

Xenia Glen

Writer / Director



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Xenia is a multidisciplinary filmmaker who works predominantly as a writer/director. Xenia edits the majority of her work and is also passionate about producing. In 2017, Xenia won the Film and TV Charity's John Brabourne Award to support her filmmaker collective, Sleepwalker. She has since co-founded Sleepwalker as a production company which she has produced five short films through. Xenia's first scripted film commission was in 2018 for the Roundhouse, for whom she wrote and produced 'Porcelain', an experimental film that explores skin lightening. In 2021 Xenia was commissioned by the BBC and the Arts Council England to write/direct/produce 'Backbone', a short film which premiered on BBC3. In 2022, Xenia co-wrote, directed, and co-produced the BFI short film 'Trip the Light Fantastic', which is currently in post-production. In the same year, the BFI selected 'Carabao', a feature film that Xenia is co-writing and directing, for the Early Development Fund.

Xenia's first documentary film commission was in 2020 for the Other Brother Fund and Talkies, for whom she directed and produced 'Sew', a film about a mail-order bride. In 2022, Xenia directed and produced 'My Filipino', a documentary about modern slavery, for Brondesbury Films and Misfits Entertainment. Additionally, Xenia worked as a development producer and in-house writer/director/producer at the BAFTA nominated and Emmy winning Misfits Entertainment between 2018-2022. Prior to this, Xenia worked at Shooting People on film commissions for Puma's Films4Peace and Channel 4's Random Acts. Xenia has been selected for the schemes including: 'Widening the Lens' by Encounters Film Festival, the Ex-Animo Fund, Watershed's 'The Future is Collective', and BFI NETWORK X BAFTA Crew for which she is currently participating on their mentorship scheme (mentored by Katherine Bridle, Director, Content Creative – Netflix). Xenia enjoys working with new collaborators and aspires to continue creating scripted and documentary films.

IN DEVELOPMENT

ROOT

(co-writer/director)

Feature film. Inspired by a true story about the Philippines' Anti Mail-Order Spouse Act. Production Companies: Dark Pictures & Sleepwalker. Producers: Yaw Basoah & Yemi Adegbulu.

CARABAO

(co-writer/director)

Feature film. A film about undocumented Filipino workers that follows a day-in-the-life of the lead character from the short film 'Alo'. Supported by the BFI's Early Development Fund. Production Company: Home Team. Producer: Dominic Buchanan.

BRIDES

(co-writer/director/producer)

Short film. A bride-to-be burns evidence of her father's crimes of human trafficking, reawakening her mother's memories of being a mail-order bride. 'Brides' was shortlisted for 'Future Takes' (Film4 & BFI). Production company: Sleepwalker. Producers: Yemi Adegbulu & Xenia Glen.

MIGRANTS ON THE MIDWAY

(director/producer)

A documentary about two elderly migrants who have worked the midway at British carnivals and festivals since 1994 – this is a portrait of their 30-year-long friendship. Production companies: Sleepwalker & SarilingBinhi Multimedia. Producers: Giullienne Sanchez & Xenia Glen.

HOW TO KEEP TIME

(co-writer)

Feature film developed from Antosh Wojcik's theatre piece HOW TO KEEP TIME: A DRUM SOLO FOR DEMENTIA.

FILM

THE MEMORY BOOM

(co-writer/director/producer)

An experimental film that recreates the experiences of dementia through an immersive blend of spoken word, documentary, dramatic reconstruction, and Never-before-seen decayed archive footage. Commissioned by Exeter Phoenix, National Lottery Heritage, and the Radcliffe Trust. Production Company: Sleepwalker. Producers: Yemi Adegbulu & Xenia Glen.

SHORT FILM

ALO

(co-writer/director/producer)

Short film. A story about a disabled undocumented overseas Filipino worker.

BFI Network short film. Production company: Sleepwalker. Producers: Amy George & Xenia Glen.

*World Premiere: London Film Festival 2023

*Programmed at Sundance Film Festival London 2024

MY FILIPINO

(director/producer)

A short documentary about exploited overseas Filipino workers. Production Company: Misfits Entertainment & Brondesbury Films. Producers: Xenia Glen & Luke Healy.

*Premiere: London Short Film Festival 2023

BACKBONE

(writer/director/producer)

Short film about a Filipino-British teenager with scoliosis. Supported by BBC Arts, Arts Council England. Production Company: Sleepwalker. Producers: Amy George & Xenia Glen.

*Premiere: BBC3 (broadcast nationally) and BBC iPlayer 2021.

SEW

(director/producer)

Short documentary. A seamstress recalls how she moved from the Philippines to the UK in the 1980s through marriage. Commissioned by Talkies and the Other Brother Studios. Production Company: Sleepwalker. Producer: Xenia Glen.

*WINNER of Talkies Commission

*WINNER The Other Brother Fund

*Featured by Girls in Film

PORCELAIN

(writer/producer)

Experimental short film that explores skin lightening in Southeast Asia. Broadcast on TV across the Philippines and featured at the Roundhouse Festival.

*WINNER of Roundhouse's Last Word Film Fund

*WINNER Ex-Animo Fund

OTHER

THE WALNUT OF KNOWLEDGE

(producer)

Short documentary. A documentary about a mixed-heritage family. Supported by funding from the BFI Doc Society. Production Company: Sleepwalker. Producer: Xenia Glen.

ASO

(producer)

Short film. A film exploring an LGBTQ+ experience. Production Company: Sleepwalker & Helium Media. Producers: Xenia Glen & Olawale Adetula.

HOW THE WILLOW FELT

(producer)

Short film. A film about Muslim beliefs of grief and gender. Supported by the Belief Grant from the Uncertain Kingdom. Production company: Sleepwalker. Producers: Antosh Wojcik & Xenia Glen.

THE PROCESS

(producer)

Short documentary. A documentary about prejudice and discrimination within the UK criminal justice system. Supported by the Briggstow Institute's Seedcom Grant. Production Company: Sleepwalker. Producer: Xenia Glen.
