

JESSIE LEVENE

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PROFILE

Creative and confident journalist and radio documentary producer. Extensive experience in field recording, studio production and audio editing, with strong research and writing skills. Further experience in television production, print journalism and social media. Conversational Mandarin speaker, having lived in China for 3 years. Currently focused on telling stories from North America.

BROADCAST CREDITS

- Telus Optik TV – *Save Space Nugget*** May 2017
Location Sound
- TV documentary about how a group of mountain bikers, tree planters, artists and musicians unites to save the forest surrounding their village from destruction.
- CBC Radio One – *Unreserved: Ahousaht – Story of a Skatepark*** April 2017
Producer
- Feature documentary about a survivor's response to the Tofino whale boat tragedy for this weekly Sunday night national show focusing on Indigenous community, culture and conversation.
- BBC Radio 4 – *The Reunion: Tate Modern*** September 2016
Co-Producer
- Episode of this long-running, award-winning series, which reunites a group of people intimately involved in a moment of modern history (Whistledown Productions).
- BBC Two – *Holy Rivers*** October 2014
China Consultant
- Contributed research and advised at the development stage for this major BBC Two television series.
- BBC World Service – *China in Vogue*** March 2014
Presenter & Producer
- Radio documentary about the rise of high-end fashion in China. Production included recording trip to China in July 2013 (White Pebble Media).
- BBC World Service – *In Perfect Harmony*** December 2013
Assistant Producer
- Radio documentary, broadcast on Christmas Day, on harmony singing around the world. Researched stories, coordinated recording and conducted interviews (White Pebble Media).
- BBC Radio 4 – *Batting for the Middle Kingdom*** November 2013
Producer
- Documentary about the development of cricket in China. Production included recording trip to China in July 2013 (Whistledown Productions).
- BBC Radio 4 – *Poetry of Gold and Angels*** August 2013
Researcher
- Documentary about poetry in San Francisco, California. Research included conducting phone interviews with contributors, writing briefs on interviewees, and co-ordinating the recording schedule (White Pebble Media).
- BBC Radio 4 & BBC Radio 4 website – *The Listening Project*** 2012 – 2013
Assistant Producer
- Co-edited the listener-recorded conversations *Reluctant Retirement*, *Life Changing Decision*, *Wise Women* and *Unexpected Gift* (Whistledown Productions).
- BBC Radio 4 – *Short Cuts: Into The Wild & The Kindness of Strangers*** 2012
Producer
- Contributed pieces to the first and second series of this weekly program showcasing

creative radio documentaries (Falling Tree Productions).

BBC Radio 4 website – *The Global Reach*

February 2012

Producer

- Online photofilm '*La Lutte - Wrestling in Senegal*' accompanied the first episode of this world news series (Whistledown Productions).

WORK HISTORY

Freelance Journalist & Producer – Vancouver Island, Canada

2015 – present

Current projects include:

- The Cumberland Oral History Project, an ongoing collaboration with the **Cumberland Museum and Archives**.

Freelance Journalist & Producer – London, UK

2011 – 2015

See above for UK broadcast credits. Other work includes:

- Tape syncs and reports for various American public radio, including **NPR, WUNC, Radiolab, Making Contact, Marketplace, and America's Test Kitchen**.
- Podcast production for **The Shambala Podcast**, an online radio project from the annual music festival; **In The Dark**, the London-based radio collective; the Software Engineering department at the **Open University**; and **JW3**, a London-based charity.

Researcher – Media Trust Productions – London, UK

2011

- Coordinated and liaised with clients for shoots in Africa, India, Eastern Europe and the UK.
- Coordinated the production department's social media presence.

EDUCATION & TRAINING

The Doc Project Mentorship Program (CBC Radio)

2016 – 2017

- Mentored by veteran CBC journalist Iris Yudai, Executive Producer of *Unreserved*.

Creative Skillset Freelancer Training Scheme

2013

- Awarded competitive bursary for training and mentoring with BBC radio producers.

MA Radio (Distinction), Goldsmiths College, University of London

2011 – 2012

- Awarded full scholarship for Broadcast Journalism Training Council-accredited Masters degree.

Multimedia Storytelling, Duckrabbit Productions

2011

- Three-day workshop on combining audio and photographs.

BA English (First Class Hons), University of Sussex, Brighton

2004 – 2007

- Dissertation on the representation of Jews and Muslims in Western literature.

SKILLS & INTERESTS

Languages: Mandarin Chinese (Conversational); French (Basic)

Computer: Mac and Windows, MS Office, Sadie, Audition, Reaper, iMovie

Photography: Photographs have featured in Time Out Beijing & The Cleaver Quarterly

Music: Played cello in youth and community orchestras since eight years old

Food: Co-chef of a pop-up restaurant; leader of food tours in London's Chinatown

Traveling: Traveled extensively in Europe, Asia and North America

*** REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST ***