

JO GÜSTIN'S BIO & CINEMA CV

CONTACT INFORMATION

Post address: 2100 Bloor St W (Unit 6333) Toronto, ON, CANADA

International phone number: upon request

Canadian phone number: upon request



BIOGRAPHY

Jo Güstin (she/her) is an intersectionality writer, playwright, director, producer, thespian and comedian, who celebrates Black and queer joy and creativity using fiction and comedy.

She's the author of two fiction books *9 Histoires lumineuses où le bien est le mal* (2017) and *Ah Sissi, il faut souffrir pour être française !* (2019) both published at Présence Africaine, and the lyricist of the award-winning soul/jazz album *African Time* (2019) by Gwen & Tiana. Since 2017, she has been performing her intersectional dramedic one-woman-show *Je n'suis pas venue ici pour souffrir, OK ?* at political spaces and festivals in France, Switzerland and Belgium.

After arriving in Canada in 2019, the Toronto-based activist realized that as a queer Black woman, she belonged nowhere. She wants all the racialized queerdos around the world feeling the same to find in her productions a place to call home. That is why in 2020, she launched the creative production company DEARNGE SOCIETY. Among its first productions, there's a series of audio dramas (*Contes et légendes du Queeristan* - OUT d'Or 2021 in the category Digital Revelation), a short film (*Don't Text Your Ex*) - Best LGBT short, Cannes Short Film Festival 2022) and a bilingual poetry podcast (*Make It Like Poetry*).

Lastly, Jo Güstin wrote the highly acclaimed episode "A Call for Help" of the panEuropean feminist TV manifesto *H24*. She can be seen performing the part of Teacher Tamsin in the sketch comedy show *Tallboyz* on CBC Gem. Clearly, this girl is not on earth, not on water, she's on fire.

FILM EXPERIENCE

- 2015-2016: Screenwriter, director and actress in several micro-shorts made during filmmaking workshops at PICTANOVO (Lille area, France).
- 2015: Comedy micro-short *Je l'aime* arrives finalist at the video contest of the Festival du Livre de Mouans-Sartoux (France).
- 2016: Experimental short *Aux Mots de couleur* wins the video contest of Cineffable, International Lesbian and Feminist Film Festival in Paris. Set theme: The skin of words.
- Since 2017: Transcreation, translation and proofreading of screenplays and subtitles (via [Profession:Scribe](#)). FR->EN translations for narrative shorts *Dominique* (2017) and *Inés* (2019) by Fabienne Winne (France). EN->FR for biopic feature *Amundsen* (2019) by E. Sandberg (Norway).
- 2017-2019: Production of short sketch videos and parodies for the YouTube channel Vidéwokes.
- Since 2019: Co-producer and dialogue writer of Néguine Mondor's film *Purple Vision*.
- 2020: Co-writer of the episode "Where do birds sleep at night?" of season 2 of children's animated show *Blynk & Aazoo* (in production, Little Scooter Media). On TVO Kids (Canada)
- 2020: Writer of the episode "A Call for Help" (original title: "12H - Le Cri défendu") of the panEuropean feminist series-manifesto *H24*, a series of micro-shorts that invites you to live 24 hours in the skin of a woman. Episode directed by Charlotte Abramow and performed by Déborah Lukumuena for [ARTE.tv](#).
- 2020-2021: Writer, creator, editor, voice actress of audio drama series *Contes et légendes du Queeristan* (supported by Google and PRX). Recipient of the Google Podcast Creator Program. Award-winner: Out d'Or 2021 in Digital Revelation.
- 2020: Recipient of the Liaison of Independent Filmmakers of Toronto's LIFT Newcomer Mentorship Program 2020. Mentor: Coral Aiken, creative producer (Aiken Heart Films).
- Since 2020: Mentee at #StartWith8 Hollywood North, an initiative of WOC Unite. I've received guidance from Hannah Cheesman, Jameson Parker, Heidi Brander and Connor Gaston.
- 2020-2021: Writer, director, producer, actress of *Don't Text Your Ex*: a short narrative short (13'52"), an Afroqueer feminist experimental comedy. Logline: Surviving a global pandemic being queer, cute and still in love with your ex. Premiered on February 14th, 2022 at MASSIMADI Montreal.
- April 2021: Writing, narrating and editing of *Multilingue comme le Pape en 33 leçons et en 33 ans*, a 45-minute film for VOST Festival on languages and hospitality.
- October 2021: Playing Teacher Tamsin in season 3 of sketch comedy TV show *Tallboyz* (CBC Gem).
- Since 2021: Development of 2D animations for comedy special *Life Is Too Short To Be Straight*.
- Since 2022: Revival of the channel YouTube Jo Güstin with weekly poetry and slam videos.
- May-June 2022: Writer of [episode 4](#) of the audio series *Speech Sounds* (Hush Harbour Press).



ONGOING LIST OF AWARDS & NOMINATIONS FOR *DON'T TEXT YOUR EX*

- February 2022: Best LGBT Short (Festival Director) – Cannes Short Film Festival, Cannes (France)
- March 2022: Best Poster – altFF Alternative Film Festival, Toronto (Canada)
- April 2022: Best Cinematographer – Queer Stories International LGBTQ Film Festival (India)
- May 2022: Nominee – Merced Queer Film Festival, Merced, CA (USA)
- June 2022: Honourable mention – CEYLON International Film Festival, Santa Barbara, CA (USA)
- June 2022: Best First-time Filmmaker – Couch Film Festival, Toronto (Canada)
- Sept. 2022: Best LGBT short nominee – Love & Hope International Film Festival, Barcelona (Spain)
- Sept. 2022: Quarter-Finalist – Online Isolation Short Video Festival, Moscow (Russia)
- Sept. 2022: Best LGBT Film – Toronto International Nollywood Film Festival, Toronto (Canada)

TRAININGS

CENTRE MADELEINE DANIÉLOU, PARIS AREA – LECTURES ON PICTORIAL ARTS & CINEMA MASTERPIECES (WITH CHRISTIAN MONJOU, ALEXIS DE HILLERIN & JEAN CARON), 2005-2007

HEC SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT, PARIS AREA – INVESTING IN FILM INDUSTRIES (WITH NATHALIE TOULZA-MADAR & LAURENT MARUANI), SCIENCE FICTION CINEMA, 2007-2009

PICTANOVO / INA EXPERT, LILLE AREA (FRANCE) – FAST-TRACK TRAININGS IN SCREENWRITING, SKETCH COMEDY WRITING, FILMMAKING, EDITING & FILM PRODUCTION, 2015-2016

I LOVE TRANSMEDIA, PARIS – MASTERCLASS WITH ERIC MÜNCH & AMAURY LA BURTHE ON BINAURAL SOUND, 2016

PICTANOVO, LILLE – MASTERCLASS IN SHOWRUNNING WITH FRÉDÉRIC KRIVINE: STRENGTHS & LIMITATIONS OF WRITING A TV SHOW IN A WRITERS ROOM: *UN VILLAGE FRANÇAIS*, 2016

BIPOC TV & FILM, TORONTO – MASTERCLASSES & WORKSHOPS ON SCRIPT COORDINATION & POST-PRODUCTION FUNDAMENTALS, 2019-2021

LIAISON OF INDEPENDENT FILMMAKERS OF TORONTO, TORONTO – FILM PRODUCTION, 2020

GOOGLE PODCAST CREATORS PROGRAM 2020 – PODCAST PRODUCTION, 2020-2021

ROBIN KAY STUDIO, TORONTO – INTRODUCTION TO THE MEISNER ACTING TECHNIQUE, 2021

VOLUNTEER WORK

IN CHARGE OF TICKETING AND CATERING @ ASSOCIATION RENCONTRES AUDIOVISUELLES, LILLE - 2015-2016 L'Hybride is a small screening room for short films. Reception and registration of the public, upselling (annual subscriptions instead of just one ticket for the screening), taking orders at the bar.

MARKETING AND EDITORIAL MANAGER @ AFRO FICTION, PARIS – 2017-2018

The AFRO FICTION collective campaigns for the representation of Black French people in front of and behind the camera. I was in charge of the press kit, press releases, social media live animation.

INFO DESK, GREETER, FAMILY DAY ASSISTANT @ TORONTO BLACK FILM FESTIVAL, TORONTO – 2020

Greeting the festival goers, selling merch, facilitating workshops with kids, being a human Siri.

INTERESTS

Adult animated comedy, ASMR, Ecology and animal rights, Education (blog: [esukudu](#)), Improv and sketch comedy, [Influencer culture](#), [カラオケ](#), [Philosophy](#), Queer graphic novels and Yaoi comics, Social justice.

dearngesociety@gmail.com