

# sacrededge



## Profile: Jonathan Butler

Jonathan is a writer and content producer living in Naarm/Melbourne. His debut book, *THE BOY IN THE DRESS*, was published by Affirm Press in February 2022 and was shortlisted for The Age Book of the Year 2022 (non-fiction). *The Boy in the Dress* is a beautiful written story, a combination of memoir, true crime, and deeply researched history.

Jonathan's investigation leads him to uncover a fascinating and sometimes violent hidden history of queer life, and he writes of his own experience as a queer kid coming to terms with his sexuality. As a teenager, he came out as gay to his parents, and both initially responded negatively. Their reaction was based, in part, on fears that his "sexuality would put [him] directly in harm's way" and "there were just too many ways to die or be hurt as a gay man."

Researching his ancestor's story has ignited a passion for queer history.

Jonathan has also written for the Guardian, ArtsHub and Meanjin.

At Sacrededge, Jonathan will present his book and join in conversation with Ro Allen, Human Rights Commissioner exploring issues arising from his work.

