

# ROSS KNOWLES

## First Assistant Director



### Career History

- 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Director - Coronation St (Freelance)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Director – Hollyoaks (26 years)
- Production Manager - Hollyoaks (2 years)
- Production Manager – Hollyoaks Back from the Dead (1years)
- Stage Manager – Hollyoaks Music Show (3 Series)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Director – Grange Hill (2 series)
- Location Finder / Assistant (Numerous productions)

### Prior to 1995

- Production Runner Brookside
- 2<sup>nd</sup> AD, 3<sup>rd</sup> AD on various Productions/Films
- Assistant Director on various music videos (Live + Shoots)
- Guitar Technician/Tour Manager (numerous companies)
- AD/ Location Manager (various music videos)
- Production Assistant / Location Assistant (documentaries)
- Stagehand at Royal Court Theatre and Liverpool Playhouse
- Interior Architect, O'Donahue Associates

### Key Skills & Achievements

- Strategic planning and scheduling. Scheduling of multi-location and multi hander scenes both in studio and locations.
- Co-ordinating all production activity. Hiring of crew and equipment, liaising with all departments to ensure a smooth-running shoot. The ability to be flexible and make quick and decisive decisions.
- Co-ordinating major stunts (explosions, car and motorbike chases, fights, battle scenes, high falls, aircraft and many more). Working with stunt coordinators, stunt persons, fight arrangers and armorers.
- Supervising crew and artists and their welfare on a day-to-day basis.
- Risk Management / Health & Safety. Production of risk assessments for all production needs, BBC and first option training in health and safety, and risk management. Various courses in mental health and wellbeing, diversity and conscious bias.
- Certificate in first aid at work from St Johns Ambulance Brigade.
- Trained fire warden (Northwest fire training LTD).
- Current DBS certificate.
- Movie magic
- Screen Skills – Tackling harassment and bullying at work, safeguarding for all.
- Screen Skills – Introduction to disability access and inclusion.
- Screen Skills - Training Passport.
- Location knowledge: Legal, Environmental, Local Authority, Cultural Knowledge. Filming in Southern Ireland, North Ireland, Normandy, Paris, Barcelona, Ibiza, USA, London and many different locations throughout the UK inc, mountains and countryside (Wales, Scotland and Lake District) rivers, cities, beaches. Filming on ships, aircraft, Helicopters, Military vehicles and many more.
- Working with and alongside the armed services, police, fire brigade, paramedics and other services

### CONTACT

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### PROFILE

A very energetic and highly skilled 1<sup>st</sup> assistant director with a vast amount of experience and knowledge in all aspects of film and TV production. Adept at working at a fast pace and producing results, whilst maintaining a positive, safe and fun environment for all those involved. Proven abilities at working under pressure and in stressful situations inc large multi hander scenes, challenging locations, emotional and demanding content. Stunts - fight scenes, weapons, explosions, vehicle chases and crashes, high falls, battle scenes, underwater and aircraft and many more. I'm a very hands-on individual with a good sense of humor and a claiming influence but coupled with a vast background in high quality production.

### INTERESTS

Photography  
Writing (Scripts & Short stories)  
Painting, sketching  
Theatre, films, playing guitar and live music event.

- Excellent communication skills on/off shoots. Good communicator with a proven track record with Directors, producers, cast and crew to run the shoot smoothly keeping all departments informed but pushing to complete whilst keeping a pleasant working atmosphere.
- Poised under pressure. Keeping calm and making good balanced decisions whilst under pressure. Not afraid to seek advice and work as a team to solve issues and problems to keep the schedule on time and budget.
- Writer/Producer/Director on 3 short films. For King and Country (Won New York short film award), The Dark and Clown Time. Knowledge of script and script structure.

### **Education**

#### **Liverpool City College**

Interior Architecture, photography, art and design, model making.

### **References**

Colette Chard  
 Head of Production Hollyoaks  
 Lime Pictures  
 Childwall Abbey Rd  
 Childwall  
 Liverpool  
 L16 OJP

Sue Forster  
 Production Manager

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