

NATURE'S COMING OUT STORY




ANIMAL PRIDE

HANDFUL OF FILMS PRESENTS ANIMAL PRIDE WITH CONNELL BRADWELL

WRITERS CONNELL BRADWELL AND ERINN DRAGE DIRECTOR RIO MITCHELL PRODUCER CAROLYN WHITTAKER CINEMATOGRAPHY RYAN WILKES
COMPOSER KIMMORTAL EDITOR DANNY COX PRODUCTION MANAGER SANDRA TOBER EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS NIOBE THOMPSON AND SUE DANDO (CBC)



 Handful of Films

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“What is natural sex? I mean, if we really want to look at what takes place in nature, we’re talking about everything from hermaphroditic organisms that have both eggs and sperm to, you know, stabby penises and all kinds of crazy dynamics. Sex is wild!”

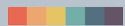
- Carin Bondar



ANIMAL PRIDE

Presented by:

Handful of Films with CBC Documentaries



Featuring: Connel Bradwell

Directed by: Rio Mitchell

Written by: Connel Bradwell and Erinn Drage

Produced by: Carolyn Whittaker

Executive Produced by: Niobe Thompson

Edited by: Danny Cox

Music Composed by: Kimmortal

a 44' television documentary for CBC's The Nature of Things

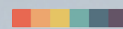
a 52' available for acquisition April 2024

Cover design by: Trisha White



Bighorn sheep: Radium, BC

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#AnimalPrideDoc

LOGLINES

**This is Nature's
Coming Out Story.**



90

character version

**Connel explores the true
diversity of gender and
sexuality in nature, and
questions why we've been
missing it all along.**



120

character version

**Through a journey of
scientific discovery,
naturalist Connel Bradwell
explores queerness and
sexual diversity in Nature,
and questions why we've
been missing it all along.**



Alternate

version

SHORT SYNOPSIS



Bighorn sheep: Radium, BC

In *Animal Pride: Nature's Coming Out Story*, Queer naturalist Connel Bradwell challenges mainstream biology's blindspot for queer animal behavior in nature. Schooled in the birds and the bees, survival of the fittest, *The Origin of Species*, Connel sees the disconnect - how can humans be Queer, while animals supposedly aren't?

After observing same-sex behavior in orcas, Connel embarks on a journey to unveil nature's true diversity of gender expression and sexuality. Fueled by his love for the natural world, Connel discovers the science behind same-sex parenting in seabirds, hermaphrodite slugs, and the hidden history of same-sex penguin behavior. Not your typical wildlife documentary, *Animal Pride* celebrates diversity, and presents a riotous rebellion against stereotypes. It also has the capacity to fundamentally shift how we see the natural world, and our place within it.

We've all heard the rhetoric - that being queer isn't natural. Connel's irreverent approach takes a wrecking ball to the ivory tower of heteronormative science, demanding answers to why the world has been missing out on the wild, wonderful, and downright sexy side of nature.

There's no longer any doubt:
Nature's queer as f***!

DOCUMENTARY OUTLINE

In *"Animal Pride,"* **Connel Bradwell**, a science educator and biologist, embarks on a journey from Vancouver's urban forests to Antarctica's distant shores, driven by the desire to better understand queerness in the natural world and asks why we have been missing it all along?



Connel Bradwell and Ignacio Martinez

Cinematographer **Ryan Wilke's** expert lens captures queer animal behavior in a whole new way. Interwoven are the groundbreaking science stories of these emerging understandings of the natural world's true sexual diversity. Conversations with experts include epic visits to Hawaii, London, the West Coast of Canada and Antarctic research. The music composed by non-binary Filipinx artist **Kim mortal** creates a genre-bending rhythmic score, which helps audiences see the natural world in a whole new way.

The expedition begins on Vancouver Island, where Connel, immersed in the study of orca, makes a surprising observation... male orca exhibiting same-sex sexual behavior. This sparks Connel's intrigue into exploring queerness in nature, resonating profoundly with him as a Queer naturalist and underscoring nature's continual capacity to surprise us.

Connel first goes to visit his friend **Jaylen Bastos** (Batty Banks), a celebrated drag performer and Queer urban ecologist. Together, they traverse Stanley Park, blowing open the lid on the sheer number of species demonstrating queerness in different ways right in their backyard, highlighting the ubiquity of queer wildlife all around us.

Journeying to Pacific Rim National Park, Connel meets quirky slug and snail expert **Kristiina Ovaska**, who unveils extraordinary and sometimes bizarre sexual behavior in slugs, challenging conventional gender norms. A slug softcore-porn ensues. This discovery prompts Connel's exploration into whether some creatures are inherently gay, leading him to Hawai'i. There, he learns about the Laysan albatross with expert wildlife biologist, **Lindsay Young**.

Lindsay had a groundbreaking discovery: in a species recognized for their monogamy, a significant proportion of the albatross couples are female-female pairs, reuniting each year to raise chicks together! Since monomorphic, these same-sex couples were hiding in plain sight since researchers had always just assumed that they were all heterosexual couples...



Jaylen Bastos (Batty Banks)

While in Hawaii, Connel meets transgender Hawaiian **Hinaleimoana Wong-Kalu** who tells Connel that in traditional Hawaii culture, same-sex pairing has always been accepted and understood. Hina explains that it's not about what sex or gender you are, but *who you vibe with*.

Continuing his odyssey in Radium, British Columbia, Connel observes bighorn sheep exhibiting homo-social behavior, prompting contemplation on the deeper purposes of sex beyond procreation. Meeting with author and scientist, **Carin Bondar** on the west coast, Connel delves into the diverse manifestations of queer sex in tide pools, shedding light on the often-concealed social significance of such behaviors in scientific research: there's a lot more to sex than procreation!

At this point, queerness in the natural world seems so undeniable and ubiquitous, Connel questions why he didn't know about this all along. Seeking answers to the concealment of queer animal behavior, Connel journeys to the UK, visiting the Natural History Museum in London. There, he learns from museum curator **Douglas Russell** that findings by George Murray Levick of male Adélie penguins engaging in same-sex behavior in Antarctica, were suppressed for over 100 years, fundamentally altering the research of the species.

Reflecting on these revelations with penguin researcher **Ignacio Juarez Martínez**, Connel acknowledges the concealment of vital research observations, prompting a trip to Antarctica to confront Levick's findings. There, Ignacio



shows Connel how he and other scientists are studying Adélie penguins, including all their behaviors and diversity, contrasting with past efforts to hide queer behavior due to societal norms and homophobia.

Collaborating with Ignacio to collect data on the penguins, Connel underscores the importance of recognizing queerness in all species to ensure their protection in the face of the urgency of climate change. They reflect that queerness is not the exception but the rule in nature, necessitating inclusive research and conservation efforts.

This is nature's coming out story.



DIRECTOR STATEMENT



RIO MITCHELL

“Being queer isn’t natural.” So many people justify their opinions about human homosexuality with their erroneous belief that homosexual behavior doesn’t exist in nature. Boy, are they wrong.

Animal Pride is a queer-as-f*** romp through the natural world, exposing one of its most ubiquitous truths and well-kept secrets: that the world is absolutely teeming with homosexual, bisexual and transgendered creatures of every scale and feather. Queerness is the RULE in nature, not the exception!

First, we blow everything you thought you knew about ‘the birds and the bees’ out of the water, turning heteronormative views of nature on its head. Then we go deeper, into selected case studies of different species which exhibit queerness in different ways, as explained by quirky and groundbreaking researchers. Finally the film bluntly asks: “Why didn’t I know this before?!“... the answer to which is deeply rooted in biases science and culture, and is at times somewhat sinister: “It’s been hidden from us. Biologists have been witnessing queer behavior since we started looking at animals,” but heterosexual norms have made us unable (or in some cases, unwilling) to see. Homosexuality isn’t unique to humans - but homophobia certainly is.

As a queer filmmaker myself, it was important to me that *Animal Pride* not only be a film about queer nature, but that it be a queer film. Queer theory and queer ecology are woven into the fabric of this film - it’s a refreshingly natural way of looking at the world, full of diversity, relationship and interconnection. So many queer + diverse artists, scientists and filmmakers have collaborated on this project, too, Connel’s on-camera presence shines through with his awesome gay nature-nerd passion. Veteran queer filmmaker Mo Bradley’s story advising shook

off the heteronormative-film-cobwebs. Ryan Wilkes’ beautiful cinematography captures animal relationships in a whole new light. And the music composed by ever-deadly multi-hyphenate artist, Kimmortal, creates an undeniable vibe.

Animal Pride is riding the first wave of what’ll soon grow into a tsunami of Queer natural science. And it’s about damn time. The natural world of sex and relationships is far more diverse and fascinating than we can imagine! It’s time for nature to come out of the closet.



Laysan albatross: Hawaii

THE ORIGIN OF THE STORY



CONNEL BRADWELL

"I was working in orca research and was stunned to see same-sex behavior between two male orcas, which of course made me wonder...what other animals might be queer? This discovery set me on a quest to find, uncover and even re-discover the diverse expressions of gender and animal behavior in science and nature."

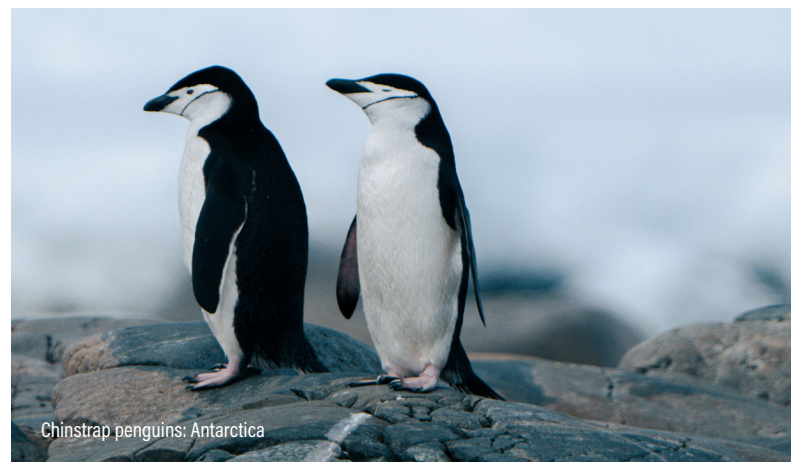
- Connel Bradwell

As the assistant director and one of the writers on *Animal Pride*, I am beyond thrilled to see this journey into the wonderful world of Queer nature come to life. My interest in Queer Ecology started when I saw two male orca displaying same sex behavior. As a biologist and someone who had been fascinated by nature since I was a child, I thought this behavior was a rare sight; I was shocked to learn that this is actually something that is fairly common. I thought, if it is so common then, why do we not hear about it? And, why as a Queer person, had I grown up hearing from certain parts of society that I was 'unnatural'?

This sparked the beginning of this documentary. I brought these questions to fellow writer, nature nerd and brilliant filmmaker, Erinn Drage, and we immediately dived into Queer Ecology. During our research we would discover some of the incredibly charismatic species, who in their own way, are a little gay. As well as the people who are the pioneers in the field of research, we quickly realized that this was a story that needed to be told. With the exceptionally talented filmmaking team at Handful of Films, we embarked on a journey of a lifetime, gaining unique access to some of the most remarkable places, wildlife and people across the world.

This project has been led by a team of Queer identifying people; Director Rio Mitchell and Producer Carolyn Whittaker have transformed this documentary into something I could not have even imagined was possible. The beautiful natural history cinematography by DOP Ryan Wilkes and the skillful editing of Danny Cox bring the wonders of the natural world to life on screen.

As a Queer person who has always loved wildlife, it's been life-changing to see with my own eyes what we know to be true. Nature is Queer, and Queerness is natural. During this film I have learned how this scientific fact has been hidden throughout history, and how our biased perspectives of the natural world have been weaponized to damage Queer people, whilst also negatively impacting wildlife, biodiversity and its conservation.



Chinstrap penguins: Antarctica

There may be a long way to go, but it has been inspiring to meet the scientists, who are dedicated to undoing the wrongs of the past. We end the film by recognising the importance of queer nature to the health of the natural world. It has never been more important for us to remove these damaging perspectives and see nature for what it truly is: Queer.

EXPERT & CHARACTER BIOS



JAYLEN BASTOS

(They/them)



Jaylen Bastos is an educator who explores ecology, through queer theory and Black historical lens. Jaylen is the founder and CEO of a land-based learning organization called Zoboomafoolish, operating across Canada in cities like Vancouver and Toronto. Their programs focus on animal behavior, urban ecosystems, and queer ecology that highlights Black, Indigenous, and Queer perspectives and theory. By night they serve the city of Vancouver as a talented drag performer by the name of Batty Banks. Often seen diving, dipping and stunting; while in drag Batty attempts to blend the worlds of wildlife and performance to create new experiences for people to learn and grow together. Want to see Batty in action? Check out her on Instagram under the name @Batty.Banks



KRISTIINA OVASKA

(She/her)



Ever since she was a child, Kristiina has been fascinated with all things creepy, crawly and/or slimy. After receiving a doctoral degree from the University of Victoria, she completed two post-doctoral studies in population biology and behavioral ecology with the University of British Columbia and McGill University, respectively. Currently, she is senior ecologist with Biolinx Environmental Research Ltd. and research associate at the Royal British Columbia Museum, where she dabbles with the mollusc collections. For 11 years, she served as co-chair of Amphibians & Reptiles Species Specialist Committee of COSEWIC (Committee On the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada) and also as a member of COSEWIC's Mollusc Subcommittee. Kristiina is presently co-chair of IUCN's Amphibian Specialist Group Canada, and a member of IUCN's global Amphibian and Mollusc specialist groups.

EXPERT & CHARACTER BIOS



LESLEY MACPHERSON

(She/her)



Lesley Macpherson of the DLNR Division of State Parks is an Interpretive Technician at Ka'ena Point State Park. Lesley is well known for documenting the birth of endangered Hawaiian monk seal pups. Lesley assists with monitoring endangered species throughout Ka'ena Point State Park. Before becoming the lead technician, Lesley lived out at Ka'ena for decades. She teaches educational programs for visitors and school groups that include the history of the area and the sensitive species that live there. She strictly enforces permit policies and rules making sure no one is too close to the albatross, endangered monk seals and other wildlife.



LINDSAY YOUNG

(She/her)



Lindsay Young earned a Bachelor of Science from the University of British Columbia and a Master of Science from the University of Hawai`i. In 2009, she completed her Ph.D. at the University of Hawai`i where her research focused on the population genetics, at sea foraging ecology, and conservation needs of Laysan Albatross. Lindsay is the current chair of the World Seabird Union, has served as the treasurer for the Pacific Seabird Group, the chair of the North Pacific Albatross Working Group, is the former North Pacific correspondent for ACAP (Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels), and as a reviewer for multiple refereed journals. Lindsay was one of the 2011 recipients of the US Fish and Wildlife Service Endangered Species Recovery Champion Awards for her work on the Nihoa Millerbird Translocation.

EXPERT & CHARACTER BIOS



HINALEIMOANA WONG-KALU

(She/her)

Hinaleimoana Wong-Kalu is the protagonist and educational advisor for the award winning films *Kumu Hina* and *A Place in the Middle*, produced the award-winning short *Lady Eva*, the PBS feature documentary *Leitis in Waiting* about her fakafāfine sisters in the Kingdom of Tonga, and the feature *The Healer Stones of Kapaemahu*. *Kumu Hina* received the National Education Association Ellison Onizuka Human Rights Award (2016), Native Hawaiian Educator of the Year (2018) and White House Champion of Change (2020) for the groundbreaking impact campaigns associated with her film work along with her advocacy and teaching. *Kumu Hina* is a transgender health and well-being advocate and is co-founder of *Kulia Na Mamo*, an organization serving Mahu and other underserved people of color. *Kumu Hinaleimoana Wong-Kalu* now proudly wears the role of Cultural Ambassador for the Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement in service to Hawaii and her people and community.



CARIN BONDAR

(She/her)

Dr. Carin Bondar is a biologist, author, and philosopher. Dr. Bondar is the author of the books *Wild Sex* and *Wild Moms* (Pegasus, New York), she is the writer and host of the online series based on her books, which have garnered over 150 million views. Bondar's work appears on National Geographic, Discovery Worldwide, TED, Animal Planet, Netflix, and The Science Channel. Bondar received a PhD from the Faculty of Forestry in 2007 for her research on the ecological role of signal crayfish in its various stages of development from juvenile to adult. She is an adventurer and explorer, having discovered 7 new species of beetles and snails in the remote jungles of Borneo with her research team from the Netherlands (Leiden) and Italy (Verona). Recently elected to the Chilliwack School Board, Bondar is an advocate for STEM education and for keeping girls in STEM subjects through high school. She is the founder and president of the STEM Angels Foundation, dedicated to supporting Moms in science.

EXPERT & CHARACTER BIOS



DOUGLAS RUSSELL

(He/him)



Douglas Russell is the Senior Curator of Birds responsible for the curation of the national avian egg and nest collections at the Department of Zoology at the Natural History Museum (NHM). Douglas is responsible for all aspects of curatorial care and access to the NHM collection of Bird's Eggs & Nests, one of the largest resources of its kind in the world. His duties include visitor inquiries, documentation and research on the collections which contain over 300,000 clutches. Containing over 4000 examples, the NHM Nest Collection is unique, with an intimate record of bird behavior and increasingly recognized as an internationally important research resource on avian architecture, behavior and evolution.



IGNACIO MARTINEZ

(He/him)



Ignacio Martinez is completing his PhD at the University of Department of Biology, Polar Ecology and Conservation Group. His current research uses technology to capture biologically meaningful data for conservation. Particularly using time-lapse imagery from camera-trap data in order to monitor the breeding ecology of penguin colonies all over the Antarctic Peninsula and Subantarctic Islands. Martinez is using the data generated by Penguin Watch to understand the ecology and impacts of climate change and other human-induced alterations on penguin colonies. His approach is to not only study penguins from a conservation perspective but also to include their behavioral ecology in order to understand how the different threats including climate change impact their populations.

FILM CREW BIOS



Writer, Main Character, and Assistant Director: **CONNEL BRADWELL** (He/him)

Connel Bradwell is a British born Canadian wildlife biologist and science communicator. He hosts, directs and produces content focusing on the natural world across multiple platforms, which has included the CBC, BBC Earth and Love Nature. These pieces include short documentary videos, digital series, 360 videos, social media and web-interactives, highlighting wildlife and conservation stories from across Canada, the US and the UK. Connel is a keen birder and botanist with a background in conservation research. In his research, Connel studied the behaviors of southern resident orca and has worked on tracking migratory bird populations on the Pacific flyway, and is regularly involved in invasive plant species management projects. He manages science communication programs for students across British Columbia, particularly focused on providing equitable access to the natural world for LGBTQ+ people.



FILM CREW BIOS



Director:

RIO MITCHELL (She/they)

Rio Mitchell is known for :

Animal Pride - The Nature of Things (2024)

True Survivors - The Nature of Things (2023)

Fox Chaser: A Winter on the Trapline (2018 - CSA nominated, AMPIA winning), and
Cree Code Talker (2016)

As well as Immersive Media direction and production for:

FlyOver Canadian Rockies (2022) and *FlyOver Chicago* (2024)

Indigenous People's Experience in Edmonton Alberta (2021 THEA Award)

Royal Alberta Museum immersive documentaries (human history wing, 2018)

True Survivors, Rio's first film for *The Nature of Things*, was nominated for Best Director at the World Congress of Science and Factual Producers, and Best Nature Documentary at the Canadian Screen Awards.

A bright light in a new generation of filmmaking, director Rio Mitchell is growing spectacular industry and award recognition, working agnostically between linear documentary, interactive museum installations, and large-scale immersive media experiences.

Across an innovative range, Rio produced several immersive and short films installed in the Human History wing of the ambitious new Royal Alberta Museum. She went on to become the Creative Producer for Edmonton's Indigenous People's Experience: a permanent 8000ft' immersive-media Indigenous cultural centre, winning the 2021 THEA Outstanding Achievement Award recognizing it as the year's most outstanding heritage centre worldwide.

In linear documentary, Rio's directorial debut *Fox Chaser* (CBC) was nominated for Best Documentary at the Canadian Screen Awards and swept the 2019 Alberta Motion Picture Awards.

True Survivors, Rio's first film for *The Nature of Things*, was nominated for Best Director at the World Congress of Science and Factual Producers, and Best Nature Documentary at the Canadian Screen Awards.

MUSIC COMPOSER



Music Composed by:

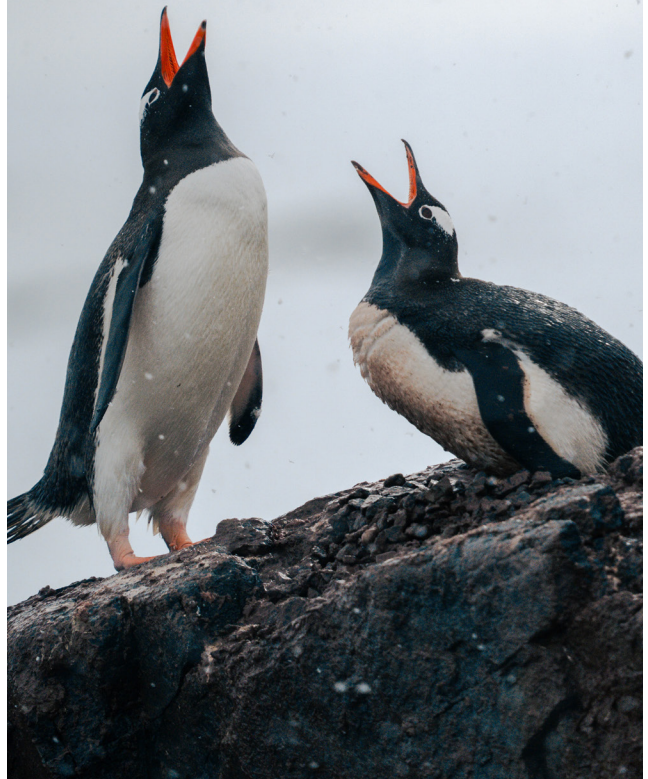
KIMMORTAL

(They/them)



KIMMORTAL aka Kim (they/them) is a multi-hyphenate artist and musician. Their ancestry is from Pangasinan and Negros Occidental, Philippines. Combining their passion for hip hop, visual art, theatre, spoken word, ancestral wisdom, and liberation, Kimmortal is known for their multi-dimensional approach to music. This past year Kim's original music for "Sort Of" (out now on HBO, CBC) was nominated for Canadian screen awards and their music video "Blue and Orange" received Best Music Video at Disorient Asian American film festival.

“There’s no longer any doubt: Nature’s queer as f***!”



FILM CREW BIOS



Producer:

CAROLYN WHITTAKER

(She/her)



Carolyn is a multifaceted entrepreneur, ecology researcher, and award winning film producer with a Master of Science (UNBC) and a certificate in film production (New York Film Academy). She was producer for *True Survivors* which was nominated for a Canadian Screen Award for Best Science and Nature documentary (2024). In 2023, Carolyn earned a Buzzie award—the Emerging Producer of the Year at the World Congress of Science and Factual Producers. She is a producer for *Animal Pride*, *Nature's Coming Out Story*, a feature documentary that explores the diversity and evolution of sexual and gender expression in the animal kingdom. She was a producer for *Carbon, the Unauthorized Biography*, which premiered in 2022. Carolyn continues to work as a consulting ecologist and is on the board of Surfrider Foundation Canada.



Director of Photography:

RYAN WILKES

(He/him)



Ryan Wilkes is a multi-talented storyteller whose passion for science, adventure and conservation is reflected in his work as a cinematographer and photographer. His diverse background, which includes a PhD in Bioengineering and experience as a materials scientist, gives him a unique perspective when it comes to communicating complex scientific topics in an accessible and engaging way. Ryan has shot on all seven continents and his cinematography can be seen in multiple documentaries currently in production with major networks including CBC, PBS and ARTE. He has received several awards for his independent short documentaries and is an alumnus of the Jackson Wild Media Lab and the Being Black in Canada filmmaking program.

FILM CREW BIOS



Co-Writer and Location Producer:

ERINN DRAGE

(She/her)



Erinn Drage is an environmentalist, filmmaker, protected areas enthusiast and outdoor adventure guide. Originally from Nova Scotia, she now calls Canmore, AB home. In recent years Erinn has worked as an expedition guide in the Arctic and Antarctica, directed, shot, and edited digital media series' for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, and conducted research on nature-based tourism economies in the Denali region of Alaska. Her first feature-length documentary, *In the Footsteps of Our Ancestors*, follows the story of the Sahtú Dene and the Canol Trail in the Northwest Territories. Erinn also works as a conservation and protected areas professional with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA).



Editor and Cinematographer:

DANNY COX

(He/him)



Editor and Director of Photography of the Canadian Screen Award nominated documentary, *True Survivors*, Danny moves seamlessly between storytelling as an editor and as a cinematographer. Director of Photography for the flagship immersive 360° projection gallery *What Makes Us Strong* at the Royal Alberta Museum, Danny was recently nominated for a shared AMPIA Rosie (Best Cinematography - Scripted under 30 minutes) for a multiscreen film at Fort Edmontons' Indigenous Peoples Experience. Working in documentary, Danny was DOP for the multi award winning films *Elder in the Making* (CBC, 2016) and *Fox Chaser* (CBC, 2019) which also awarded him an AMPIA Rosie (Best Cinematographer - Non-Fiction over 30 minutes).

FILM CREW BIOS



Story Advisor:

MO BRADLEY

(They/them)



Mo Bradley has created over 40 award-winning short films that have screened at festivals around the globe. Mo's subversive first feature, *Two 4 One* (2014), was lauded by critics as the first and best trans rom-com. It won numerous film festival awards, including the Audience Award at *Translations*, Seattle's Transgender Film Festival, and Best Canadian Feature at The Blinding Light Film Festival and Victoria Film Festival. Over the last 25 years, Bradley has been president of and sat on numerous boards of artist-run and film centres, including nationally on IMAA. Bradley was the first female director in the Director's Guild of Canada (Saskatchewan Branch). In 1992, Bradley reached their largest audience of millions on the CBC TV Series, *Road Movies*. Mo is a Professor in the Department of Writing at the University of Victoria—teaching screenwriting, film production and film studies. *Two 4 One* is available on iTunes, Google Play and Amazon. Bradley is currently developing the TV series *Dopamine* and the Telefilm-funded feature script *Missing: Presumed Dead*.



Executive Producer:

NIOBE THOMPSON

(He/him)



Anthropologist and filmmaker Niobe Thompson's documentaries reach back to our human origins, explore the mysteries of evolution, and tackle the environmental dilemmas of the Anthropocene. After co-directing the 2022 feature doc *Carbon - The Unauthorised Biography*, his 2024 film *Hunt for the Oldest DNA* premieres at CPH:DOX. He is a three-time winner of Canada's most prestigious award for science and nature documentaries: the Rob Stewart Award for "Best Science and Nature Program". His films have been nominated for two Emmy Awards, and he produced the Sundance-winning short film "Fast Horse". Niobe is the founding producer of British-Columbia based Handful of Films.

THE PRODUCTION COMPANY



HANDFUL OF FILMS

Specialist science and nature producer Handful of Films is known for intelligent, ambitious, and impactful documentary storytelling. Winner of 7 Canadian Screen Awards for "Best Science and Nature Program", "Best Cinematography" and "Best Original Score" for *The Great Human Odyssey*, *The Perfect Runner*, and *Equus - Story of the Horse*. We reached new heights in 2019, with a win at Sundance for *Fast Horse* (2019) and won a second Emmy nomination for *Transplanting Hope*.

Our recent collaboration with Director, Rio Mitchell, *True Survivors* was nominated for a Canada Screen Award for Best Science and Nature Program in 2024, a Buzzie awards for Best Director, Best Host (Sarika Suzuki) and won Canadian Screen Music Awards for Best Score (Jonathan Kawchuk). *Animal Pride* producer Carolyn Whittaker won Best Emerging Producer at the World Congress of Science and Factual Producers (2023).

We premiered our feature documentary *Carbon - The Unauthorised Biography* at CPH:DOX in 2022, a Canada-Australia co-production with Genepool Productions for CBC, ABC and ARTE, and our new feature documentary *Hunt for the Oldest DNA*, also at CPH:DOX in 2024, a co-production with Tangled Bank Studios for PBS. Our talented team works closely with founder and executive producer Niobe Thompson, to produce many award-winning documentaries for science-focused strands around the world, including PBS NOVA, CBC The Nature of Things, ZDF Terra X, ARTE and France Televisions.

For more information contact Producer Carolyn Whittaker: carolyn@handfuloffilms.ca





Handful of Films

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Adélie penguins: Antarctica