

MARCUS ROBINSON

Director

Marcus Robinson is a leading photographer/film-maker of urban transformation. Over the past few years he has worked with world-famous architects, recording on film and in photographs many of the new landmark buildings of London and Paris. His work on major new building projects and demolition sites portrays, as no one else has done before, the extraordinarily fast and dramatic changes taking place in the urban and industrial landscape today.

He combines an understanding of the drama and scale of large chunks of the urban fabric with an ability to bring these subjects alive with unusual light and sound effects often cutting his films to contemporary dance music.

Marcus is currently developing and directing an ongoing **time-lapse feature film documentary** charting the rebirth of Ground Zero in New York with the full support and co-operation of Silverstein Properties. He is the official film maker of two new airports in **Cyprus** (at Larnaca and Paphos) and is filming a 60 minute time-lapse film for television, **Love and Demolition**. Other current and recent projects include official film maker of architect **Sir Terry Farrell's** recently completed \$560m **British Home Office; Wellington Arch** (English Heritage); **Castles** (Channel 4); directing sequences for **True Spies, Embassy Siege, Collision Course** (BBC TV); **Gangsters at War, Crack UK** and **The Hutton Enquiry** (BBC Panorama); **Millions** (feature for director Danny Boyle); and the highly acclaimed **London Eye**.

BIOGRAPHY

Marcus was born in Belfast in 1959. After reading Modern Languages at Cambridge he moved to Paris and began teaching English. He also started taking black and white photographs of actors in his small flat in the *Cour de Petites Ecuries* and had exhibitions of his landscape photographs in cafés and galleries. In 1987 his urban landscape work was spotted by a development company and he began what was to become years of work photographing urban change and large construction projects all over Paris.

While official photographer of the **London Eye**, he made a time-lapse film of the wheel's construction. It triggered the first wave of national enthusiasm for this Millennium project when it was shown on *Channel 4*. His photographs remain the definitive images of the wheel.

The **London Eye** film, also shown at the *London Film Festival*, led to a commission from *English Heritage* to record their £2 million restoration of the **Wellington Arch** at Hyde Park Corner. For several months Marcus virtually lived on the roof of the Arch, filming and photographing its rescue in dramatic detail. The result is the most powerful film of a building restoration ever made. His photographs, already widely published, and film, are displayed in the new exhibition space inside the Arch, opened and run by *English Heritage*.

His recent and current projects include work on the **OXO Tower**, the **Hungerford Bridge** and the **Royal Victoria Dock Bridge** for *Lifschutz Davidson* along with major photography for *English Heritage* which make a vital contribution to the current debate on tall buildings and the future of the London skyline.

In London, the *Bouygues U.K. Construction* and the *Home Office* have commissioned him to film the four-year demolition of the former **Ministry of Transport**, the infamous “Three Ugly Sisters” of Marsham Street, SW1, and the construction on the same site of a new **Home Office** building by Sir Terry Farrell.

In Paris, Marcus documented the construction of I.M.Pei's **Carrousel du Louvre**, the **Bibliothèque Nationale de France** by Dominique Perrault, for the *Ville de Paris* and photographed Jean Nouvel's **Opera de Lyon** for *Metropolis Magazine New York*.

He is also in demand among film and television producers for his time-lapse sequences, super 8 and super 16 live action shots and hyper slow-motion. His work is the hallmark of *Channel 4*'s current "**Castles**" series. Other commissions include time-lapse films of the explosion and demolition of both a **cement factory** on England's south coast and **Tilbury Power Station**. His time-lapse filming gave atmosphere to the *BBC Two* series "**True Spies**", "**Embassy Siege**" and "**Collision Course**"

His photographs have illustrated many large format art and architecture books. He has done no less than 25 covers for *Le Moniteur*, France's leading construction magazine and contributed to art, architecture, property and general interest news magazines all over the world.

EXHIBITIONS

Wheel photographs at OXO Gallery, London Nov 2000

Construction of the Pyramid, Salon Paris Photo, Carrousel de Louvre, Paris
Nov 1998

Architecture of Paris shop fronts, Pavillon de L'Arsenal, Paris

The Architectural Splendour of the banks of the Seine, Pavillon de L'Arsenal,
Paris

The Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris

PHOTOGRAPHS

Marcus Robinson's photographs of The Wellington Arch are available free on the English Heritage Picselect Site on the Press Association Bulletin Board (020 7962 7531).