



## GEMMA HIRST ASSOCIATES

Literary Media, Film & TV Agency

### **ROB SPRACKLING**

Rob Sprackling is an experienced screenwriter and award-winning writer/director working across comedy, live action and animation. He has written and is attached to direct his first feature, a comedy horror, *RISE OF THE APPLIANCES*, after he wrote and directed a short of the same name which won the British Horror Award at the British Horror Film Festival 2011, Best Horror Comedy at the Oklahoma Horror Film Festival 2010 and Best Short Film at Shriekfest Los Angeles 2010. He also wrote and directed the short film *GREEN MONKEY* which won a number of awards including best film at the New York Short Film Festival. As one half of Sprackling & Smith, an experienced comedy screenwriting team, he has sold numerous original feature film scripts here and in Hollywood, including Disney's box office hit *GNOMEO & JULIET* which was long-listed for the best animation BAFTA and an ANNIE Award for best screenplay.

Together with partner Johnny Smith he did a page one re-write of the Aardman movie *TORTOISE VS HARE*. Sprackling & Smith also work in adult comedy and conceived and wrote the feature film *MIKE BASSETT: ENGLAND MANAGER* – the number one low budget (under \$10 million) Brit film at the UK box office in the year of its release. They went on to write and exec-produce the TV series spin off *MIKE BASSETT: MANAGER* for ITV and are currently working on the sequel feature film *MIKE BASSETT: INTERIM MANAGER* in development with Riley Productions /BFI. Amongst other recent Film and TV projects from the duo, Pathé Films released their adaptation of the Roy Lewis book, *WHY I DID (NOT) EAT MY FATHER* in 2015, and the adaptation they worked on of the G.P Taylor novel *Mariah Mundi And The Midas Box*, *THE ADVENTURER: THE CURSE OF THE MIDAS BOX* was released in January 2014 starring Martin Sheen, Sam Neill, Lena Headley and Ioan Gruffudd.

Rob and Johnny have completed development work on a new version of *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 an original family feature for Aardman Animation and are working on a screenplay rewrite for Mosvold Studios. Their original screenplay has recently been sold to nWave Studios and they have just begun further development work on this. They were also lead writers on the BAFTA nominated TV series *MUDDLE EARTH* and have also worked on CBBC'S reboot of *DANGERMUSE*. Rob's first children's book, *BORN AGAIN BEN*, is published by Can of Worms Enterprises, and Comic Animations have optioned the film rights. Rob is currently working on the screenplay. Rob is represented by Charlie Ferraro at UTA in the States, working in association with GHA.



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### **FEATURE FILMS**

#### **2016-17**

##### **BORN AGAIN BEN (Comic Animations/Cinesite)**

Book to film adaptation based on Rob's children's book

##### **UNTITLED ANIMATED FEATURE (nWave Studios)**

Commissioned to complete a rewrite on their original screenplay with Johnny Smith

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

Commissioned to write a feature screenplay with Johnny Smith.

##### **UNTITLED FAMILY FEATURE (Comic Animations Limited)**

Commissioned to write a treatment, based on Rob's original idea

#### **2015**

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

Script rewrite of family feature screenplay with Johnny Smith

#### **2012-2015**

##### **KNIGHTS OF THE ROUNDTABLE (Phoenix Wiley Limited)**

Original feature film script optioned.

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

Original feature treatment and screenplay commission

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

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

Commissioned family feature screenplay

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

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



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

Feature film sequel in development.

#### **2010–2012**

### **RISE OF THE APPLIANCES (Big Rich Films)**

Original comedy/horror feature screenplay. Rob to produce and direct. Pilot shot and premiered in Autumn 2010 at the Empire Leicester Square.

\*Winner of Best Horror Comedy at the Oklahoma Horror Film Festival 2010, and Best Short Film at Shriekfest Los Angeles 2010. Website:

<http://riseoftheappliances.tumblr.com/>

#### **2010–2011**

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

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

#### **2010**

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

Commissioned family feature screenplay, currently in development.

### **LUCKY'S PAW (Uli Meyer Productions)**

Commissioned to write treatment for animation feature.

#### **2009**

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

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

### **THUD, SWEAT AND TEARS (Milk and One Sugar)**

Commissioned feature screenplay.



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### **2008**

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

Commissioned feature screenplay.

### **2007**

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

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

### **2006**

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

Page 1 rewrite of animation movie.

### **2004**

#### **CUPID X (BBC Films)**

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

### **2003**

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

Original screenplay and story for feature length animation. Released February 2011. Has taken nearly \$200 million worldwide. Number one film in the UK and US.

*"This lively little film, a comic take on Shakespeare's tragedy, is really entertaining!"*

**Wall Street Journal**

### **2002**

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

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

### **2001**

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



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Top Five grossing UK film of 2001.

*"This sports satire is arguably the best football film ever made, and unarguably the funniest."* **Radio Times**

### **2000**

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

Page 1 rewrite, feature comedy.

### **1999**

#### **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.

### **1998**

#### **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**. With John Smith Rob has written several commissioned treatments for Hollywood movies including: **The Polar Express for Playtone/Universal** and **Harold And The Purple Crayon for Warner Bros.**

### **TELEVISION**

### **2015**

#### **UNTITLED CHILDREN'S SHOW (DC Thomson)**

Commissioned to write 2 x 11 min scripts for proposed new animated children's show as well as 1 x 30 min Outline script for One-Off Special.

### **2011–2012**



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### **DANGERMOUSE (CBBC)**

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

**2009–2010**

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

Bible and script for animated TV series in development.

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

Original comedy drama series idea optioned and currently in development.

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

Lead writers on major new CBBC animation series – edited and polished scripts for all 26 episodes and wrote a core block.

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

**2005**

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

Wrote and produced six part TV spin off.

*"This is a very rare thing indeed in the TV world - an ITV sitcom that is actually Premier League funny....Pick of the Week."* **News of The World**

**1997**

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

Conceived and wrote six part comedy series.

**1996**

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

One-off comedy show.

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

One-off episode for animation comedy show.



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**1995**

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

Pilot TV sit-com script.

**WOODLAND TALES (Jim Henson Productions)**

Pilot TV sit-com script.

**1994**

**GRUTZBADEN SPA (Jim Henson Productions)**

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