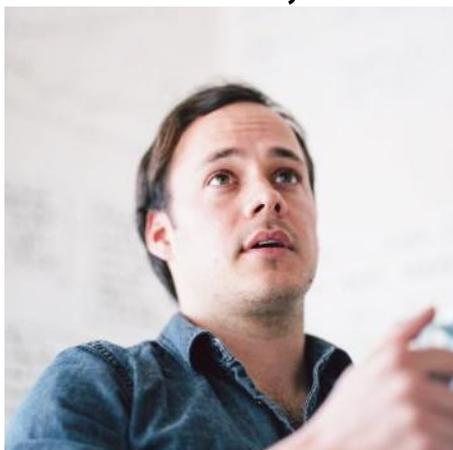


Oliver Nias, Director, Obstacle Films



Course of study	English Literature
Year of graduation	2008
City / Region / Country	London

1. Tell us more about your job; an example of day-to-day work, average week, or a recent project (or how would you describe your job to a friend?).

I am a filmmaker. I work as a freelancer and run my production company Obstacle Films. My job involves directing, writing, producing and creatively steering film projects of many types. This always involves a lot of collaboration. I have a number of projects in production at any one time and my week-to-week work involves managing these.

2. What attributes make someone successful in this job (or what skills are involved in your current role)?

There are many, many attributes that can help you in the profession of filmmaking. Know your strength and weakness. Work with people. Passion sustains.

3. What do you like most about your job?

The talented people you work with bringing ideas to life.

4. What are the most challenging aspects (role or sector)?

Sustaining a career.

5. How did your degree prepare you for your current role (or are there any skills/knowledge you developed which you are using now)?

English literature is the study of stories and ideas. It is the study of how to connect with others through expression, technique and form. This is at the heart of film.

6. How did you get to where you are now in your career (or what experiences helped you)?

Passion.

7. What advice would you give to current students about getting into / starting out in your sector? (e.g. relevant experiences, supportive people, necessary education)

Just start. And be wary of taking advice from anyone who doesn't first listen to you and understand where you're coming from.

8. What is on the horizon within your industry that our students should know about? (positives or negatives)

Making films is always challenging. The industry sometimes moves quickly and unpredictably. As a result, no one knows exactly what's on the horizon. But people love great films. That's the constant worth focussing on.

9. If you could give a current student one piece of advice on something you wish you'd have known prior to starting your career what would it be?

Your work is just one part of a long process. Take your time and enjoy it.