

MATT PRIOR WATSON

CAMERA TRAINEE

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PROFILE

Recently graduated from Arts University Bournemouth with a 2:1 in Film Production, specialising in Cinematography. A highly driven team player with a resilient attitude and a desire for excellence. Possessing strong problem-solving and technical skills developed through both academic and practical experience. Proactive and adaptable, eager to contribute, learn and develop myself.

KEY SKILLS

- Collaboration and communication
- Adaptability
- Organisation
- Professionalism
- Willingness to learn
- Observation and evaluation
- Knowledge of production
- Loading and unloading film
- Slating and marking actors
- Handling industry cameras, monitors etc.
- Colour Grading in Davinci Resolve
- Managing large media files

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

The Calm (BFI NETWORK SW's Director Lab 2024)

Director of Photography

2024

- Selected as DoP on the crew of a Director's workshop produced by the BFI Network and Funding Futures.
- Collaborated closely with the Director and managed the camera and lighting departments under intense time pressure.
- Worked within a limited pre-production to interpret the brief, develop the look and familiarise the crew.

Paper Bag Thief (BFI NETWORK SW's Director Lab 2024)

2nd Assistant Camera

2024

- Supported the camera department; changing lenses and batteries, slating and managing the camera media.
- Worked closely with the script supervisor and DIT to make sure the reports were accurate and the media was secure.
- Provided guidance and support to a Camera Trainee bringing them up to speed with the role and their responsibilities.

A Safra (Short Film)

Camera Trainee

2023

- Assisted the camera department by operating monitors, changing batteries and writing a camera report.
- Shadowed the Camera Operator and Assistants in order to learn more about the workings of the department.
- Mitigated the challenges of location shooting by acting as a go-between in different locations.

Puzzled (Straight 8 Film Competition)

Director of Photography

2023

- Filmed with a Super 8 camera, editing in camera and relying on one take to achieve the desired results.
- Operated the camera with a fluid, energetic and documentary style maintained throughout.
- Worked within a very small crew to balance camera and lighting needs.

The Butler Dunit (Short Film)

Director of Photography

2023

- Mitigated the challenges of the environment and the natural lighting by adapting the schedule and camera positions.
- Shot in raw CinemaDNG and managed the large files on set, as well as in post.

Chichester Forest Schools C.I.C.

Videographer

2021

- Produced photos of their new green space as well as educational videos to keep their classes engaged with nature.
- Involved working in several different vocations including camera operation, sound, editing and colour grading.
- Invited back in 2024 to produce a promotional video for the company (ongoing).

STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Ring Eclipse (Graduate Film)

Director of Photography

2024

- Collaborated closely with Production Design on a set build that anticipated the needs of the camera and lighting.
- Managed a department of 11 people, keeping everyone working to a common goal.
- Helped to develop and executed a tight schedule over a six-day shoot.

Dead Good (Kodak / NAHEMI Student Commercial Awards)

Spark

2023

- Worked closely with the Gaffer and Best Person, observing and reacting quickly to any changes needed.
- Utilised a range of lights and lighting modifiers.
- Remained alert and mindful of power limitations and safety while working with lights on location.

Sounds Like a You Problem (Short Film)

Director of Photography

2023

- Organised the crew and equipment while working in a tight location.
- Adapted quickly to changes in weather and lighting conditions when shooting outside.
- Collaborated with production office to scout and recce locations.

The End (16mm Short Film)

1st Assistant Camera

2023

- Worked with an Arriflex SR3 16mm camera, building it out, loading film and diagnosing issues.
- Pulled focus using actor marks.

Calm in the Thunder (Experimental Short Film)

2nd Assistant Camera

2023

- Adapted to the different challenges of experimental film.
- Maintained professionalism, working closely to camera but not disturbing the flow of production.

Dance For Me (16mm Short Film)

Director of Photography

2022

- Operated a small Bolex 16mm camera.
- Loaded and unloaded film.

EDUCATION

Arts University Bournemouth

BA (Hons) Film Production (Cinematography)
Upper Second Class Honors

2021-2024

Chichester College

Extended Diploma in Media Production
Distinction

2019-2021

CERTIFICATION

- Full, Clean UK **Driving License**
- **Arri Certified** Training for Camera Systems
- Screenskills: Safeguarding for all: basic awareness for the screen industries.
- Screenskills: Tackling harassment and bullying at work