



Les Stroud
Producer/Director, Musician, Author, Keynote Speaker

FILMMAKER

Les Stroud is the Canadian Screen Award winning producer, creator, director and star of the hit TV series *Survivorman* (OLN Canada, The Science Channel US, Discovery Channel International, City TV (Rogers) Canada, NHK (Japan), amongst numerous other networks around the world). Stroud is the only producer in the history of television to produce an internationally broadcast series entirely produced, written, filmed and hosted alone resulting in his credit as the creator of the television genre "Survival TV". *Survivorman* is one of the highest rated shows in the history of OLN Canada, the Science Channel US and Discovery Channel US and remains the highest rated repeat show on the Discovery Channel. Les' work (over 130 documentaries) has been nominated for a record 30 Canadian Screen Awards including Best Director, Best Host, Best Music, Best Show, Best Audio Mix and Best Editing and has won for Best Writer (twice) and Best Photography.

Stroud has appeared in and/or produced numerous television specials including hosting the 20th Anniversary of Discovery Channel's *Shark Week*, *I Shouldn't Be Alive*, *The Science of Survival*, *Surviving Sharks*, *Expedition Everest*, *Surviving Urban Disasters*, *The Mad Trapper*, *Surviving Alaska*, *The True Story of Robinson Crusoe*, *Shark Feeding Frenzy*, *After the Experiment*, *Deadly Waters* and the documentary feature *Off the Grid with Les Stroud*. He was also featured in the series *Extraordinary Lives*. Les was Executive Producer/Host of the hit kids' TV series *Survive This* (YTV, Cartoon Network, Nat Geo Kids) and made celebrity guest appearances on *Extreme Makeover Home Edition*, *Top Chef* and *MTV Cribs*. He Executive Produced/Hosted the NHL celebrity survival special *Survival Challenge* (OLN/Rogers), and both the Discovery Channel series, *Les Stroud; Beyond Survival* and *Survivorman Bigfoot* earned top ratings on both Discovery Channel US, Travel Channel and OLN in Canada and on at least one occasion during prime time viewing was the highest rated show among men 24 to 59 in all categories (including sports) on TV. He is at the helm of many productions with Rogers Canada, National Geographic (2019's *Alaska's Grizzly Gauntlet*), The Science Channel US, Discovery Channels International, Blue Ant Media and is currently in production on season three for American Public Television (PBS) for his award nominated foraging and cooking series *Wild Harvest*. He released the feature documentary film *La Loche* (with 12 festival awards internationally) and the 3-part special *Surviving Disasters* on PBS stations nationwide as well as around the world on National Geographic.

AUTHOR/PRESENTER

A celebrated keynote speaker, musician and author, both his books *Survive! – Essential Skills and Tactics to Get You Out of Anywhere—Alive!* (Harper Collins) and *Will to Live* (Harper Collins) have made the Globe and Mail bestseller list. Les was nominated for *Best Travel Writer* at the Canadian National Magazine awards as well as nominated for a 2011 *White Pine Award* for *Will To Live* for the Forest of Reading Awards by the Ontario Library Association. Les' third book *Beyond Survivorman* launched into stores Jan 2014 and in 2021 he released his first children's

book for Annick Press Canada: *Wild Outside* winning a *Yellow Cedar Award* for Best Children's Non-Fiction. *Wild Outside* also won Best Informational Book Award and is nominated for a 2023 Rocky Mountain Book Award and a Hackmatack Award 2023. Les took home Best Writer in Non-Fiction at the 2013 and 2015 Canadian Screen Awards as well as the Executive Producers Award for Excellence at the Lewiston Film Festival. He holds an Edward R Murrow award for media. He has penned hundreds of articles for Boy Scout Magazine, Explorers Club Journal and BC Outdoors amongst others.

He hosts his own podcast (20 episodes person season) *Surviving Life with Les Stroud* on the Apostrophe Podcast Network.

MUSICIAN/SONGWRITER/PERFORMER

Musically, Stroud has shared the stage with the top in the business, including Slash, Rob Thomas (of Matchbox 20), Journey, Jonny Lang, Bruce Cockburn, Dave Mason, the late James Cotton, Steve Stevens, Alice Cooper, Steven Stills, Colin Linden, Tommy Shaw, Robbie Krieger, Blues Traveler, Tesla, Jakob Dylan, Randy Bachman, Chicago, Montgomery Gentry, Lynyrd Skynyrd and The Roots. Les' songwriting style runs an eclectic gambit, from art-folk to contemporary rock and progressive rock and often features his iconic harmonica playing. He has written all the theme songs for his TV series and scored several independent films. In '23 he was nominated for Best Artist and Best Group by the International Acoustic Music Awards. He has won numerous regional music festivals and recorded nine albums (one in collaboration with the Canadian hit makers the Northern Pikes). His third CD, *Wonderful Things*, and fourth CD, *Off The Grid*, include feature documentary films entitled *The Barn Sessions*. He released *Bittern Lake* in 2018 and released his long-awaited *Mother Earth* album digitally in 2019 with a re-release scheduled for 2023 on vinyl. *Mother Earth* is an art rock genre album and includes a solo from Slash of Guns N' Roses fame on the lead single "One Giant Farm" as well as a feature solo from Steve Vai on the song "Mother Earth". Les is currently recording his 8th album with legendary producer and guitar player Colin Linden and features Bruce Cockburn. He is also completing his 9th album with legendary Producer Mike Clink (GnR, Aerosmith, Beth Hart). He performed at the prestigious Green Ball for Barak Obama in Washington, DC where he met then Vice President Joe Biden and was the MC for the inaugural Oceana Ball in New York with Susan Rockefeller.

APPEARANCES

Stroud has made numerous talk show appearances including *The Ellen DeGeneres Show*, *The View*, *Jimmy Fallon*, *Craig Ferguson*, *Larry King Live*, *The Hour with George Stroumboulopoulos* (CBC), *House of Strombo* and CBC's *Q* to name a few. Stroud was featured in the now famous Geico Gecko commercial and has oft been referred to by David Letterman, Howard Stern and numerous other media personalities. He has been parodied on the hit TV sitcoms *The Office* (segment officially titled, "Survivorman"), *King of the Hill* and most recently *Modern Family*. During their 2010 Royal Tour of Canada, Les was invited by the Prime Minister of Canada to meet the Queen of England and the Duke of Edinburgh.

A proud member of the prestigious Explorers Club, Les received Fellow (highest rank) of the Royal Canadian Geographic Society. Les has received the Distinguished Alumni award from

Fanshawe College and was nominated for the Ontario Premieres Award for Excellence for work in his field. He contributes to dozens of charities and benefits, is an ambassador for Shelterbox International, and is an advanced survival trainer for the Canadian Military Armed Forces as well as sits on the board of advisors for the Sea Shepherd Conservation Organization and the Canadian Canoe Museum. In 2022 Les was named Chief Scout of Canada for Canada Scouts.

Short BIO 2023

Les Stroud is credited as the creator of the Survival TV genre through his ground-breaking series *Survivorman*. He's a multi-award-winning film producer with over 130 documentaries, an award-winning author of four best-selling books, as well as a celebrated singer-songwriter. He was named Canada's Chief Scout, is a proud member of the prestigious Explorers Club and he received Fellow (highest rank) of the Royal Canadian Geographic Society. Les has received the Distinguished Alumni award from Fanshawe College and was nominated for the Ontario Premieres Award for Excellence for work in his field.