

James Barber

Writer



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James Barber is a writer based in London.

After working at the BBC on TV shows like Newsround and Live 'n' Deadly, James wrote and produced his web series Flatshare which premiered at WebFest in 2019, was nominated for best comedy at Great Northern Expo and Sicily Web Fest and was recently shown at this year's Pilot Light TV festival. In 2021, Flatshare made its TV debut on London Live as part of its Pride month and will be shown again this spring on the channel.

James is currently developing a number of TV scripts, specs and shorts ranging from a non-linear, sexually fluid relationship drama that explores polyamory to a black queer coming of age story.

As well as working on his solo projects, James also writes in a partnership with Daniel Alexis. In Autumn 2020-Spring 2021, they were selected out of 1300 applicants to join nine other writers as part of a US-based TV pilot workshop, spearheaded by HBO/BET showrunner/scriptwriter Ben Cory Jones – the only Brits and only writing duo to make it through to Cycle 1. Together they continue to develop TV drama and features as a partnership.

IN DEVELOPMENT

MALAKAI 97

(writer)

TV Relationship drama. A street-smart inner city black boy embroiled in the care system is sent to live with a middle class, mixed-race foster family in Devon. Initially rallying against his circumstance, he eventually finds friendship, acceptance and joy. But when his new foster mother offers to adopt him, Malakai is left with a huge dilemma: Return to the chaos of his old life in order to save his 'at risk' younger brother, or embrace this new life forever, in order to save himself.

MONO/POLY

(writer)

TV relationship drama. When a complicated love octagon is formed between four very different couples, rules are bent and eventually broken, leading to disastrous consequences.

DARYL

(writer)

Relationship drama short. A young black escort, who has become homeless after missing rent payments has hit rock bottom. When he reluctantly agrees to go to a radical faerie retreat specifically for queer men of colour with his three best friends on the British South Coast, he experiences an unexpected breakthrough that changes the trajectory of his life.

SOY BOY

(writer)

Drama/thriller short. A long-suffering husband finally confronts his wife after she arrives home having been out all night, but things aren't quite as straightforward as they may seem.

PUSH

(writer)

Relationship drama TV series. When a vicious attack leaves a man fighting for his life, two very different gay half-brothers locked in conflict must become one another's alibi, or risk exposing secrets from their dark and traumatic past.

ONLINE

FLATSHARE

(writer/producer)

Comedy drama web series. South London Artist Omar escapes his hedonistic lifestyle of anonymous hookups by starting a flatshare with his best friend Kemi and his ex Tom. However, it's not long until things start to fall apart when they discover the Flatshare is an illegal sublet. First shown at UK Web Fest 2018.

*NOMINATED Best Comedy, Great North Expo

*NOMINATED Best New Web Series, Sicily West Fest

THEATRE

KELLY'S MISSING

(writer)

Conspiracy thriller. Performed as part of Nothing2Perform's spring/summer drama season 2020, and broadcast globally online.
