

Jordon Scott Kennedy

Writer/Director

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Jordon is a working-class writer-director born and raised on Dewsbury Moor Estate. He describes his writing as 'very personal and cathartic' and his stories are strongly influenced by his upbringing in a town that is largely disconnected from the rest of the UK and regularly misrepresented on our television screens.

Jordon studied at the Northern Film School where he graduated with First Class Honours and two Best Picture wins. In 2013, he was commissioned by the Chaplin family to make a short biopic in honour of 100 years of Charlie Chaplin's work.

In 2020, Jordon wrote and directed his first microbudget feature-length film *Suicide Kelly* which focused on breaking a chain of intergenerational racism in a divided community. This film won Best Picture at the BAFTA accredited film festival British Urban.

Jordon recently worked with Channel 4 on his semi-autobiographical short film *Youthless*. The film was made using local kids, most of whom had never acted before. The film was recently optioned by Rollem Productions and began early development as a six-part series.

Following on from *Youthless*, Jordon worked closely with youth services across the five districts of Bradford on his first play: *Blood's Thicker* – which celebrated the city hosting the Knife Angel, and he has recently been commissioned to write a sequel.

His latest film project *Dynamite Dealer* has been greenlit by a major funding body and will hit our screens in 2024.

Jordon is also the Creative Lead at The Unit Bradford where he supports Channel 4, Screen Yorkshire and Bradford Council through their open-access space to further develop the screen sector in the Bradford district. He also teaches screenwriting, directing and acting to Masters students at the MetFilm School in Leeds.

Jordon is extremely passionate about breaking class barriers within the industry, and in August 2023, his inclusive production company Idle Work Factory opened its own SIGN-backed free film school to ensure filmmaking remains accessible to everyone in the North of England.

Jordon is recognised as part of 'Filmmakers 25' - an initiative aimed at connecting emerging talent to Bradford's rapidly developing screen sector.

IN DEVELOPMENT

YOUTHLESS
(writer/director)

Comedy drama television series in development with Rollem Pictures.

WHERE THE SUN DON'T SHINE
(writer/director) Comedy television series.

THE UGLIES
(writer/director) Drama television series.

DOGPOUND
(writer/director) Feature film.

DYNAMITE DEALER
(writer/director) Feature film.

THE BONES OF JIMMY GUNN
(writer/director) Feature film.

THE CHAPLINS
(writer/director) Feature-length biopic.

FILM

SUICIDE KELLY
(writer/director) Raw microbudget drama which explores generational racism in a marginalised working-class community. The film follows Brendan Kelly, a disgraced former boxer who gets a shot at redemption when his estranged grandson lands on his doorstep, looking for a place to hide out for the night.
*WINNER Best Picture at British Urban Film Festival

SHORT FILM

YOUTHLESS
(writer/director) Channel 4 commissioned short film. 'Welcome to a world where the adults act like kids, so the kids must act like adults.' Set in the early 2000s, Youthless explores the adultification of three thirteen year old kids on a council estate in Bradford, as they embark on the last day of the school holidays – and unknowingly of their childhoods too.

THE CHAPLINS
(writer/director) Short biopic about Charlie Chaplin.
*WINNER Best Picture at the Northern Film School

LOLA
(writer/director) Student film.
*WINNER Best Picture at the Northern Film School

THEATRE

BLOOD'S THICKER
(writer/director) Socially-conscious play to commemorate Bradford hosting the Knife Angel in April 2023.

ANIMATION

BLOOD FROM A STONE
(producer) A surreal animated short which follows Lyndon 'Beefy' Skinner, a boxer with body dysmorphia where cutting the weight is his real fight.

DOCUMENTARY

SONS & DAUGHTERS OF SUBCULTURE
(producer) Short-form documentary championing the intergenerational descendants of northern dancefloors and the subcultures to which they belong. The film examines the vibrant origins of Northern Soul, Ska, Reggae and Punk and their place of protest, faith and cultural significance in West Yorkshire.