

RYAN SHEPHEARD

DOCUMENTARY EDITOR | COLORIST | ANIMATOR | CONSULTANT

118 Albion St Unit 3, Somerville MA 02144 | ryan@synapsepost.com | 617.870.3980

BIOGRAPHY

I'm a Boston-based video editor, motion graphics designer, and colorist with more than two decades of post-production experience. Focused on non-fiction and documentary work, I bring a blend of creative storytelling, insightful animation design, and technical skill to clients including PBS, Smithsonian Channel, History Channel, Discovery, MIT, and the National Park Service. In addition to post-production on broadcast projects, I frequently partner on field projects, including an expedition to RMS *Titanic*; the co-design and installation of video post-production and distribution systems on OceanX vessel M/V *Alucia*; science and outreach expeditions to New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Galapagos, and the Sea of Cortez; documentation of orcas off the coast of Washington state with NOAA; and live telepresence broadcasts from Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary for NOAA and Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF (MY) TIME

- 2014—PRESENT** Co-founded Synapse LLC, a post-production and design studio. Volunteer judge for the News & Documentary Emmys and the CINE Golden Eagle. Continued collaborating with WHOI & NOAA and editing documentaries for broadcast.
- 2010—2013** Collaborated with Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution's Advanced Imaging and Visualization Laboratory. Extensive work developing stereoscopic 3D and 4-8K RAW workflows. Joined expeditions to the Titanic wreck site, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, and Sea of Cortez.
- 2004—2010** Freelance documentary editor, primarily with Lone Wolf Documentary Group (now Lone Wolf Media.) Documentary subjects included a high school football rivalry, a mysterious tugboat sinking, ancient Alexandria, the Space Race, Alaska, nuclear weapons, and the Loch Ness Monster.
- 1998—2004** Studied New Media at the University of Maine with a one-year hiatus from 1999—2000. Focused on visual storytelling, including the 2003—2004 three-class "Year in Film" series headed by Prof. Raphael Di Luzio.
- 1996—1998** Attended the Maine School of Science & Mathematics. Founded the Film(making) Club, ultimately writing and directing a 45-minute science fiction short with a sixteen-person cast and soundstage in the dorm's gym. Raised funding from the Stephen and Tabitha King Foundation and the Maine Seacoast Missionary Society.

DOCUMENTARIES & NONFICTION

The Brain Mappers | Museum of Science, Boston
Editor, Animator. 30 min Web video. Released July 2021.

NOVA: Beyond the Elements | NOVA/WGBH Boston
Editor, Animator. 3 x 60 min special. Series aired February 2021.

NOVA: Decoding COVID-19 | NOVA/WGBH Boston

Editor (with Ralph Avellino and Michael Amundsen), Animator. Aired May 13, 2020.
Winner, 2021 Alfred I. duPont-Columbia University Award.

From Controversy to Cure: Inside the Cambridge Biotech Boom | Mass. Institute of Technology
Colorist. Premiered November 20, 2019.

The Hunt for Eagle 56 | Smithsonian Channel
Editor, one episode. Three-part series aired 2019.
Season 1, Episode 2 "The Mystery Deepens"

America's Hidden Stories | Smithsonian Channel
Editor, Animator, two episodes. Series aired 2019.
Season 1, Episode 3 "Pandemic 1918" • Season 1, Episode 7 "Mrs. Benedict Arnold"

Puckland | NBC Sports Network
Colorist, Closed Captioner. 6 x 10 min digital series. Premiered March 31, 2019.

NOVA: Apollo's Daring Mission | NOVA/WGBH Boston
Editor. Aired December 26, 2018.

NOVA: Black Hole Apocalypse | NOVA/WGBH Boston
Editor (with Rob Kirwan,) Animator. 2-hour special aired January 10, 2018.

Pearl Harbor USS Oklahoma: The Final Story | PBS
Editor, Animator. Aired December 6, 2016.

Burning Greed: Arson, Profit and Murder in the Fenway | Live Lobster Group, dir. Sonia Weinhaus
Colorist. Independent documentary. Premiered January 21, 2016.

The Bomb | PBS
Editor, Animator (with Doug Quade.) 2-hour special aired July 28, 2015.

NOVA: Nazi Attack on America | NOVA/WGBH Boston
Editor, Animator. Aired May 6, 2015.

NOVA: Cold Case JFK | NOVA/WGBH Boston
Editor (with Jean Dunoyer and Steve Audette,) Animator. Special for 50th Anniversary of
Kennedy's assassination. Aired November 13, 2013.

Ice Cold Gold | Animal Planet
Editor, two episodes. Docu-reality series. Premiered April 21, 2013.
Season 1, Episode 4 "Hitting the Wall" • Season 1, Episode 6 "Redemption Ridge"

Titanic: 100 Years in 3D | A&E International
Editor, Animator, Stereoscopic 3D Supervisor. Aired August 14, 2012. Supervised team of
animators, assistant editors and colorist. Stereo-corrected film for handoff to Technicolor
for finishing.

Alien Deep | National Geographic
Editor (with Emmanuel Mairesse and Jed Rauscher,) one episode. 5-part marquee special
premiered September 2012.
Season 1, Episode 2 "Wrecks of the Abyss"

3net 3D Short Forms | 3net (Discovery/Sony/IMAX)

Supervising/Online Editor. Developed stereoscopic 3D (S3D) workflow. Oversaw post-production for 300 minutes of documentary shorts. Edited, color- and stereo-corrected several pieces. Developed original S3D transition plug-ins for offline edit.

NOVA scienceNOW: How Smart Are Animals? | NOVA/WGBH Boston

Editor, animator. Aired February 9, 2011.

"Octopus/Cuttlefish" segment.

NOVA: Killer Subs in Pearl Harbor | NOVA/WGBH Boston

Editor. Aired January 5, 2010.

The Rivals | Lone Wolf Documentary Group, dir. Kirk Wolfinger

Editor (with Jed Rauscher.) Independent feature-length documentary. Aired September 2010 on the Smithsonian Channel.

Winner, "Best Documentary", "Best Cinematography", "Best Sound Design" at Los Angeles Reel Film Festival; "Best Picture" at Portland Phoenix Film Festival.

Tougher in Alaska | History

Editor, 2nd iteration of show (ultimately uncredited in 3rd rebuild.) Series aired in 2008.

Season 1, Episode 7 "Dangerous Earth" • Season 1, Episode 12 "Frozen Freeway"

NOVA: Sputnik Declassified | NOVA/WGBH Boston

Editor. 50th anniversary of Sputnik launch. Aired November 6, 2007. 2008 CINE Golden Eagle recipient.

Inside Line | NESN/Persistence Media, LLC

Editor 5 x 30 min episodes of short track racing series. Additionally edited 17 x 30 sec promos and vignettes. Post coordinated 26-week flight. Aired 2005-2007.

Shipwreck CSI | The History Channel

Editor. 4 min online companion short to *Titanic's Final Moments: Missing Pieces* (aired February 26, 2006.)

Deep Sea Detectives | The History Channel

Editor, Online Editor, Animator, five episodes.

Season 2, Episode 18 "Tugboat Down!" • Season 3, Episode 1 "Loch Ness: Great Monster Mystery" • Season 3, Episode 13 "Damn the Torpedoes" • Season 5, Episode 1 "Pharaoh's Lost Treasure" • Season 5, Episode 4 "Blackbeard's Mystery Ship"

SCIENCE, EXPLORATION & OUTREACH

Stellwagen Bank Telepresence | NOAA, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (2019-2020)

Project Description

Two years of ongoing field studies into the biology and maritime archaeology of Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary, located off the coast of Massachusetts. Each season culminated with a series of live telepresence events streamed to YouTube, Facebook, classrooms and museums. Events included live video from ROVs on the sea floor, and Q&A with scientists in the field. Reached combined audience of ~110,000 people.

Role

Co-wrote, edited, animated and narrated short packages for insertion in live broadcasts. Field produced and live switched from the R/V *Connecticut* (2019) and SBNMS headquarters (2020.)

Orca Documentation, Friday Harbor | NOAA, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (2014)

Project Description

Joint WHOI-NOAA project to document the Southern Resident population of orcas (killer whales) off the coast of Washington state. Project used a combination of 4K and high speed cameras to document both whale behavior and NOAA whale tagging operations.

Role

Field offload, processing (including color grading) and editing of footage. Assisted in operating B-camera on chase boat.

M/V *Alucia* | Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (2013-2016)

Project Description

Complete refit of M/V *Alucia*, a research and exploration vessel operated by Bridgewater Associates/OceanX. Portions overseen by WHOI's Advanced Imaging and Visualization Laboratory included Mission Control for overseeing submersible and science operations, the Media Room described below, and 4K imaging systems for both in-air and underwater applications.

Role

Co-developed and installed the Media Room, a five-computer onboard edit suite with 2D and 3D editing capabilities, solid state video recorders, over 100 TB of Fibre Channel storage, and video distribution throughout the ship. Created scripts for automatic offload, organization, and transcoding of raw footage. Created comprehensive user manual for all relevant systems. Accompanied science cruises to New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, the Solomon Islands, the Galapagos, and the Sea of Cortez. Assisted BBC production crews with shooting, sound, and data management. Edited footage in the field.

NDSF Recording Study | Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (2012)

Project Description

Study undertaken by the Advanced Imaging and Visualization Laboratory. Part of a larger research and proposal process for imaging systems on the National Deep Submergence Facility's *Jason* and *Alvin* submersibles.

Role

Co-author with William Lange, Maryann Kovacs of recording study. Specifically documented and compared the compression algorithms and multi-generational degradation of various proposed recording formats.

Expedition *Titanic* | RMS Titanic Inc., Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (2010)

Project Description

Comprehensive survey of the entire *Titanic* wreck site using a combination of autonomous underwater vehicles (AUVs) for sonar mapping, and remotely operated vehicles (ROVs) for closer documentation of the bow, stern, and debris field in both 2D and 3D.

Role

Imaging Specialist. Consulted on tapeless workflow and archival solutions. Oversaw recording operations for all 2D, 3D, and still camera systems during the expedition, as well as redundant media duplication and LTO archiving. Edited periodic dive highlights for Web distribution.

Language Keepers | Watching Place Productions (2008)

Project Description

National Science Foundation-funded effort to document, preserve, and teach the Passamaquoddy language by recording natural conversations and traditional stories, and then subtitling them in both Passamaquoddy and English. Final DVDs are held in the Library of Congress.

Role

Provided editing, captioning, and DVD authoring for 10 x 30 min interactive DVDs, including multiple live-switchable subtitle streams. Designed artwork and backgrounds for packaging and DVD menus.

NARRATIVE FICTION

Suffer the Little Children | Bonfire Films, dir. Corey Norman
Editor. Independent short horror film based on Stephen King's short story. Winner "Best Short", "Best Actress" 2015 Horrorhound Film Festival.

The Hanover House | Bonfire Films, dir. Corey Norman
Colorist. Independent feature-length horror film. Premiered May 9, 2014.

Walk On By | Lone Wolf Documentary Group, dir. Lisa Wolfinger
Editor. Short narrative film. Selection at Women in Film and Television Showcase, Hartford Film Festival, Las Vegas Film Festival, NY International Latino Film Festival. Winner, "Film of the Year," "Best Drama," Portland Phoenix Short Film Festival. Premiered at WIFT Showcase 2008.

CORPORATE & ADVERTISING

Sun Life Asset Management | Powderhouse Productions (2020)
Editor, Animator. Both internal and client-facing videos.

Esri Case Study: Utah Department of Natural Resources | Powderhouse Productions (2019)
Colorist. 7 minute case study video highlighting Esri GIS technology.

The Great Build (Creative Trailer) | Powderhouse Productions (2019)
Editor, Colorist. Fast-paced trailer-length intro video showcasing the construction of the King Abdulaziz Center for World Culture (Ithra).

American Kennel Club | Powderhouse Productions (2018)
Colorist. 21 breed introduction videos.

Stereoscopic 3D Demo Reel | Adv. Imaging & Vis. Lab., Woods Hole Oceanographic Inst. (2010)
Editor, Colorist. Shown at Sony, JVC and Miranda booths at the 2010 NAB Show.

The Corporate Library | Persistence Media (2009)
Editor. Interviews with John Bogle (founder, Vanguard) and Warren Buffett (Berkshire Hathaway) on corporate governance.

Relentless Quest (Trailer) | Persistence Media (2008)
Editor. Pitch trailer for docu-reality series on Maine's lobster boat racing series.

Britannic: A Greek Tragedy | On the Bottom Productions (2007)
Editor. 17 min short promoting The History Channel doc *Titanic's Tragic Sister* (October 14, 2007.)

Dive Portal | On the Bottom Productions (2007)

Editor. DVD dive magazine. Cut 14 x 7 min segments for issues 2 and 3.

Hospice of Southern Maine | Persistence Media (2006)

Editor, DVD Author. Video for 2006 annual fundraising gala.

DWI Awareness Campaign | Maine Beverage Company (2006)

Editor. 4 x 30 second public service announcements plus two online vignettes. Made in cooperation with the Maine State Police.

Alpaca 101 | Winter's Gone Farm (2004-2005)

Editor, Animator, Shooter, Voice Actor. Video tour/promo piece for alpaca farm. Voiced the farm's "spokespaca" and made the animals play soccer via After Effects.

SKILLS

- Motion Picture Editing
- Sound Editing
- Music Editing
- Motion Graphic Design
- Color Grading
- Sound Design
- Digital Imaging Tech.
- Live Switching
- Stereo (S3D) Correction
- Narration
- Encoding & Distribution
- Closed Captioning

SOFTWARE & HARDWARE

- Avid Media Composer
- Adobe Creative Cloud
- BMD Davinci Resolve
- BMD, Roland switchers
- AJA routers
- AJA, BMD Capture HW
- Cinedeck Recorders
- Boris Continuum Complete
- Red Giant Trapcode Suite
- Newton 2D simulation
- Final Cut Pro 7
- Mackie Audio Mixers

EDUCATION

1998 — 2004, 2020 B.A. New Media, University of Maine
1996 — 1998 Diploma, Maine School of Science & Mathematics

VOLUNTEER

2018 — PRESENT Judge, News & Documentary Emmys
Outstanding Editing: Documentary • Outstanding Nature Documentary •
Outstanding Historical Documentary • Outstanding Science & Technology

2016 — 2018 Reviewer, CINE Golden Eagle
Professional Media • Independent & Emerging Media • Student & Youth Media

2020 — PRESENT Board Member, Sanctuary Boston
Leading transition to live video production and interactive Zoom broadcast.

HOBBIES & EXTRACURRICULARS

- Avid amateur pianist
- Experimentation with electronic music & synthesizers
- Home brewing
- Flameworking borosilicate glass
- Running

REFERENCES

Kirk Wolfinger President, Lone Wolf Media
William N. Lange Former Director, Advanced Imaging and Visualization Laboratory,
Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution

Evan Kovacs Founder, Marine Imaging Technologies

Reference contact information and additional contacts on request.