



## GEMMA HIRST ASSOCIATES

Literary Media, Film & TV Agency

### JOHNNY SMITH

Johnny Smith is an experienced animation and live action screenwriter. As one half of Sprackling and Smith, the comedy screenwriting team, he has sold numerous original feature film scripts in the UK and in Hollywood, including Disney's box office hit GNOMEO & JULIET, nominated for an Annie Award in 2012. Sprackling and Smith also wrote the top 5 grossing UK feature film MIKE BASSETT: ENGLAND MANAGER, writing and exec-producing the TV series spin off for ITV.

They are currently working on the sequel MIKE BASSETT: INTERIM MANAGER in development with Riley Productions /BFI and a brand new, original feature commission for Aardman Animation. Johnny and Rob have recently completed development work on ANIMAL FARM for Andy Serkis at the Imaginarium Studios. They have also been commissioned to work on a family feature with Fox Animation, and are working on a feature rewrite for Mosvold Studios. They have just started work on a new animated feature based on their original script with nWave Studios. In a solo capacity Johnny is working with Constantin Film on a book-to-film adaptation as well as writing on an animated children's series with Spider Eye Productions. He has recently started development work on a new animated feature film for FunnyFlux.

For television, Johnny worked on the new series of DENNIS AND GNASHER for Red Kite Animation, for whom he has also written the pilot scripts for a new animated series. He also worked on the recent revival of the classic series DANGERMUSE for the BBC and has written scripts for Wish Film and Komixx. His previous credits include lead writer on MUDDLE EARTH and multiple episodes of WIBBLY PIG, both for the BBC.

On the book side, Johnny has a four book deal with Scholastic for JOHN SMITH IS NOT BORING!, a series of children's books. The first two books, CAP'N JOHN THE (SLIGHTLY) FIERCE and SIR JOHN THE (MOSTLY) BRAVE, were published in April 2015, and the second two, SHERIFF JOHN THE (PARTLY) WILD and SPACEMAN JOHN THE (NEARLY) BOLD, were published in July 2015.

Johnny is represented in the UK by Gemma Hirst Associates and by Charlie Ferraro at UTA in the USA. He is a member of the WGA (West).



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### **FEATURE FILMS**

#### **UNTITLED (nWave Studios)**

Animated Feature Film rewrite on original script with Rob Sprackling

#### **UNTITLED FEATURE (Mosvold Studios/Kool Produktion AS)**

Rewrite commission on animated children's feature with Rob Sprackling

#### **UNTITLED FEATURE (FunnyFlux)**

Commissioned to write a new animated feature film

#### **UNTITLED FEATURE (Constantin Film)**

Book-to-film adaptation

#### **UNTITLED FEATURE (Aardman Animation)**

Original feature treatment and screenplay commission with Rob Sprackling

#### **PANDAMANIA (Feather Productions & Snowfish Productions)**

Script rewrite of family feature screenplay with Rob Sprackling

#### **Comedy polish on feature film (Aardman Animation)**

#### **UNTITLED FEATURE (Fox Animation)**

Commissioned to write a family feature with Rob Sprackling

#### **ANIMAL FARM (Imaginarium Studios)**

Commissioned to write treatment and first draft screenplay for a new adaptation of this classic.

#### **MIKE BASSETT: INTERIM MANAGER (Riley Productions /BFI)**

Feature film sequel in development.

#### **THE LOVE GOD (Steve Barron & Stewart Till/Icon Distribution)**

Re-write of original romantic-comedy feature for producers Stewart Till and Steven Barron.

#### **THE PHOBES (Antyx Animation)**

Commissioned family feature screenplay, currently in development.



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### **THE ADVENTURER: THE CURSE OF THE MIDAS BOX (Entertainment Motion)**

Rewrite of feature film script based on the book by best-selling children's author G.P. Taylor. Released in January 2014 starring Sam Neill, Martin Sheen and Ioan Gruffudd.

### **LOVE IS THE DRUG (Independent Films)**

Commissioned feature screenplay.

### **WHY I DID (NOT) EAT MY FATHER (Pathé/Les Animeurs)**

Page 1 rewrite based on the best-selling book by Roy Lewis.

### **TORTOISE VS HARE (Aardman/Dreamworks)**

Page 1 rewrite of an animation movie, in pre-production.

### **THE LOVE GOD (BBC Films)**

Original, high concept romantic comedy screenplay sold to BBC Films.

### **GNOMEO & JULIET\* (Disney)**

Original screenplay and story for feature-length animation. Worldwide release in February 2011, the film has taken \$200m worldwide. Directed by Kelly Asbury (*Shrek 2*). James McAvoy, Emily Blunt, Sir Michael Caine, Dame Maggie Smith, Jason Statham, Sir Patrick Stewart, Matt Lucas and Ashley Jensen among the voice cast. Features classic Elton John songs such as Crocodile Rock, Saturday Night and Your Song, in addition to original songs from John and longtime writing partner Bernie Taupin. \* 2011 BAFTA Children's Awards – Kids' Vote Nominee

### **THE QUEEN'S CORGI (Montecito Pictures/Rocket)**

Original screenplay sold to Ivan Reitman (*Ghostbusters*) at Montecito Pictures (L.A.).

### **MIKE BASSETT: ENGLAND MANAGER (Hallmark)**

Wrote the UK Number 1 British hit, starring Ricky Tomlinson. *"This sports satire is arguably the best football film ever made, and unarguably the funniest."* **Radio Times.**

### **FRENCH EXCHANGE (Talkback/BVI)**

Page 1 rewrite, feature comedy.



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### **BITCH BITCH BITCH (New Line, USA)**

Page 1 rewrite, feature comedy.

### **20<sup>th</sup> CENTURY BOY (HAL/Miramax)**

Commissioned to write an extended treatment for an original feature film.

### **BLACKWATER ZOO (Jim Henson/20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox Animation)**

Original screenplay feature animation

Uncredited feature film rewrites include: **Shooting Fish, Five Children And It, The Best Man, The Magic Roundabout, Goose On The Loose, The Truth About Love, The Abduction Club** and **Thunderpants**. They have written several commissioned treatments for Hollywood movies including: **The Polar Express** for Playtone/Universal and **Harold And The Purple Crayon** for Warner Bros.

### **TELEVISION**

#### **THE HAPPOS FAMILY (Spider Eye Productions)**

Commissioned to write 4 x 2 min scripts for new animated children's show.

#### **NIBELUNGEN SAGA (m4e AG)**

Commissioned to write pitch Bible deck, pitch Bible, storylines, pilot treatment and pilot script for new animated comedy show for boys aged 6 to 9.

#### **BRADLEY AND BEE (Red Kite Animation)**

Commissioned to provide additional 'punch up' material for scripts for this new series.

#### **WANDA AND THE ALIEN (Wish Films/ Komixx for Channel 5)**

Commissioned to write two ten minute scripts for this new animated pre-school series.

#### **BRADLEY AND BEE (Red Kite Animation)**

Commissioned to write bible and two scripts for this new series.

#### **DENNIS AND GNASHER (Red Kite Animation)**



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Commissioned to write three episodes for Series 4.

### **DANGERMOUSE (CBBC)**

Commissioned to write bible and pilot script and show run new series in development reviving this classic.

### **THE LAST WILL (Hat Trick Productions)**

Original comedy drama series idea optioned and currently in development.

### **REBEL TOYS (Chapman Entertainment)**

Bible and script for animated TV series currently in development.

### **MUDDLE EARTH\* (BBC)**

Lead writer on major new CBBC animation series – edited and polished scripts for all 26 episodes and wrote a core block. Based on the popular books by Paul Stewart & Chris Riddell starring David Jason.

\*2011 BAFTA Children's Awards Nominee – Best Animation Programme

### **WIBBLY PIG (BBC)**

Writer of ten episodes for CBeebies/Wish Films, based on the popular books by Mick Inkpen.

### **MIKE BASSETT: MANAGER (ITV)**

Wrote and produced six part TV spin-off from the feature film.

### **CAPTAIN BUTLER (Channel 4)**

Conceived and wrote six part comedy series.

### **LOGGERHEADS (Absolutely Productions)**

One-off episode for animation comedy show.

### **ENGLAND VS SCOTLAND (Channel 4)**

One-off comedy show.

### **WOODLAND TALES (Jim Henson Productions)**

Pilot TV sit-com script.



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**NOAH'S ARK (Jim Henson Productions)**

Pilot TV sit-com script.

**GRUTZBADEN SPA (Jim Henson Productions)**

Co-wrote TV sit-com pilot with Richard Curtis.

**THE ANIMAL SHOW (Jim Henson Productions)**

Series contributors.