

New Frontiers? Channel 4's Move out of London 7.7.21

Presenters/Panellists Biographies

Kevin Blacoe As Head of Partnerships, Nations and Regions, based at Channel 4's new National HQ in Leeds, Kevin plays a key role in delivering the 4 All the UK strategy, the biggest structural change in the broadcaster's history. Within this role he leads 4Skills, which is Channel 4's major new commitment to skills, training and development in the creative industries - from work experience and apprenticeships through to progressing the careers of those already in the industry. Prior to Channel 4, he worked for 12 years at the BBC in London and Salford, most recently as Chief Adviser for BBC Education.

Katherine Champion is a Senior Lecturer in Media and Communication and Programme Director for the MSc Media Management. She is an interdisciplinary scholar of the Cultural and Creative Industries whose work is concerned with the intersections of creativity, place and work. She currently leads an RSE-funded project entitled 'Mapping Ecologies of Care in Creative Hubs during COVID-19'. Recent projects include the RSE funded 'The role of creative hubs in supporting creative workers in rural and remote geographies', the AHRC-funded 'Design Innovation for New Growth' and the Carnegie funded 'Nurturing Scottish Screen Industries Talent: The Case of Outlander'.

Sylvia Harvey is a Visiting Professor in Broadcasting Policy at the University of Leeds. She studied for her PhD at the University of California Los Angeles returning to the UK to teach in the university sector mainly in the north of England. She co-edited a BFI monograph on *The Regions, the Nations and the BBC*; published on the early output of Channel 4 and contributed 'Broadcasting in the Age of Netflix' to the 2020 edition of Wasko and Meehan's *Companion to Television*. She responded to the 2021 Ofcom Consultation on the future of Public Service Broadcasting.

David Lee is an Associate Professor in Media and Communication, University of Leeds. His books include *Independent Television Production in the UK: From Cottage Industry to Big Business* (2018), and as co-author, *Culture, Economy and Politics: The Case of New Labour* (2015). His research has been funded by the AHRC and ESRC. He has published widely on independent television, cultural work, media industries, and cultural policy.

Cat Lewis has worked as a network executive producer since 2002, delivering hundreds of TV programmes to the BBC, Channel 4, Channel 5 and ITV, many of which have sold internationally. In 2007 she launched her own Greater Manchester based indie called Nine Lives Media and has won numerous awards including two Baftas, a national RTS, an International Emmy and a Rockie Award. Nine Lives makes observational documentaries, fact-ent formats, drama documentaries, children's programmes and current affairs investigations. Cat is Chair of Indie Club, which she set up in 2006 to increase communication across the sector to help retain talent pools outside London.

Patrick Loughrey has been a consultant in Higher Education and media since 2019. Prior to that he was Warden of Goldsmiths, University of London, from 2010. Before Goldsmiths, he was Director of BBC Nations and Regions and was a member of Corporation's Executive Committee. He had overall responsibility for the BBC's television, radio and online programmes and services in Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and the 12 English regions. Pat studied at the University of Ulster, The Queen's University of Belfast and at Trent University, Ontario. He was awarded an Honorary Doctorate from Leeds Metropolitan University in 2009.

Laura Mayne is a lecturer in Film and Media at the University of Hull. Her research specialism is in post-war British cinema with an emphasis on industrial histories, institutional practices and production cultures. In 2019 she co-authored *Transformation and Tradition in Sixties British Cinema* (Edinburgh University Press), an in-depth reassessment of the nature and significance of British cinema and the British film industry during the 1960s. She is currently working on a monograph titled *Slumdogs and Millionaires: Channel 4 and the British Film Industry*.

Alistair Scott is Associate Professor of Film & TV at Edinburgh Napier University. He was a professional television director for over 25 years with productions for Channel 4, BBC and Scottish Television. Credits for Channel 4 include *Leithers* (Channel 4 *People to People*

1988) and *Execution at Camp 21* (Channel 4 1999). He has worked full-time in higher education since 2005. Recent research includes: Scott, A. & Davidson, N. (2021) *The challenges facing freelancers in Scottish Film and TV: an analysis of 45 years of data from the Film Bang directory*, NESTA Discussion Paper for the Policy Evidence Centre for the AHRC Creative Industries Clusters Programme.

Justin Smith is Professor of Cinema and Television History at De Montfort University Leicester, and Visiting Professor of Media Industries at the University of Portsmouth. He is the author of *Withnail and Us: Cult Films and Film Cults in British Cinema* (I. B. Tauris, 2010) and, with Sue Harper, *British Film Culture in the 1970s: The Boundaries of Pleasure* (Edinburgh University Press, 2011). He is the co-editor, with I.Q. Hunter and Laraine Porter, of the *Routledge Companion to British Cinema History* (Routledge, 2017). He was Principal Investigator on the AHRC-funded project *Channel 4 and British Film Culture* (2010-14).

Andrew Spicer is Professor of Cultural Production at the University of the West of England Bristol. His media production books include *Beyond the Bottom Line: The Producer in Film and Television Studies* (2014). He was a member of a European project, 'Success in the Film and Television Industries' (SiFTI, 2013-16) and co-edited its summative volume *Building Successful and Sustainable Film and Television Businesses: A Cross-National Perspective* (2017). He co-wrote *Go West! Bristol's Film and Television Production* (2017, revised 2021) with Steve Presence and is working on two projects that explore politics of place-making in the UK and in Europe.

Rod Stoneman is an Emeritus Professor at the National University of Ireland, Galway and a Visiting Professor at the Universities of Exeter and the West of England. He was the Director of the Huston School of Film & Digital Media, Chief Executive of Bord Scannán na hÉireann / the Irish Film Board and previously a Deputy Commissioning Editor in the Independent Film and Video Department at Channel 4 Television. He has made a number of documentaries, including *Ireland: The Silent Voices* and *Italy: the Image Business*. He is the author of *Seeing is Believing: The Politics of the Visual* and *Educating Filmmakers: Past, Present and Future* with Duncan Petrie.

Nathan Townsend is Lecturer in Creative Industries at the Department of Theatre, Film, Television and Interactive Media at the University of York. His work focusses on the political economy of media institutions and questions of national and transnational film and television culture. He recently published his first monograph, *Working Title Films: A Creative and Commercial History* with Edinburgh University Press.

Anna Zoellner is Lecturer in Media Industries at the School of Media and Communication with a professional background in film and television production. Her research interests lie at the intersection of media industries, media production studies, cultural labour research and television studies with a methodological interest in ethnographic and internationally comparative research. Previous research projects focused on the development of non-fictional television programmes in the independent sector, the conditions and responses of local radio and television in a digital environment, as well as labour conditions and conceptualisations of professionalism in film and television production.