

# Dan Cruickshank

# Writer / Presenter

Dan Cruickshank is a regular presenter on the BBC, best known for his popular series AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 TREASURES and accompanying book. His series, ADVENTURES IN ARCHITECTURE, for which he wrote the accompanying book, was broadcast on BBC2 in 2008. (For details about all his publications, see his literary CV). He has also presented numerous single documentaries, including THE ART OF DYING, and BRITAIN'S PARK STORY.



## Agents

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### Credits

#### Radio

Production	Company	Notes
JACK LONDON'S PEOPLE OF THE	Pier Productions / Radio 4	
ABYSS		
2012		
THE LONDON NOBODY KNOWS	BBC / BBC Radio 4	2 x 15'. Off the beaten track
2010		haunts in London.

### **Television**

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THE ROAD TO PALMYRA 2017	BBC 4	1 x 60" with Don McCullin  Documentary which follows historian Dan Cruickshank and photographer Don McCullin into the heart of war-torn Syria, on a dangerous mission to document the cultural destruction wrought by so-called Islamic State, and understand what it means to the people of the nation.
HOME FROM HOME 2016	Oxford Film and TV/BBC 4	3 X 60" Programmes on British domestic architecture.
WARSAW: RESURRECTING HISTORY 2015	BBC 4	Dan Cruickshank returns to his childhood home of Warsaw for the first time in almost 60 years. In a personal and moving film, he recalls his boyhood memories to explore the memories of the city and the memories of its people. No city in Europe suffered so much destruction in the Second World War, no city rose up so heroically from the ashes. The Nazis had razed Warsaw to the ground, but after the war the people fought hard to bring their city back from the dead in one of the greatest reconstruction jobs in history. As a boy, Cruickshank lived in the rebuilt old town and it inspired his love of architecture and made him the man he is today.
CIVILIZATION UNDERATTACK 2015	BBC 4	1 X 60" Islamic State has declared war on the most important and romantic ancient architectural sites in the world. Jihadi fighters seek the total destruction of the wonders of the ancient world that gave us writing, the wheel and the first cities. Dan Cruickshank charts the likely course of Islamic State's destructive advance and asks how this can be happening and what we can do to stop them.
THE FAIRYTALE CASTLES OF KING LUDWIG II 2013	BBC / BBC4	An exploration of the rich aesthetic of Ludwig II - from the mock-medievalism of Neuschwanstein the iconic fairytale castle, to the rich Baroque splendour of Herrenchiemsee.
MAJESTY AND MORTAR: BRITAIN'S GREAT PALACES 2014	BBC / BBC4	A history of 1000 years of palace building in the United Kingdom
BRITAIN'S LOST TREASURES RETURNED 2013	BBC / BBC4	The story of how the first British prime minister Robert Walpole's art collection, one of the finest in the 18th century western world, was sold to Russia in the 1770s and how, for the first time, it is returning to Britain for the summer of 2013 to hang in its original home of Houghton Hall in Norfolk.

WRITTEN IN STONE 2013	Double Bank Films / BBC1	6 x 30' A journey to explore some of Ulster's most remarkable buildings and discover what they tell us about the people who have lived there
THE BRIDGES THAT BUILT LONDON 2012	Tern TV / BBC Four	1 x 60' Uncovers stories of bronze-age relics emerging from the Vauxhall shore, of why London Bridge was falling down, of midnight corpses splashing beneath Waterloo Bridge, and above all, of the sublime ambition of London's bridge builders themselves
METALWORKS! THE GOLDEN AGE IN SILVER 2012	BBC / BBC4	1 x 60'
A TALE OF TWO CITIES 2012	Wide-Eyed Entertainment / BBC 4	Following in the footsteps of John Stow and John Strype, two of London's greatest chroniclers, to explore the 17th century, one of the most dramatic centuries in the history of London
BRICK BY BRICK: REBUILDING OUR PAST 2012	Darlow Smithson / BBC2	3 x 60' Dan Cruickshank and Charlie Luxton uncover the incredible hidden stories behind historic buildings as they are dismantled brick by brick, and meticulously resurrected in new locations.
THE COUNTRY HOUSE REVEALED 2011	Oxford TV/BBC2	8 x 60'
BRITAIN'S PARK STORY 2010	Objective North / BBC 4	1 x 60'
THE GREAT BRITISH HOME MOVIE ROADSHOW 2010	Diverse / BBC2	
GREAT RAILWAY JOURNEYS 2010	ITV / Five	3 x 45'
THE ART OF DYING 2009	BBC Television / BBC4	In an intimate and moving documentary, art historian Dan Cruickshank confronts the unavoidable issue of his own certain death, whether soon or far in the future. His mission, in this largely secular age, is to see if art can offer either comfort or explanation in the face of the greatest unknown of all.

**CRUICKSHANK ON BBC Television** A look at the gardens, to celebrate their 250th anniversary. KEW: THE GARDEN / BBC 2 THE CHANGED THE WORLD 2009 **GLOBAL BBC** Television 8 X 60' documentary series **ADVENTURES IN** / BBC2 **ARCHITECTURE** 2008 **PRINCES OF THE BBC Television** 1 x 30'. In the 18th century, Britain produced a heroic **EAST END** brand of businessmen - men who cared as much about 2007 beauty as they did about commerce. On the streets of Spitalfields, some of the houses created by these merchant princes stand today. Dan goes in search of the legacy of these visionaries; he finds out how they made their money, where they spent it and why so many of their architectural wonders have been destroyed over the centuries. **BETJEMAN AND ME** Oxford Film and 1 x 50'. Dan journeys to the places and buildings that were 2006 Television / important to Betjeman, from St Pancras Station in London BBC1 to Magdalen College, Oxford - things he campaigned for or wrote about. This is a very personal film for Dan who worked alongside Betjeman at the Architectural Review and who campaigned with him to save the Georgian houses in Spitalfields - Dan now lives in one of the houses. **MARVELS OF THE BBC** Television 4 x 60'. One hundred years ago, a new movement shocked **MODERN AGE** culture to its core. It began as the aesthetic ideal of a few 2006 artists and idealists but became a way of life for millions of people. This landmark series, written and presented by Dan Cruickshank, traces the roots of Modernism and focuses on the movement's leading lights, such as Le Corbusier and Frank Lloyd Wright, and the century's most seismic political events including the rise of Nazi Germany. The series coincides with a major exhibition at London's Victoria And Albert Museum and is accompanied by programming on BBC FOUR. THE LOST WORLD **BBC** Television Documentary detailing the history of Tlbet before 1950. **OF TIBET** 2006

THE LOST WORLD OF FRIESE-GREENE 2006	BBC Television	3 x 60°. Claude Freise-Greene's amazing colour footage of Britain's beauty spots in the 1920s brings to life the epic car journey made by the pioneering filmmaker from the tip of Cornwall to John O'Groats. In this follow-up to THE LOST WORLD OF MITCHELL AND KENYON, Dan retraces Friese-Greene's route.  "Exactly what I pay my TV licence for – beautifully crafted, inspiring and informative left me gagging for more."  (The Guardian)  "It is the visual equivalent of a slice of warm buttered toast on a chilly winter's afternoon." (The Times)
THE LOST WORLD OF MITCHELL AND KENYON 2005	BFI / BBC2	A local film historian made an amazing discovery while rummaging in a shop basement in Lancashire: 800 films dating from before the First World War in sealed barrels which give an unparalleled visual record of Edwardian British life. Highlights include the first-ever footage of Manchester United, a Crimewatch-style reconstruction from 1901 and a silent interview with the last soldier to receive the Victoria Cross from Queen Victoria herself. Dan brings the archive alive by interviewing the descendants of the people captured on film.
AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 TREASURES 2005	BBC	10 x 60°. From the Taj Mahal to the Kremlin, through to the Parthenon and the Great Wall of China, Dan journeys non-stop across the globe in search of the most significant manmade treasures on the planet. He charts the rise and fall of many of the world's greatest civilisations to create a unique picture of humankind through history, travelling to 44 countries in just five months.
WHAT THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION DID FOR US 2003	BBC	
BRITAIN'S BEST BUILDINGS 2002	BBC	
IRAQ AFTER THE WAR 2002	BBC	
THE LOST TOWER 2003	BBC Television	