

**theLONDON**  
**scriptCONSULTANCY**

## **CONTENTS**

- 1** The London Script Consultancy
- 2** Approach
- 3** The Practice
- 4** Organisation
- 5** Team Writing
- 6** Consultancy Services
- 12** Contact Address

THE LONDON SCRIPT CONSULTANCY has been delivering innovative creative support to production companies, independent writers, and producers since 2001. As one of the foremost independent organisations in Britain focusing upon professional, qualitative script development, we help bridge the gap that distinguishes independents from the studios, providing all the services you would expect from a dedicated in-house development team.

Recognising the key to commercially viable film lies in story, London Script Consultancy attacks film making at its core. We combine up-to-date market awareness with technical expertise and rigorous analytical skill to give screenwriters and producers the best possible chance to compete in one of the toughest industries in the world.

Our clients include film production companies, television broadcasters, sales distributors, agents and public bodies as well as individual writers and producers, ranging from industry leaders to start-up companies and new talent. We take projects from initial conception through to completed film script, giving them the advantage of professional, focused expertise at every stage. With our commitment to producing stories that entertain, provoke the imagination and appeal to wide audiences, the London Script Consultancy is the first port of call for anyone aiming to achieve success in the industry.

## Approach

THE BFI IN ITS RECENT RESEARCH confirms that the biggest problem facing British films is the quality of scripts. Of the 102 films produced in Britain in 2002, 70% failed to gain cinematic release. Of the successful 30%, the overwhelming majority had included script development as part of their pre-production budget. Working Title, the biggest and most successful production company in Europe, spend a large percentage of their investment on in house script development teams, ensuring their films, including "Bridget Jones' Diary", "Shaun of the Dead" and "Billy Elliot", continually appear in the Top Ten box office for both the UK and the US.

By providing script development of the highest quality, the London Script Consultancy gives our clients a clear edge over their competitors, helping them achieve their commercial objectives by creating marketable, viable screenplays which will attract sales agents and ensure proper distribution.

LSC brings American studio professionalism to the British film industry whilst maintaining the integrity of the European artistic tradition. We believe we need to capitalise on our strong history of writing in literature, theatre, and television and combine it with a thorough understanding of the commercial film market. By renewing the emphasis on story as the central pillar of cinema, we seek to create a basis for films of distinction and innovation with stories strong enough to ensure international appeal.

## The Practice

FROM INCEPTION WE HAVE BEEN BUILDING A COMMUNITY of trained screenwriters and consultants with a professional understanding of screenplays. We operate through a bottom-up approach to screenwriting, ensuring that each step of the way is realised before progressing to the next level. This ensures that every completed screenplay is structurally strong as well as having resonance and depth.

The variety and scope of the projects handled by us is as broad as the activities of our clients. Film scripts have always been the focus of our work, but television, radio and theatre clients benefit from the same depth of expertise and quality of advice.

At the heart of our practice are teams of writers and consultants engaged in development work. By focussing these teams on clients rather than practice areas, we are able to place special emphasis on continuity. This means that our clients work with consultants they know and our consultants are able to develop a thorough understanding of our clients' businesses and methods of operation.

In addition, we maintain strong relationships with funding bodies, production companies, sales agents, and broadcasters, ensuring we are constantly in tune with their requirements and criteria. By providing invaluable support and guidance, LSC is able to not only analyze but also offer practical strategies for success.

## Organisation

SET UP BY ARTISTS FOR ARTISTS, the London Script Consultancy is a creative compilation of writers, script editors, and producers bringing together a wide range of experience and expertise to form a strongly knit organisation.

Based in London, we operate through a dedicated team of project managers who act as mediator between client and writer, ensuring the client's needs are efficiently interpreted as well as overseeing the writing process.

Our work is further developed through intensive writing groups that provide a focus for discussion and dissemination of advances in script writing. Dedicated writers support each area of our practice, maintaining specialist areas of writing expertise in all genres from comedy to horror and coming from backgrounds ranging from film and television to opera and radio. It is our policy to encourage our writers to handle a wide range of work so that they offer not only a depth of expertise but also a breadth of experience and sound commercial judgment. We are consistently seeking new talent, recruiting through our weekly writers' groups as well as through active scouting.

## Team Writing

IN ADDITION to our full range of development services, the London Script Consultancy has teams of experienced screenwriters dedicated to producing first-class professional screenplays.

Each team of writers work alongside trained consultants to create original screenplays specifically tailored to a production company's needs.

Our writers are chosen from a wide variety of backgrounds: film, television, theatre, radio, and novels, individually specialising in specific genres and forms i.e. comedy, thriller etc. A producer may approach us with an original idea, novel, play, or finished draft, which we will help develop into a marketable screenplay.

With its innovative flair, the London Script Consultancy combines the best in screenwriting expertise and market awareness to give you the edge over the competition.

## Consultancy Services

- 7 Script Coverage Report
- 7 Development Report
- 8 Script Analysis
- 8 Development Programme
- 9 Treatment Report
- 9 Treatment Analysis
- 9 Treatment Composition
- 10 Book-to-Script Evaluation
- 10 Book Treatment
- 10 Book Treatment to Outline
- 11 Synopsis Composition
- 11 One-to-One
- 11 Telephone Consultation
- 11 Team Writing

The following is a summary of our principal consultancy services:

#### **SCRIPT COVERAGE REPORT**

Film companies hire readers to evaluate your script in a 3 to 4 page report plus a one-word recommendation. The London Script Consultancy will provide a carbon copy, studio-style script "Coverage Report", giving you a professional, objective assessment of your work.

- > You will receive a two-page synopsis, allowing you to compare the film you want to create to the one on the page, a full break down of the positive aspects of your script and those areas that need improving.
- > Also includes an easy "at a glance" reference chart with ratings of concept, structure, characterisation etc plus logline, target audience and market potential.

#### **DEVELOPMENT REPORT**

LSC will provide a comprehensive 8-10 page development report. On consultation with the client, we provide a clear strategy for the development of your project plus a selection of indispensable resources tailored to your individual needs.

- > Includes 3-4 page outline and a 4 page analysis of all the individual components of a screenplay e.g. High Concept, Theme, Structure, etc.
- > You will receive an easy "at a glance" reference chart with logline, target audience and market potential.
- > In addition, you will receive "The Next Step", LSC's unique development service. We provide a clear strategy detailing the next best step for the development of your project plus a selection of indispensable resources tailored to your individual needs.

## CONSULTANCY SERVICES CONTINUED

### SCRIPT ANALYSIS

LSC's script analysis is an extensive 10-15 page report with line-by-line script editor's notes detailing what needs to be addressed in the next rewrite, always with the market in mind.

- > You will receive an analysis focusing on problems and suggesting practical solutions to invigorate dialogue, develop characters, strengthen story arcs, and make changes in structure and scene placement.
- > Also includes "at a glance" reference chart.

### DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

There is no better way to develop your script than through an intensive development session with a professional script consultant. This will enable you to streamline the development process, perfect the screenplay, and market it appropriately.

- >Includes 8-10 page development report, consisting of 3-4-page outline and 4-page analysis of all the individual components of a screenplay e.g. High Concept, Theme, Structure, etc. Also includes "at a glance" reference chart.
  - >You will receive a 4-hour private consultation, working along side a professional script editor to help develop the next draft of your project.
  - >Plus, follow up feedback report on redraft.
- Whether you have an idea, treatment, or completed screenplay, LSC will devise the best strategy for the development of your project.

**CONSULTANCY SERVICES CONTINUED**

**TREATMENT REPORT**

Are you thinking about submitting a treatment to a film company or funding body? Let LSC cast an expert eye over it and make it as marketable as possible in a four-page report.

- > Includes logline, "at a glance" reference chart, comments on plot and character strengths/weaknesses, analysis of the premise with a clear eye to marketability,
- > Plus a "pass", "recommend" or "consider" decision on your treatment. This report is a great timesaver and may even take you in a completely new and improved direction.

**TREATMENT ANALYSIS**

A full analysis of your treatment is the best way to get to the heart of your story.

- > We provide a 10-page report with a line-by-line analysis, focusing on problems and suggesting solutions for dialogue tightening, character strengthening, story arcs, and scene placement.
- > Also Includes logline, one page synopsis and "at a glance" reference chart, giving you the essential tools to write a first-class screenplay.

**TREATMENT COMPOSITION**

Do you have a great idea for a story? A treatment is the best way to develop a story idea before writing the full screenplay - as essential as architectural plans for the building of a house. Come to LSC for a private consultation.

- > We will develop your project from idea through to the creation of a full 10-page treatment ready for submission to producers or funding bodies.

## CONSULTANCY SERVICES CONTINUED

### **BOOK -TO- SCRIPT EVALUATION**

Books are the most common source of non-original screenplays. The adaptation of a 300-page book into a 100-page screenplay is a complex and delicate business. LSC will help you by creating a detailed report.

> This includes exposing the main plotline, identifying the theme, deciding which characters and subplots to keep and which to drop.

> We also offer an expert, no-nonsense opinion on whether film companies would consider the adaptation worthwhile.

### **BOOK TREATMENT**

We will write a detailed treatment summation of your book – an invaluable intermediary document necessary before the creation of a screenplay. It will allow you, the writer or producer, to examine the story as a whole, and rise to the challenge of creating an exciting film story whilst keeping true to the author's original vision.

### **BOOK TREATMENT TO OUTLINE**

We will develop a 1-2 page outline of your book treatment for its transformation into a screenplay. Creating the main plotline, identifying theme, high concept, developing essential characters and subplots.

## CONSULTANCY SERVICES CONTINUED

### SYNOPSIS COMPOSITION

When you submit your script to a film company or a funding body, it must be accompanied by a one-page synopsis. A winning synopsis will ensure that your script avoids the "immediate rejection" pile.

> We will write a professional synopsis to best present and sell your script to the people that matter.

### ONE-TO-ONE

There is no better way to perfect your script than through an intensive one-to-one session with a professional script consultant.

> This will enable you to streamline the development process and aim towards perfecting your script and market it to the appropriate buyer.

> Whether you have an idea, treatment or completed screenplay, visit LSC for a private consultation to devise the best development strategy for the story you want to tell.

### TELEPHONE CONSULTATION

Do you have a great idea for a script but want to run it by an expert first?

> This 1 hour telephone brainstorming session allows you to discuss and develop your idea, focusing on what you need to know, major mistakes to avoid, and that all-important resolution, so that you can begin writing straight away.

### WRITERS TEAM

In addition to our full range of development services, LSC has three teams of experienced screenwriters dedicated to producing first-class professional screenplays, specifically tailored to a production company's needs.

A producer may approach us with an original idea, novel, play, or finished draft, which we will help develop into a marketable screenplay. We will create a storyline for client approval; on further consultation, we will proceed to the treatment and first draft stages.

Writers Guild minimum rates apply.

## Contact Address

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