



Roxy Taya Furman

Wildlife Photographer, Filmmaker, and Presenter

I was 6 years old when I first told my parents "I want to be a conservationist", a moment which massively shaped my future. Now, my biggest passion lies in finding and telling wildlife stories about animal and climate activism, particularly on digital platforms, that inspire people to act and to provide hope that we can redefine our relationship with the natural world before it is too late.



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Employment History

Personal Brand | July 2018 - Present

Digital Content Creator / Filmmaker

- I am now working full-time as a freelance filmmaker for my personal brand.
- After graduating, I set up my own social media account, @roxythezoologist, and have now built an audience of over 45,000 followers across different platforms (Instagram, TikTok, YouTube, and Facebook). My goal is to inspire others to reconnect with the natural world and get involved with conservation initiatives themselves.
- Last year I released an award-winning short film, titled 'I Am Capable', about an inspiring group of Muslim women, who are paving the way in making the outdoors more inclusive. In the film, they go wild swimming for the first time. You can watch the trailer [here](#).
- Most recently, I was in Mexico shooting two different short films for a collaboration between Jack Wolfskin and Canon UK. Both films focusing on the impact of ecotourism, one in the sea, with the largest fish in the ocean, the whaleshark, and the second on land with spider monkeys. These will be shown at the Photography Show and Kendal Festival.
- Last year, I have did some presenting work, with my favourite being an excerpt on Blue Peter about animal behaviour, which was filmed at a farm animal rescue.
- My work has been shared by BBC Earth, BBC, BBC Brazil, the Metro, and the Guardian.
- I have worked with brands such as Canon, WWT, RSPB, Jackson Wild, Airbnb, Rolex, Lenovo, and Facebook, and photographed influencers like Jack Harries and Nimai Delgado.

Silverback Films | Oct 2020 - April 2022

Researcher

- For two years, I was working as a researcher at Silverback Films as part of the Studios team with Jonnie Hughes and Colin Butfield. For my first year, I was on the Earthshot series (across three different episodes), and then for the past couple of months I was helping out with the David Attenborough COP film, followed by development work with Dan Huertas.
- This role entails gaining experience in documentary research, finding stories and characters, fact finding and checking, logging, and both filming and DIT on location.

ZSL Whipsnade Zoo | March 2019 - Sept 2019

Presenter

- As a presenter at ZSL's Whipsnade Zoo I was involved in direct outreach and education, giving talks to the public about different animals and their conservation stories.
- This role built my confidence with public speaking and helped to refine my knowledge about ways of getting different groups of people to connect to a story about wildlife.

Sealife Adventures | July 2018 - October 2018

Wildlife Biologist / Presenter

- Biologist and presenter on a boat operating wildlife tours around the Firth of Lorne area.
- My tasks included nature presenting, spotting and wildlife ID, boat crewing duties, customer interaction, admin., social media, photo and video editing, and other handy-work on deck.
- This taught me about UK wildlife and helping to educate others in a fun and engaging way.
- I also set up a petition to ban the use of ADDs by Scottish salmon farmers.



Relevant Experience

- Digital team researcher with Freeborne (2020).
- Public talks for Greenpeace, VegFest UK, and representing Canon at the Photography Show.
- Photographer for Extinction Rebellion, Jack Harries, and Nimai Delgado (2019).
- Location sound recording workshop with Gary Moore (a natural history sound recordist).
- Research on African painted wolves (*Lycaon pictus*) at Yorkshire Wildlife Park (October 2017).
- Mike Birkhead - helped to create a treatment for a new documentary (September 2017).
- Field Course to Shamwari Game Reserve, studying the 'landscape of fear' (September 2017).
- Volunteer at UK Wolf Conservation Centre, Reading (August 2017).
- Volunteer at Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary, Brisbane (2016).
- Volunteer mammal keeper at Tropical World, Leeds (2015).
- Volunteer with rescued elephants at Surin Project, Thailand (Summer 2015).
- Volunteer dog walker / trainer at Diana Brimblecombe Animal Rescue Centre, Reading (2013).

Education History

University of the West of England | 2019-2021

MA Wildlife Filmmaking

- This course has taught me how to tell wildlife stories and the importance of storytelling in instilling an emotional reaction that is vital to inspire change, as well as more technical skills like lighting for interviews, colour grading, and filming actuality.
- Completion of the course has been pushed back to Dec 2021 due to covid-19, I have now completed this degree, making a film about Amira Patel, a Muslim woman who founded a group to create a safe space for her community outdoors. In my film, I Am Capable, they will swim together for the first time. I was awarded a distinction for this film and it has won awards in well-recognised festivals, such as the Wildscreen Official Selection.

University of Leeds & University of Queensland | 2014-2018

BSc Zoology (INT) - 1st Class Honours

- My undergraduate research was a field-based project at Yorkshire Wildlife Park, looking at social transmission and pack structure in African painted wolves.
- My degree included a 12-month study abroad year at the University of Queensland, Australia.
- My grades placed me on the Dean's List.
- Served as the Zoology Student Representative in Year 1 and Year 2.

Qualifications and Hobbies

- Photography and Filming
- Adobe Lightroom & Premiere Pro
- Full (clean) UK Drivers License
- PADI Open Water Diver
- Royal Academy of Dance - Ballet Grade 8 and Intermediate Vocational
- Horse Riding
- Weight Lifting and HIIT Training
- Yoga and Meditation

References

Jonnie Hughes - Series Producer

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