



# 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

Silverback Films | Oct 2020 - Present

### Researcher

- I am currently working as a researcher at Silverback Films as part of Jonnie Hughes' team that are producing the series accompanying the Earthshot Prize.
- This role entails gaining experience in documentary research, fact finding and checking, logging, and filming on location.

Personal Brand | July 2018 - Present

### Digital Content Creator

- After graduating, I set up my own social media account, @roxythezoologist, and have now built an audience of over 20,000 followers across different platforms (including Instagram, TikTok, YouTube, and Facebook).
- My goal is to inspire others to reconnect with the natural world and get involved with conservation initiatives themselves, raising awareness about plastic pollution, palm-oil use, animal agriculture, the exotic pet trade, and more.
- My work has been shared by BBC Earth, BBC, BBC Brazil, the Metro, and the Guardian.
- I have worked with organisations such as Airbnb, Facebook, and the Green Party, and collaborated with influencers like Jack Harries and Nimai Delgado.

Zephyr Eco Market | Jan 2018 - Present

### Manager / Owner

- [www.zephyrecomarket.co.uk](http://www.zephyrecomarket.co.uk) is my own business: a website selling eco-friendly alternatives to mainstream products, designed to help people reduce their impact on animals and our planet.
- I work with two charities: Painted Dog Conservation and One Tree Planted (planting trees in Indonesia for orders over £10).
- Running Zephyr has helped me to gain insight into setting up and running a web-based business, designing websites, sourcing products, and using social media to funnel income.

ZSL Whipsnade Zoo | March 2019 - Sept 2019

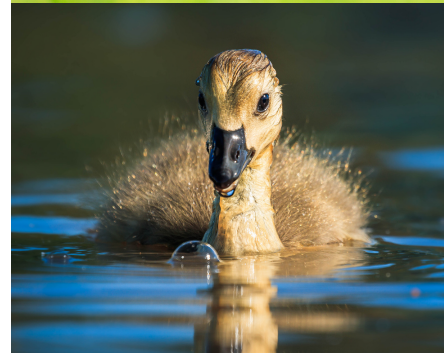
### Presenter

- 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 and VegFest UK (2019).
- 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 at Elephant Freedom Project, Sri Lanka (Summer 2014).
- Volunteer dog walker / trainer at Diana Brimblecombe Animal Rescue Centre, Reading (2013).

# Education History

University of the West of England | 2019-Present

## 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 July 2021 due to covid-19, but for my short documentary film I will be heading to Sumatra, where I will be filming with a small NGO, to tell a story about the human-wildlife conflict with orangutans and durian farmers, and the work being done to help provide a long-term solution to mitigate this.

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

Peter Venn - Head of MA Wildlife Filmmaking

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