

# Aja Pilar Simpson

## Multimedia Journalist & Producer

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### EDUCATION

**THE NEW SCHOOL - New York, NY**  
**Graduated with a BA in Spring 2019**  
Major: Journalism + Design  
Graduated top 10% of class  
Dean's List 2017-2019

**THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO - Albuquerque, NM**  
**2015 - 2017**  
Major: Journalism + Communications  
Minor: Film Studies and Honors  
Dean's List 2016-2017

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

#### ASSISTANT PRODUCER

10/2020 - 12/2020

*Get WIRED/Conde Nast Entertainment*

- Sourced archival tape, organized material, aided in structure of episodes for WIRED's Flagship Podcast
- Researched episode and interviewees, prepared questions, set up, transcribed and cut interviews
- Assembled rough mixes in Pro Tools, made creative decisions regarding ambient and archival tape
- Aided in planning for editorial meetings and took notes for producers and editors to reference

Notable episode: [Can the Orgasm be Optimized?](#) A layered narrative with 5 interviews covering sex toys breaking into the tech space

#### AUDIO MEETINGS COORDINATOR

08/2020 - 10/2020

*IFP Film Week 2020*

- Reported to seasoned film and podcast makers who were sponsored by Netflix, Audible and other companies
- Scheduled audio pitch meetings between podcast creators and industry representatives
- Moderated a Zoom meeting audio hub and assigned breakout rooms for 70 podcast creators

#### PRODUCTION INTERN

06/2020 - 10/2020

*"Out There" Podcast*

- Reviewed story pitches and assisted with script editing, providing feedback on plot structure, narrative and style
- Reviewed and cut raw tape from story-tellers for award-winning narrative podcast
- Composed sound design for 2 narrative driven audio [stories](#)
- Wrote, sourced interviews, hosted, edited and sound-designed a long-form narrative episode

Notable Episode: [An Unlikely Series of Events](#) Covers a couple who met in the digital age in coincidental ways

#### AUDIO PRODUCER & ASSOCIATE PRODUCER/EDITOR

12/2017 - 10/2019

*The New School Radio Station (WNSR) - New York City, NY*

- Mixed voices, music and taped sound effects for [4 segments](#) focused heavily on recreating vintage audio
- Separately produced, hosted and edited over [15 weekly audio shows](#) with more than 150 listeners per episode
- Collaborated with New School Archive Department and other New School staff
- Edited using Adobe Audition and Pro Tools

Notable Piece: [Sound Scape Ep. 3](#) Covers the changing social landscape of the 50's/60's as The New School merged with Parson's

#### STUDENT MEDIA PRODUCER

01/2019 - 05/2019

*The New School IT Department - New York City, NY*

- Planned and managed video shoots by writing scripts, identifying proper recording equipment, and directing, producing, and editing informational content for department
- Engineered and edited New School Centennial audio programming, specifically interviews with Department staff

#### GUEST HOST

05/2017 to 06/2017

*University Of New Mexico Radio Station (KUNM) - Albuquerque, NM*

- Hosted live radio broadcasts including ads, song switches and breaking news segments
- Worked with professional mixers and audio equipment

### TECHNICAL / SOFTWARE SKILLS

Pro Tools | Audition | Premiere Pro | Photoshop | Illustrator | Indesign | Portfolio | Descript | AP Style writing | Google Suites |

Web Building | HTML | CSS | Javascript | Wordpress