

RANIA KAZAN

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BIO

Executive Producer and Consultant with 27 years in the industry. Both scripted and Unscripted shows, for OTT digital and Linear. With work ranging from Content Creation and Development to Production Planning and Budget Analysis, Pitching and Client Negotiations, Execution, and production supervision till Delivery. Accumulated experience so far is mainly with major regional broadcasters and multinational and international companies. Was recently Head of Unscripted Content at Shahid VOD and then switched to the Scripted side as freelance consultant Executive Producer/ Senior Supervising Producer with Shahid VOD and freelancing with other companies.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

March 2022 **SENIOR SUPERVISING PRODUCER AT SHAHID VOD:**
February 2023

- Scripts read and review
- Supervise and oversee productions

January 2021 **HEAD OF UNSCRIPTED CONTENT AT SHAHID VOD:**
March 2022

- SHAHID shows executed & delivered:
Unscripted: "Meen el chef" - "Catchup" - "Secret Dinner Club" - " Joelle Unfiltered"
Scripted: " The Stand Up Sketch" - "Rahalla"
- Research and find new titles suitable for the digital platform from production companies and second parties. Research and find new OTT trends.
- Pitch new shows to stakeholders
- Oversee productions by SHAHID Originals with second party studio/production company partners, from development, execution, postproduction and through launch.
- Analyze and negotiate budgets and production schedules submitted by studios/production companies.
- Provide expert advice on aligning creative goals to SHAHID's budget parameters.
- Track and monitor production spend, evaluate overage requests, propose recommendations for budget changes to meet internal targets.
- Work closely with the SHAHID team to evaluate creative material from a production perspective
- Oversee and manage production and make sure we are on track to meet launch goals.
- Review and approve studio/production company crew hires, production personnel, etc.
- Evaluate and recommend potential production companies.
- Actively identify and evaluate alternative production models.
- Assess production risk and advise on locations, insurance, production bonds, etc.
- Prepare internal Production Reports for all assigned projects and update key stakeholders during weekly Production and Scheduling meetings.

- Lead communications regarding production matters throughout project lifecycle to ensure internal partners (Creative, Post, BA, Legal, Scheduling, Marketing, and PR) are always aligned.
- Optimize originals production process and management through technical advancements, workflow improvements and strategic ideas.

June 2018. SENIOR DEVELOPMENT PRODUCER & SUPERVISING PRODUCER MBC
June 2020 PDU DEPARTMENT:

- Unscripted and Scripted, Digital and Linear Program ideas creation and Content Development of successful pitches in response to commissioning briefs. From short to long format ideas.
- Maintain and build key relationships with clients and commissioners.
- Implement the development strategy alongside the Head of Development.
- Proactively undertake research to identify and develop new ideas/materials and new on screen talent.
- Sourcing content and developing high quality program treatments and pitch documents. Pitch ideas to various commissioners and partners.
- Pitch developed program ideas to stakeholders
- Build Budget and Production schedules
- Supervise Production by second party from green light till delivery, content, and physical production supervision.

December 2017. EXECUTIVE PRODUCER DIGITAL

May 2018. “Sadeem” (season 1) the biggest digital competition on social media
Production company: The Factory Production Inc.

- Budgeting and Production Planning
- Recruitment of the teams, and salary negotiations
- Creating production strategy
- Working closely with the casting producer in casting talents
- Producing shows through all 3 phases, preparation, production, and postproduction: Day to day Content production and physical production until delivery.
- Working closely with director and art director to create the look and feel of the show.

May 2017 CONSULTANT:
 Entertainment show “My Mother Cooks Better Than Yours” For LBCi.
 Production company: Media Twist

September 2015 CONSULTANT:
Hedgehog Production company
 « **Loading** » - Singing talent show for Abu Dhabi TV
 Consultant « **Arab Casting** » Acting Talent show for Abu Dhabi TV

September 2014 EXECUTIVE PRODUCER:
Till June 2015 The X Factor. Imagic (production company) – mbc (broadcaster)

- Budgeting and Production Planning
- Recruitment of the teams, and salary negotiations
- Creating production strategy
- Working closely with the casting producer in casting talents

- Producing shows through all 3 phases, preparation, production, and postproduction: Day to day Content production and physical production until delivery.
- Working closely with director and art director to create the look and feel of the show.
- Managing large teams of 200+ persons.
- Meeting deadlines.

2012 - 2014

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER:

The Voice (Middle East) Season1 & 2

- Budgeting and Production Planning
- Recruitment of the teams, and salary negotiations
- Creating production strategy
- Working closely with the casting producer in casting talents
- Producing shows through all 3 phases, preparation, production, and postproduction: Day to day Content production and physical production until delivery.
- Working closely with director and art director to create the look and feel of the show.
- Managing large teams of 200+ persons.
- Meeting deadlines.

November 2010

HEAD OF PRODUCTION AT SONY PICTURES TELEVISION ARABIA:

Till Sept 2014

- Reporting to the EVP Operations and working together with the Head of Creative in SPT Arabia Beirut and Dubai Office to oversee the smooth running of all productions and general office management. Involved from the early stages of program development through to final delivery.
- Serve as part of the Beirut Senior Management team, together with Head of Creative and Head of Finance – reporting to EVP Operations
- Oversee and supervise all SPT productions out of the Beirut & Dubai offices
- Creation of budgets for local productions, ensuring cost effectiveness & high-quality productions
- Drive the adaptation of international formats for the MENA region by working with the international format owners to pursue adaptation ideas and development
- Drive the P&L of the Production unit to growth PRE-SALES (Pilot and/or Series)
- Draw up accurate Series Budget & Cash flow schedule (to be created with input from Head of Creative & External Executives as needed.)
- Draw up a Production & Delivery Schedule
- Working closely with business affairs to ensure that necessary information from final budget, production & delivery schedule, and cash flow schedule is included in final contract to broadcaster
- After Series green light – responsible to oversee & manage all aspects of the production team
- **PRODUCTION**
- Cost accounting – including regular updating to ensure productions remains on budget, and troubleshooting production problems
- Location planning and developing relationships with studios to get the best rates
- Compliance and program deliverables
- Managing the production teams, by project. Holding regular meetings to prioritize and trouble shoot.
- Overseeing the production process, drawing up production & delivery schedule
- Ensure planned KPI's of efficiency and performance are met or exceeded
- Ensuring that the production is cost effective
- Ensure implementation and evolution of production practices

- Monitoring the production processes and adjusting schedules as needed.
- Monitoring production standards and implementing quality-control;
- Implement and drive continuous improvement activities to ensure delivery of quality programming
- Liaising among different departments, e.g. Departments, Suppliers, managers;
- Optimize resource utilization by implementation of an effective production organization.
- Working with managers to implement the company's policies and goals.
- Ensuring that health and safety guidelines are followed.
- Supervising and motivating a team of workers.
- Postproduction Planning and negotiating
- Reviewing the performance of subordinates.
- Making sure that productions are produced on time and are of good quality.
- Planning & working out the human and material resources needed.
- Drafting a timescale for the job.
- People Management
- Attending and participating in Regional SPTA meetings with Senior Management, and global meetings as requested

OTHER

- Overseeing preparation of any materials needed for international sales & Distribution
- Required to oversee that all required deliverables are delivered to a) the client, b) SONY PICTURES TELEVISION, and c) any internal databases set up to manage and store materials
- To identify cost saving opportunities, internal synergies and an ability to smoothly implement cross department systems and standards
- Day to day running of the production division

SPTA executed shows from Budgeting and Production Planning to Delivery:

The Voice Season 1 & 2	The Winner is (Season1)
Neshan Show (Ana Wal Assal 2)	Who Wants To Be A Millionaire – Hot Seat
Sing it	The Entrepreneur
The Desk	Jeopardy
Amira (weekly live Talk show)	

SPTA shows Budgeting, Analysis, and production planning:

The Voice	The Voice kids
WWTBAM- Classic (millionaire)	The Next Pop Talent
Utopia	Beat The Best
Milkyway Mission	The Winner is (Season 2)
The Voice (Season 3)	Draw Something
Brainiest	Dancing Nation
The X Factor	Dr. Oz
Shark Tank – Dragons Den	Wheel of Fortune
Dancing Nation	Breakaway
Divided	I Love My Country
Master Chef	Starsky & Hutch
The Exit List	Who's In Who's Out
Celebrity Duets	Ana Wa Hayati (Talk show)

Created, Established and organized the Post Production Facility at SPTA Purchasing Isis and 7 editing suites (4 Mojo DX & 3 Nitris) Studying all technical and logistical aspects to ensure a very good workflow.

January 2010 October 2010	<u>HEAD OF PRODUCTIONS & OPERATIONS:</u> Endemol Middle East (Tasks and responsibilities same as the above)
March 2009 October 2009	<u>EXECUTIVE PRODUCER: ADTV</u> “TON OF CASH 2” Outdoor reality adventure show. Endemol format Executive Producers: <i>Endemol Middle East</i>
August 2008 March 2009	<u>EXECUTIVE PRODUCER: mbc</u> “Male/Female” (howa wa hiya) infotainment show. Endemol format Executive Producers: <i>Endemol Middle East</i>
March 2008 June 2008	<u>EXECUTIVE PRODUCER DAILIES AND PRIMES: mbc.</u> “Biggest Loser” <i>Season3</i> . American Reality show Middle East edition. Arabic title “Al RabeH al Akbar 3”. Executive Producers: <i>I prod</i>
Oct. 2007 March 2008	<u>EXECUTIVE PRODUCER: mbc.</u> “UNANIMOUS” (Al Qarar) Reality show. 12 episodes. Duration 1 hour each.
15 May. 07 01 Aug 07	<u>EXECUTIVE PRODUCER DAILIES: Rotana.</u> “the X Factor 2” entertainment talent show Producing 5 Live daily shows of 30 minutes each. Shows containing daily guests, 3 reports, telephone calls. Executive Producers: <i>I prod</i>
2 Oct.06 10 Apr. 07	<u>EXECUTIVE PRODUCER DAILIES mbc.</u> “Biggest Loser” American Reality show Middle East edition “Al RabeH al Akbar 2” Arabic title Executive Producers: <i>I prod</i>
7 July 06 2 Oct. 06	<u>CASTING DIRECTOR: Nessma TV (Tunis)</u> Reality show “Star Academy Maghreb 01” Casting done in Tunisia, Morocco, Algeria, Libya and Paris. Executive Producers: <i>I prod</i>
Sept. 2005 July 2006	<u>SUPERVISING STORY PRODUCER: mbc:</u> “Biggest Loser” American Reality show Middle East edition “ Al RabeH al Akbar 1” Executive Producers: <i>I prod.</i>

August 2005
Sept. 2005 **SEGMENT PRODUCER & DIRECTOR: L.B.C.I.**
 2 Follow up reports for the program “ Chouf el farek w ma tfarrek “
 Report shot in Lyon-France for the same program.
Executive Producers: I prod

Feb - Mar. 2005 **SEGMENT PRODUCER & DIRECTOR: L.B.C.I.**
Best Of for the last episode of “ Iftah Albak”
(Middle East Version of the French program "Y a Que La Vérité Qui Compte")
Executive Producers: I prod

Aug-Dec. 2004 **LINE UP OR SECOND EDITOR IN CHIEF IN POST PRODUCTION**
L.B.C.I.: “Survivor Middle East” (version of Koh-lanta or SURVIVOR)

May - July 2004 **EDITOR IN CHIEF: L.B.C.I.**
L.B.C.I. reality show “Miss Lebanon 2004” (Dailies)

Dec. 03 -Apr 2004 **STORY EDITOR AND SUPERVISING EDITOR: L.B.C.I.**
Star Academy 01
SEGMENT PRODUCER& DIRECTOR:
 Portraits of the candidates of “**Star Academy 01**” - Reports broadcasted during the first Prime of that first season

Sept. - Nov. 2003 **CASTING DIRECTOR: L.B.C.I.**
 Game show “**La kell jaweb hseib**”

Aug 2003 **SEGMENT PRODUCER & DIRECTOR: L.B.C.I.**
 18 portraits of the career path of 18 guests for the 18th anniversary special program of LBCI “**Seaa bi orb el LBC**”

Mar - May 2003 **STORY EDITOR: L.B.C.I.**
 Reality show “**Miss Lebanon 2003**” (Dailies)
EDITOR IN CHIEF of 2 Dailies

Between 2002-2003 **SEGMENT PRODUCER & DIRECTOR : L.B.C.I.**
 1 segment for the program “**Lailet Helem**”
 (Lebanese version of *Rêve d’un jour*)
 2 Segments for 2 pilots “**Naghamat Hayati**”
 2 “**Best Of**” for the last episode of “**Ya Leil Ya Ein**”
 (Lebanese version *La fureur du samedi soir*)
 “**Best Of**” Games and “**Making Of**” of the show

June 2002 **PRODUCTION MANAGER: L.B.C.I.**
 “**Fort Boyard**” (Arabic version) - 17 Episodes.

June 2001 **SEGMENT PRODUCER: L.B.C.I.**
 Reports for cultural programs:
 “**Le Liban fait la Dictée**” 2001 (in French)
 “**Imlaa min Loubnan**” 2002 (in Arabic)

- Dec. 2000**
June 2001
- “Le Liban fait la Dictée” 2003 (in French)**
SEGMENT PRODUCER & DIRECTOR: L.B.C.I.
More than 35 segments (reports) for a weekly talk show
“El Shater Yehkeh”
- 2000**
- MEMBER OF THE MEDIA COMMITTEE:** coordination between the different local and foreign Medias (Radio/TV) during the Asian Football cup Lebanon-Asia 2000
- CONTENT RESEARCHER: Future TV (Zein TV)**
“Scene Cinema”, weekly show about movies.
- 1998-1999**
- ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: Future TV (Zein TV)**
“Five on the Road” Reality show (6 episodes)
- ASSISTANT DIRECTOR AND CASTING DIRECTOR: A.R.T. (Arab Radio & Television):**
Game show **“Fatat el Ahlam”** (weekly live show)
- EXECUTIVE PRODUCER AND PRODUCTION MANAGER: NTV (New TV)** a weekly Magazine for the DUBAI MEDIA **“Marhaba min Loubnan”**
- 1997**
- PRODUCTION MANAGER: NTV (New TV)**
Scripted TV Series **“Yom elak Yom aalek”** 15 episodes)
- 1996**
- DIRECTOR: Télé Liban** 2 mini documentaries

OTHER JOBS

- February 2017**
Till Present say
- PART TIME FACULTY MEMBER / UNIVERSITY TEACHER:**
Course title: TV & Web Program Production. 2nd Semester, Department of Television at ALBA – School of Cinema and Audiovisual Directing, Académie Libanaise Des Beaux-Arts (University of Balamand)
- October 2015**
Till present day
- MEMBER OF THE EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TELEVISION- SCHOOL OF CINEMA**
ALBA, Académie Libanaise Des Beaux-Arts (University of Balamand)

EDUCATION

- 1996 - 1997** **Certificate: PROFFIL.** « Programme de Formation Professionnelle à la Fiction Longue » Beirut – Directing department (collaboration between: FEMIS France, ALBA Lebanon and IESAV Lebanon).
- 1991 – 1996** **Diploma (BA) in TV and Film Directing: ALBA.** (Académie Libanaise des Beaux-Arts) Beirut. School of TV and Film Directing

LANGUAGES: French: Fluent - English: Fluent - Spanish: Average - Arabic: Fluent