved the American buffalo from extinction
- 2015 **Britain's Treasure Islands** 4 x 50 min; SkyVision; 3 x 60 min BBC4
A voyage around the UK overseas territories with presenter Stewart McPherson
- 2013 **Unnatural Selection** 50 mins; Terra Mater, Austria
How humanity has altered the course of evolution, both deliberately and accidentally
- 2013 **Plants Behaving Badly** 2 x 1 hrs ;Terra Mater, Austria
Two programs, one on orchids, one on carnivorous plants - the latest research on these groups, comparing them with Darwin's understanding of each group.
- 2012 **Genius of Nature** (Exec Producer) 3 x 1 hrs; BBC1/Terra Mater;
The science of biomimetics
- Finalist, Jackson Hole Wildlife Film Festival 2013
- 2012 **Limits of Light** 50 mins ORF(Austria;)
A journey through the electromagnetic spectrum looking at the properties of different wavelengths of radiation and their discovery.
- 2011 **Light the Ocean** 1 hr special; National Geographic US
Using computer graphics to 'turn the ocean water transparent' and look at the latest research on ocean currents and their relationship to marine biology
- 2011 **Birdbrain** 50 mins; Terra Mater, Austria
The latest research on bird cognition
- Finalist, Jackson Hole Wildlife Film Festival 2013
- 2011 **Big Bugs - 3D** 50 mins; Terra Mater, Austria
A general look at invertebrates, shot in 3D
- 2010 **Chimp-Cam** 50 min; BBC 'The Natural World', Animal Planet
Working with Edinburgh Zoo and University of Sterling to encourage chimps to use video cameras to investigate how they see their world.
- 2009 **Drain the Oceans** 2 hour special for National Geographic Channel US, NGCI and ORF Austria
Using CGI to drain the water to reveal deep ocean landscapes and geology
- 2008 **O2 – The Molecule That Changed the World** 50 min for ORF Austria
The adventures of an oxygen molecule in space and time
- Winner Jackson Hole Wildlife Festival 2009 for Best Earth Science Program.
- Golden Camera U.S. INTERNATIONAL FILM AND VIDEO FESTIVAL, 2009 for Sciences, Research, Exploration
- 2008 **Reindeer Girls** 50 min for BBC 'The Natural World'
The life of a Sami reindeer herding family following the annual reindeer migration
- Winner of Best Use of Music and Best TV program within budget constraint at Missoula Wildlife Festival 2008
- 3rd ROSCAR film festival, April 2009, Winner for Best Use of Music in a Natural History production and Winner: best eco-tourism, travel and/or culture production

- 2007 **Time Limits** 50 min, ORF Austria
Visualising everyday events at different scales of time
 - Finalist Banff World Television Festival 2008 in Popular Science & Technology
 - Finalist Vedere la Scienza Festival, Milan 2008 for Best Documentary
 - Winner CINE Golden Eagle Award 2008 in Science & Technology category; nominated for "Best of the Best" in the Spring 2009 gala
- 2006 **Naturetech** 3 x 50 min; ORF, Austria; Smithsonian, USA
An exploration of the science of biomimetics, comparing nature's engineering solutions with those of today's engineers.
 - Winner Best Scientific Content and Best TV Series Between \$250,000 and \$500,000 Budget at 32nd International Wildlife Film Festival, Missoula
 - Winner 29th Annual News and Documentary EMMY AWARDS for Outstanding Individual Achievement in a Craft: Cinematography - Nature Documentaries/Dramatic Recreations
 - Winner of Best Limited Series, Jackson Hole Film Festival, 2007
 - Winner Science award, Naturvision Film Festival, Germany, 2007
- 2005 **Appalachia - The Endless Forest** 50 min; ORF, WDR, Off The Fence
The natural history, history and music of the Appalachian mountains.
 - Winner 'Silver Screen Award' International Film and Video Festival, California 2006
 - Winner second prize Asheville Film Festival 2006
- 2004 **Poisoned** 50 mins, ORF, DDE
An exploration of poisons, famous poisonings in history using dramatisation and how poisons work on the body using computer animation.
 - 'Rockies' nominee at Banff World Television Festival 2005
- 2003 **First Flight** 50 min, BBC2 The Natural World; ORF
Comparing the first hundred years of aviation with the evolution of biological flight.
 - Finalist at Wildscreen 2004
 - Winner 'Golden Camera' for documentary, International Film and Video Festival, California, 2004
 - Winner of Best in Festival, Telenatura (Spain) 2004
 - Finalist BANF International Television festival 2004
 - Finalist at New York Festivals International Television awards, 2005
 - Forwarded as entry for Descartes Award for Science Communication 2005
 - Finalist for Best Television program at Missoula International Wildlife Film Festival, 2004
- 2003 **Animal Devil** 50 min, NDR, Parthenon, Nat Geo
An exploration of why some animals in Western culture are labelled as evil.
- 2001 **The Future is Wild**
 Animal Planet, ORF, ZDF, Planeta, Mediaset (for John Adams Television); BBC2 Sep 2004
A 13 half-hour/3 one hour series using computer animation to explore the future of evolution.
 - This series achieved Animal Planet's highest ever viewing figures Jan 2003
- 2001 **Limits of Perception** 50 mins ORF
An exploration of the extremes of scale in science, from the workings of the carbon atom to the universe; the film used computer animation together with the latest microscopic images.
 - Winner Golden Camera award for Science, International Film and Video Festival, California, 2002
 - Winner, Gold World Medal at New York Festival, 2002
 - Finalist for Editing at Jackson Hole Wildlife Film Festival 2003
- 2001 **Nightstalker** 50 min for BBC2 The Natural World
The nightlife of an American city as seen through the eyes of a lost cat.
- 1999 **Claws** 50 min for BBC2 The Natural World
A humorous exploration of the biology and natural history of crabs

Films made at Partridge Films:

Forces of the Wild 5 x 1 hr
 Swarm
 Earthtrek
 The Company of Ravens

Films made while at BBC Natural History Unit

Alien Empire 6 x 30 mins Series Producer
 For Queen and Colony
 Ytene, the Ancient Forest
 Shadow of the Hare
 White Birds of Winter
 They Came From the Sea
 Impossible Journeys
 Land of the Eagle (2 episodes of 8 part series)

Biography

Steve Nicholls is a multi-award winning producer and director of science and natural history documentaries, with nearly 30 years experience. He is passionate about communicating science to as wide an audience as possible, which he does through film and television as well as writing and lectures.

He holds a PhD in entomology from the University of Bristol and is a Fellow of the Royal Entomological Society. After his PhD, he worked as a research scientist for 3 years at the University of Bristol, dividing his time between the Zoology and Physics Departments before leaving to join the BBC's Natural History Unit.

He spent 10 years producing films at the NHU, followed by 3 years at Partridge Films. Following that he set up Burning Gold Productions with Victoria Coules and together they ran this independent production company for nearly ten years.

Burning Gold was acquired by Barcud Derwen in 2008. In 2010 he joined Parthenon Entertainment which was subsequently acquired by BSkyB in 2012. In late 2013 he became Senior Executive Producer of a newly formed documentary production company, Warehouse 51 Productions

In 2015 he set up Hooded Crow Pictures Ld, enabling him to operate as a freelance executive producer, producer and director while continuing his own writing and photography.

He is also an award winning wildlife stills photographer.

In 2009 he wrote 'Paradise Found' for the University of Chicago Press, which collated a large series of documents from the 15th century onwards to produce a new view of the nature of North America at the time of European discovery. He is currently working on a book on the ecology of Britain's wildflowers.

He is the vice-chair of the Avon Wildlife Trust, an organisation responsible for nature conservation across part of southwest England, running over 30 nature reserves.