



JO TAN (Singapore) *Languages: English, Mandarin, French (conversational) Japanese (conversational)*

Despite being called to the Singapore Bar in 2005, Jo's writing since then has been decidedly focused on fiction rather than fact, as a writer of stories for both stage and screen. Her best-known works include the script for the play King, which won Best Original Script at the Straits Times Life! Theatre Awards and has received international accolades such as being among 26 nominees out of over 2000 submissions for the Edinburgh Popcorn Award, as well as being among 5 nominees out of a few hundred international shows for the Best in Theatre title at the Sydney Fringe 2025. She also wrote Por Por's Big Fat Surprise Wedding, which headlined the OzAsia Festival 2024 in Asia after two sold-out runs in Singapore. Other well-known projects which you may not know she wrote include [成语就酱说](#) - a webseries she conceptualised and co-wrote for Mediacorp Channel 8; as well as standup comedy performances by Koh Chieng Mun and Kumar, for whom Jo has worked with as ghostwriter. Jo has also worked as an arts journalist with publications including Today Newspaper, TimeOut Singapore, Silverkris and Insing.com.

Training and Education:

2024-2025	Writer-in-Residence at Centre 42 Centre 42
2017	Playwriting Masterclass with Huzir Sulaiman Checkpoint Theatre
2014-2015	Nine Years Theatre: Spoken Mandarin for Presentation and Performance/ Suzuki and Viewpoints
2012-2013	Ecole Philippe Gaulier: National Arts Council Residency Awardee, Certificate of Completion (Studying different approaches to European theatre forms, such as Vaudeville, Commedia Del Arte, Melodrama, Clown, etc)
2005-2006	Law Society of Singapore: Course for the Singapore Bar (Qualified)
2001-2004	National University of Singapore Faculty of Law: Bachelor of Arts LLB, Second Lower Class Honours (Law)

Awards and Achievements:

- **Nominated for Best in Theatre at Sydney Fringe 2025**
- **Nominated for Popcorn Awards (26 out of over 2000 submissions) at Edinburge Festival Fringe 2025**
- **Awarded Best Original Script at the Life! Theatre Awards 2022**
- **One of 40 Singaporeans highlighted by Tatler as part of their Gen.T Leaders of Tomorrow List 2020**

Writing

Highlights:

- 2025 Updated **KING**, which was nominated for the Popcorn Awards at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe
- 2025 Wrote the **MAD Musical**, a commission by SMU for its 25th Anniversary
- 2025 Wrote **Vox Populi** as part of the Rice Cooker programme with Wild Rice
- 2024 Was the lead writer for audio-drama **(After)Life Support** for MeListen and Ministry of Funny
- 2023-2024 Wrote **Por Por's Big Fat Surprise Wedding**, which also toured to Adelaide for the OzAsia Festival
- 2023-2024 Created **Dungeons and Distractions** in partnership with Hasbro
- 2023 Wrote **Happy Place**, commissioned by Gateway Theatre based on her radio DJ experience
- 2022 Wrote **Meenah and Cheenah 2**, commissioned by Dream Academy and alongside co-writers Rishi Budhrani and Alfian Sa'at
- 2022 Scripted **Acrobatic Souls**, a telegram-based text adventure commissioned by the National Gallery
- 2021 Writer for **I Am Kumar**, a standup comedy show by Kumar commissioned by Dream Academy
- 2021 Playwright for **Session Zero**, a Dungeons and Dragons/Theatre production commissioned by Checkpoint Theatre
- 2021 Writer for **The Harriet H Plan**, an interactive online theatre piece commissioned by the National Heritage Board
- 2021 Writer for **Pivot**, a 45-minute online play set in different rooms of a couple's house, commissioned by the National Arts Council
- 2020 Wrote **Lights Up: The Non-Essential Chan-Tan Songbook, a musical film** commissioned by the National Arts Council, The Esplanade and Dream Academy
- 2020 Wrote webisodes for **Cheng Yu Jiu Jiang Shuo** for Mediacorp Channel 8, as well as initiating the character concept which became Dr Jiang's gameshow on Channel 8
- 2020 Playwright for **King**, Life! Theatre Award winner for Best Original Script
- 2021 Playwright for **A Bit** as part of **Two Songs and a Story** by Checkpoint Theatre
- 2019 Playwright for award-winning production **Forked**, staged by the Finger Players
- 2019 Wrote Webisodes for **Word Whiz or Slime Pit** for Mediacorp Channel 5
- 2018 Wrote stand-up comedy scripts for **Happy Ever Laughter 2018** by Dream Academy

Journalism

- 2020-2023 Writer for The A-List Magazine
- 2016-2018 Theatre Editor for SilverKris
- 2015-2016 Journalist for Today Newspaper
- 2011-2013 Arts Writer for Time Out Singapore