

Matt Stapleton

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Professional researcher with over four years' experience working in various aspects of research, production and content acquisition. Project roles have included historical researcher, political and current affairs television researcher, social media management and production.

WORK EXPERIENCE:

Mar 2016 – Present Loosehorse Television

Archive Researcher (Framing Democracy)

- Currently engaged in archive research for a political documentary on the impact of television on politics in Ireland

Jan 2016 – Mar 2016 InQuest Research & Content Production Group

Researcher for RTÉ's 2016 Irish general election coverage

- Prepared detailed research briefs for RTÉ's coverage of the 2016 Irish general election including in-depth candidate profiles, constituency profiles and election outlooks
- Other responsibilities included image sourcing and verification, contacting election candidates and general administrative duties
- Appointed result and social media monitor for count day, working as part of a team in a live, fast-paced, pressurised environment during RTÉ's longest ever live broadcast

June 2015 – Nov 2015 Loosehorse Television

Researcher (Trial of the Century, All-Ireland Day)

- Engaged in research for several television shows including a provocative Irish history-based docudrama series for TV3 and an observational documentary on the GAA All-Ireland Football Final for RTÉ
- Responsibilities included providing briefs on various topics, supporting producers in the development and research process, managing contributors and giving insights into the casting of interesting characters
- Provided several in-depth briefs as part of the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland Sound & Vision application process

Jan 2015 – Apr 2015 Blinder Films

Senior Researcher for Irish Pictorial Weekly

- Supported the producer and key creative talent across all aspects and stages of research for the third season of RTÉ's *Irish Pictorial Weekly*, a satirical sketch show
- Liaised with spokespeople for government departments, semi-state companies and other large organisations to gain access to information used in the sketches
- Used search facilities such as Factiva/Lexis Nexis as well as government archives to assemble concise, hard-hitting journalistic research for television
- Co-ordinated research material and relevant information to writers and any other relevant creative staff
- Provided clear, direct and unambiguous research notes on various topics

Oct 2012 – Sept 2015 Boston College Ireland

Senior Researcher for Century Ireland

- Senior researcher for *Century Ireland*, a fortnightly online historical newspaper that reports on, and provided analysis for, events in Irish life a century ago
- Responsibilities include content production, management of the project's Twitter feed, production of blogs and articles, managing contributors, production of film and audio pieces, editing audio and video pieces and sourcing primary-source material for specific stories
- Through this project I have gained a working knowledge of Expression Engine content management system, Adobe Premiere Pro, Photoshop, Hootsuite and various archival resources

Feb 2011 - Sept 2014 InQuest Research & Content Production Group
Freelance Researcher & Content Acquisition

Exhibition Image Sourcing and Video Content Creation (Aug 2014 – Sept 2014)

- Researched and sourced images for an exhibition hosted by the National Archives of Ireland entitled 'Fame, Fortune & Sweet Liberty: The Irish in America' which was shown at the iFest Contemporary Irish Festival in Boston
- Liaised with various archives and agencies that held reproduction rights to images used in the exhibition

Irish General Election, Presidential Election & Referendum 2011 Research & Coverage

- Researched independent candidates who ran in the 2011 general election on behalf of RTÉ.
- Count coordinator and researcher for the 2011 presidential election and referendums
- Liaised with the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government to ensure that RTÉ had the correct and up-to-date results for both the presidential election and the two separate referendums

May 2012

Square One Productions

Freelance Researcher and Historical Analyst

- Television documentary research for *Cnoc 16*, a documentary on the history of the Hill 16 stand in Croke Park, the headquarters of the Gaelic Athletic Association. Aired on TG4 in Sept 2012. Provided an in-depth knowledge on the early period of the stadium from approx. 1880 to the 1920s and the origin of the stand's name

EDUCATION:

2010 – 2011 University College Dublin

Masters in History (*First Class Honours*)

2007-2010 University College Dublin

Bachelor Degree in History (*2.1 Honours*)

SKILLS:

Language: English (fluent)

Software Tools: MS Office: Word, Excel, PowerPoint
Adobe Premier Pro, Adobe Audition, Adobe Photoshop
Expression Engine Content Management System
Fluent in both Windows and Mac operating systems

Other:

Full Irish Driving Licence
Competent shooting on Canon Legria HFG25

REFERENCES:

- Mark Duncan – Director of Inquest Research Group, Director of Century Ireland
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- Hugh Ormond – Producer of Irish Pictorial Weekly and RTÉ Radio
Contact: +353 86 853 4377 **Email:** hughormond@gmail.com
- Cormac Hargaden – Co-Owner of Loosehorse Television
Contact: +353 86 828 3100 **Email:** cormac@loosehorse.ie
- Mike Cronin – Academic Director, Boston College-Ireland
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