

# Curriculum Vitae

Ross McDonnell

## Personal Information

Date of Birth: 29th October 1979  
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## Biography://

2001:// Graduates with honours BA Communications Studies DCU

2002:// Graduates with honours MA Film Production DIT, working as Producer for thesis film 'Full Circle' by director Simon Fitzmaurice. Nominated O2 Irish Student Photographer of the Year.

2003:// Assistant, Subvoyant Corporation New York. Completes cinematography on the short film 'Duel'. The film wins a prestigious National Board of Review award in the US. 'Full Circle' goes on to win the Best Short Film Award Cork Film Festival, 2003, The Jimmy Stewart Memorial Award and The Kodak/Orange Award for Short Film.

2004:// Begins photo-assisting with REDUX photo-agency in New York working with photographers for a range of international publications. Finds the Copper Greene street art collective with two anti-war campaigns. Completes cinematography on the short film 'Chunk' by Gillian Robespierre. 'Full Circle' nominated for an Irish Film and Television Award.

2005:// Works as Producer and Cinematographer on the film 'The Deserter'. Completes first long term photo essay 'Unconfirmed Reports'. The work receives a Special Commendation in the Observer's Hodge Award for Photojournalism and is included in the accompanying exhibition. Included in Milton Glazer's coffee table publication 'Design of Dissent' and editor of Vanity Fair David Friend's book: 'Watching the World Change: The Stories Behind the Images of 9/11'.

2006:// Invited to Habitat's 50x50 showcase of emerging Irish artists. Hired to shoot 'Defaced' an Irish Film Board commission for Lovely Productions. Completes Lenten campaign for Trocaire in Malawi focusing on Gender Inequality in Africa. Receives short film award from the Irish Film Board to write and direct 'Keeping in Touch' in April 2007.

2007:// Works in Afghanistan on a project focusing on Afghan self-determination in the cities of Kabul and Mazaar-i-Shariff. Continues work for Trocaire in Honduras documenting victims of domestic violence and gender inequality in Central America. Completes the short film 'Keeping in Touch'. The film is shot entirely with still photographs and premieres successfully

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at the Galway International Film Festival in July 2007. Begins work documenting the impact of Climate Change on tribal communities in East Africa with a series on the Turkana tribe in northern Kenya.

2008:// Receives Simon Cumbers Media Grant, to produce a photo-essay on differences in lifestyles between Western Cultures and Indigenous African Cultures to highlight the realities of Third World poverty. Begins as Director and Cinematographer on first feature length project, a documentary entitled 'Colony' produced by Fastnet Films and The Irish Film Board.

2009:// Receives Jerome Foundation Grant. Completes first phase of 'The Afghans'. 'Colony' has its successful World Premiere at the Toronto International Film Festival and is selected in competition at the prestigious International Festival of Documentary in Amsterdam, winning the 'First Appearance' Award for best first feature film .

2010:// 'Colony' nominated for Irish Film and Television Award for Best Documentary and Masyles Brothers Award for Documentary at Belfast Film Festival.

### Exhibitions and Awards

- 2010: Nominated Irish Film and Television Award.
- 2009: IDFA Winner: Colony wins 'First Appearance' Award.
- 2009: Simon Cumbers Foundation Award: Afghanistan
- 2009: Jerome Foundation Grant
- 2008: Simon Cumbers Foundation Award: Kenya.
- 2007: Short Film Funding, Irish Film Board
- 2006: Sony PSP Show, Filmbase, Dublin.
- 2005: Observer Hodge Award for Photojournalism, Special Commendation
- Exhibition: 50X50, Irelands Emerging Artists series, Habitat Gallery, 2006
- Exhibition: Guardian/Observer newsroom, "Unconfirmed Reports" 2005
- Exhibition: Puffin Room Gallery, New York, 2005
- Exhibition: "Design of Dissent", School of Visual Arts, New York, Curated by Milton Glazer
- 2002: Nominated Student Media Awards, Photographer of the Year.

### Publications

The New York Times, Art in America, The Observer, Washington Post, The Fader, Time Out New York, Vice Magazine, The Irish Times, New York Magazine, Adbusters, Juxtapose, The Sunday Tribune.