

Martin Simpson-Hughes

Director of Photography | Lighting Camera Operator | Drone Operator

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Profile

Freelance Director of Photography and Lighting Camera Operator with 19 years of experience across broadcast news, current affairs, Indie film & drama, and non-profit production. Trained in the demanding world of live broadcast and high-stakes current affairs, I bring a strong technical foundation, creative instinct, and the ability to deliver under pressure — qualities I apply equally to film, drama, and branded content. I am passionate about crafting human-interest stories that engage, raise awareness, and influence change.

Credentials & Equipment

- Sony FX9 & FX3 — Owner/Operator
- CAA Licensed Drone Operator
- Member of the Guild of Television Professionals
- Metropolitan Police Issued Press Pass
- Full UK Driving Licence — VW Campervan / Crew Vehicle available (location-ready, complete with tea & coffee)

Drama / Narrative

Under This Town — Director of Photography — Proof of Concept (2025)

Original drama series — selected scenes

Scene One — The Choice: vimeo.com/1159711050

Scene Two — The Triangle: vimeo.com/1159694829

Scene Three — Symmetry: vimeo.com/1159701698

Broadcast Credits

State Funeral of HM Queen Elizabeth II — Lighting Camera Operator — *BBC One (2022)*

BBC Network News & News Channel — Lighting Camera Operator — *BBC (2008–Present)*

BBC South Today — Lighting Camera Operator — *BBC (2015–Present)*

BBC News Investigations — Lighting Camera Operator — *BBC South*

London 2012 Olympic Games — ENG Camera Operator — *BBC News*

Royal Wedding of the Prince & Princess of Wales — ENG Camera Operator — *BBC News (2011)*

Remembrance Sunday: The Cenotaph — Lighting Camera Operator — *BBC Network News (2010–2014)*

CNBC News — Lighting Camera Operator — *CNBC London Bureau (2010–2012)*

ITV News — Lighting Camera Operator — *ITV*

Commercial & Corporate Credits

ITN Business — Lighting Camera Operator — *ITN (2021–Present)*

Microsoft — Director of Photography — *Direction Group (2022)*

Hitachi Rail — Director of Photography — *BB&A Creative Agency (2023)*

Synetiq — Director of Photography, Drone Pilot & Editor — *BLP Marketing (2023)*

Nokia Events — Shoot & Edit — *(2023–Present)*

South East Water — Director of Photography — *Alive With Ideas Agency (2021)*

The Football Association — Grass Roots Training Films — Director of Photography

Rolls-Royce — Corporate Content

Audio-Technica — Editor

Charity & Non-Profit Credits

Guide Dogs — Gift in Will DRTV — Director of Photography — (2024)
Berkshire Healthcare NHS Trust — DoP, Shoot & Edit — (2017–Present)
Oxford Health NHS Trust — DoP, Shoot & Edit — (2021–Present)
SNG Housing Association — Shoot & Edit — (2021–Present)
Make-A-Wish Foundation — Shoot & Edit — (2016–2019)

Skills & Expertise

- Camera operation across broadcast, film, and commercial formats
- Lighting design for drama, interviews, studios, and location work
- Aerial cinematography — CAA licensed drone operation
- Video editing and post-production
- International filming experience across diverse environments
- Collaboration with directors, producers, and talent on creative vision
- On-set adaptability and problem-solving under pressure

Selected Work

Guide Dogs DRTV (DoP): vimeo.com/howlingbear/review/882583863
SNG Housing (Shoot/Edit): vimeo.com/1144852172
Synetiq (DoP): vimeo.com/howlingbear/review/882583863
South East Water (DoP): vimeo.com/howlingbear/review/507051989
BBC South (News): vimeo.com/howlingbear/review/904150197