

## Available Immediately

RYAN ZHAO

(Newcastle/ North East)

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Full and clean driver's license

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**PERSONAL PROFILE:** I am a highly motivated and detail-oriented new entrant with a strong passion for sound design and audio production. With hands-on experience in live recording, post-production, and podcasting, I have crafted soundscapes for student films—one of which was nominated for the West Midlands RTS Student Awards 2025—to producing engaging podcasts and live broadcasts. I thrive in collaborative environments, bringing creativity, technical expertise, and a commitment to excellence to every project. I am driven by a desire to push the boundaries of storytelling through innovative audio solutions, and I am excited to contribute to projects that elevate the art of sound in film and beyond.

### EDUCATION:

**University of Warwick** | English Literature Undergraduate BA [Expected graduation: August 2025] **09/2022 - present**

### ROLES OF RESPONSIBILITY:

*Podcast Producer* RAW (Radio at Warwick)]

**09/2024 - 03/2025**

- **Produced and edited personal and commissioned podcasts** in RAW's secondary studio, applying technical skills in **sound editing** and **post-production to enhance audio content** with unique podcast IDs, instrumental beds and sound effects that increased listener retention.
- Personal projects are available to stream on my Soundcloud and LinkedIn profile
- **Managed guest outreach by sending emails and organising interview times** to ensure smooth recordings between personal projects and commissioned ones.
- **Utilised audio editing tools like compression and EQ** to heighten audio quality for finished product, **proficient in mastering and audio editing** to optimise quality using DAWs like Reaper and ProTools.
- **Developed episode outlines, writing rough scripts for hosts and guests** so that the content aligns with the individual show's voice and objectives.

*Head of Production*

**05/2023 – 03/2025**

- **Revamped 50% of station audio using** advanced audio editing software (**Reaper, Audacity and ProTools**), including new ads, show IDs, holiday sweepers, news branding, power intros, and Top of Hour stabs, **resulting in a 15% increase in listener numbers.**
- **Managed sponsorship communications**, working closely with partners like Unitemps to adjust and refine commissioned adverts, stabs, and sweepers, **ensuring brand alignment and meeting specific campaign goals.**
- Commissioned by the Warwick SU BUCS Officer to create weekly audio stabs promoting campus sports fixtures, effectively boosting engagement and awareness within the student body.
- **Led 25% of audio desk training sessions for new presenters**, providing hands-on instruction in mixing, sound control, and troubleshooting of audio equipment and software.
- **Led in-depth technical workshops on live audio recording and post-production**, covering microphone selection, boom operating, sound testing, DAW (Digital Audio Workstation) layouts, and advanced sound effect techniques.
- **Quickly identified and resolved technical issues during live shows** by adjusting audio levels, utilizing song beds, and incorporating stabs. Proficient in the use of audio interfaces, mixers, and signal flow for seamless broadcasts.
- **Intervened during system failures**, using deep technical knowledge to **configure audio interfaces and optimize set-up for more efficient operation**, ensuring minimal disruption during broadcasts.

*Boom Operator/Sound Mixer on Student Films*

**01/2024 - present**

- **Oversaw audio recording and post-production editing for several student films:** links to projects available on LinkedIn.
  - nominated for the West Midlands **RTS Student Awards 2025** in March
- Developed extensive proficiency with audio equipment and software, **including the Zoom F4 field recorder, Sennheiser MKE 600 shotgun mic, DaVinci Pro and Reaper**, to achieve high-quality film audio.
- **Skilled in Foley production**, utilising everyday items to recreate sounds *that enhance key scenes and elevate storytelling impact.*
- **Conducted sound tests on film sets to achieve optimal audio quality**, utilizing equipment such as ground, body, and boom microphones.

*Radio DJ [RAW]*

**03/2022 - present**

- Managed my own weekly radio show, *The RAWthers*, choosing my own music to fit the theme of my shows.
- Wrote show plans by researching online on new trends in music, pop-culture and media. Informing discussions and games to entertain guests and listeners.
- Acquired **in-depth experience with diverse broadcasting software**, effectively utilizing sound beds, show IDs, and sound effects (SFX) to enhance production quality and audience engagement.
- **Launched an Instagram profile using Canva posts for the radio show** to increase listenership and foster audience engagement through interactive features such as story polls and song requests.

### SKILLS:

Reaper | Audacity | ProTools | Canva | DaVinci Resolve | Mixing Techniques | Audio Restoration | Recording Techniques | Sound Design & Effects | Audio Automation | Problem Solving | Attention to Detail | Collaborative | Foley | Location Sound