

AHMAD SAMARA

PRODUCER | DIRECTOR



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A Jordanian independent filmmaker and producer based in the D.C area. I have over 10 years of experience in directing, producing and editing commercials, corporate videos, music videos, as well as fiction films & documentaries. I believe in the power of storytelling for social change.

EXPERIENCE

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| Freelancer
Filmmaker | 2008-Present |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating concepts and treatments for commercials, music videos and films. • Directing commercials, music videos, films and series. • Video Editing. • Script writing stories for film and series. | |
| SIDE X SIDE - Washington DC
Associate Creative Producer | FEB - SEP 2024 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creative concept ideation and execution for commercial projects. • Direct shoots, both in the field and remote. | |
| American University in Dubai
Technical Supervisor | 2015-2017 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervising and mentoring students' shooting sites and editing facilities to support them in their projects. • Running and organizing the screenings and discussions of the film club "Cinematopia". | |
| Ro'ya TV
Field Director/Producer | 2012-2013 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pitching stories and coordinating what to shoot with the crew on the field. • Overseeing the direction of programs, shows & stories. • Editing shows and reports. • Working with crews in executing their storylines as they see creatively. | |
| Rubicon Group Holding
3D Layout Artist | 2008-2011 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with the layout supervisor to execute the vision of the Director and Art Director, creating a 3D version of the animatic and camera walkthrough. | |

SELECTED VIDEO PROJECTS

"USAID - 16 days of activism"

Produced and directed this campaign to spread awareness about the various forms of violence.

"MicroFund For Women"

Conceptualized, directed and co-produced those videos for empowering entrepreneurs in Jordan, and women in particular.

"ATHAR"

Conceptualizing and directing this commercial film for the Department of Antiques In Jordan.

"Tababa"

A short social web series that I wrote, directed and edited showcasing the issues that we face in our societies.

"I'm Jawwal"

Conceptualized, directed and edited this short video/commercial for a Palestinian telecom company.

"PRAYER"

Conceptualized, directed and produced this music video for a local alternative rock band.

"Al-Saudi Real Estate"

Produced and directed this film commercial for Al Saudi group, a real estate Agency In Jordan.

"Listen To Jordan"

An experimental documentary about a Canadian blind tourist who decided to visit Jordan and experience it through his other senses.

"FORM"

Concept and direction for this Jordanian local brand specializing in couture fashion for corporate purposes.

SELECTED PHOTOGRAPHY PROJECTS

"Real Story in a Picture"

A curated collection of photos capturing significant events, critical issues, and profound human experiences, raising awareness and inspiring change.

LIST OF COURSES TAUGHT

Introduction to Scriptwriting

In cooperation with the Royal Film Commission in Jordan, I gave a writing workshop for "Enjaz"; an educational center in Jordan.

Video Editing

At the American University in Dubai.

Introduction to Cinematography & Lighting

At the American University in Dubai.

Filmmaking Mentoring

Private mentorship program for University students and fresh graduates in my filming sets.

EDUCATION

APPLIED SCIENCE UNIVERSITY

August 2004 - June 2008 | BA ACCOUNTING

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

June - July 2008 | Digital Filmmaking Certificate

WORKSHOPS

"Series Writing Lab" (2020)

Doha Film Institute, Qatar.

"Stunts For Films" (2011)

Doha Film Institute, Qatar.

"Basics Of Photography" (2008)

Darat Al Tasweer, Jordan.

LANGUAGES

- English - Fluent
- Arabic - Native

RECENT FILM EXPERIENCE

Field Director:

Title: "Route 66"

Oct 2024

A reality style documentary in which we've been traveling around the U.S. to capture interesting stories, showcase unique characters, and get introduced to new American culture.

Documentary Editor:

Title: "One Day In Gaza " by the people of Gaza

Jan 2024

In this video, I gathered moments from Palestinians everyday lives during the Gaza war. I carefully picked the best parts, making cheerful sequences, and translated the film from Arabic to English.

Documentary Editor:

Title: "Occupied West Bank"

Feb 2024

I edited the film report for Al Jazeera (AJ+) about the daily life Palestinians face in the villages of the West Bank and the violence they encounter from the settlers.

FESTIVALS AND SELECTIONS:

Oddity Tales from a Strange Land: (Folktale series / under development)

- Official selection at DFI + received a development fund grant.
- Official selection at Qumra 2021
- Official selection at AFF 2021

SKILLS

- Producing.
- Directing.
- Video Editing. (Adobe Suite).
- Videography using: Sony, Canon, Arri Alexa, Blackmagic.
- Script Writing.
- Photography using Fujifilm, Nikon, Sony, Canon.

VOLUNTEER WORK

"PACES" (2017)

Documented a video for the Palestinian refugees football team participation in the Norway cup.

"Orient spirit" (2014)

Filmed for this training center which caters for people with disabilities and special needs. We documented their activities through video.