
LUKE PARKER BOWLES

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Film & TV Producer who puts the pieces together: talent, content, breakthrough formats that engage audiences in new ways. From talent manager and producer to the head of production companies, earned recognition as a leader in the delivery of commercially successful and critically acclaimed content (TV and film). Global citizen with a worldwide network of deep-rooted relationships, a sense of humor, and a steady leadership style. Built and leads bicoastal teams; creates positive work cultures anchored by clarity and trust.

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- Shepherded the hit series, *OUTLANDER*, from acquisition to 4 Emmy nominations and a green light for Season 6.
 - Ushered BAFTA New York into a new phase of relevance and membership. Created a master-class model that helped grow membership 24% and gave members access to A-list talent (e.g., Dame Helen Mirren, Keira Knightley, Eddie Redmayne).
 - Director of the Montclair Film Festival (now in year 8). This event attracts top talent (e.g., Meryl Streep, Ben Stiller, Jon Stewart) and 25K+ attendees annually.

LEADERSHIP PROGRESSION

STORY MINING & SUPPLY COMPANY, **President**, New York, NY/Los Angeles, CA | 2014 – Present

Recruited by Founder/Filmmaker Jim Kohlberg to lead TV/film production company.

- Sourced and developed a slate of film, television, and theatre properties.
- Led the acquisition, development, and sale of *OUTLANDER* to Sony/Starz.
- Built a development and production ecosystem that has positioned *OUTLANDER* as a perennial hit (greenlit for Season 6) celebrated by critics and a loyal fandom (numerous award nominations and wins).
- Currently manages several optioned properties and projects in development (e.g., *THE FENCE*, writers: George Pelecanos, Dennis Lehane, Dick Lehr). Face of the company in all project pitches to networks and studios.

MONTCLAIR FILM FESTIVAL, **Director**, Montclair, NJ | 2013 – Present

Selected to organize and lead the artistic and talent division of this newly created independent film festival with Trustees/Advisors, including Stephen/Evelyn Colbert, J.J. Abrams, Richard Curtis, Olympia Dukakis, Laura Linney, Jon Stewart, and numerous other highly respected entertainment and corporate leaders.

- Played a pivotal role in the growth of the festival from a startup concept to an annual, 10-day event that attracts 25K+ attendees, features 150+ screenings/events each year, engages top talent, and celebrates outstanding performances with numerous festival awards.
- Screenings have included *YESTERDAY*, *STEP*, *AMERICAN FACTORY*, *JOE'S VIOLIN*, and *BLINDED BY THE LIGHT*.
- Talent Q&As/panels and special events have included Meryl Streep, Ben Stiller, Jon Stewart, Julia Louis Dreyfus, Julie Taymor, and Mavis Staples.
- Expanded the festival's outreach to include television/film courses (e.g., screenwriting, filmmaking) for 'tweens, teens, and adults; volunteer instructor for several courses.

BAFTA NEW YORK, **Director/Trustee**, New York, NY | 2016 – 2019

Elected to serve a 3-year term as the New York head of the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA)—a world-leading independent arts organization created to drive awareness and strengthen support for U.K./international content and talent.

- Evaluated all facets of the organization and identified opportunities to modernize the growth/brand strategy and increase engagement/relevance within a rapidly changing global industry.
- Leveraged talent relationships to create new outreach opportunities, including In Conversations. This master-class program model was adopted by the London office. The members-only, live-interview series featured top talent:
 - David Oyelowo, Dev Patel, Ruth Negga, Jeremy Irons, Hugh Grant, David Tennant, Tom Hiddleston, Keira Knightley, Eddie Redmayne, Hugh Dancy, Benedict Cumberbatch, Dame Helen Mirren, Michael Caine
- Negotiated and secured co-branding partnerships including British Airways, The Standard Hotel Group, Cadbury, HBO, and Retro Reports. Expanded organization's industry reach as a supporter of Comic Relief and the Montclair Film Festival.
- Grew membership 24% over 3 years.

OPEN ROAD INTEGRATED MEDIA, Co-Founder/Executive Vice President, Production, New York, NY | 2009 – 2014

As the media industry shifted toward digitalization, recruited by Jane Friedman (former President/CEO of HarperCollins) to co-lead the launch of a digital media company supporting some of the world's most highly respected authors. As a member of the executive leadership team, hired and managed 30+ freelance producers, editors, and cinematographers.

- Built the digital media business from concept. Founder secured \$8M in equity financing 2 years later.
- Negotiated digital market strategies and produced content with authors/representatives (e.g., Pat Conroy, Alice Walker, Joan Didion, Gloria Steinem, Octavia Butler, Pearl S. Buck, Walker Percy, Sherman Alexie).

HART SHARP ENTERTAINMENT, Production Executive, New York, NY | 2005 – 2008

Recruited by the founders of this feature film production company that produced BOYS DON'T CRY, YOU CAN COUNT ON ME, and NICHOLAS NICKLEBY to lead physical production and talent relationships.

- Contracted and nurtured writers, directors, talent, studio executives, producers, and crew members.
- Key projects/talent:
 - EVENING (Focus Features; cast: Claire Danes, Toni Collette, Vanessa Redgrave, Meryl Streep, Hugh Dancy, Natasha Richardson, Glenn Close, Patrick Wilson)
 - REVOLUTIONARY ROAD (DreamWorks, cast: Kate Winslet, Leonardo DiCaprio, Kathy Bates)

WORKING TITLE FILMS, Development Executive, London, England | 2003 – 2005

Recruited by founders to join British film/television production company owned by Universal Pictures to manage a large slate of originals and talent relationships.

- Contracted and nurtured writers, directors, talent, studio executives, producers, and crew members.
- Key projects/talent:
 - LOVE ACTUALLY (director/screenplay: Richard Curtis; cast: Bill Nighy, Colin Firth, Liam Neeson, Emma Thompson, Keira Knightley, Hugh Grant, Laura Linney, Alan Rickman, Billy Bob Thornton, Rowan Atkinson, January Jones)
 - BRIDGET JONES: EDGE OF REASON (director: Beeban Kidron; screenplay: Helen Fielding, Richard Curtis, Andrew Davies, Adam Brooks; cast: Renee Zellweger, Colin Firth, Hugh Grant)
 - PRIDE & PREJUDICE (director: Joe Wright; screenplay: Deborah Moggach; cast: Keira Knightley, Matthew Macfadyen)
 - ABOUT A BOY (directors: Paul & Chris Weisz, screenplay: Nick Hornby, Peter Hedges; cast: Hugh Grant, Nicholas Hoult, Toni Collette)

INDEPENDENT TALENT GROUP, Executive Assistant to the Chairman, London, England | 2001 – 2003

Selected to work with the most highly respected talent agent in London, Duncan Heath. Structured and negotiated talent deals, secured bookings, and managed A-list talent relationships.

- Talent included Dame Maggie Smith, Michael Caine, Alan Rickman, Sam Mendes, Danny Boyle, Daniel Craig, Sir Anthony Hopkins, Gary Oldman.

CIVIC & PHILANTHROPIC CONTRIBUTIONS

QUEEN ELIZABETH II SEPTEMBER 11TH GARDEN, INC., Member, Board of Directors, New York, NY, 2013 – Present

Member of the ex-pat community that led the initiative to honor Commonwealth victims of 9/11 with a garden in New York City. Secured approval from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II to name in honor of her Diamond Jubilee. The garden was opened in July 2010.

BELLEVUE ENTERPRISES LLC, Managing Director, Montclair, NJ, 2017 – Present

Community and development leader behind the modernization of a century-old theatre complex into an entertainment destination with 6 theatres, a high-end restaurant, a bar, and venues for master-class/TED Talk events. Scheduled to open in April of 2021.

PAT CONROY LITERARY CENTER, Member, Board of Directors, Beaufort, NC, 2018 – Present

Selected to join the board that provides governance/oversight for this philanthropic organization dedicated to literacy and writing.

EDUCATION & INDUSTRY AFFILIATIONS

University of London, Bradfield College, and The Dragon School (Oxford)

Guild Membership: BAFTA New York, The Pilgrims Society of Great Britain, The St. George's Society of New York

Recipient, The St. George's Society Inaugural British Leadership Award, 2017