



SOPHIE BLACK

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Sophie was raised in a small Derbyshire town on the edge of the Peak District, and she still cares deeply about bringing film work to the East Midlands and telling rural stories. She has been a lover of storytelling since she could first speak, but her previous career choices – from being Head of Post-Production at a Corporate Agency for seven years, to founding her own production company and producing BAFTA-longlisted short-form work – has given her a practical knowledge of every stage of production, as well as a great understanding of working with different deadlines and budgets, all of which has fed into the way she leads a team as a director. It was perhaps her earliest career (working in the art & costume departments of numerous independent films) that gave her such a distinct creative flare as a director; it not only inspired a strong use of vibrant imagery and design in every film that she makes, but also gave her an eagle-eyed attention for detail in every corner of the frame. She is a lover of fantasy and magical realism, but is also deeply passionate about working with actors, drawing out the nuance and heart of every character no matter the scale of the production. She is now actively pursuing feature film work & authored high-end television drama, with multiple projects in development.

LATEST CREDITS

Ren: The Girl With The Mark (released 2024) – Director (204: 'The Heretics Market' – series finale) TV/Web Series. *Sophie directed an ensemble cast within a custom-built studio set, delivering emotional scenes, scenes involving fight choreography (working alongside a stunt coordinator) & fantasy VFX, and introducing key characters for series three, all within a tight 6-day schedule.*

Sanctuary: A Witch's Tale (released 2024) – Director's Shadow (episodes 4 & 7) TV Series, drama/fantasy. AMC Studios & Sundance Now. *As part of a year-long mentorship and career development programme with director Justin Molotnikov, Sophie shadowed on set during the series' climactic scene, featuring a large crowd, stunts and visual effects, through which she learned to monitor a multi-camera set-up, often watching the B-cam on behalf of her director, as well as helping him with casting selections and making suggestions regarding the performances & blocking when asked to do so.*

A Different Place (2022) – Director
Short film, LGBT drama, funded by BFI NETWORK & The National Lottery. A two-person character piece, this film required Sophie to collaborate with an intimacy coordinator; she also instigated a detailed rehearsal process to inspire raw, emotional performances from her actors. The film has, to date, already screened at VIFF, BFI Flare, Norwich Film Festival, Flatpack Film Festival, KASHISH Mumbai, and This Is England.



SHOWREEL

<https://youtu.be/U0zxnmbZICA>

NOTABLE MEMBERSHIPS & QUALIFICATIONS

Cinesisters Member (2024 -)

BAFTA Connect Member (2023 -)

Associate Member of Directors UK (2021-)

BFI NETWORK x BAFTA Crew (selected twice: 2018 & 2019)

SELECT PREVIOUS CREDITS

Branded Content & Music Videos (Numerous – examples available on request)

Lepidopterist (2021) – Director / Co-writer

Short film, sci-fi/fantasy. Made in less than two days as part of the SCI-FI-LONDON 48hr challenge; Sophie therefore had to adapt to the challenge's on-the-day requests, shooting on location (mostly exteriors) and overseeing in-camera VFX that were achievable within the strict time frame and budget.

Songbird (2018) – Director

Short film, fantasy. Five-day shoot with exterior locations and multiple VFX shots; as well as directing this ambitious short, Sophie helped to set up and run the film's two crowdfunding campaigns, which gave the project a budget of over £16,000 and a strong online following. The film – which was shortlisted for Creative England iShorts funding – won 26 awards at film festivals across the world.

Night Owls (2016) – Director / Co-writer

Short film, drama (90s period). Pilot for Sophie's feature project 'Night Owls & Early Birds' (spec script available), this short was shot in a single location over the course of two days, and Sophie directed two actors at very different experience levels: a young, first time-actor, and a series regular from Emmerdale. The finished film premiered at LSFF before winning 17 awards at smaller festivals.

PAST WORK & EDUCATION

2014 – 2021: **Dynamite Productions** – Head of Post-Production

Clients included Interflora, Hotels.com and Cisco Systems. As well as editing videos herself (on Adobe Premiere Pro), Sophie was tasked with managing the post-production team, organising their schedules, liaising with clients, and ensuring quick-turnaround projects were delivered to the best possible standard and correct branding for each client.

2007 – 2010: **The University of Creative Arts** – BA (Hons) Film Production

Recommended for a Ucreative scholarship on application.