

ELLIE WILLIAMS AMPS

Sound Recordist

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I am an award-winning recordist with two decades' experience working in filmmaking, starting out at the BBC's Natural History Unit. Along with a passion for creatively and authentically capturing sound, I bring a solid background of location experience and BBC training to each shoot.

My work has taken me to six of the world's continents. My recordings have been broadcast by the BBC, Netflix, Apple, National Geographic, Disney, Amazon, Sky Nature, PBS, HBO and (by President Biden) from the White House. I have filmed with Sir David Attenborough, HRH Prince William, Dame Jane Goodall, Sir Michael Palin, Greta Thunberg and FLOTUS Jill Biden. I love the adventure, learning and friendships that every shoot brings.

I am part of the multi award-winning Wounded Buffalo sound family:

<https://woundedbuffalo.co.uk/people/ellie-williams/>

I sometimes appear on the other side of the lens and contribute to radio as a wildlife sound specialist.

SOUND AWARDS

Sound of the Year Award: Best Natural History Sound win (2025)

I recorded extensively for the following series that received recognition for craft sound:

Secret World of Sound with David Attenborough (2025): BAFTA win, Association of Motion Picture Sound win, Emmy nominee

Earthsounds (2025): Emmy win, Royal Television Society win, BAFTA nominee

Lucy the Human Chimp (2021) - Royal Television Society nominee

RECORDING STYLES

Natural History, Documentary, Drama, Studio, Virtual Production, Live

REMOTE WORKING ENVIRONMENTS

Heat, humidity, cold, altitude - savanna, jungles, mountains, glaciers, deserts, tiny islands

LOCATION EXPERIENCE

BBC: New Zealand (15 months), Japan, Mongolia, Borneo, India, Sri Lanka, Kenya, Cape Verde, North America, Iceland (Arctic Circle), Costa Rica, Brazil, Vanuatu, British Isles (including Skomer, Lundy, Orkney and Shetland).

Indie: North America, Bermuda, The Falkland Islands, Puerto Rico, Costa Rica, Peru (Amazon), South Africa (Kalahari), The Gambia, Botswana, Liberia, Germany, Sweden (Arctic), Brazil.

FILM & TV PROJECTS

Sound and On-Camera:

Hamza's Wild Britain, BBC1 (Silverback Films), 2025
Secret Lives of Trees narrated by Sir Michael Palin, C5 (BBC Studios/Voltage TV), 2025
Countryfile, BBC1, 2025
Earthsounds, Apple TV (Offspring Films), 2024

Sound:

Ocean with David Attenborough, Cinematic Release, Nat Geo & Disney+ (Open Planet Studios), 2025
Project Storm (working title), Netflix (BBC Studios), 2025
Project Biodiversity (working title), Netflix (Open Planet Studios), 2025
Sentient, Nat Geo/Disney+ (Wildstar Films), 2024-2025
Underdogs II, Nat Geo/Disney+ (Wildstar Films), 2025
Matriarch, BBC2, 2025
Secret World of Sound, Netflix/Sky Nature (Humblebee Films), 2024
Blue Planet III, BBC1/Worldwide, 2024
Wilding, Cinematic Release (Passion Pictures), 2024
Secret Lives of Animals, Apple TV (BBC Studios), 2024
Earthshot III, BBC1 (Silverback Films), 2023
A Real Bug's Life, Disney+/Nat Geo (Plimsoll Productions), 2023
Wild Isles, BBC1 (Silverback Films), 2022
America's National Parks, National Geographic (Wildstar Films), 2022
Prehistoric Planet, Apple TV (BBC Studios), 2022
The Earthshot Prize: Repairing Our Planet, BBC1 (Silverback Films), 2021
Lucy the Human Chimp, HBO Max/Channel 4 (Keo Films), 2021
Breaking Boundaries, Netflix (Silverback Films), 2021
Animals with Cameras II, BBC1 (BBC Studios), 2021
Gathering Storm, National Geographic (Keo Films), 2020
The One Show - Natural History Inserts, BBC1 (BBC Studios), 2018-2020
Yellowstone Live, National Geographic (Plimsoll), 2019
First Year on Earth, BBC2 (BBC Studios), 2019
Springwatch, Gardeners' World, BBC1 & BBC2, ongoing

Sound and Production:

Big Cats, BBC1, 2018
This Wild Life, BBC2, 2015
Springwatch, Autumnwatch, BBC2, 2009-2011

Production:

America, National Geographic (Wildstar Films), 2019
Hidden Kingdoms (3D), BBC1, 2014
Land of the Lost Wolves, BBC1, 2012
Ocean Giants, BBC1, 2011
South Pacific, BBC2, 2009
Wild China, BBC2, 2008
Big Cat Diary, BBC1, 2007
Orangutan Diary, BBC1, 2007
Natural World: Buddha, Bees & The Giant Hornet Queen, BBC2, 2007
Atlas HD India, Discovery Channel, 2004

BBC RADIO/PODCASTS

- BBC Podcast: Interviewee on Sir David Attenborough and his sound recordings, 2022
- BBC Radio 4: Interviewee on wildlife sound recording, *Ramblings* with Clare Balding, 2021
Reporter from India on Elephant Corridors, *Saving Species*, 2012
- BBC Radio 3: Interviewee on sounds of the night in nature, *The Listening Service*, 2019
Live On-Stage BA at WOMAD festival (2009 & 2010)
- BBC Radio 6: Recording of seismic elephant seals, Freak Zone Playlist, 2025
Field recordings and narration, *Lose Yourself with Racheal Dadd*, 2023
Recording of Ghanaian singing from BBC Earthshot, *Cerys Matthews*, 2021
- BBC Radio Bristol: Studio BA and Location Sound, *BBC Introducing*, 2012-2018

DRAMA

2AS (dailies):

- McDonald and Dodds, Amazon/Apple TV/ITVX (Mammoth Screen), 2023
- Flatshare, Paramount+ (42), 2022
- His Dark Materials, BBC1/HBO (Bad Wolf), 2021
- The Outlaws, BBC1/Amazon Prime (Big Talk), 2020-2021
- Chloe, BBC1/BBC Drama (Mam Tor Productions), 2021
- Alex Rider, Amazon Prime (Eleventh Hour Films), 2021
- Becoming Elizabeth, Amazon Starz (The Forge), 2021
- The Spanish Princess II, Amazon Starz (New Pictures), 2019-2020

ONLINE

- The Royal Family & National Geographic - 'Ocean' film interview with Sir David Attenborough & HRH Prince William, 2025
- Waterstones - 'Ocean' book launch with Sir Michael Palin, 2025
- Survival International (NGO) - VO recording of Grammy-nominated musician Anoushka Shankar, 2022
- Outrage and Optimism Podcast, location interviews inc Canadian PM Mark Carney, 2019
- Peoples' Walk for Wildlife - Music recording of Billy Bragg & Chris Packham - 2018

COMMERCIAL

- Ffern 2025, Our House 2025, Untold Fable 2025, Holmes Productions 2024, JS Productions 2024, Mint Cake 2023, Idol Films 2023, We Are Reach 2023, Woven Films 2022, Happy Hour Productions 2019-2022, Jones Millbank 2022, Hoi Palloi 2021, Five Films 2019

MUSIC

- Live music recording: BBC 2 Folk Singer of the Year, Rioghnach Connolly, 2024
- Live music recording: 'Orchard Street' opera with string quintet by composer Emma Butterworth, 2024
- Hydrophone recordings: Rachael Dadd's 'River Spirit' (Memphis Industries Label), 2022

CREATIVE ARTS

- National Trust: Sound Walks with award-winning Novelist Ellen Wiles, 2021-2023
- Distant Dances: Field recordings used by Emmy award-winning composer, Barnaby Taylor, 2023
- Deutsche Welle: Interview with Artist Grayson Perry, Jan 2020.
- Venice Biennale: Location Recordist for Artist Charlotte Prodger (Turner Prize winner) in the Okavango Delta, Botswana, Dec 2018.

SPECIALIST TECHNIQUES

Dialogue, VR (Ambisonics), surround, macro, seismic, hydro, ultrasound

KIT owned includes: DMS Surround rig - Sennheiser MKH8040s & MKH30. Sennheiser MKH50, MKH8060, MKH418S, MKH416, MKH816 mics. DPA 6060 lav mics, Wisycom radios, Lectrosonics wireless camera hop, Timecode Systems UltraSyncs, Sound Devices mixers, Lectrosonics IEM. Geophones, contact mics, Ambient (ASF-1) & DolphinEar hydrophones, ultrasonic mics.

TRAINING

BBC: Sound Recording on Location (Residential at BBC Wood Norton), Remote Location First Aid, Safe Management of Production.

Leaping Wing: A2CofC.

MEMBERSHIPS

Vice-Chair of the Association of Motion Picture Sound (AMPS), 2022-2023 (member since 2019)

Member of the International Bioacoustics Society

Member of Bristol Crew

MASTERCLASSES

Panel Discussion & Screening: 'Earthsounds' for a BAFTA audience, Battersea Power Station, Feb 2025

Workshop 'The Art of Interviews', Wildscreen Film Festival, 2024

Panel Discussion 'Sound Design: Levelling up Creativity', Wildscreen Film Festival, 2024

Panel Discussion for the Earthsounds series, Bristol IMAX for the Festival of Nature, 2024

Panel Discussion 'Post Production Sound for Natural History', Olympia Media Production Show, 2024

Panel Discussion for 'Earthsounds' webinar, Wildscreen, 2024

FILM SCHOOL SESSIONS

Drama Sound Assistant Training, Screenskills, 2022 & 2025

Panel Discussion 'Freelance Filmmaking', Screenology Film College, 2023

'In conversation with...', Film Students, Boomsatsuma Film College, 2023

'In conversation with...', Sound Film Students, University of the West of England, 2021-2023

'In conversation with...', Sound Film Students, University of York, (Audio Engineering Society), 2018

PODCAST CHATS

Natural Wanders:

<https://podcasts.apple.com/gb/podcast/ellie-williams-sounds-really-connect-us-to-a-place/id1505398599?i=1000714952802>

Wild Film Hub:

<https://podcasts.apple.com/gb/podcast/what-does-it-take-to-record-the-sounds-of-our/id1682763309?i=1000653832977>

Association of Motion Picture Sound:

<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/ep46-amps-awards-ellie-williams-secret-world-of/id1496561446?i=1000704434021>

ARTICLES

<https://antonspice.substack.com/p/sound-recordist-ellie-williams-captures>

<https://www.dpamicrophones.com/news/2025/ellie-williams-answers-the-call-of-the-wild/>

<https://eu.bubblebeeindustries.com/blogs/inthewild/ellie-williams-the-sound-of-nature>

GENERAL

EU Citizen (British/Irish dual nationality).

US i-visa valid until April 2027

Security checked: DBS 2025, Crown 2025, Secret Service 2022

Full clean UK & international driving licences / VW Transporter Van

Vaccinated for worldwide travel