

Documentaries on BBC Three



Docs on THREE engage with subjects and issues that matter to a young but broad BBC3 audience.

Think both about the most important issues for a young adult audience (16-24 at its core and 16-34 at its broadest), and about their perspective on the issues that affect us all.

On one side of our slate, the stories are compelling and often intimate – the extraordinary personal stories of ordinary people.

On the other, this is THE place for docs to be entertaining, bold and upfront in style and tone to break through to future docs audiences.

Whatever the idea, a punchy title that will capture the attention on the EPG is crucial.

Budget Information:

Opportunities in 2010/11 remain in the Independent quota and the WoCC. Please note that a number of hours have a Nations and/or a Regional quota attached.

In 11/12 there are opportunities for this programming across all supply bases.

Presenter led popular docs

Shape

Series and one-offs.

Requirement

Celebrity journeys

We're still looking for fresh celebrity faces with warm and authentic stories that we can experience with them. The subject matter should touch the lives of a broad young audience. [Nicola Roberts: The Truth about Tanning](#), [Kirsten's Topless Ambition](#) and [Claire Richards: My Big Fat Wedding](#) have all delivered for the channel in terms of audience.

We are also interested in how ideas can take established talent out of the comfort zone or show a surprising passion - like [Eddie Izzard: Marathon Man](#).

One-offs will generally be commissioned as part of a season.

Documentary singles and series

Shape

Singles as part of seasons and series.

Requirement

THREE continually succeeds with honest, redemptive stories about ordinary individuals living extraordinary young adult lives. [Small Teen, Big World](#), [Baby Beauty Queens](#) and [The Autistic Me](#) are great examples of this. Think about two things:

1. What are the urgent issues for young people?
2. Have we found a fresh way of approaching them and a unique personal story?

These stories can be also grouped as part of series - [Underage and Pregnant](#) did fantastically well on the channel with beautifully told, self-contained half-hours grouped around a heartland theme for this audience. [My Big Decision](#) also found lightly formatted ways to heighten the journeys of the contributors and to cover a range of heartland subjects for this audience within a series.

They might be driven by the relevant, grittier issues and institutions, or by a more aspirational universe that has dramas of its own.

One-offs will generally be commissioned as part of a season. Seasons work really well for the channel. Good examples are the [Adult Season](#) and [Dangerous Pleasures](#). We are looking for season ideas that feel fresh, relevant and contemporary. The key question is: why make this programme now?

We are looking for documentary series that have distinctive form and look. As well as securing strong access we are interested in ideas that challenge the normal parameters of documentary. On the documentary slate we also commission specialist factual, science and cross genre programmes.

Fresh

BBC THREE is committed to new talent on-screen and off, and the [Fresh initiative](#) commissions six 60-minute films a year from the next generation of documentary film makers. We want Directors to have a distinctive and clear vision for their documentary.

Original Formats

Shape

This kind of programming is driven by originality, so we're flexible here.

Requirement

Provocative formats and social experiments are big brand building properties for the channel.

In some of our docs we are looking for mischief, humour, and challenge - with plenty of opportunity for ob-docs content. This audience gets lots of entertainment from people-watching but the best ideas also challenge the way young people live their lives. Think about the central question at the core of any proposition. What is the purpose? If the purpose is clear, ideas can be thought-provoking.
