

DEVONIAROAD

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TELEVISION EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

2020-2021

Buffalo Pictures for ITV Drama

Producer, MANHUNT 2 (THE NIGHTSTALKER)

- Jo is producing this sequel to MANHUNT as a 4-parter from Buffalo Pictures/ITV, written by Ed Whitmore, directed by Marc Evans.
- It stars Martin Clunes as Colin Sutton and is executive produced by Philippa Braithwaite and Ed Whitmore.

2018-2019

Producer, MANHUNT

- This 3-parter for ITV, written by Ed Whitmore, directed by Marc Evans, aired in the UK in January 2019.
- It starred Martin Clunes as Colin Sutton and was executive produced by Philippa Braithwaite.

2015- 2016

CPL Productions Ltd for ITV Drama

Producer, BRIEF ENCOUNTERS

- This 6 part comedy drama by Fay Rusling and Oriane Messina was broadcast on ITV July-Aug 2016.
- “The drama is funny and warm, with the right balance of innuendo and genuine heart...funny too” (Chloe Hamilton

The I)

- “my heart is simply not up to resisting it” (Rachel Cooke The New Statesman)

2014

**BBC Comedy North in association with Woof Productions
Producer, PUPPY LOVE**

- Set up Woof Productions and secured series commission as co-venture with BBC Comedy North
- Series 1 delivered to BBC. TX Autumn 2014.

2013

**Retort TV (part of Fremantle) for ITV
Producer, BIRDS OF A FEATHER**

- Produced revival of BIRDS OF A FEATHER after 15 years off the screen, with change of broadcaster from BBC to ITV
- Series launched with 12.5 million viewers
- First experience of producing a situation comedy with audience

2012

**Runaway Fridge Productions for ITV
Producer, THE MAKING OF A LADY**

- Produced single period drama for ITV. Runaway Fridge was a new production company with a commission in May 2012 to be on air by December 2012 but no expertise in making television drama
- Film aired on WGBH February 2014 “a simultaneously relaxing yet goosebumpy post-“Downton” treat” (The New York Times).

2011 - 2012

**Touchpaper TV for Channel 4
Producer, COMING UP**

- Produced this annual talent scheme for Channel 4 – 7 half hour films written by 7 new writers and directed by 7 new directors.

- Valuable experience in making low-budget drama.

2010

Zodiak Media for CBBC

Producer, DANI's HOUSE

- Produced 26 episodes of popular children's show, shot in Edinburgh

2008 to 2009

Tiger Aspect Productions for ITV

Producer, BENIDORM Series 3

- Produced comedy series BENIDORM Series 3, 7 x 1 hours of primetime comedy.
- Managed a budget of £5.5 million, a crew of 60 and a high-profile regular cast of 20 filming abroad for 4 months,

2003 to 2008

Ten Alps PLC

Head of Drama

- Established and ran brand new television drama department within the Ten Alps group, reporting directly to Nitil Patel, Group Financial Director, CEO Content Division.

Managing Director, Cottage Industry Productions

- Set up and ran own independent production company, building up catalogue of development projects, which then sold to the Ten Alps group. Involved in entire due diligence process
- In this period also freelance-produced for Hat Trick Productions a 3-part Meera Syal series, **LIFE ISN'T ALL HA HA HEE HEE** for BBC1 (see below)

2000 – 2003

Carlton TV

Executive Producer, Drama (full-time freelance)

- Produced one £2.5million television film, one £3.5 million television series, and one £3 million television two-parter co-production which won an International Emmy, **DIRTY**

TRICKS starring Martin Clunes (see below)

- Executive Produced for Carlton a wholly American-based WGBH/Granada International single film
- Developed a raft of further projects including a single film based in Botswana

1998 – 2000

Nicework Film and TV

Joint Managing Director

- Set up and ran independent television production company with the writer Andrew Payne, developing projects for the major broadcasters.
- Set up legal framework for the company and managed it financially and administratively.

1996- 1998

Wall to Wall Television

Head of Drama

- As their first full-time Head of Drama, Jo was on the Board of Management at Wall to Wall
- Since the company was relatively new to drama, Jo was able to produce, not simple executive produce
- Jo put three single films into production, producing two of them and executive producing the third. All three went on to win awards within the industry

1990 to 1996

SelecTV

Head of Drama

- SelecTV (comprising Witzend Productions, Alomo Productions and Clement la Frenais Productions) was quoted on the AIM and was one of the first properly-financed British independent television companies.
- Jo was their first Head of Drama and was made a Director of Witzend Productions.
- Jo Executive Produced around 70 hours of primetime drama

1986 –1990

Euston Films and Granada Television

Script Editor

- Jo gained experience Script Editing primetime drama

1984 – 1986

BBC Drama Series and Serials Department

Script Editor

- Jo began working as a Script Editor, starting on the inception of EASTENDERS.

1983-1984

Duncan Heath Associates

Assistant

- Jo's first job was working at a talent agency representing writers, directors, producers and actors

PRINCIPAL PRODUCTIONS

Jo has worked with many leading writers, actors and directors during her career and produced many award-winning TV shows. These include:

2016

Producer

BRIEF ENCOUNTERS

6 x 50' comedy drama series for ITV/CPL Productions

2014

Producer

PUPPY LOVE

6 x 30' comedy series for BBC North/Woof Productions

2013

Producer

BIRDS OF A FEATHER

8 x 30 sit com for ITV

2012

Producer

THE MAKING OF A LADY

Single 90' film for ITV

2011/12

Producer

COMING UP

7 x 30' new talent single dramas for Channel 4

2010

Producer

DANI'S HOUSE

26 x 30' children's series starring Dani Harmer

2008 – 9:

Producer

BENIDORM 3 by Derren Litten

7 x 60 mins Tiger Aspect/ITV

Comedy drama starring Johnny Vegas

2004-5:

Producer

LIFE ISN'T ALL HA HA HEE HEE by Meera Syal,

3 x 60 mins Hat Trick / BBC1

** Winner, Best Drama, Race in the Media Awards, 2006.*

2002-3:

Producer

FORTYSOMETHING by Nigel Williams starring Hugh

Laurie

6 x 60 mins Carlton for ITV

2001:

Producer

BERTIE & ELIZABETH by Nigel Williams

100 min TV film Carlton/Michael Whitehall Productions for
ITV

2000:

Producer

DIRTY TRICKS by Nigel Williams, based on novel by
Michael Dibdin

Starring Martin Clunes, Lindsay Duncan, James Bolam.

2 x 90 mins, Carlton/Little Bird Production for ITV

* *Winner of International Emmy*

1998/9:

Producer

A RATHER ENGLISH MARRIAGE by Andrew Davies,
from the novel by Angela Lambert.

Starring Albert Finney, Tom Courtenay, Joanna Lumley.

90 min TV film, Wall to Wall for BBC2.

* *Winner Bafta 1999: Best Single Drama*

* *Winner Bafta 1999: Best Actor: Tom Courteney*

* *Winner Bafta 1999: Best Editing: Dave King*

* *Winner Bafta 1999: Best Music: Jim Parker*

* *Best Actor Bafta 1999 nomination: Albert Finney*

* *Best Actress Bafta 1999 nomination: Joanna Lumley*

* *Best Sound Bafta 1999 nomination*

* *Winner RTS Best Single Drama*

* *Best Drama Broadcast Awards 1999 nomination*

* *Winner of the Peabody Award USA*

1997:

Producer

OUR BOY by Tony Grounds

Starring Ray Winstone, Pauline Quirke.

90' TV film, Wall to Wall for BBC1

* *Winner Best Television Drama, Munich Film Festival 1998*

** Winner Best Actor (Ray Winstone) RTS 1999*

1997:

Executive Producer

BUMPING THE ODDS by Rona Munro.

Starring Shirley Henderson and Sharon Small.

90' TV film, Wall to Wall for BBC Scotland.

** Nominated for Bafta Best Single Film 1999*

1996:

Producer

SAFE AND SOUND by Tim Prager

6 x30 minutes, Witzend Productions for BBC Northern Ireland.

Executive Producer

HEARTS AND MINDS by Jimmy McGovern

Witzend/Channel 4

** Winner RTS Best Drama Serial 1996*

Executive Producer

PIE IN THE SKY by Andrew Payne

Starring Richard Griffiths and Maggie Steed.

Executive Producer

LOVE HURTS by Laurence Marks and Maurice Gran

Starring Adam Faith and Zoe Wanamaker

Executive Producer

WALL OF SILENCE by Laurence Marks and Maurice Gran

Executive Producer

WHITE GOODS by Al Hunter

1984 –1990:

Script Editor

Projects included:

CAPITAL CITY, MINDER, ANGLO SAXON ATTITUDES,

SELLING HITLER.

EDUCATION

The Abbey School Reading 1970 -79, 10 O Levels and 3 A Levels

Queens' College Cambridge 1980 -83, 2:1 Masters in English Literature

Birkbeck College, University of London 2009-2010 MA in Arts Policy & Management (distinction)

BIOGRAPHY WRITING

A recent new direction for Jo's career is as a writer of historical biographies.

Her biography **THE PIONEERING LIFE OF MARY WORTLEY MONTAGU: SCIENTIST AND FEMINIST** is published by Pen and Sword books in March 2021.

Jo is now working on her second book.