



TESSA BARLIN

DOCUMENTARY FILMMAKER

CONTACT ME



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EDUCATION

BA Honours

Documentary Filmmaking
University of Cape Town
2017

Bachelor of Arts

Screen Production
University of Cape Town
2014-2016

AWARDS

The Star Project

National Geographic Storytelling Grant
2021

Beyond The Fence

Honourable Mention
World Wildlife Day (2020)
UN Headquarters

Best Cinematography

Global Impact Film Festival (2020)
Washington, DC

Best Short Film

Ireland Wildlife Film Festival (2020)

Best South African Short Documentary
Jozi Film Festival (2020)

The Water Dancers

Best Student Film
SAFTA 13 Awards (2019)

Cassandra

Best Student Film
Jozi International Film Festival (2017)

INTRODUCTION

I am a documentary filmmaker, Divemaster and National Geographic Explorer driven by my inherent belief that strong storytelling has the power to change the world. I am first and foremost a camerawoman, with additional skills in producing, directing, video editing and stills photography. I aim to tell stories that highlight the relationship between people and nature, and especially those that champion indigenous people. As my network and experience has grown, so has my passion. I value empathy and a strong sense of purpose, and I will always strive to create impact in the work that I do.

WORK EXPERIENCE

WILDAID | (2022)

Video Editor

Edited PSA's and short documentaries for WildAid's "Unsung Hero" series.

ACTIVATE! ACADEMY | (2020-2021)

Junior Videographer

Experience filming and editing in-studio presenter led educational videos. Gained foundational knowledge of graphic design and motion graphics.

NEWF | (2019)

Digital Media Manager

Filmed and edited videos (topside & underwater), managed NEWF's social media presence, co-ordinated video campaigns, learned to fly drones.

RHINO AFRICA | (2015-2016)

Multimedia Intern

Gained foundational knowledge of filming and editing short documentaries.

INDUSTRY

TITLE	PRODUCTION COMPANY	TYPE	ROLE
BBC Our Green Planet (2022)	BBC Studios	Digital	DOP
Prehistoric Planet (2020)	BBC Studios	TV Series	DOP
The Mating Game (2019)	Silverback Films	TV Series	1st AC
Beyond The Fence (2019)	Self Produced	Short Doc	Producer
The Water Dancers (2017)	UCT	Short Doc	DOP
Cassandra (2016)	UCT	Short Film	DOP
Fried Barry (2018)	Ryan Kruger TV	Feature Film	2nd AC
Shortstraw Snores (2017)	The Brave Cartel	Music Video	2nd AC

SKILLS & QUALIFICATIONS

PADI Divemaster
(No: 516178)



Cameras
RED, ARRI, Sony, Canon



Editing
Premiere Pro & After Effects



Graphic Design
Adobe Illustrator

