

# Tom Gentle

Writer / Director



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Tom is a Scottish Writer/Director from Glasgow, whose work encompasses fiction, factual and commercial. He is an alumnus of Edinburgh, Reykjavik and Storyfutures Talent Labs.

His shorts, developed by Screen Scotland, have played at festivals around the world, including RiverRun, Vienna Shorts and Flickerfest. His work has been shortlisted by BFI: NETWORK, the National Film and Television School and Disney. His short film "In the Fall" won Best Scottish Film at Edinburgh Short Film Festival, and was nominated for Best British Film at London Short Film Festival.

Tom is a graduate of the Directors UK Inspire programme, through which he directed 2nd Unit scenes on Amazon Studios' "The Rig".

He is currently developing dark comedy Hell is Other People with The Highland Midgie and travel show Chef Eats with Two Rivers Media. Also in development are feature drama The Tunnel, feature comedy Double Vision and TV comedy Mother's Milk.

## IN DEVELOPMENT

### PRESENT

*(writer/director)*

Feature drama. A brother must learn to truly communicate with his autistic sister before he destroys the safety he has built around them.

### THE TUNNEL

*(writer/director)*

Feature drama. A gifted high school footballer's dream of winning a professional contract and escaping her outdated mining village is shaken when she meets a local shift-worker.

### CHEF EATS

*(director)*

Travel TV Episodic. Chef Eats is all about exploring the hidden life of a city, meeting people who've passed their food from generation to generation, and getting an insider's understanding of where they live. Finding stories that only seem to emerge when all of the tourists have gone to sleep.

## TELEVISION

### THE RIG

*(trainee director/2nd unit director)*

Amazon Studios TV series. Part of the Directors UK year-long Inspire mentorship programme shadowing Bodyguard/Line of Duty director John Strickland, which led to Tom directing several 2nd Unit scenes.

## SHORT FILM

### CLOSE

*(writer/director)*

Short film. When two 30-somethings lock themselves out in the communal stairwell, they're forced to consider that maybe they aren't as close as they thought.

Screenings: Glasgow Short Film Festival, Beeston Film Festival, Poppy Jasper Film Festival, Berlin British Shorts, Calgary Underground Film Festival.

### PAWSEA (OR: THE MELANCHOLY RUMINATIONS OF A SOLITARY FRENCH BULLDOG)

*(writer/director)*

Short film. Rocky certainly has a lot on his mind – questioning his purpose and attempting to fortify himself against existential angst as he searches for meaning – quite a lot for a French Bulldog to master.

\*Official Selection: Flickerfest International Short Film Festival

\*Official Selection: Riverrun International Film Festival

\*Official Selection: Glasgow Short Film Festival

\*Official Selection: Vienna Short Film Festival

## **IN THE FALL**

*(writer/director)*

A short film based on an original story by the legendary Canadian writer Alistair MacLeod – Faced with the ageing of his faithful workhorse, a man is forced to confront his own mortality and consider a sacrifice to ensure his family's survival.

\*WINNER Best Scottish Film, Edinburgh Short Film Festival

\*WINNER Hilton Earl Memorial Prize, Glasgow Short Film Festival

\*NOMINATED for Best British Film, London Short Film Festival

\*NOMINATED for Golden Egg award, Reykjavik International Film Festival

\*Other festival screenings include FIN: Atlantic International Film Festival 2018

(World Premiere), Cromarty Film Festival, Edmonton International Film Festival, Inverness Film Festival.

## **BLINDSIDED**

*(writer/director)*

Short film. When Will is dumbfounded by (what he thinks is) the worst news imaginable, university friend Rupert is the first person to pick up the phone.

Screened at Glasgow Short Film Festival and Inverness Film Festival.

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## **DOCUMENTARY**

### **UHURU**

*(director/camera operator)*

A 3-month documentary shoot in North-Western Tanzania. Uhuru is not a story; it is a right. A chance for hundreds of thousands of voiceless people in Tanzania to have a platform. Here, a group of people with a variety of impairments reveal the conditions that they experience daily. Screened at San Francisco International Documentary Film Festival, Zanzibar International Film Festival (World Premiere), Africa in Motion.

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## **COMMERCIALS**

### **BANK OF SCOTLAND**

*(director)*

Series of online commercials for the Bank of Scotland Foundation, advertising the contribution they make to charitable organisations around the country.

### **BUSINESS GATEWAY**

*(director)*

30 second online commercial, advertising the range of support offered by Business Gateway and their partners.

### **VOX BLOCK**

*(director)*

30 second online commercial for VOX BLOCK, a zero-screen children's audiobook reader.

### **CREDITFIX: VANISHING**

*(director)*

A 30 second dramatic TVC portraying the alienating experience of falling into debt.

### **STV PLAYER: YOU'RE THE BOSS**

*(director)*

A series of 30 and 20 second comedic adverts for the Scottish broadcaster, promoting the relaunch of their online player.

### **FAMOUS GROUSE: A WELL DESERVED NIGHTCAP**

*(director)*

60 and 90 second advert for legendary whisky brand.