

JOHN RUBIN

Selected Credits

AMERICAN SERENGETI

CREATIVE CONSULTANT

1x60 for the National Geographic Channel via National Geographic Television on the restoration of North America's prairie.

Broadcast: 2010

WHAT DARWIN NEVER KNEW

PRODUCER/DIRECTOR/WRITER

1x120 for WGBH/NOVA marking the sesquicentennial of Darwin's publication of *Origin of the Species* and highlighting new scientific breakthroughs on how natural selection shapes body forms.

Broadcast: 29 December 2009

CLIMBING REDWOOD GIANTS

PRODUCER/DIRECTOR

1x60 for the NGC series EXPLORER on the world's tallest living trees.

Broadcast: 29 September 2009

IS THAT SKUNK?

SENIOR PRODUCER/WRITER

1x60 for the PBS series NATURE on the colorful creature that lives beneath its coat of black and white.

Broadcast: 25 January 2009

AMERICAN EAGLE

SUPERVISING PRODUCER/WRITER

1x60 for the PBS series NATURE on the most charismatic top predator of the United States—the bald eagle.

Broadcast: 16 November 2008

Review: This "soaring tribute to our national emblem" with "majestic cinematography" and "unforgettable footage" does "a masterful job of blending the harsh realities facing eagles with their daily successes". —*Audubonmagazine.org*

Award: International Wildlife Film Festival (2009): Merit Award for Animal Behavior.

APE GENIUS

PRODUCER/DIRECTOR/WRITER

1x60 for the PBS series NOVA via National Geographic on the gulf between human and ape minds.

Broadcast: 19 February 2008

APE GENIUS (cont.)

Awards: Peabody Award (2008). The citation read: "A synthesis of the latest research on the intelligence and creative capacity of gorillas and other great apes, this stimulating documentary also explored what it means to be human"

• PARISCIENCE (international science film festival) 2009: Buffon Prize for best film about biodiversity.

Nominations: 30th Annual News & Documentary Emmys: Outstanding Science, Technology and Nature Programming; and Outstanding Individual Achievement in a Craft: Research.

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC'S STRANGE DAYS ON PLANET EARTH TWO (HOURS 5-6)

CREATIVE CONSULTANT

A second two-episode season of the Edward Norton-hosted science series.

Broadcast: 23 April 2008

THE LIVING WEAPON

PRODUCER/DIRECTOR/WRITER/RESEARCHER

1x60 for the PBS series AMERICAN EXPERIENCE on the history of the U.S. offensive biological weapons program.

Broadcast: 5 February 2007

Award: Emmy, 29th Annual News and Documentary Awards, Outstanding Achievement in a Craft: Research.

RAPTOR FORCE

PRODUCER/DIRECTOR/WRITER

1x60 on birds of prey for the PBS series NATURE via National Geographic.

Broadcast: 18 February 2007

Review: "The sights and sounds delivered here are extraordinary.... Peregrine chicks deliver the 'cute' factor, but go elsewhere for a warm-and-fuzzy fix. Instead, prepare to be humbled."—*Seattle Times*.

Awards: U.S. International Film & Video Festival, 2007: Certificate for Creative Excellence, Nature/Wildlife category • CINE Golden Eagle Film & Video Competition, 2007: Golden Eagle Award • Jackson Hole Wildlife Film Festival, 2007: Best Achievement in Sound.

SKY MONSTERS

PRODUCER/DIRECTOR/WRITER

A 1x96 special for the National Geographic Channel about pterosaurs, reptile kin of the dinosaurs and the largest animals ever to fly.

Broadcast: 23 January 2006

Review: With big help from 3D animation and of interviews with paleontologists, John Rubin's documentary tries to penetrate the secrets of [pterosaur] physiology. A luminous investigation, based on science as it really happens, with hunches and

hypotheses that are confirmed or falsified by fossil discoveries and experiments.—
La Croix, France.

ANIMALS BEHAVING WORSE

WRITER/EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

A 1x60 sequel for the PBS series NATURE.

Broadcast: 19 February 2006

Reviews: “[F]unny, sardonic”—*Chicago Tribune* • “This program beautifully examines the situation that humans are now faced with...”—*Film Monthly*.

Awards: CINE Golden Eagle Film & Video Competition, 2006: Golden Eagle Award.

SEARCH FOR THE ULTIMATE SURVIVOR

PRODUCER/DIRECTOR/WRITER

A 1x96 special on human evolution for the National Geographic Channel.

Broadcast: 20 March 2005

Reviews: “[A] lot of exciting stuff ... serious paleoanthropology is on display.”—*Archaeology* • “[S]timulating”—*New York Times*.

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC’S STRANGE DAYS ON PLANET EARTH

PRODUCER/SERIES WRITER

A 4x60 PBS series about global environmental change hosted by actor Edward Norton. Produced the series’ premier hour, *Invaders*, about invasive species.

Supervising writer of the series.

Broadcast: 20 April 2005

Awards: Best Series (over \$500,000) and Merit Awards for writing and scientific content, International Wildlife Film Festival (2005) • Panda Award, Wildscreen Film Festival (2004) • Best People and Animals Award, Jackson Hole Wildlife Film Festival (2004).

Reviews: “[U]ncommonly good fare... Norton ... narrates a smart script, rich in ‘wow’ factor... ‘Invaders’ is the most compelling [hour] because it’s the freshest, and its thesis is most bloodcurdling.—*Boston Globe* • “The series is lighted and shot like a movie.”—*Los Angeles Times*. “[T]he four-hour series styles itself after a police procedural with a cleverly written script.”—*Seattle Post Intelligencer* • “[T]he production is lush and comprehensive. The show is serious, but easy to watch.”—*Philadelphia Inquirer*.

READING ROCKETS

PRODUCER/WRITER

A 5x30 series for public television that offers the latest research-validated techniques for teaching reading, with special attention to struggling readers. Our audience is teachers and parents of pre-schoolers through third-graders. Produced in association with WETA and funded by the U.S. Department of Education.

Broadcast: October 2002.

Awards: U.S. International Film & Video Festival, 2002: Gold Camera Award (First place), Education • Columbus International Film & Video Festival, 2002: Bronze

Plaque in Education & Information • Telly Awards, 2003: four Silver Statuettes (top award in TV/Cable—Information category).

ELIXIR OF DEATH

PRODUCER/DIRECTOR/WRITER

An hour for The History Channel's HISTORY UNDERCOVER strand that tells the story of Elixir Sulfanilamide, a deadly prescription drug that was distributed in the U.S. in 1937. Touching off a frantic nationwide search by the FDA, the drug ultimately claimed over 100 lives.

Broadcast: 11 December 2003.

Awards: Columbus International Film & Video Festival, 2004: Chris Statuette.

CLONE!

PRODUCER/DIRECTOR/WRITER

An hour for NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC EXPLORER that explores the past, present and future of reproductive and therapeutic cloning.

Broadcast: June 2002.

Awards: Science in Society Award (2003) from the National Association of Science Writers • Columbus International Film & Video Festival, 2002: Edgar Dale Award for best informational screenwriting • CINE Golden Eagle Film & Video Competition, 2000: Golden Eagle Award.

ANIMALS BEHAVING BADLY

PRODUCER/DIRECTOR/WRITER

An hour for Devillier Donegan Enterprises and PBS's NATURE series that explores the sometimes exasperating efforts of people and wild animals to adapt to each other when their worlds collide.

Broadcast: November 2001. This was the highest rated show of the year for NATURE.

Awards: Columbus International Film & Video Festival, 2001: two Bronze Plaques (one for screenwriting) • CINE Golden Eagle Film & Video Competition, 2001: Golden Eagle Award.

DESTINATION SPACE

PRODUCER

A two-hour special for National Geographic EXPLORER co-produced by Newsweek Productions about the future of space exploration.

Broadcast: June 2000.

Reviews: "*Destination Space* is a must-see for anyone even remotely interested in our future in space. It gives viewers a new perspective on our place in the universe, as well as our technological progress over the past 100 years. It shows us what the future of space exploration might look like in the next few decades and beyond....

[P]roducer John Rubin does a nice job of summing up the dilemma of spaceflight."—*space.com*. "*Destination Space* demonstrates that thought-provoking fare also can be entertaining."—*Ft. Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel*.

Awards: Columbus International Film & Video Festival, 2000: Bronze Plaque, Science & Technology.

SEARCH FOR ALIEN PLANETS

PRODUCER/DIRECTOR/WRITER

An hour for TLC that tells the story of the recent discovery of the first planets outside our solar system and the implications for finding alien life.

Broadcast: April 2000.

Awards: CINE Golden Eagle Film & Video Competition, 2000: Golden Eagle Award
• Columbus International Film & Video Festival, 2000: Chris Statuette, Science & Technology.

STEALING TIME: THE NEW SCIENCE OF AGING

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

A 3x60 PBS series about the scientific revolution that is changing the way we understand aging and what can be done about it. Produced in association with Devillier Donegan Enterprises.

Broadcast: June 1999.

Reviews: "Mind-blowing." —*Entertainment Weekly* • "Rarely has the process of aging been explained as clearly and delightfully as in this gem..."—Shari Roan, *Los Angeles Times* • "Credit exec producer John Rubin and his team for a smashing job—Michael Farkash, *Hollywood Reporter* • "A dazzling three-hour special ... jammed with clearly conveyed information and spectacular imagery..."—*New York Daily News*.

Awards: CINE Golden Eagle Film & Video Competition, 2000: Golden Eagle Award • Columbus International Film & Video Festival, 1999: Bronze Plaque • The33rd WorldFest Houston International Film Festival, 1999: Gold Award • ITVA-DC Peer Awards, 2000: Best Cinematography; Best Editing.

SEA MONSTERS: SEARCH FOR THE GIANT SQUID

PRODUCER

A NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SPECIAL for NBC about the world's largest toothed predator, the sperm whale, and its prey, the giant squid. *Sea Monsters* features the first-ever deepwater footage of sperm whales.

Broadcast: 1998. Ratings: 8.1/12

Reviews: "Glorious underwater footage of sperm whales, who dine on elusive giant squid at the bottom of the sea. It's the getting there that counts, and it's a grand trip."—*Daily Variety* • "An engaging, educational splash."—*Hollywood Reporter*.

Awards: Grand Award, International Ocean Film Festival 1998, Setonaikai, Japan.

ANIMAL MINDS

PRODUCER/WRITER

This half-hour film for EXPLORER reveals how scientists are overturning the old idea that human beings are the only animals with the power of thought.

Broadcast: 1993.

THE BODY CHANGERS

PRODUCER/DIRECTOR/WRITER

An hour-long film highlighting the wonders of metamorphosis and other animal makeovers with first-ever images. Produced through National Geographic Television, this film aired on PBS's NATURE series.

Broadcast: May 2000.

Awards: Columbus International Film & Video Festival, 2000: Edgar Dale Award for best informational screenwriting; Bronze Plaque, science & technology; official selection, showcase screening • The New York Festivals, 2000: Finalist.

SAVAGE GARDEN

PRODUCER/SCREENWRITER

A one-hour natural history comedy for NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC EXPLORER starring Leslie Nielsen as an overconfident gardener who discovers his backyard is out of control.

Broadcast: 1997.

Reviews: "The show is a kind of experiment to see whether nature photography and comedy can go together. It seems safe to pronounce it a delightful success."—Tom Shales, *The Washington Post* • "Delivering the droll play-by-play—credit the producer and writer John Rubin—Mr. Nielsen switches from the blasé to the dumbfounded to the combative to the hysterical."—Walter Goodman, *The New York Times*.

Awards: Japan Wildlife Festival '99: Best Entertainment • International Wildlife Film Festival (Missoula, 1998): Merit Award for Use of Humor • Columbus International Film & Video Festival (1997): Chris Statuette.

YELLOWSTONE: REALM OF THE COYOTE

PRODUCER/CO-WRITER

A one-hour film for EXPLORER that portrays the life of a coyote family through the seasons.

Broadcast: 1995.

Nominations: Emmy (1995): Informational or Cultural Programming • Jackson Hole Wildlife Film Festival (1995): Animal Behavior

INSECTS: THE RULING CLASS

PRODUCER/WRITER

An hour-long film for the PBS series THE INFINITE VOYAGE about insects and the people who are captivated by them.

Broadcast: 1992.

Nomination: Jackson Hole Wildlife Film Festival (1993): Newcomer

THE UNEXPECTED UNIVERSE

PRODUCER/WRITER

An hour-long film for the PBS series SPACE AGE about how space exploration changed our understanding of stars and the fiery birth of elements.

Broadcast: 1992.

INSIDE INFORMATION

LEAD PRODUCER/WRITER

A PBS hour about why researchers think of the mind as a kind of computer.

Broadcast: November 1990.

Review: “[A] probing, engaging look at how the brain works.... [T]he viewer is given a lively visual sense of this intensely complicated story.”—*The Los Angeles Times*. • “An informative winner.”—*King Feature Syndicate*.

Awards: Emmy (1990): Health and Science/Environment, L.A. Area Awards • Ohio State Award: Top Honors, natural and physical sciences • National Psychology Award for Excellence in Television from the American Psychological Association.