

Paul Holbrook

(Screenwriter/Director/Filmmaker)

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Bio

Paul Holbrook is a working-class writer and award-winning filmmaker who grew up on a rough, poverty-stricken council estate in Bristol, UK. His award-winning feature-length scripts and narrative short films - inspired by his love for cinema - showcase his mastery for dramatic, rich, colorful storytelling and ability to craft memorable and diverse characters.

Paul has made encouraging progress thus far in his career, making several quarter and semi-finals of prestigious screenwriting competitions including Page, Shore, Screencraft and The Academy Nicholl Fellowship as well as being selected for industry-backed mentoring through Creative England and BaftaXCrew. Paul has also made the later stages of the BBC Writersroom and has had his short films screened all over the world, winning several awards along the way.

Whilst his flair for 'genre cinema' is evident in his produced films and indeed his unproduced screenplays; they retain a grounded, real-world feel often set in working class arenas. Although his film works usually fall into narrative drama, he has also successfully dipped his toe into the world of comedy, horror and sci-fi too. He aims for his stories to be rich, colourful and evocative but above all else; cool. Growing up in the 80's; Paul was inspired by arguably the greatest era in brave and exciting movie-making, although in his opinion the greatest film ever made is Scorsese's Taxi Driver.

Paul's chosen industry is ever-changing and forever competitive but his passion for cinema and pro-active commitment to engaging, provocative, character-driven and energetic storytelling continues to thrive.

Awards

2018 - WINNER - 'Best Film' - Chelmsford Film Festival (Sunday Worship)
2018 - WINNER - 'Best U.K Short' - Manchester International Film Festival (Sunday Worship)
2018 - WINNER - 'Best Film' - Universal Film Festival (A Girl and Her Gun)
2018 - WINNER - 'Best Sci-Fi Short' - Genre Celebration Awards (Cell)
2018 - WINNER - 'Best Writing/Best Special MakeUp' - First Contact Film Fest (Cell)
2018 - WINNER - 'Best Short' - Independent Horror Movie Awards (Cell)
2017 - WINNER - 'Best Writing' - Top Indie Film Awards (Sunday Worship)
2017 - WINNER - Talkies Here Film Commission (Sunday Worship)
2017 - WINNER - 'Best Short Film, Platinum Award' - LASHortsAwards (Sunday Worship)
2017 - WINNER - 'Best Short' & 'Best Writing' - Top Indie Film Awards (Sunday Worship)
2017 - WINNER - 'Best Western' - Genre Fest (A Girl and Her Gun)
2017 - WINNER - 'Best Comedy' - Norfolk Film Festival (The Club)
2016 - WINNER - 'National Film Award' - (Riddles In The Park)
2016 - WINNER - 'Best Short' - CineMe South West Shorts (A Girl and Her Gun)
2016 - WINNER - 'Audience Award' - Film Weston (Trumping)
2018 - HONORABLE MENTION - Hollywood Horrorfest (Cell)
2018 - NOMINATED - 'Best Director' - Kapow Intergalactic Film Fest (Cell)
2018 - NOMINATED - 'Best Horror/Thriller' - Flyde Film Festival (Cell)
2017 - NOMINATED - 'Short of the Month' - Shooting People (A Girl and Her Gun)
2017 - NOMINATED - 'Best Film' - Malaysia Int Golden Global Awards (A Girl and Her Gun)
2016 - NOMINATED - 'Best Drama' - The Smalls Film Festival (A Girl and Her Gun)
2016 - NOMINATED - 'Best Comedy' - Limelight Film Awards (Riddles In The Park)

Official Selections

2018 - Manchester Int Film Festival (**BAFTA Recognised**) (Sunday Worship)
2016 - Aesthetica Film Festival (**BAFTA Recognised**) (A Girl and Her Gun)
2016 - London Short Film Fest (**BAFTA Recognised**) (A Girl and Her Gun)
2018 - 39th Sport Film Festival (Sunday Worship)
2018 - Gardunha Fest (Cell)
2018 - Berlin Sci-Fi Film Festival (Cell)
2018 - Jacksonville Film Festival (Cell)
2018 - Cambridge B-movie Fest (Cell)
2018 - Kapow! Intergalactic Film Fest (Cell)
2018 - Anglicon's Anglophile Film Festival (Cell)
2018 - Universal Film Festival (A Girl and Her Gun)
2018 - Rebel Film Festival (Cell)
2018 - Bad Film Fest (Cell)
2018 - Cardiff Mini Film Fest (Sunday Worship)
2018 - Beer Town Film Festival (Dad For Dinner)
2018 - Calgary Horror Con (Cell)
2018 - Film Con Hollywood (Dad For Dinner)
2018 - Sci-Fi London Film Festival (Cell)
2018 - Beeston Film Festival (Sunday Worship)
2018 - Cineme (Sunday Worship)
2018 - Solar Cinema Malta - Touring Festival (Sunday Worship)
2017 - Short Sighted Cinema (Sunday Worship)
2017 - Cardiff International Film Festival (Sunday Worship)
2017 - The Quay Film Festival (Daddy Cool)
2017 - Cardiff International Film Festival (A Girl and Her Gun)
2017 - L.A. Shorts (Sunday Worship)
2017 - Slumberjack Film Festival (A Girl and Her Gun)
2017 - UK Screen One International Film Festival (A Girl and Her Gun)
2017 - Ruby Tuesday Film Festival (A Girl and Her Gun)
2017 - Comicpalooza (A Girl and Her Gun)
2017 - Fifes Comedy Festival (Daddy Cool)
2017 - Copper Coast International Film Festival (Lie Hard)
2017 - London Sketchfest Comedy Festival (Lie Hard)
2017 - Wirral International Film Festival (Trumping)
2017 - Charlton and Woolwich Film Festival (Daddy Cool)
2016 - Comicpalooza (Lie Hard)
2016 - Two Cliffs Film Festival (Allen vs Predator)
2016 - Short Sighted Cinema's Shortest Nights (A Girl and Her Gun)
2016 - Ruby Tuesday Film Festival (Lie Hard)
2016 - Hellfire International Film Festival (Riddles In The Park)
2016 - The Smalls Film Festival (A Girl and Her Gun)
2016 - Slemani International Film Festival 2016 (A Girl and Her Gun)
2016 - Västerås Filmfestival (A Girl and Her Gun)
2016 - Limelight International Film Festival (Riddles In The Park)
2016 - Exposure Film Festival (Allen Vs Predator)
2016 - Liverpool International Film Festival (Trumping)
2016 - Nile's Diaspora International film Festival (A Girl and Her Gun)
2015 - Freedom Film Festival (Trumping)
2015 - Post Mortem Horror Film Festival (Porphyrophobia)
2015 - Glastonbury Film Festival (Riddle In The Park)

Achievements

2018 - Semi-Finalist - Academy Nicholl Fellowship (Snog)
2018 - Quarter Finalist - Academy Nicholl Fellowship (Snog)
2018 - Selected for BFI Network BaftaX Crew
2018 - Finalist - Shore Scripts Short Film Fund (Mamba)
2018 - Finalist - IMDB Script to Screen (Shiney Pete)
2016 - Quarter Finalist - Page Int Screenwriting Awards (Snog)
2016 - Quarter Finalist - Shore Screenwriting Awards (Pig)
2016 - Finalist - Create50 'The Impact' (Run To The Sun)
2016 - Final Rounder - Creative England iShorts (Mamba)
2016 - Selected for Creative England's SW Talent Module 2016
2016 - Final Rounder - BBC Writersroom (Gwentboys)
2015 - Quarter Finalist - Page Int Screenwriting Awards (Pig)
2015 - Quarter Finalist - Screenwriting Goldmine (Dogbite)
2015 - Quarter Finalist - Screencraft Action/Thriller (Dogbite)
2015 - Semi Finalist - Shore Screenwriting Awards (Old Skool)
2015 - 2nd Rounder - BBC Writersroom ('P.A.T.I.G.M.W.T.D.F')

Script Portfolio

Snog (Drama/Coming of age) - Feature

While spending the summer with his estranged father, a young Jehovah's witness, inspired by 80s cinema, chases his very first kiss. His quest is hindered by a steet-wise local kid who is being abused at home.

Pig (Crime/Romance) - Feature

A tough, old-skool policewoman works undercover to bring down gangster #1. However, the case hits a snag when she falls in love with her mark, whilst London's underworld prepare for battle around them.

Dogbite (Action/Modern Western) - Feature

Looking for a fresh start, an ex-con with a violent past moves his family to Small Town, New Mexico. When their paths cross with a sadistic local, all hell breaks loose leading him down a familiar path of violence and retribution.

Allow Me To Introduce Yourself (Drama) - Feature

A drug addict and a business man form an unlikely bond through a mutual love for music. They begin to rely on each other for guidance as their usual, mundane lives begin to spiral out of control.

Gwentboys (6-part Comedy Drama) - Television

A delusional nightclub owner attempts to reform and reintroduce the semi-successful 90's boyband 'Xcite', the only problem is they weren't that good the first time around.

Mamba (Body-Horror) – Short Film

An ageing journeyman boxer obsessed with winning takes a performance-enhancing drug which causes terrifying changes to his mind and body.

Old Skool (Urban Drama) – Short Film

Two lifelong, octogenarian friends and war veterans are harrassed by a local thug, eventually pushed to their limits resulting in 'old skool' retribution.

Peter & The Incredibly Grotesque Monster With Two Disgusting Faces (Children's) – Short Film

A child with a unique and colourful imagination sets out to banish the beasts he overhears his two-faced mother talking of, only to realise they are not as beastly as he thought.

Hollow (Drama) – Short Film

A grieving mother seeks revenge against the man who killed her son but is unable to find the strength to go through with it. She seeks guidance from a local vicar, a man on-the-edge.

Night Drive (Drama) – Short Film

A shy fantasist working as a teacher becomes infatuated with one of his teenage pupils. As his obsession intensifies the line between reality and fantasy blur, resulting in kidnap and violence.

Hungry Joe (Body-Horror) – Short Film

A child born with an insatiable appetite grows into a reclusive, apathetic adult who is driven only by his increasingly ravenous hunger.

Shiney Pete (Comedy) – Short Film

Two impressionable and inseparable 11-year-olds hatch a plan to purchase their first packet of cigarettes, whilst clinging on to their prized possession - a hard-to-get Peter Crouch shiney.