

# A. D. COOPER: WRITER & FILM MAKER

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Literary Agent for Writing: Meg Davies at Ki Agency

## AS SCREENWRITER, DIRECTOR, PRODUCER AND/OR EXEC PRODUCER

- *LEISURE* (2018) HURCHEON FILMS

Co-Winner The Visible Poetry Project, New York

Status: Post Production

- *HOME TO THE HANGERS* (2017) 5.40M NARRATIVE FILM. HURCHEON FILMS

<https://vimeo.com/215390349> Password: thomas

The story: A traumatised soldier runs away from World War 1 and finds healing in his old haunts.

Co-winner: Directors UK Alexa Challenge 2017 Password thomas

- *THE PENNY DROPPED* (2016) 6-MINUTE FILM DRAMA. HURCHEON FILMS

<https://vimeo.com/187458212> Password twistoffate

The story: A desperate woman seeks help from an enigmatic source in a dark place.

Winner: Award of Merit (One-Reeler Short Film Comp 2017,USA), 3 other nominations (tbd)

- *SPRING ON THE STRAND* (2016) NON-NARRATIVE 2-MINUTE FILM. HURCHEON FILMS

<https://vimeo.com/179959109> Password Spring\_2016

An experimental film about the changing season on the Thames in West London self-shot on an iPad.

Nominations: 2 nominations in the USA (tbd)

- *A SMALL DOT ON THE WESTERN FRONT* (2016) 75-MINUTE THEATRE PRODUCTION. HURCHEON LTD.

The story: A one-woman show starring Angela Ferns as Dorothy Lawrence, the only woman to serve in the British Army on the Western Front. Created as a writing showcase. Now developed as a feature script.

Performed: 10-13 Feb The Vauxhall Tea House Theatre, London

- *WRITING THE PEACE* (2016) –10-MINUTE DOCUMENTARY. HURCHEON FILMS

<https://vimeo.com/154229647>

The story: the actor who wrote the surrender document signed by the Germans in May 1945, an event that changed the course of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

Winner: Best Documentary (Dorking Film Festival Feb 2017)

- *A SMALL DOT ON THE WESTERN FRONT* (2014) 8-MINUTE FILM DRAMA. HURCHEON FILMS

<https://hurcheonfilms.com/projects/6073894>

The true story: Dorothy Lawrence was the only woman to serve in the British Army in 1915

*ACE* (2013) 7-MINUTE DRAMA WITH NO DIALOGUE. HURCHEON FILMS

[HTTPS://HURCHEONFILMS.COM/PROJECTS/6073692](https://hurcheonfilms.com/projects/6073692)

The story: When two bored boys try to annoy an old man, his response is anything but predictable

Winner: 6 awards including Best Short Film

*STRANGER DANGER* (2012) 3-MIN FILM COMEDY. HURCHEON FILMS/WEBRA MULTIMEDIA

[HTTPS://HURCHEONFILMS.COM/PROJECTS/6074006](https://hurcheonfilms.com/projects/6074006)

The story: Stars Prunella Scales (aged 80) as an old lady who gets conned by a slick salesman

Nominated: 3 nominations

*THE VIEW FROM THE WINDOW* (2012) 10-MINUTE DRAMA. HURCHEON FILMS

<https://hurcheonfilms.com/projects/6073660>

The story: An injured man finds healing in another's poetic words

Winner: Prequel to Cannes Short Script Competition (2009/10)

Nominated: 7 nominations

- *FEET* (2010) 9-MINUTE WHIMSICAL COMEDY. HURCHEON FILMS

[HTTPS://HURCHEONFILMS.COM/PROJECTS/6073634](https://hurcheonfilms.com/projects/6073634)

The story: A rugby player and a ballet dancer swap feet with disastrous consequences

Nominated: 11 nominations

## AS SCREENWRITER AND/OR DIRECTOR

**SUNDAY SURGERY** - A workshop for writers and actors at Theatre Delicatessen. (May 2015). Directing a rehearsed reading of a script extract by Penelope McLachlan.

- *STATE OF THE NATION* (2013) 5-MINUTE CORPORATE FILM. SCHMICK.TV

The commission: A confidential film for an international drinks company annual conference

The content: Set in 2016, using live action with company executives and actors as presenters, combined with green screen and motion graphics in a futuristic Panorama-style news story.

- *LONDON: THE CITY IN BALANCE* (2013) 2-MINUTE CORPORATE FILM. SCHMICK.TV

<http://vimeo.com/70349550>

The commission: A film about gin and London

The content: Combines live action with time-lapse filming. Non-narrative.

- *THE FLASK* (2011) 7-MINUTE FILM FOR A MUSEUM INSTALLATION. ACTORS SCREEN COLLECTIVE (ASC)

<https://hurcheonfilms.com/projects/6083765>

The commission: From the Actors' Centre: To write, prep and direct a film in 72 hours inspired by an object in the Museum of Broken Relationships. Based on an improvisation, and cast by the ASC.

## AS SCRIPTWRITER

- *NINJA WARRIOR* (2007-11) TV SPORTS ENTERTAINMENT. PINTSIZE PICTURES/CHALLENGE TV

The project: Re-versioning Japanese/ USA sports comedy entertainment show

Producers: Sam Donovan, Rebekah Wray Rogers, Darren Bender

The commission: 89 x 23 minute scripts, narration and "as live" commentary (3 series) following a format.

## AS SCRIPTWRITER: SCRIPT DEALS, OPTIONS & COMMISSIONS

AS WRITER, DIRECTOR

- *WARRIOR QUEENS* – 70-MINUTE DOCUMENTARY. DAMAGE CAT PRODUCTIONS

Commission: to create a narrative about the struggles faced by the sport of women's rugby

Status: Budgeting

- *QUITE CONTRARY* – GOLDEN ARROW PRODUCTIONS (2017)

"Shopping basket" agreement for this TV series about sibling rivalry, crosswords, culture and horticulture.

Producer: Camille Gatin

## AS WRITER

- **THE WITCHCRAFT CONSPIRACY** — GRITSTONE PICTURES

The story: A supernatural biopic about Helen Duncan, the last woman convicted of witchcraft. It's 1944.

Selected: Moonstone Script Labs (2004) and EAVE (2005)

Producer: Kirsty Peart

The commission: 3 drafts and presentation document

Funding: Little Wing via Margaret Matheson (former Exec)

- **THE ANGEL OF MONS - Feature**

Winner: Women in Film & TV Script initiative "Write Time

The story: WW1 drama about women ambulance drivers.

Separate commission: 2 option deals, 2 drafts. Option lapsed.

- **THE MIRROR - Feature**

The story: Something unnatural lurks behind every mirror, waiting to pounce.

Genre: Horror

Commission: 2 option deals. 2 drafts. Option lapsed.

**AS CORPORATE FILM SCRIPTWRITER & COPYWRITER**

<http://alicewrites.co.uk>

IN ADVERTISING AGENCIES, PRODUCTION COMPANIES, AND DIRECT WITH CLIENTS AS A FREELANCER WRITER

- Public information films, radio & TV commercials, audio visual presentations and exhibitions, live scripted events, over 100 scripts for corporate and training videos, experiential, branding, website films (live action, CGI/motion graphics and cell animation).
- Writing, producing and directing radio commercials. (800 plus)
- Conceptual work and writing for all other media including integrated and multi-platform campaigns

**AS A PUBLISHED WRITER**

Ongoing: Diverse articles plus a regular contributor to *The Spread*, an online filmmakers' magazine.

2014: Short story: *John Keaton* in *The clock struck war*, a WW1 e-anthology (Mardibooks)

1999: Humour book: *If men really ruled the world* as Vincent Furnier (West 1 Publishing)

1999: Humour book: *If women really ruled the world* (West 1 Publishing)

1988-96: Specialist women's rugby columnist in *Rugby World*, *First XV*, *The Rothmans Rugby Yearbook*, and contributed to many other rugby publications.

**AS A WINNER/SELECTED/SHORTLISTED**

2018: Selected for the Visible Poetry Project

2017: Winner: Best Sound Design, Southampton International Film Festival *The Penny Dropped*

2017: Winner: Best Documentary. Dorking Film Festival *Writing the Peace*

2017: Winner: Award of Merit. One-Reeler Short Film Competition *The Penny Dropped*

2017: Finalist: Three Counties Challenge Short Film pitch at Film Expo South for *Taking the biscuit*.

2017: Winner: Directors UK Alexa Challenge *Home to the Hangers* (one of six winners)

2016: Winner: Jury's Choice Best Short Film for *Ace* at the London Rolling Film Festival

2015: Semi-finalist: Artists Alliance Short Screenplay Competition (USA) for *Listen to your heart*

2015: Winner: A film maker profile as a prize for *Ace* by Cinewomen Foundation

2015: Long-listed in the British Theatre Challenge *The Waiting Room*

2015: Finalist: Euroscript Screen Story Competition *Garbo still loves me*

2015: Long-listed for The Network (Edinburgh TV Festival) out of 4,000+ applicants

2015: Selected: Watersprite Pitch your film event (Cambridge) *Garbo still loves me*

2014: Selected: Whirlygig Cinema Spotlight. A showcase of directing work to date

2014: Co-winner: Ideastap/Mardibooks World War 1 Centenary Short Story Competition *John Keaton*

2013/4: Selected: London Comedy Film Festival, *Kickstart your comedy career* workshop

2013: Selected: London Comedy Film Festival BBC Comedy workshop

- 2013: Shortlisted: March Writers Couch (Cascade Media) *The Perfect Dream*
- 2010: Co-winner: Script Factory Overnight Script Challenge
- 2009: Winner: Prequel to Cannes Short Script Competition with *The view from the window* (filmed 2012), plus finalist with another script *The Island*
- 2008: Shortlisted: UKFC First Feature and Northern Lights feature competitions: *The Perfect Dream*

### **AS A STUDENT**

- 2016: Jonas Grimas on director's preparations at the London Film School
- 2014: Raindance: Scheduling and budgeting
- 2011: EU-funded screenwriters' & producers' workshop in Bremen
- 2010: directing4women.com short courses
- 2008: 1) London Met Film School, overview of directing including basic FCP  
2) Eon Productions Concept Development workshop
- 2005: EAVE workshops in Luxembourg and Bergen
- 2002/3: M.A. Screenwriting at the London College of Communication
- Ongoing: Robert McKee *Story*, & various courses at Arista, Script Factory and from Laurie Hutzler, Jurgen Woolf, London Screenwriters Festival, Linda Aronson and more.

### **AS A TEACHER**

- 2016: Making a part your own. Workshop at Surviving Actors event (London)
- 2015: Young filmmakers workshop (16-19 y.o.) in the Discovery Film Festival, Dundee
- 2010/11: Visiting lecturer ESCP Europe (London). Postgrad 'Masters in Marketing & Creativity'
- 2006-8: Associate lecturer tutoring workshop groups of final-year students on the MA Screenwriting at the London College of Communication

### **AS A MEMBER**

Writers Guild of Great Britain, Directors UK. Women in Film & TV, BAFTA Lucky 225

### **AS A SPORTSWOMAN**

- 1991/2: Press Officer for the Women's Rugby Football Union
- 1991: Press Officer and one of four organisers for the inaugural Women's Rugby World Cup (Cardiff)
- 1987/92: Played rugby for Richmond Women's Rugby Club and the South-East Division team.  
Had trials for England and Scotland national teams. Captain of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sevens team (1992 National 7s qualifiers), with career ended by a broken leg.

### **AS ME**

Born in Scotland but raised in southern England (Surrey, Dorset, Wiltshire). Based in West London and Bournemouth.

Established Hurcheon Ltd in 2011 (trading as Hurcheon Productions and Hurcheon Films).

Interests and activities: rugby, cricket, the supernatural, knitwear (had a design featured in *Vogue*), growing vegetables, food, swimming, dancing Cero and salsa, playing bridge, research/history especially World War 1 and cinema, beekeeping, willow weaving including teaching the skill, restoring wood, and other earth crafts.