

Stephen Bennett  
C.V. March 2025

*The*  
**TATTOOIST'S SON**  
JOURNEY TO AUSCHWITZ





# REVIEWS...

'The sort of clear-eyed narrative focus normally found in Alex Gibney's films' (Scotsman)

'An important film. Make sure people see it' (Michael Moore)

'A watershed series' (National)

'Utterly compelling' (Guardian)

'A terrifying masterpiece' (Sunday Times)

'A compelling account of a killing' (Guardian)

'Forensically produced...gripping' (Guardian)

"An outstanding and important piece of television" (Scotsman)

'Funny, heartbreaking and compellingly violent' (Radio Times)

'You might find your opinion shifting in this compelling documentary' (Telegraph)

'There won't be a better documentary series this year. Brilliant' (Daily Record)

'A heartbreaking, troubling documentary... A powerful depiction of despair and neglect' (Scotsman)

'It makes an interesting contribution to how disabled people are portrayed on television' (Sunday Herald)

'Stephen Bennett's film adds profound humanity by offering a voice to those affected' (Telegraph)

'You'll never hear anything like that on Panorama and that's exactly why his programme is needed (Herald)

"I urge you to seek it out for an unvarnished, unsentimental and angry exposition of the Nation's ills (The Times)



**Stephen Bennett is an award-winning documentary director known for securing unprecedented access, crafting an intimate shooting style that brings viewers directly into the lives of his subjects. With three decades of experience, he has created premium documentaries for major broadcasters including BBC, Sky, Channel 4, Channel 5, NHK (Japan), Stan. Originals (Australia), and History (USA).**

**Stephen has built his reputation by tackling challenging subjects with sensitivity and depth. His films have changed Public Policy three times. He made history as the first UK director permitted to film and identify children in the Care system. His "Dunblane: Our Story," commemorating the 20th anniversary, featured the first survivor ever to speak on camera.**

**His powerful storytelling has been nominated for an Orwell Prize and earned him Best Feature Documentary, three BAFTA Scotland Awards, three CELTIC TORCS, and four RTS Awards. His documentary photography has been nominated for Scottish Portrait Awards.**

**His documentary "Eminent Monsters," described by the Sunday Times as a "terrifying masterpiece," examined the history of psychological torture and directly influenced the United Nations to launch its first campaign against such practices.**

**His Darren McGarvey's Class Wars series was rated in The Guardian's global Best TV of 2021 alongside *Its a Sin* and *Line of Duty*.**

**In "War and Justice: The Case of Marine A," Stephen explored the complex case of the first British soldier convicted of murder on a foreign battlefield since World War II, earning praise from The Guardian as "forensically produced and gripping".**

**His Storyville documentary "Keeping It Up" examined the accidental discovery and cultural impact of Viagra, achieving one of the strand's highest Audience Appreciation scores and winning both *Best Documentary: Science* and *Best Director Unscripted* at the 2024 Royal Television Society Scotland Awards.**

**Stephen continues to produce groundbreaking work, with two major documentaries releasing in 2025: "The Tattooist's Son: Journey to Auschwitz," marking the 80th anniversary of the Liberation of Auschwitz, and "Lockerbie: Our Story," an intimate portrait of grief following families affected by the Pan Am 103 bombing.**



<b>THE TATTOOIST'S SON: JOURNEY TO AUSCHWITZ</b>	Synchronicity Films/ Sky, Stan Originals, NBCU	2025	Director / Cam	1x90/ FX9
To mark the 80th anniversary of the Liberation of Auschwitz, the son of 'The Tattooist of Auschwitz', Lali and Gita Sokolov, journeys to the death camp for his first time.				
<b>LOCKERBIE: OUR STORY</b>	Two Rivers Media/ BBC1/ BBC Scot	2024	Director / Cam	1x60/ FX9
Landmark documentary with six of the families and friends of the victims as they remember who their loved ones were.				
<b>KEEPING IT UP: THE STORY OF VIAGRA</b>	Two Rivers Media/ Storyville/ BFI/ S Scot	2023	Director / Cam	1x90/ FX9
The astonishing untold story of the accidental discovery, launch and exploitation of Viagra: the little blue pill that launched a sexual revolution 25 years ago. <b>WINNER: Best Science Documentary, and Best Director, unscripted, 2024 RTS Scotland</b>				
<b>WAR AND JUSTICE: THE CASE OF MARINE A</b>	Two Rivers Media/ C4/ Screen Scot	2022	Director	1x90/ Venice
The inside story of the first British soldier to be found guilty of murder on a foreign battlefield since WW2. Feat. Marine A and the Judge who convicted him. <b>NOMINATED: Best Documentary, Bafta Scotland 2023</b>				
<b>DARREN MCGARVEY'S CLASS WARS</b>	Tern TV/ BBC Scotland	2021	Series Dir / Cam	4x60/ FX9
The activist confronts the existence and impact of social class in Scotland today. Voted in <b>Guardian's Best TV on 2021</b> (beside <i>Line of Duty</i> , <i>Its a Sin</i> etc) <b>WINNER: Best Documentary, 2022 RTS Scotland; Best On Screen Personality, 2022 RTS Scotland. NOMINATED for Best Director, Bafta Scotland 2021</b>				
<b>MURDER IN A SMALL TOWN</b>	Firecracker/ Channel 5	2020/1	Series Dir / Cam	2x45 /90/ FX9
A re-examination of the Luke Mitchell case, one of Britain's most shocking miscarriage of justices. It sparked two campaigns to free him & police destroying evidence				
<b>CHOOSE LIFE: EDINBURGH'S BATTLE AGAINST AIDS</b>	Two Rivers Media/ BBC 1 Scotland	2019	Prod /Dir	59'/ C300
In the 80s Edinburgh was dubbed the 'AIDS capital of Europe'. Interviews with those caught-up in the epidemic as they confront the terrifying new disease. <b>WINNER: Best History, 2021 Celtic Media Festival</b>				
<b>EMINENT MONSTERS</b>	Hopscotch/ BBC Scot/ Creative Scot	2017/9	Dir / Cam	89'/59/ FS7
Feature doc about six decades of psychological torture by the UK, USA and Canada. Screened at the U.N. Geneva. Led to U.N.'s first report on psychological torture. <b>WINNER: Best Feature Documentary, 2019 Belfast Human Rights Festival</b>				
<b>SCREEN GRAB</b>	Beezr Studios/ BBC Scotland	2019	Prod /Dir / Cam	45'/ FS7
Pilot about our addiction of technology in the family. Led to series commission.				
<b>DARREN MCGARVEY'S SCOTLAND</b>	Tern TV/ BBC Scotland	2018/9	Series Dir / Cam	6x30'/ FS7
Darren confronts the rampant rise of poverty and inequality facing one in five of us. <b>Nominated for the Orwell Prize, 2020; RTS Scotland and Bafta Scotland</b>				



<b>THE COUNTRY COUNCIL</b>	Firecracker Films/ BBC 1 Scotland	2017	Series Dir / Cam	3x60' / FS7
Filmed in Argyll & Bute, including most of its 23 islands + <b>20% share</b>				
<b>BRIAN COX'S RUSSIA</b>	Hopscotch Films / BBC Scotland	2016	Prod/ Dir / Cam	2x60' / C300
To mark the centenary of the Bolshevik Revolution, actor Brian Cox travels to Russia to discover Scots who have made a massive impact on Russian history. <b>WINNER: Best Doc and Spec Fact. History, 2018 RTS Scotland</b>				
<b>THE COUNCIL</b>	IWC Media/ BBC 1 Scotland	2016	Prod /Dir / Cam	3x60' / PDW300
The organisation we love to hate: services from cradle to grave to emptying our bins. <b>WINNER: Best Factual Series, BAFTA Scotland, 2017</b>				
<b>DUNBLANE: OUR STORY</b>	STV / BBC 2 Network/ BBC1 Scot	2016	Prod/ Dir	1x60' / F55
Landmark documentary to mark the 20th Anniversary film of the Dunblane Tragedy, featuring many who have never talked on camera before. Featured on 'Gogglebox' <b>WINNER: Best Documentary, BAFTA Scotland, 2016 and Best Documentary 2017 Celtic Media Festival</b>				
<b>ATOMIC ESPIONAGE</b>	NHK (Japan) / Malachite Films	2015	Wr/ Dir (Recon)	1x60' / F55
Drama Documentary about the race for the <i>brains</i> behind the Atomic Bomb. For Japan's 70th Anniversary of Hiroshima. Recon budget £112k				
<b>INSANE FIGHT CLUB II</b>	IWC Media / BBC3 / BBC 2 Scot.	2014	P/D/ Cam	1x60' / XF305
The insanity reigns once again, taking the ICW brand into the heart of England				
<b>COMMONWEALTH CITY</b>	BBC 1 Network / BBC2 Scot	2009/14	P/D/ Cam	3x60' / PMW500
Following families in Glasgow's East End over 5 years in the build up to the 2014 Commonwealth Games to discover what the impact of these games will have on their lives				
<b>Other highlights...</b>				
<b>WARRIORS: REVISITING BOYS OF BALLIKINRAIN</b>	Saltire Films/ BBC1 Scot	2011/12	Dir/ Ca	1x60' / PDW650
5 years since I made the groundbreaking access documentary of kids in Care, most of them have been in jail, all apart from one, Bradley. He decides to find out why.				
<b>THE WALKING WOUNDED</b>	Clarity Prod/ BBC2 Scotland	2009	P/D/ Cam	1x60' / DSR570
Powerful documentary that changed Governmental policy, following three veterans with PTSD as they battle addictions, suicide and uncontrolled anger <b>WINNER: Best Documentary, BAFTA Scotland, 2011 and Best Documentary 2010 Celtic Media Festival</b>				
<b>BOYS OF BALLIKINRAIN</b>	Saltire Films/ BBC2 Scotland	2006/7	Dir/ Cam	3x60' / DSR570
Groundbreaking access documentary. Over one year to secure access, one year to film. For the first time in the UK cameras film life in a Residential School for abused boys.				
<b>COLD WAR SPIES</b>	Lion TV/ BBC 2/ History Channel	2004	Prod/ Director	1x60' / Digi Beta
Days that Shook the World series II - drama documentary about the shooting down of Gary Powers during the height of the Cold War. and the spy swap that later ensue				





# WAR AND JUSTICE

THE CASE OF MARINE A



Eminent  
Monsters  
A Manual For Modern Torture

