

# DEREK SMITH CV 2025

**1969-** Begin photography of declining industrial communities on Teesside.

**1971-2 The Last Days of Newport** seven minutes 8mm with sound  
a documentary about the decline of an industrial community in Middlesbrough

**1973 Bill Brookes Painter of Darwen.** With Ian Potts made at the Polytechnic of Central London, eight minutes, 16mm sound. Copy in the North West Arts film collection and Westminster University.

**1975 Teesside Industrial Communities.** Exhibition of photographs at Half Moon Gallery Alie Street London E1. Tours to Sunderland Arts Centre. Catalogue.

**1975 Royal Photographic Society, Young Photographer of the Year.**

**1977 Artist in Residence** Sussex University. Research in Mass Observation Archive and rediscovery of Humphrey Spender work. Produced Exhibition and catalogue: **Humphrey Spender: Worktown.** Photographs for Mass Observation 1937-38.  
Exhibition of own photographs. Win Southern Arts Award.

**1977-79 Photographer in Residence** Brewery Arts Centre, Kendal. Established Photographic Gallery and photography workshops. Monthly exhibitions many originated at Kendal including: **The Keswick Brothers** The mountaineering photographs of George and Ashley Abraham. Printed from original glass negatives by DS. Research and production. Text by Alan Hankinson. **Kendal in Photographs** the first major show about the town. Hosted the Granada TV exhibition **Camera.**

Also: **Flying at Stonehenge.** Martin Parr's off beat collection of postcards.  
As well as a one person show by Martin Parr.

**James Jarché: Press Picture Pioneer.** The first exhibition on the legendary press photographer and Grandfather of David Suchet. 45 Page illustrated catalogue published by Popperfoto.

**1978-1980 Director Side Gallery** of Photography, Side, Newcastle Upon Tyne.  
Curated and originated over 10 exhibitions including Mauretania. Discovery of Jimmy Forsyth, the Scotswood Road photographer.

**1980 Northern Arts Travel Award** to New York to research James Van Der Zee exhibition for Side Gallery. Research at Youngstown a declining Ohio Steel town.

**1980 Return Journey.** Subject of Arts Council of Great Britain documentary about photography work at Sussex, Kendal and Newcastle with Humphrey Spender and Jimmy Forsyth. 42 minutes. Director Ian Potts.

**1980 Basil Bunting:** Introduction to the work of a Poet. Research and script development. Arts Council of Great Britain.

**1980 Thomas Annan** – Exhibition for 3<sup>rd</sup> Eye Centre Glasgow and Catalogue.

**1980 – Researcher** Tyne Tees Television, Newcastle Upon Tyne.

Work on weekly ITV arts magazine programme: **Come In** 1980-85.

Weekly 5-10minute films and studio items over 3 years including films:

George Melly on René Magritte. filmed on Newcastle Quayside.

Ian Macdonald photographer. Curtains:the decline of regional theatres, with Nat Jackley.

Eric Fenby in Filey and Scarborough on Frederick Delius.

Humphrey Jennings with Mary Lou Jennings. The Low Street, the production of Tom Hadaway's play.

Early North East newsreel film with Bob Danvers-Walker, the voice of Pathé News.

Andrzej Panufnik, Composing Myself with Anthony Hopkins.

Half hour **documentaries** include:

**Bobby Thompson: The Little Waster** the legendary North East stand-up comedian. **Channel Four**

**It's A Lovely Day Tomorrow:** Photographer Bert Hardy. With James Cameron and Sir Tom Hopkinson. Instigated Side Gallery Show of the photographs used in the film.

**Cherry Knowle**, Art in a long stay psychiatric hospital in Ryhope.

**Gracie Fields.** The Lancashire Britannia with Professor Jeffrey Richards

**Lucan and McShane.** The tempestuous life of the famous music hall and film stars

**Will Hay.** Stockton born film and stage comedian.

**Super Troupers** Seven-part Channel Four series about the golden days of Variety recreating original acts. Including my reconstruction of Jimmy James' The Animals in the Box sketch, with Jim Casey Eli Woods and Reg Varney.

**The Fancy.** An hour-long film for Channel Four about racing pigeon culture.

**Curtains.** documentary about the rebirth of the New Tyne Theatre, with Roy Hudd. Royal Television Society North East Awards. Winner best documentary. 1986

**Play it Again** a network ITV film clip programme with Tony Bilbow. Guest and also film research. A film-based desert Island discs format.

Including: Julie Walters, Windsor Davies, Arthur Marshall, Bernard Miles, David Puttnam.

**The Works**, 1986 regional arts series developed from **Come In**, including Northumbrian poet Basil Bunting one hour special.

Poetry with Tony Harrison reading **V** supported by Tom Pickard reading from Customs and Exile.

A film about artist Glen Baxter.

The surreal world of Tyneside humorist Len Barras:" It's a Dull Old Life Really "

**Voices of War** 1987. **Associate Producer** A six-part Channel Four series. The First World War in personal documents, film and photographs. Also main picture research for the supporting book with Leo Cooper. The episodes:

1. Loss of Innocence
2. In the Line
3. Man to Man
4. Image and Reality

5. Crucifix and Talisman

6. Legacies

**1986-87 Mancunian Presents.** Channel Four. Major survey of the Manchester Film Studios.

**1986 No Fancy Shades.** The Tyneside photographer Jimmy Forsyth. Documentary.

Editing and production of associated best-selling book with Bloodaxe Books, and exhibition of photographs at Side Gallery.

1986 **Wild About Liszt.** Concert pianist Earl Wild celebrates the Liszt anniversary at Wynyard Hall with his friend Lord Londonderry.

BP Arts Award Winner.

**1988-1989 Network Producer** BBC North East, Newcastle Upon Tyne

1988 **Sentence Passed.** 1 hour pilot and planned series with Judge James Pickles. and ex-offenders sentenced by him. Presented by Valerie Singleton. Series researched but not commissioned.

**The Art of Travel:** a five-part series for BBC-2 produced by Trevor Hearing. Completed by DS when TH left for Tyne Tees TV.

Also supervised a BBC -2 commissioned day time railway series produced by Ken Stevinson.

**1989-1990** Director and Producer. Established independent production company **Bewick Films** with John Mapplebeck initially to make **His Majesty's Most Loyal Enemy Aliens.** about artists interned on the Isle of Man 1940-41. RTS best documentary Award 1990. A Border TV- Tyne Tees TV co-production.

**1990** Return to Tyne Tees as freelance director.

**Half hour documentaries:**

Ice Hockey film: family ice rinks across North East.

Durham Choir School

Roland Boyes. Houghton MP and photographer.

**Flashback,** one episode in the six-part archive series: Vox Pops 1960-65

**The Elements:** A six-part arts series on artists and the elements

Also screened on Channel Four

**Forbidden Ground.** 40-minute film about art and the post-industrial landscape artists include Richard Deacon and Claus Oldenberg (Middlesbrough Bottle of Notes)

Films for Border TV under Bewick:

**Burns in Beirut.** Burns and the Beirut hostage Tom Sutherland

**Haig: A Scottish Soldier.** General Haig and the first World War.

RTS Best Documentary 1991

**Farewell Happy Fields:** The poet Kathleen Raine.

**1992** BBC North East: **Close Up North.** with Peter Hetherington of the Guardian. The North North Divide. A second **Close Up North** on Local Government.

**1993 African Adventure:** a promotional film about Windsor Safari Park with Terry Nutkins.

**1994** Established Rough Sea Productions to make:

**A City Speaks.** Architect Terry Farrell

Two public information films for Northumbria Police. **The Tip of the Iceberg** about the processes involved in solving a burglary. The work of the Control Centre.

**Postcards from Paradise:** Border TV. Artists and the Lake District landscape. Including Conrad Atkinson and Ingrid Lewis. 1996

**The Eye of Compassion:** Magnum Photos founder George Rodger. 1994  
Silver Medal New York Film and TV Festivals (The New York Festivals)

For Trade Films: **The Real Resource:** Three international stories for the European Trade Union College. 1993

**1993** Northumbria University Media Production BA. External Examiner.

**The Wazunga Kids** a Channel Four drama. 1993, Main cinematographer.

**1995** Lucida Productions London, Associate Producer on Channel 4 **Cinefile** programmes: School Daze, Dark and Deadly (Film Noir) John Walters, and Novel Image with William Boyd.

**1995 Spirit of the Stone:** The town of Whitehaven and it's USA connections.  
Border TV.

**Shooting the Albatross:** The Rhyme of the Ancient Mariner. 1996  
Developed idea with Mark Lavender who produced and directed for Border TV.

**Video Me.** A series of 6 x 5 minute self-portraits Border TV

**Vision and Art:** with Paul Collard. Border TV Eyecatchers series

**1996 Working for Lucian.** Lucian Freud as seen by his models. With William Feaver. Border TV.

**Blessed are They:** A secular view of the Beatitudes. Two series of 8 films for ITV-1. Includes the Dalai Lama and John Taverner. 1996-7

**Leading Scots:** four films on Scottish political leaders with David Steel 1997.

**The Garden of Cosmic Speculation.** with Charles Jenks. The Jenks' garden in Dumfries created as a vision of the cosmos. Co- directed with Peter Chapman.

with Frank Gehry, Daniel Libeskind. 1997

**1997 Move to London.**

The Inner Compass of Certainty. New York Painter John Heliker. ( Heliker / LaHotan Foundation New York )

**1998** Westminster University, Contemporary Media Production. External Examiner

**1998-2000** Illness

**2000- Community work** on Gascoyne Estate, Hackney. twenty years as secretary of Resident's Association. Established and funded Gascoyne Youth Club 2003 Established popular Well Street Common Festival with Caroline Bousfield Gregory. Produced the award-winning community ceramic mural with Jola Spitowska. BURA Award 2003.

Well Street Common User Group. Secretary and Vice Chair. 2001 -2007

Young People's Photography project: Well Street Common. Funded and devised project with 23 young people and produced exhibition at Hackney Library.

Established Well Street Common Festival Football Tournament with Y2K.

2001 for 16 years. Arranged three years of Saturday football practice; three years of drama and music for young people during summer on Gascoyne Estate. Hackney Winter Night Shelter, cook 2017-22

**2001 -2003** Work with Ian Potts on **Meet the Ancestor's** BBC-2 including **Celtic Princess**. Additional camera and sound.  
**History Zone** documentary with Philippa Gregory on Thomas A Beckett.

**Pass That Exam:** With Dr David Lewis: DP. Producer Tony Cornford

**2003-4 Todmorden Moor** in Need of Rescue for Todmorden Moor Restoration Trust  
**2004 The Noise:** Young People and drugs in Hackney. Frampton Park Ministry and Drug Action Team.

**2004 Ray Estate:** A year in the life of a Northumbrian Estate. Viscount Davenport.

**2004 -2014** Eight films with Community psychiatrist and Nidotherapy exponent Professor Peter J Tyrer: **Three Patients in Nidotherapy. Louise's Nidotherapy Story. Films of Nidotherapy Conferences 2012-2014** include developing interviews with patients. A film with adults with learning difficulties – **The Rabbit Burglar**.

**The Lost Communities of Industrial Teesside** Photography exhibition of my 1970's photographs opened at Chat's Palace, Hackney. Toured to Preston Hall Museum Stockton, and Darlington Arts Centre. Archived at The Side Gallery Newcastle Upon Tyne.

**2007 East End Eden** Show day at the Leyton Allotment Society.

**2008 An Exile in Paradise: The Adventures of Edward Lear.** Developed and directed a three-part series in HD, screened on Sky Arts 2. and worldwide stations.

**Arts Silver World Medal New York Festivals 2009. Series runs for 4 years on SkyArts.**

**2008 Heartsounds Uganda:** City University. A group of mental health service users visit their counterparts in Uganda.

**2009** City University CETL, the work of mental health crisis action units in Hackney and Tower Hamlets.

**2010** Short film for RAF Benevolent Fund

**2010** A short promotional film for **Exposure** the musical by creator Mike Dyer.

**2011 Tough Travels.** Work with a group of young deaf people who explore issues behind travel. Shortlisted for the 2011 May Deaffest.

**2011 Dave Pearson: To Byzantium.** The extraordinary prolific painter Dave Pearson. For the Dave Pearson Trust. 46 minutes.

Transmission on the Community Channel 11<sup>th</sup> November 2011 then regular repeats to 2013.

**2012 Suchet Shoots Britain.** David Suchet follows in the footsteps of his famous grandfather, press photographer James Jarché. An ITV Productions documentary. Consultant.

**2013 A Pride Job:** The worker's story of the world-renowned engineering works where Mrs Thatcher made her famous Walk in the Wilderness. Screened Community Channel June 2013-2015. The film accompanies a major book **Life at Heads** published by Teesside Industrial Memories Society April 2013

**2015 Victory's Children**

What became of the 12 children photographed at a 1945 VE Day party. Film and major Arts Council supported touring Exhibition. Shown on The Community Channel 2015.

**2017 Gascoyne Lives:** The Golden Years of Social Housing, film and major exhibition at Hackney Museum. Documentary opens The East End Film Festival.

**2018 Thornaby Lives.** Major historical exhibition on the industrial town 1892-1992.

**2018 Red Call,** a feature film written and directed by Steve Gough. Cinematographer

**2019 Dibbles Bridge:** Britain's Worst Road Disaster. Screened on Together TV. (Community Channel) from 2020

**2020 Picture Stories:** The story of the Picture Post the legendary picture magazine. An 85minute documentary by Rob West. Associate Producer.

**2021 After the War: Finsbury Stories.** Members of a Local history group tell their remarkable stories about life in one of London's long-lost boroughs. screened on Together TV regularly throughout 2021 and 2022.

### **In production 2025**

Films:

**Joyce Edwards:** The life and work of the Hampstead photographer and landlady.

**A Story of Squatters:** What became of London's most creative squatting community of the 1970's.

Books:

**Picture Post 1938-1957: The Dead Stories**

A book with Colin Wilkinson, we explore the 2000 stories that were never published by this legendary magazine. Publication: April 2025

Films being researched:

**Gudrun's Day Out.** Inspired by a photograph of Heinrich Himmler's daughter on a visit to meet him at Dachau concentration camp in 1941.

**Sparkie and the Stuff of Celebrity.** Sparkie: Tyneside's famous talking budgie 1956 -1961

### **Publications:**

**James Jarché Press Picture Pioneer.** The work of a great press photographer.

Popperfoto 1980

Thomas Annan Photographs of Old Glasgow. The Third Eye Centre. 1980.

**Weegee .** Photographs of New York. The Side Gallery. 1979

**The Scotswood Road.** The work of Jimmy Forsyth. Bloodaxe Books in association with Tyne Tees TV. 1987

**Out of One Eye.** The photographs of Jimmy Forsyth. With Anthony Flowers. 2003

Full page Obituary for Jimmy Forsyth, The Guardian 2009 July 16

Guardian piece on Mancunian Films broadcast on Channel Four.

Various articles in Arts North.

Articles published in The Remember When magazine – Evening Gazette, M'bro.

**What Happened to the Old Films of Thornaby?** Sept 17, 2011, 3 pages.

**Life at Heads,** 6 April 2013. 3 pages.

**Victory's Children** March 2015: 3 pages

**Thornaby Pride Magazine** quarterly features since spring 2015

**Gascoyne Lives** Resident's testimonies of life about the celebrated Hackney estate. 50 pages.

**Thornaby Lives** Major history of the industrial town 1892-1992: 190 pages, 350 photographs based on over 75 interviews with residents. 2021

**Finsbury Stories** The lost London Borough of Finsbury seen through the eyes of a community history group. 90 pages 100 photographs, based on interviews with residents and based on the documentary. 2022

**Thornaby Stories** My second volume about the town. 110 pages. 250 photographs. December 2024

**Awards:**

**New York Festivals. TV Programming.** Arts Silver World Medal for Exile in Paradise: The Adventures of Edward Lear 2009;

Silver Medals for George Rodger: The Eye of Compassion 1995 and

Blessed are They: Sheri Laizer and the scandal of the Kurdish Lands 1998

**Royal Television Society** NE Awards: Best Factual Programme: 1988, 1991, 1994, 1997. **BP**

**Arts Awards:** Winner for Wild About Liszt 1986