

Jane Rogoyska

writer

My work as a writer explores themes of conflict, exile, memory and politics in 20th-century European history, with a particular focus on the turbulent period between the early 1930s and the beginning of the Cold War.

Current

Hotel Exile (Allen Lane UK/WW Norton US/Knopf Canada) Non-fiction work exploring the lives of three groups of people all connected to the Hotel Lutetia in Paris in the 1930s-40s. Publication date tbc: late 2025-early 2026.

Published works

Surviving Katyń: Stalin's Polish Massacre and the Search for Truth (Oneworld, 2021)

Comprehensive account of the 1940 Katyń massacre of 22,000 Polish prisoners of war by the Soviet NKVD, focusing on the experiences of both victims and survivors.

Winner, Mark Lynton History Prize 2022; longlisted for RSL Ondaatje Prize 2022; Honourable Mention, Witold Pilecki International Book Award 2022; Honourable Mention, the Polish Government's History Competition for Best Foreign Language Publication about Poland's History 2022.

Kozłowski (Holland House, 2019) A novel. Longlisted for the Desmond Elliott Prize 2020.

Gerda Taro: Inventing Robert Capa (Jonathan Cape, 2013) First English-language biography of the German photojournalist charting her life, career and relationship with Robert Capa.

Polska Britannica by Czesław Siegieda (Introductory essay; RRB Photobooks, 2020).

Radio & theatre

Still Here: a Polish Odyssey (Pennine Productions for BBC Radio 4, 2018) Radio documentary charting the journey made by Poles deported to the Soviet Union during World War II who travelled via Persia, Iraq, Egypt, India and Africa to arrive in the UK after the war. Presenter and writer.

Shooting with Light (Idle Motion, New Diorama theatre, UK 2015-16) Theatre show based on relationship between Gerda Taro and Robert Capa. Dramaturg & historical consultant.

Film & video - as writer/director

Short films, commercials, business & branding films (1997-2010).

- as screenwriter

Inventing Robert Capa (Kellett Pictures Ltd, 2017) Feature commission based on the story of Gerda Taro & Robert Capa.

Hands of Power (Galatée Films/Pathé France, 2014) Feature commission about the relationship between Heinrich Himmler and Dr Felix Kersten during World War II.

Ward Six (Parallax Films/Creative England, 2009) With Clive Bradley. Feature commission inspired by a short story by Anton Chekhov.

Teaching

Royal Literary Fund Writing Fellow at: Courtauld Institute for Art (2023-24); School for Advanced Studies, University of London (2016-17); Royal College of Music (2015-16); University of Greenwich (2013-14).

Panel Tutor, Creative Writing (narrative non-fiction) Certificate & Diploma courses, Institute of Continuing Education, University of Cambridge (2021 - present).

Scholarships & grants

Society of Authors work in progress grant to research *Hotel Exile* (2023).
Society of Authors work in progress grant to research *Surviving Katyń* (2019).
Finzi Trust grant to research the fate of Polish musicians during World War II (2014) .
Wingate Scholarship to commence research on the Katyń Massacre (2012).

Education

MA Modern Languages (French & Italian), Christ's College, Cambridge University
MA Film Production (Directing), NSFTV Leeds & PWSFTViT Łódź, Poland

Contact details:

Agent: Andrew Gordon at David Higham Associates: andrewgordon@davidhigham.co.uk
Website: www.janerogoyska.com