

# ART DOCS

A film and video production company for directly commissioned content. Trusted by clients across the arts, heritage, corporate, medical, education, charity, and public sectors - including Sky Arts, Arts Council England, the National Trust, BBC and Channel 4 - since 2009. Led by independent filmmaker Benjamin Wigley.

Specialising in documentaries in the fields of art, science, and culture, as well as artist moving image works for exhibition.

ART DOCS is a pioneer in creating short gallery interpretation videos, having produced hundreds of shorts, documentaries, and promotional films about artists' work. Clients include Tate, BBC SPACE, and the National Portrait Gallery. Alongside these, I've developed more creative artist collaborations for major commissions — from working on Somerset House's National Programmes with the National Trust, to a recent commission with Rachel Armstrong for the Triennale Milano.





We have worked closely with artists to capture the creative process and the ideas behind their work — from designer Sir Paul Smith to Ghanaian coffin artist Paa Joe — as well as with curators and collectors like Anthony D’Offay, architects such as Wolfgang Buttress, writers including Benjamin Zephaniah and Owen Sheers, and traditional craftspeople like the silver-smiths of the Goldsmiths’ Company. These collaborations have taken us to some incredible places, and along the way, we’ve had the privilege of witnessing many magical things.

Film for music and poetry have also been a continuous strand in ART DOCS’ practice, collaborating with ambitious creative artists to create visuals for sound and build immersive film and soundscapes for exhibition spaces. These projects have ranged from working with Benjamin Zephaniah on a film for Channel 4’s Random Acts, to creating large-scale visual installations in response to soundscapes by Martyn Ware in the dilapidated wing of Somerset House for the National Trust’s 50th Anniversary of Coastlines (*One and All*). Ben is currently developing a feature-length documentary on the life of Benjamin Zephaniah, *Remembah Zephaniah*, which has recently received development funding from Sky Arts.







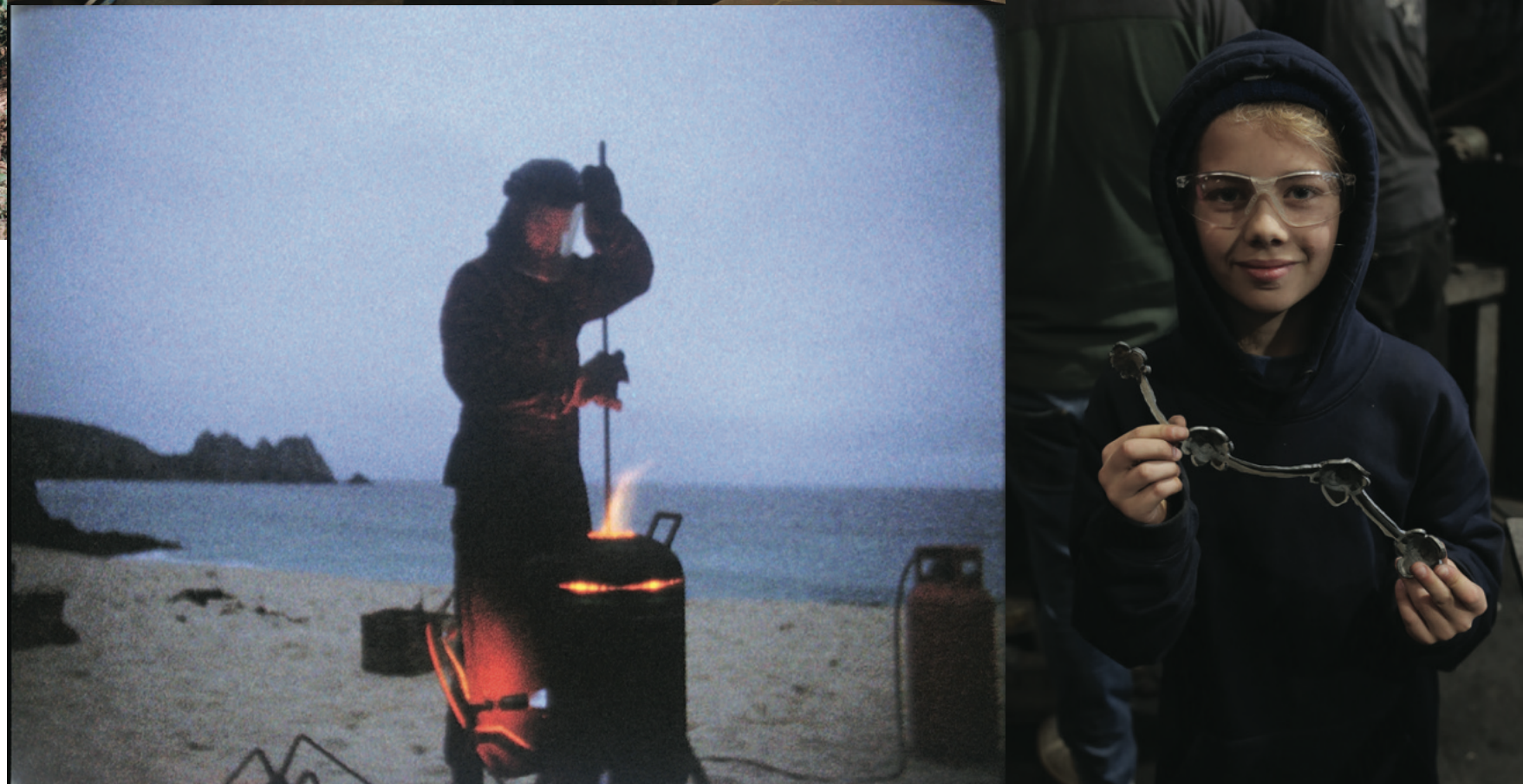
## Full-Service Video Production for a Range of Sectors

In addition to communicating artists' ideas, ART DOCS also has extensive experience delivering clear, engaging communications for companies such as Boots Healthcare, charities like Sightsavers and Save the Children, and institutions including Manchester Metropolitan University. These projects are crafted to share powerful stories and convey important information beautifully, effectively, and with heart.

ART DOCS offers a full video production service. We own all our own broadcast-standard equipment and collaborate with a trusted network of producers, filmmakers, animators, musicians, and writers. From initial idea to final distribution, ART DOCS can tailor each production to suit your needs.







## Inspiring People Through Workshops

ART DOCS has also supported a number of Arts Council England's Grants for the Arts projects led by Ben. These explore climate-focused responses to the environment, blending science, art, and nature through ideas of Intangible Heritage and folklore. Ben works with hard-to-reach communities to co-create multidisciplinary art projects that build public awareness through meaningful social engagement.





## About Ben, Creative Director

# ART DOCS

---

Ben is an award-winning filmmaker with over 20 years' experience. He has created a wide range of independent film works across short, mid-length, and feature formats, and Ben's films have screened at numerous international film festivals — both in documentary and experimental film — since 2009, including SXSW, Sheffield DocFest, DocsMX, HOTDOCS, Margaret Mead, Encounters, Chicago Underground Film Festival, London Short Film Festival, and Palm Springs; and have been broadcast internationally on platforms such as BBC, Channel 4, SVT in Sweden, SBS in Australia, and Amazon Prime in North America.

He studied Fine Art and Film Production and had his first independent short film, P.S. Your Mystery Sender — about Sir Paul Smith — developed through the prestigious Bridging the Gap scheme at Edinburgh College of Art via the Scottish Documentary Institute, where he set up ART DOCS in 2009. Ben then went on to develop his debut feature film, Paa Joe & The Lion — about Ghanaian artist Paa Joe — through the international Documentary Master-school development programme, where 16 projects were selected worldwide. This screened at over 30 international film festivals and sold to Amazon Prime North America.





At the same time, Ben also developed his independent artist moving image practice — working within celluloid filmmaking — through London-based film lab N.O.W.HERE (2011–2016), and then continued this research through long-term artist residencies at the Liaison of Independent Filmmakers of Toronto (LIFT) and Philip Hoffman’s Film Farm in Ontario, where he explored plant-based developers and other experimental darkroom techniques. His immersive, multidisciplinary film projects — supported repeatedly by Arts Council England in partnership with ART DOCS and major organisations including the National Trust, UNESCO, universities, and city councils — are steeped in folklore and interweave themes of nature, science, ancient civilisations, distant futures, craft, and industrial heritage. These works have been presented in landscapes, galleries, and museums across the UK, and have become flagship projects that give ART DOCS a distinctive voice in community and climate-focused filmmaking. This breadth of experience has given Ben a wide-ranging skill set across all areas of independent film and image-making: interviewing and shooting observational documentaries; managing sound and lighting setups; editing both shorts and feature films; and experimenting with film materials. He has produced major exhibitions in visual art, created film sculptures in landscapes, and developed immersive digital experiences for major galleries and online platforms. Ben is a dynamic and versatile professional who has collaborated with artists, producers, commissioners, and communities at all levels throughout his practice.



# HARTWOOD

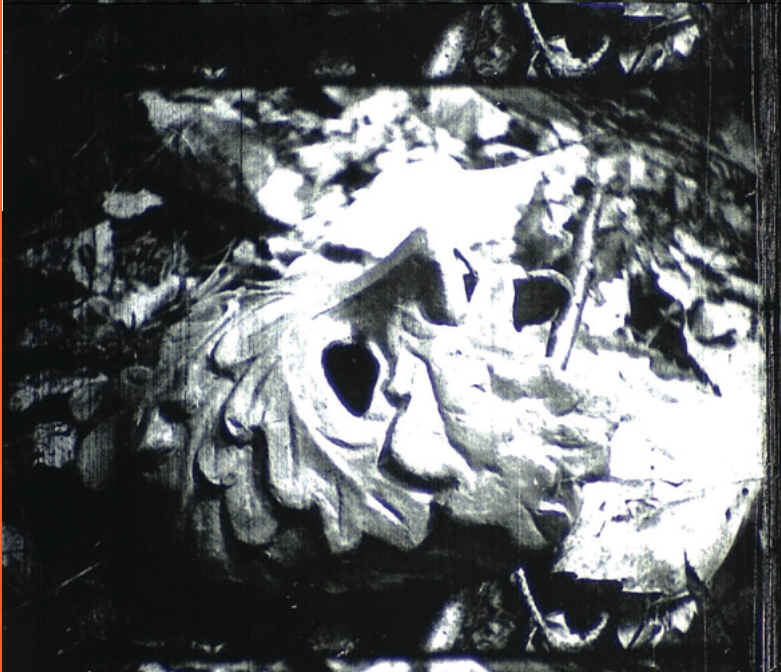
OF THE

COMER WOODS  
DUDMASTON. WV16 6QN

SATURDAY JUNE 25TH. 2022  
11AM - 3.30PM

[www.artdocs.co.uk](http://www.artdocs.co.uk) #hartofthewood

National Trust  
ART DOCS  
Supported using public funding by  
ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND







Wigley's notable works include the 55-minute documentary *Of Walking On Thin Ice* (Camino to COP26), chronicling a 500-mile pilgrimage to COP26, which premiered at Encounters Film Festival and then screened at over 60 venues across the UK; *Hart of the Wood: Ways of the Plant*, a multidisciplinary film and art project supported by Arts Council England. His first feature documentary, *Paa Joe & The Lion*, about Ghanaian artist and wood carver Paa Joe, showcased at over 30 international festivals including SXSW and Sheffield DocFest, and was developed through the international Documentary Campus Masterschool. He is currently developing *Remembah Zephaniah*, a feature documentary on the life of Benjamin Zephaniah, with support from Sky Arts.

BENJAMIN WIGLEY  
Tel: +447779134445

BEN@ARTDOCS.CO.UK  
WWW.ARTDOCS.CO.UK

