

Rebekah Fortune

Writer/director

Rebekah began her career as an actress, training at the Central School of Speech and Drama where she earned a BA in Acting and an MA in Classical Theatre. She went on to tour extensively with her own theatre company, Negativequity, before moving into filmmaking.

An openly autistic filmmaker, Rebekah founded Seahorse Films with a clear mission: to develop a bold slate of projects that balance creativity and commercial appeal, while championing greater opportunities for women and disabled artists both on and off screen.

A committed advocate for underrepresented talent, Rebekah has mentored with BFI Network, served on the BAFTA short film jury, and is an alumna of Network@LFF, Edinburgh Talent Lab, BIFA Springboard, Screen Yorkshire Flex and Breaking Through the Lens. She also works extensively with young disabled actors, preparing them for careers both in front of and behind the camera.

Feature film

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| 2026 | <p>Learning to Breathe Under Water
Director
Feature film
Shudder Films / Bankside Films / Wildcard Films
Producer: Jack Tarling [KNEECAP, GOD'S OWN COUNTRY]
Writer: Richard Brabin
Starring Rory Kinnear, Maria Bakalova and Ezra Carlisle
<i>Nominated: VFF Talent Award at Berlinale</i>
<i>Featured on the Brit List 2021</i>
<i>Selected for Breaking Through the Lens 2022</i>
<i>Selected for the British Council's "Cannes Great 8" 2025</i>
<i>Global Premiere at Karlovy Vary International Film Festival 2026</i>
<i>Winner: Audience Award, Galway Film Fleadh 2026</i></p> |
| 2026 | <p>The Turning
Co-writer, attached to direct
Feature film in development
Co-writer: Rosy Deacon
<i>Selected for 104 Films & BFI's D-Horror development programme</i></p> |
| 2025-26 | <p>Arkadia
Co-writer, attached to direct
Feature film in development
Developed under the Screen Yorkshire Flex scheme
Co-writer: Rosy Deacon
Producer: Hannah Eugénie Tookey
<i>Winner: Best UK Project at JETS 2026</i></p> |

Selected for JETS Initiative at Berlin Film Festival 2026
Selected for New Wave Genre Lab 2025
Selected for Galway Film Fair 2026

2017

Just Charlie

Director

Feature film

Seahorse Films

Winner: Best Film, Cannes Ecrans Juniors

Winner: Audience Award, Edinburgh International Film Fest

Winner: Audience Award, CineHomo

Winner: Audience Award, Univercine Britannique

Winner: Audience Award, Film Fest Ostende

Winner: Youth Award, Schlingel Youth Film Fest

Winner: Audience Award, Mamers en Mars

Winner: Best Film for Youth, Zlin Film Fest

Winner: Europe Generation, Seville Film Fest

Winner: Audience Award, Univercine Nantes

Winner: Audience Award, Valladolid Cine Homo

Winner: Audience Award, Cinepride France

Nominated: Best Film, Cairo International Film Festival

Nominated: Best Film, Guadalajara Film Fest

Just Charlie festival selections: Film Out San Diego USA, Frameline San Francisco USA, Shanghai IFF CHINA, Torino FF ITALY, Bologna Gender Bender, IFF ITALY, Taiwan Queer IFF, Zagreb FF CROATIA, Inverness FF UK, Cork FF EIRE, Festival Piccolo Grande Cinema ITALY, Ljubljana FF SLOVENIA, Noordwijk FF NETHERLANDS, Ale Kino POLAND, Festival de Cine Social de Catalunya SPAIN, Kristiansand FF NORWAY, Buster Copenhagen DENMARK

Television

2023

Barren

Co-creator

Original series in development

Co-creator: Dan Shaw

leie Productions

Exec: Alice Lusher

Short film

2021

Bebe Ai

Director, Story by

One People Pictures

Writer: Alexandra Wain

Selected for Oskia Bright Film Festival 2022 [BAFTA Qualifying]

Selected for Cinequest Film Festival [Oscar Qualifying]

Selected for Superfest, San Francisco [Oscar Qualifying]

Selected for Phoenix Sci-Fi Film Festival

Selected for Miami Sci-Fi Film Festival

Selected for London Sci-Fi Film Festival

Selected for FilmQuest Festival

Winner: Jury's Certificate of Excellence, Boston Sci-Fi Film Festival

Winner: Best Sci-fi Drama, Rhode Island Film Festival [BAFTA and Oscar Qualifying]

Screening at BFI Southbank as part of 225 Film Club, celebrating female directing excellence

Winner: 225 Film Club competition 2022

Her Majesty

Director

Corbett Productions

Official Selection: LA Shorts Fest [Oscar Qualifying]

Selected for Norwich Film Festival [BAFTA Qualifying]

Selected for San Diego Film Festival

Official Selection Kingston International Film Festival

Nominated for 7 Midlands Movie Awards including Best Short and Best Director

Nominated for Best Drama at Women Over 50 Film Festival

Nominated for Best Drama at San Diego Film Festival

Winner: Best Film and Best Director at Lee Strasbourg Film Festival, New York

Winner: Audience Award, HollyShorts Film Festival 2022

Winner: Best Drama, New Renaissance Film Festival 2022

Screened at BFI London Film Festival 2022 [BAFTA qualifying]

2020

Pas De Deux

Director

One People Pictures

Selected for Norwich Film Festival [BAFTA Qualifying]

Selected for Leeds Film Festival [Oscar and BAFTA Qualifying]

Selected for Oska Bright Film Festival 2022 [BAFTA Qualifying]

Selected for Superfest, San Francisco [Oscar Qualifying]

Pennywort

Director

BFI / Lost Eye Films

Writer: Laura Turner

Winner: Best Film, VisAbility Film Festival

Nominated: Best Director, Midlands Movie Awards

Nominated: Best Short Film, Midlands Movie Awards

Selected for Bolton Film Festival [BAFTA Qualifying]

Selected for Oska Bright Film Festival 2022 [BAFTA Qualifying]

2015

Squidge

Director

Lumino Films

2014

Sex Love Other

Director, co-producer

Armchair Productions

2011

Something Blue

Director

Short film

Seahorse Films

Theatre

The Tempest

Director, Tour

Total Arts Theatre / Royal Shakespeare Company



Othello

Director
Riverside Studios

Moll Flanders

Adapting Writer and Director
Southwark Playhouse

An Ideal Husband

Director
Courtyard Theatre

The Provoked Wife

Director
Courtyard Theatre

Broken Blossoms

Writer and Director. Edinburgh Festival & National Tour

Big Boys Don't Cry

Writer and Director, National Tour

Wuthering Heights

Adapting Writer and Director
Brewhouse Theatre & National Tour

Comedy Of Errors

Director, National Tour

Other Awards, Achievements and Labs

Galway Film Fair selected project at Galway Film Fleadh 2026
D-Horror Development Lab participant [104 Films / BFI] 2026
JETS Initiative selected project at Berlin Film Festival 2026
New Wave Genre Lab participant 2025
Cannes Great 8 selected project [British Council] 2025
Screen Yorkshire FLEX scheme participant 2022
Breaking Through the Lens 2022
Edinburgh International Film Festival Talent Lab 2021
Berlinale VFF Award Nominee
MA Classical Acting, BA Acting
BFI Regional Producers Course
Intensive distribution and marketing menteeship with We Are the Tonic
Panel host/guest at EIFF, Glasgow Film Festival/Seville Film Festival/Dublin Film festival plus many others
BAFTA Crew
Mentor for BFI
Member Directors UK/Member of Directors UK inclusivity committee
Selected for Directors UK Inspire 2020

