

# MAX POLLEY

## director of photography

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## OVERVIEW

I am a Director of Photography specialising in premium documentary and cinematic factual storytelling for global audiences. My career began in Australia's remote Outback, where I developed a visual language shaped by scale, isolation, and authenticity—working across regions from the Kimberley to Cape York Peninsula under demanding, real-world conditions.

I later spent several formative years based in London, shooting internationally across more than 50 countries. During this period, I delivered fast-turnaround global stories alongside longer-form documentary and music-driven projects, refining a visual approach that balanced cinematic ambition with narrative.

Over the past decade, my work has focused on high-end, long-form projects designed for premium platforms, including *Limitless* with Chris Hemsworth, *Journeys to the Ends of the Earth*, *Atlas: Australia Revealed*, Al Gore's Climate Reality Project, and *Who Do You Think You Are?* I have also served as Director of Photography on 6 seasons of *Love It or List It Australia*, which received a Gold AACTA Award.

My work has been recognised with multiple Australian Cinematographers Society awards. I work fluently across contemporary production and post-production workflows.

My focus is on creating visually authored, cinematic films. I am drawn to character-driven stories with global resonance and a strong sense of place.

I'm proficient in Final Cut Pro.

I'm also a CASA ReOC holder and try to incorporate drone cinematography wherever it's deemed appropriate.

## LONG FORM productions

- **ADDICTED: The Synthetic Curse** (CNA)
- **WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?** Miranda Otto (Warners)
- **WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?** Lisa Curry (Warners)
- **WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?** Bert Newton (Warners)
- **WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?** Jennifer Byrne (Warners)
- **LIMITLESS** with Chris Hemsworth (Nutopia)
- **I FRANKENSTEIN** *Behind the Scenes* (LAKESHORE ENT.)
- **THE CLIMATE REALITY PROJECT** (Al Gore)
- **HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON STADIUM SPECTACULAR** (DREAMWORKS)
- **FAT SICK AND NEARLY DEAD** (Joe Cross)
- **SYDNEY'S NEW YEARS EVE** (Discovery)
- **TABOO** (Discovery)
- **ATLAS: AUSTRALIA REVEALED** (Discovery HD)
- **ONE STEP BEYOND** 10 X 1 hr series (Discovery)
- **DEADLY WOMEN** 3 X 1 hr series (Discovery)
- **SECRETS OF AUSTRALIA** 1 hr (Discovery)
- **SECRETS OF SYDNEY** 1 hr (Discovery)
- **DYNAMO BERLIN** Neo Nazi soccer fans 1 hr (DSF)

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- **KAMCHATKA** "The Forbidden Zone" 1 hr **Highly Commended ACS** (Travel Channel)
- **PERU** "The Lost City of Gold" 1 hr (Travel Channel)
- **BOLIVIA** "The Last Trail of Butch and Sundance" 1 hr **Awarded Gold ACS** (Travel Channel)
- **PAKISTAN** "The Road to Shangri-La" 1 hr (Travel Channel)
- **CAMBODIA** "Search for the Lost Unicorn of Cambodia" 1 hr (Travel Channel)
- **LIBYA** "The Ancient Chariots of Libya" 1 hr **Awarded Gold ACS** (Travel Channel)
- **SYDNEY OLYMPIC GAMES 2000** The Making of SOBO (S.O.B.O.)
- **CRICKET IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC** (IMG-TWI / ICC)
- **THE BIG BEAT** 1 hr (ABC)

### Television Programs

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>2026</b> Insight<br>Rivals  | <b>(SBS)</b><br><b>(Ronde Media)</b>  |
| <b>2025 Director of Photography</b><br>Love It Or List It Australia S6<br><br>Wonka  | <b>(Foxtel)</b><br><br><b>(Netflix)</b>   |
| <b>2024 Director of Photography</b><br>Love It Or List It Australia S5   | <b>(Foxtel)</b>   |
| <b>2022 The Bachelor</b>   | <b>(Warners)</b>  |
| <b>2021 Director of Photography</b><br>When Sharks Attack<br>Russell Howard Stands Up To The World<br>Keith Urban I Am Calm<br>UNITI Wireless Re-brand | <b>(National Geographic)</b><br><b>(Sky Channel)</b><br><b>(CALM)</b><br><b>(UNITI)</b> |
| <b>2021</b> The Mole   | <b>(Netflix)</b>  |
| <b>2020 Director of Photography</b><br>Love It Or List It Australia S4   | <b>(Foxtel)</b>   |
| <b>2019 Director of Photography</b><br>Love It Or List It Australia S3<br>Who Do You Think You Are?<br><b>Bert Newton, Lisa Curry Kenny</b>            | <b>(Foxtel)</b><br><br><b>(Warners)</b>   |
| <b>2018</b><br>-Who Do You Think You Are?<br><b>Jennifer Byrne</b>   | <br><br><b>(Warners)</b>  |
| <b>2017-18</b><br><b>Director of Photography</b><br>Love It Or List It Australia S1 and 2  | <br><br><b>(Foxtel)</b>   |

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### 2006-16

-Sunday Night	(7)
-Getaway	(9)
-How Do I Look?	(NBC)
-Money For Jam	(9)
-So You Think You Can Dance	(10)
-Farmer Wants a Wife	(9)
-Biggest Loser	(10)
-Promos	(Foxtel)
-Australian Idol	(10)
-Missing Persons Unit Series 2	(9)
-Big Brother	(10)
-Missing Persons Unit Series 1	(9)

## AWARDS for CINEMATOGRAPHY

### 2024 QLD STATE AWARDS FOR CINEMATOGRAPHY - SILVER

"Miranda Otto; Who Do You Think You Are?"

### 2024 QLD STATE AWARDS FOR CINEMATOGRAPHY - SILVER "Love It Or List It Australia"

### 2019 AACTA Awards, GOLD Best Lifestyle Program Australia 2019

"Love It Or List It Australia"

### 2005 NSW STATE AWARDS FOR CINEMATOGRAPHY – HIGHLY COMMENDED "Deadly Women" EPISODE 1 of SERIES 1

### 2001 NSW STATE AWARDS FOR CINEMATOGRAPHY - GOLD

BOLIVIA: "The Last Trail of Butch and Sundance" (Discovery)

### 2001 NSW STATE AWARDS FOR CINEMATOGRAPHY - GOLD

LIBYA: "The Ancient Chariots of Libya" (Discovery)

### 2001 NSW STATE AWARDS FOR CINEMATOGRAPHY - HIGHLY COMMENDED

KAMCHATKA: "The Forbidden Zone" (Discovery)

### 2002 NSW STATE AWARDS FOR CINEMATOGRAPHY - HIGHLY COMMENDED

THE BIG FISH: "Kimberleys Barramundi"

### 2002 Australian NATIONAL AWARDS FOR CINEMATOGRAPHY - DISTINCTION

BOLIVIA: "The Last Trail of Butch and Sundance" (Discovery)

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