

SHOBHA SAPNA RAMNANI

25 West Hill • Wembley • Middlesex • HA9 9RN • England
sapnaramnani@yahoo.co.uk • www.sapnaramnani.com • www.sindhiexodus.net

SKILLS

- Development of ideas, researching and collating information according to a brief.
- Post-production skills: **Adobe Premiere 5.0** - Skills of operating on a professional level. **Adobe Premiere Pro** – Working knowledge. **Final Cut Express** – Working knowledge.
- Script development and writing for documentaries and trailers.
- Producing broadcast quality media for a specified target audience.
- Directing in a studio environment and on location for trailers, documentaries and short films.
- Directing in a post-production environment with editors, sound engineers and composers.
- IT skills: Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Adobe Photoshop 4.0, PageMaker 6.5 and Email programs Microsoft Explorer, Microsoft Outlook, Netscape Navigator 7.1, Corpernic 2001 basic and Eudora. Adobe Premier Web design with Netscape Communicator 7.0, Composer and Mapedit.
- Co-ordination and scheduling of projects to set deadlines and budgets.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Festivals and Screenings

'The Great Illusion' Documentary

2007 Smart Lab Seminar (University of East London)
2003 Ongoing Preview for broadcast on 'Open Access', Sky TV
2003 & 2004 Broadcast at www.3btv.com. Included in the 'Top Ten Most Watched' films.
2003 Club Electro, Homerton
2003 National Disability Film Festival, National Film Theatre, London
2003 Sutton Film Festival, Charles Cryer studio theatre
2003 The Electronic Image, Stoke on Trent
2003 'Good Film Event', Troubadour Coffee House, London
2003 Wood Green Film Festival, London
2002 'Uncut Special – Independent Stand', Institute of Contemporary Arts, London
2002 Portobello Film Festival, London
2002 'I Spy' Video Dining, Vauxhall, London
2001 MA seminar on Documentary Film, Essex University, Professor Jeffery Geiger

'Freedom' Documentary

2003 & 2004-Ongoing Broadcast on www.3btv.com
2003 SOAS (prev. Millennium Commission), UnLtd
2002 'I Spy' Video Dining, Vauxhall, London

'The Authorities Are Always Right' Documentary

2010 Edinburgh Fringe Festival screening every Monday, Tuesday and Sunday in the Documentary Group of C Film
2009 Brazil's 4th International Disability Film Festival
2008 London School of Economics in collaboration with 21st Century Network and Central London Humanist Group.
2008 Disability Equality in Education (DEE) and Nihal Armstrong Trust (NAT)
2007 Smart Lab Seminar (University of East London)

'Belonging' Documentary

2010 Edinburgh Fringe Festival screening every Monday, Tuesday and Sunday in the Documentary Group of C Film
2008 SmartLab seminar (University of East London)
2008 Sindhi Community House, London

'What Makes You Happy?' Documentary

2010 Edinburgh Fringe Festival screening every Monday, Tuesday and Sunday in the Documentary Group of C Film

2010 Movie Makers' Matinee as part of FIESTA 2010! with Kilburn Festival. Won Best Newcomer Award.

Other Achievements

2004 Prepared and delivered a presentation to an audience about the work in progress of my documentary 'The Authorities Are Always Right' as a part of a promotion day for UnLtd. (Foundation for Social Entrepreneurs)

2002 'A Reel Dream Comes True.' Interview by Victoria Prewer published in Wembley Observer

2000 Screening of 'The Unseen Struggle', 'Tongues on Fire' Film Festival

2000 Biography of film drama 'The Unseen Struggle' published in Asian Age

1996 Biography of achievements to date published in Wembley Observer

1996 Awarded the Royal Society of Arts Excellence of Performance Medal in GNVQ Advanced Media Studies

EXPERIENCE

Media Experience - Researched, directed, produced and edited the following productions:

Aug '09 – Oct '09 Short Independent Documentary called 'What Makes You Happy?', this film takes a lighthearted look at what makes people happy in Birmingham. I project managed this film from conception to editing and packaging. This included acquiring filming permission for conducting interviews on the street. This required completing relevant paperwork for Birmingham Film Council including a risk assessment, and requesting written permission to film in certain locations.

Nov '06 – Sept '07 Project managing and private commissioning of 'Belonging', a documentary examines the Sindhi Diaspora to Britain. I am solely responsible for the completion of this documentary which will examine the impacts of British culture upon Sindhis and vice versa.

Nov '05 – Apr '06 Private Commission of a promotional video for PACE (Physical Activities Club Ealing) Working to a tight deadline and brief, planning and organising filming and interviews with the aim to attract potential funders for PACE.

May '04 – May '06 Freelance with Funding from UnLtd Millennium Awards Scheme. 'The Authorities Are Always Right', a documentary that examines the damaging consequences of the British education system for a child with special needs. I am adroit in interviewing people to reveal past and sensitive experiences.

May '02 – Current Promotion and Exhibition of Documentaries. Organising and negotiating entry into film festival and screening events for my documentaries, 'The Great Illusion', 'Freedom' and 'The Authorities are Always Right'. During the process I have learnt how to promote my work.

March '01 - April '02 Selected and awarded Funding from The Millennium Commission, I successfully completed 'Freedom', a documentary that examines the bonds between parents and children. I worked closely with the camera operator in developing the visual style and content.

July '01 - Aug '01 and Jan '01 - Feb '01 Promotions Producer for BBC, I successfully produced trailers for 'BBC' including research and identifying the target audience, creating the script, content design and directing the editor, selecting and directing the voice-over artist. I further developed my ability to work well in a team.

Sept '00 - Dec '00 Independent Production of 'The Great Illusion', a documentary that looks at the perception of 'reality' within the Hare Krishna Movement. I worked closely with subjects and several camera operators in developing the visual style and content. I developed my organisational and time management skills in interviewing, location filming and completion of the documentary.

May '95 Research Assistant - London Weekend Television, South Bank, 'The London Programme'. My responsibilities involved researching potential topics for future programming. I developed my team working skills.

Jan '95 - July '95 Journalist - The Young Evening Standard, I was chosen to research and publish a

feature 'Are You Sane Enough to Understand This?' an article on the effects of schizophrenia in teenagers. I developed my interview, research and writing skills during meetings with professionals on the subject.

June '95 Journalist - Wembley Observer, Publication of article 'Another Voice' in which I describe my experiences of being a researcher for LWT.

Non-media experience

Nov '07 – current Committee Member & Assistant Organizer of the Central London Humanist Group. Helping with organizing of the group events and participating in discussion about future direction and events of the group.

Sept '05 – June '06 Assisting in preparation for Parliament presentation for the DARE Foundation. Team working and communication skills developed by attending group meetings. Confidence in my convictions was required to present these in a coherent way. I identified key issues for inclusion in a report that was published in July 2006.

Oct - Dec '03 Software Designer - Freelance work, with the Ace Centre, Oxford. Designed and evaluated the usability of software for switch users. Worked on the design of switch user editing software for Adobe Premiere and have become familiar with programming skills.

May '03 - Sept '04 Fund-raising for Action Research, Thalidomide Society and Bliss. Launched and undertook the raising of money for these charities which culminated in two tandem skydives at 10,000 Feet with the National Parachute Service at Hinton Airfield. I have developed my skills in promotional sponsorship and fund-raising strategies including an article in the Wembley Observer.

May '03 - Feb '04 Asian Disability Alliance. 'Equal Rights for All' selected to prepare and deliver talks to an audience on the topic of inclusive education on three occasions whereby I have developed my public speaking skills and response to questions.

Dec '98 – Current Web Designer and Developer - Design and Maintenance of websites. Continually updating www.sindhixodus.net, an intimate and historical account of the partition of India in 1947. My career path and interests as a film-maker are explored on www.sapnaramnani.com.

EDUCATION

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| 2008–current | PhD in Interview Techniques for Documentary Production SmartLab University of East London |
| 1999–2000 | M.A. Video Middlesex University, Enfield, London |
| 1996–1999 | B.A (Hons) Humanities Information Technology & Education Studies North London University, Holloway, London |
| 1994–1996 | General National Vocational Qualification Distinction in Media: Communication & Production. Royal Society of Arts Excellence of Performance in GNVQ Advanced Media Studies Award Harrow College (formerly Greenhill College), London |
| 1990–1994 | Six G.C.S.E .'s and Diploma in Computer Literacy Feltham Community School, Middlesex |

INTERESTS

Film making, skydiving, yoga, current and social affairs, human rights issues, independent cinema, Buddhist and Atheist philosophy, socializing, reading, Vedic mathematics, international politics and environmental issues.

References available upon request
