

XENIA FOERTSCH

WRITER. VLOGGER. FILMMAKER.

Phone

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED]

E-mail

xenia.foe@gmail.com

 [@xenopus](#)

 [@xe.no.pus](#)

 [@xe_no_pus](#)

 [XENOPUS](#)

 [Xenia Foertsch](#)

Education

First Class Honours Degree | 2013-2017

Filmmaking & Screenwriting, *University of the West of Scotland*

I directed and produced several short films (notably PIXIES, 2016, available on Vimeo). As Director/Producer I had to cast and work with actors, describe my vision to the cinematographer, work with the editor to tell the visual story effectively, find and communicate with a composer to create an original soundtrack for our film, and co-ordinate our efforts, making sure every deadline was met.

In my Honours year I created a YouTube channel as part of my Creative Research Project investigating the establishment of an authentic self on YouTube. I have been regularly uploading to this channel for more than a year and it has allowed me express my thoughts through conversation pieces, song covers and media reviews. I participated in the vlogging challenge VEDIM (Video Every Day in May), which helped me improve my video-making and editing endurance, as I was uploading 3-17 minute videos throughout. I recently started a new series called SNAPSHOT, in which I reflect on the past month and try to create a visually interesting narrative.

International Baccalaureate Diploma | 2011-2013

Thuringia International School-Weimar, Germany

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Skills

Filmmaking

- Scriptwriting and editing
- Film directing and producing
- Presenting and pitching ideas
- Skilled at interviewing subjects on-screen
- Video Editing – Adobe Premiere Pro
- Experienced at creating visually interesting shots
- Location scouting, accounting for creative and practicality

Social Media

- Maintaining presence on YouTube, Instagram, Twitter, Facebook
- Video creation for different platforms
- Thumbnail & end screen design; Adobe Photoshop, GIMP
- Blogging and writing engaging and shareable posts

General

- Writing, prose/factual with great attention to detail
- Communication and critical thinking, especially in stressful situations
- Working as part of a team as well as independently
- Excellent research skills, able to accumulate relevant information quickly even in previously unfamiliar areas
- Leadership, maintaining positive attitudes and utilizing individual strengths to benefit the group

Languages

- Bilingual – English and German, full proficiency
- Learning Spanish, intermediate and Russian, beginner

Hobbies and Other

- Singing and Songwriting
- Travelling
- Dungeons and Dragons

Experience

Delegate, The Network | 2017

The Network is a four day internship designed to help get a start in the television industry. I was chosen as one of 60 delegates to attend the Edinburgh International Television Festival and participate in designated workshops to further our understanding of what is necessary to work in television and associated media. In my Creative Development Workshop, we were split into groups and had less than two days to put together a pitch for a new Sky One Entertainment Show, which we then pitched to Sky One Commissioners at [The Network Live](#).

Media Director, Frog@Inkwell Ltd. | 2015-2018

The establishment of a family business tying together all our digital endeavours allowed me to gather my first working experiences. Uniting programming, e-book publishing and filmmaking under one company aim made me realize the advantages and hardships of freelancing. Throughout our companies' development I gained experience in budgeting, maintaining accurate records and web design.

Programme Board Representative | 2016-2017

Student Representative | 2014-2016

I was elected to represent my university class for several years, allowing me to highlight group problems or issues with our Head of Year, and communicating with members of staff to help improve overall course experience. When a new title was created – Programme Board Representative – I was chosen to represent our overall course at Programme Board meetings as my classmates had confidence in my ability to represent them.

Translating and Proof-reading | 2014-2018

As I am fluent in both English and German, I am able to translate and proofread texts in both languages. I was asked to proof-read another translator's edition of Olga Foertsch's book "Money Emission for Everyone" (available on Amazon). Later I translated (German to English) Olga Foertsch's "Die enge Jeans als bestes Argument", detailing her experience with ketogenic dieting. I also translated the subtitles for the poetic and tragic short film FIRAQ (dir. Kalli Zifou). I wanted to make the translation sound just as poetic as the original, which developed my approach towards keeping a translated text authentic. I always value working collaboratively with the writer to make sure their text is translated truthfully and well.

Student Newspaper Editor | 2012-2013

Our team of students created a weekly newspaper at our school, reporting on important issues pertaining to the school and highlighting talent by featuring poetry and fiction pieces from a variety of peers. I was one of two editors, engaging with writers, helping them finetune their pieces to the best possible standard and penning several pieces, factual and prose, myself.

Reference

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