

# Thomas Cottey

## Filmmaker

Producer / Director / Editor

### Background & Profile

Thomas Cottey is a filmmaker based in Dubai, experienced working as producer, director & editor of documentary and branded content. He brings a passion for meticulous, cinematic images to his work, with a particular interest in stories about art, music and science.

He has made work for clients including Masdar, Tashkeel, Khazna, Dubai Tourism, Ernst & Young, Soho Theatre, the UAE National Centre of Meteorology, Abu Dhabi Government Media Office, ADNOC, & ENOC. His work spans stylised documentary, high-end branded content and long form narrative documentary.

Tom has also worked on a number of feature film productions, namely *Uncle Howard* by Aaron Brookner, exec produced by Jim Jarmusch, *On The Milky Road* by Emir Kusturica, *Words with Gods* produced by Guillermo Arriaga and the re-release of *Burroughs: The Movie* by Howard Brookner.

### Work History

#### MASDAR - ABU DHABI SUSTAINABILITY WEEK

Director | films by nomad, 2023

I worked in pre-production to plan shoots in UAE, Seychelles, Saudi Arabia and Serbia, co-ordinated with shoot teams and directed more than 10 ground and drone shoots to gather footage of individuals working on renewable projects and sustainability initiatives for the ADSW opening film.

#### KHAZNA - BRAND FILM & THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

Director | films by nomad, 2022

Directed the new brand film and a series of 5 thought leadership films for Khazna Data Centers, helping the brand to celebrate their 10th year of operations.

#### TASHKEEL - TANWEEN SERIES

Director & Editor | Wild Media, 2022

Directed, shot and edited a series of 5 films for the Tashkeel Tanween programme. Over 6 months I followed a group of upcoming designers, to capture the creation of 5 original works, created using sustainable design practices and materials.

#### MBZUAI - BRAND FILM

Director & Editor | Wild Media, 2022

Directed and edited the brand film for the Mohamed bin Zayed University of AI, This involved interviewing a number of leading scientists and academics in the field, and capturing an authentic glimpse of the research happening on campus.

#### ADNOC ENERGY FOR LIFE / ENERGY FOR OUR NATION / FOREFATHERS

Director & Producer, 2019 - 2021 | films by nomad, 2019 - 2021

Worked as director, producer and assistant director on several film formats for ADNOC. This includes narrative driven documentary style films about high achieving UAE nationals, UAE forefathers and ADNOC staff working across operations.

#### NCM - UAE PROGRAM FOR RAIN ENHANCEMENT SCIENCE

Director & Editor | films by nomad, 2018 & 2021

In both 2018 and 2021 I directed, produced & edited a series of 4 films for the UAE National Centre for Meteorology, including 3D animations and documentary features shot on location in the USA, Russia and China.

#### DUBAI TOURISM - VIRTUAL VISA

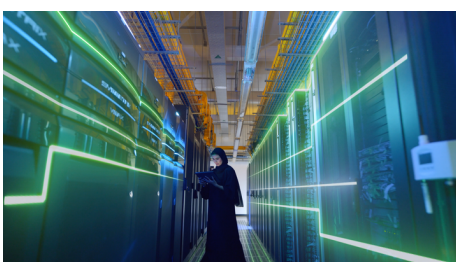
Producer & Writer | films by nomad, 2020

Wrote and produced a viral series of sketches for Dubai Tourism to promote the launch of their virtual working visa. Have currently exceeded 8 million Instagram views. Directed by Stew Game.

#### ENOC: RISING TO THE CHALLENGE

Co-Director and Editor | films by nomad, 2018-2020

Co-directed, produced & edited this 60 minute observational documentary, shot over 2 years and featuring intricate 3D graphics sequences, telling the story of ENOC's Jebel Ali refinery expansion project.



## Camera equipment

- Blackmagic Pocket 6K
- Panasonic GH4
- Smallrig BMPCC rig
- Smallrig fluid head tripod
- Manfrotto fluid head tripod
- DJI Ronin RS 2 gimbal

## Lenses

- Sigma EF 18-35mm f1.8
- Canon EF 50mm f1.8
- Canon FD 35-105mm f3.5
- Variable ND & Polarising filters

## Lighting equipment

- Smallrig 220D bi-colour light
- Smallrig softbox
- Godox LED Panel light
- Various light stands
- Reflector

## Sound equipment

- Zoom H6 audio recorder
- Sennheiser directional mic
- Wind guard
- C stand

## Editing equipment

- MacBook Pro 16 inch, 32GB RAM

## Vehicle

- Ford Escape compact SUV

## UNCLE HOWARD

Director's Assistant | Pinball London, 2016

Worked as assistant to director Aaron Brookner, throughout the production and during the premiere at the 2016 Sundance Film Festival.

## ON THE MILKY ROAD

Production Coordinator | Pinball London, 2016

Worked under lead producer Paula Vaccaro on this film directed by Emir Kusturica, during the production and preparation for the premiere at Venice Film Festival.

## BURROUGHS: THE MOVIE

Digital Content Producer | Pinball London, 2014

Worked on the festival and release campaign for Burroughs: The Movie, as well as the preparation of extras for the film's release by the Criterion Collection.

## WORDS WITH GODS

Digital Content Producer | Pinball London, 2014

Worked on the festival and release campaign of Words with Gods, creating a wide array of assets from video edits to graphics to written material. Also handled the festival DCP schedule.

## VARIOUS PRODUCTIONS

Production Assistant & Runner | Current TV & The Edit Store, 2010-2014

Assisted and ran on numerous projects at Current TV and The Edit Store in London, frequently on shows including BBC Panorama.

## A SEASON OF JODOROWSKY

Director & Producer | Student documentary, 2010

Directed & produced documentary A Season of Jodorowsky while a student at the University of Westminster.

## Academic Highlights

### UNIVERSITY OF WESTMINSTER

BA (Hons) Film & Television Production 2.1 | 2007 - 2010

First class dissertation on The New German Cinema

## Training

- Berlinale Talent Campus, Talent Press, February 2013
- Nisimazine Cannes workshop, May 2013
- AVID Media Composer, London Academy Diploma, February 2014
- Digital Asset Management, KES & BECTU, October 2015
- Guardian Masterclass: How to use Twitter effectively
- Guardian Masterclass: So you've got an idea for a documentary?

## Skills

- Editing software: Adobe Premiere, AVID Media Composer, Final Cut 7 & X
- Camera operation including Sony FS7 & A7, Blackmagic Pocket Cinema Camera, Canon, Panasonic
- Lighting - 3 point interview lighting, documentary lighting techniques, collaborating with DOPs
- Photoshop, Excel, Word, Wordpress, Squarespace