

JAMES ERIC FRANKHAM  
MA(Hons), BArch(Hons), BAS  
BORN 24.01.1975  
NEW ZEALAND CITIZEN, MARRIED

## EDUCATION

2006 Master of Arts, Directing documentary – graduated with First Class Honours  
1997 University of Auckland; Bachelor of Architecture – BArch – graduated with Honours  
1995 University of Auckland; Bachelor of Architectural Studies – BAS  
- 1992 Macleans College; 5<sup>th</sup> form Certificate, 6<sup>th</sup> form Certificate, A-Bursary

## EMPLOYMENT

Jun-Nov 1998 Mahoney Associates, London; web developer, graphic artist  
Jan-Dec 1999 Self-employed; video and installation art, online media  
Jan 2000-Jun 2001 Media Specialist for Starship Millennium Voyage; video production, editing, writing, photography, online media on world expedition  
Sep 2003-present Established company Splice Limited (Director); documentary film, writing, photography, online media – [www.splice.cc](http://www.splice.cc)  
Dec 2007 – present Concurrent with running Splice Ltd, Frankham is now also Editor at New Zealand Geographic Magazine – [www.nzgeographic.co.nz](http://www.nzgeographic.co.nz)

## FILMOGRAPHY

Tanim, 2002, Director / Producer

One-hour documentary for SBS Television Australia that probes one of mankind's most ancient forms of social organisation at the flashpoint of social and political transition. Filmed independently during the 2002 general elections in Papua New Guinea. Also screened on Maori Television (NZ), RFO Polynesia, RFO France, Film Festival Oceania in Tahiti, Atom Awards in Melbourne, Festival dei Popoli in Florence, DocNZ International Documentary Film Festival and Royal Anthropological Film Festival in Oxford.

Pacific Solution, 2005, Director

One-hour documentary for Television New Zealand about the experience of Afghan refugees aboard the Tampa, the new home they found in New Zealand, and follows the remarkable quest of their families to join them. Through the prism of their journey, the documentary examines the political context of the refugee crisis facing our world. Filmed in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iran, Australia, Nauru and New Zealand. Also screened at the DocNZ International Documentary Film Festival and EIDF International Documentary Film Festival in Korea.

Adventure Morocco, 2007, Director / Producer

One-hour documentary screened on Prime Television and The Documentary Channel in New Zealand and also syndicated internationally. It follows a team of plucky young adventurers as they attempt to transverse Morocco from the Sahara to the sea by any means possible. They take camels, mountain bikes, climb, hike and four-wheel-drive through some of the most extreme landscapes on earth in a thrills and spills adventure that kept viewers on the edge of their seats.

## IN PRODUCTION

Waka Moana, production 2007, Director / Producer

Maori master carver Matahi Brightwell is constructing a traditional canoe that he will navigate by the stars from Tahiti to Peru, across 4000 kilometres of open ocean and against the prevailing wind and current. His voyage retraces the route pioneered by his forebears a thousand years ago and unravels one of the enduring mysteries of the blue continent.

## **WRITTEN WORKS**

Wildlands, 2003, New Holland Publishers

Numerous social, political and travel stories for The New Zealand Herald, The Listener, North & South Magazine, AA Directions, New Zealand Geographic, Life & Leisure Magazine, New Zealand Adventure Magazine, Otago Daily Times, The Sunday Telegraph, The Herald Sun, Sydney Morning Herald, Melbourne Age, Sunday Times, Sunday Mail, Ecologist Magazine, Traveller and Wanderlust Magazine.

## **AWARDS**

Walkley Award (Australia Media Award) – Asia Pacific Coverage 2002  
Best Contemporary Documentary – Film Festival Oceania 2005  
Finalist Atom Awards 2005  
Special Mention (Tanim) DocNZ International Documentary Film Festival 2005  
Special Mention (Pacific Solution) DocNZ International Documentary Film Festival 2005  
Finalist Royal Anthropological Film Award 2005  
Finalist EBS EIDF International Documentary Film Festival 2006  
Best Newspaper Travel Story – Travcom 2006  
Best Unpublished Travel Image – Travcom 2006  
Finalist Media Peace Awards  
AIDC/DocNZ Best New Project 2006  
Finalist Film Festival Oceania 2007  
Travel Photographer of the Year – Travcom 2007

## **REFEREE**

Annie Goldson, Associate Professor  
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See also [www.splice.cc](http://www.splice.cc), [www.wildlands.cc](http://www.wildlands.cc) and [www.tanim.cc](http://www.tanim.cc)

**PROFILE:** JAMES FRANKHAM / DIRECTOR, AUTHOR, PHOTOGRAPHER

In the last four years James Frankham has visited 50 countries on seven continents; writing, filming and photographing the world's diversity. He has tramped through the wettest rainforest, crossed the driest desert, navigated 45,000 nautical miles of open ocean over two years as Media Specialist on the Starship Millennium Voyage and written the book *Wildlands* (New Holland Publishers, 2003) about the experience. The website he designed and maintained for the voyage was followed by eight million people.

In 2002 he filmed for five months in the highlands of Papua New Guinea during election time. The footage won Australia's coveted Walkley Award, Best Contemporary Documentary at Film Festival Oceania, Special Mention at DocNZ and was a finalist for the Royal Anthropological Film Award at Oxford University and ATOM Award in Melbourne. *Tanim* was broadcast in primetime on SBS Television Australia, Maori Television Service (NZ), RFO-France, RFO-Polynésie, screened at numerous film festivals from New Zealand to Italy and is used as teaching material in universities throughout the world.

Frankham directed *Pacific Solution* in 2005, a documentary exploring the lives of the Afghan refugees that sought residency in New Zealand, their new lives, the search for family back in Afghanistan, and the ultimate reunification in New Zealand. It involved extensive field production in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iran and also received a DocNZ Special Mention. It was broadcast on Television New Zealand this year and is being distributed internationally including competition entry into the EIDF International Film Festival in Korea.

More recently James Frankham spent six months photographing on a World Wildlife Fund assignment in South America and Antarctica, wrote and shot numerous feature stories for newspapers and magazines in New Zealand, Australia and the United Kingdom and was awarded Best Newspaper Article and Best Unpublished Image at the Travcom New Zealand travel media awards. His written and photographic work has appeared in New Zealand, Australia and the United Kingdom, respectively; *The New Zealand Herald*, *The Listener*, *North & South Magazine*, *AA Directions*, *New Zealand Geographic*, *Life & Leisure Magazine*, *New Zealand Adventure Magazine*, *Otago Daily Times*, *The Sunday Telegraph*, *The Herald Sun*, *Sydney Morning Herald*, *Melbourne Age*, *Sunday Times*, *Sunday Mail*, *Ecologist Magazine* and *Wanderlust Magazine*.

Frankham completed a Master of Arts in documentary film at the University of Auckland last year with First Class Honours and was a jury member for the DocNZ international documentary film festival. This year he won New Zealand Travel Photographer of the Year at the Travcom travel media awards.