

Anisa Sabiri

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· London, E10

LANGUAGE SKILLS:

English (professional), Russian (professional), Tajik (native).

FILMMAKING & tech SKILLS:

Photography/ videography: Camera Sony Alpha SMii, and Sony Handycam; Sound ZOOM H6; Sienheiser Lavalier system; Adobe Premiere Pro, Canva, Claude, Final Draft, WriterDuet, Discord, Midjourney.

OTHER SKILLS:

Listening, Critical and Solution-Oriented Thinking, Marshal Arts, Teaching, Hiking, Cooking.

EDUCATION:

The London Film School

2019–2021

MA in Fine Arts (Warwick University diploma) / Screenwriting

Moscow University

2008–2013

5-year Specialist Degree in Law
Diploma with Honours

FILMOGRAPHY:

REDEMPTION (8) | 2016 | drama (etude)
(premiere at 28th All-Russian Film Festival Kinotaur)
writer /director

THE CRYING OF TANBUR (25) | 2018 | drama
(Premiere at the Busan IFF)
writer/director

CIRCLE (15) dir. by Bekhrouz Davlyatbekov | 2018 | drama
(Premiere at the Fajr International Film Festival, Iran)
executive producer

RHYTHMS OF LOST TIME (45) | narrated documentary | 2021
(Premiere at the Asian Film Archive)
director/ producer

PINK TREE (18) | drama
(commissioned by BAFA & CHANEL, premiere at Busan IFF)
co-writer /co-director

HAFTA dir.Nazira Karimi | seven-channel installation film |
(premiere at 60th Venice Biennale)
writer

PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS:

2024. Crossing Borders: FilmLab in Georgia, with Salome Jashia and Alina Gorlova.

2024. Eurasia DocMonde. Dushanbe

2023. Berlinale, EFM Doc
Toolbox-2023. Germany

2023. BAFA Asian Film Academy
Directing with Suwa Nobuhiro.
Busan International Film Festival. South Korea.

2023 Sheffield DocFest Future
Producers School.
Sheffield, UK.

2023 CineDoc Tbilisi Documentary
Film Mentorship Programme with
Estelle Robin You.

2023 BFI Network Shorts School.
London, UK.

2022. Film London. The Script
Development Programme.

2022. East-West Talent Lab,
goEast Film Festival. Germany,
Wiesbaden.

2021. Documentary Filmmaking,
International Visitor Leadership
Programme, US Department of
State.

2018. BFI & BBC Training in
Documentary Filmmaking,
Preventing Sexual Violence in
Conflict Initiative (PSVI)
Festival with Angelina Jolie.
London, UK.

2018. London. Workshop in
filmmaking, Moscow New Cinema
School.

2018. Arts Rights Justice
Academy, Artists at Risk.
Hildesheim, Germany.

2018. Berlinale Visitors
Berlinale, Goethe Institute.



Career Experience

Senior Lecturer

2024 – Present

Film Studies, Media And Communications Department.
University of Central Asia.

Screenwriter

2024 January – February

FOREIGNERS EVERYWHERE, The 60th International Art Exhibition, curated by Adriano Pedrosa. Screenwriter for the film by the artist Nazira Karimi.

Development Executive (freelancer)

2024 April – Present

Documentary Project for BBC Eye

International Jury Member

48 Hours Film Race
Institute of War and Peace

Guest Curator

2024 – Present

RUYO Foundation

Contributing authour

2024 – Present

DISCO Network, Doc Society
The Independence Project.

Self-Employed Filmmaker, Development Executive

2023 – Present

FOREIGN CITY Feature Live Action.

Self-Employed Filmmaker, Producer

2022 – Present

GENERATION, Feature Documentary.

On-set filmmaker

2023

Culture COP at COP27, Doc Society

Guest Curator

2023

BFI-Funded Samizdat International Film Festival, Central Asian Programme.

Jury Member

2023

Worcester Film Festival, UK.

International Jury Member

2023

QARA FEST International Film Festival, Kyrgyzstan.

Authour

2023

Online Course 'The Fundamentals in Film Production', The Institute of War and Peace.

Development Executive

2023

Garden Cinema Film Production.

The Guardian Documentary

2023, 2022.

Editor Assistant, Translator.

Lecturer

2022, 2021

Workshops on Documentary Film Production. Institute Of War And Peace.

Screenwriter

2020 – 2023

Atlas Films LTD (Producer: Luke Schiller).

LOLA, Feature Live Action Drama screenplay (88 pages).

Screenwriter

2022.

OLJO Environmental Documentary, dir. Evgeny Chistyakov. Commissioned by NGO 'Panthera'.

Film Programme Guest Curator

2022.

Kol Fest Arts and Music Festival. Kyrgyzstan.

Contributing Director.

2022.

TWENTY-FOURTH, A feature Documentary dir. Kristina Paustian.

Photographer, Writer

2022.

'Embracing Slow Time in Tajikistan' essay. Calvert Journal.

Expert

2021

Transforming Tajikistan: Between a Soviet Past and Tajik Future. Al Jazeera.

Freelance Photographer

2018

'I Am More Valued Than Before Photo Story' by Lizz Truss. The Guardian.

CEO

2019 – 2021

Tajik Cultural Centre LTD.

Filmmaker, Producer

2018-2020

RHYTHMS OF LOST TIME (45 min) documentary, Bactria Cultural Centre, Swiss Cooperation Office.

Founder, Executive Producer

2018

Dushanbe My Vision Experimental Film Residence. Embassy of the United Kingdom to the Republic of Tajikistan.

Freelance Writer

2006 – 2018

Asia Plus Media Holding LTD.

Freelance Tour Guide

2011 – 2018

Mountain Adventure Travels / Orom Travel / Pamir Peaks, MIR Corporation.

Editor

2013

Pamir Magazine, Union of Writers of Tajikistan

Photo works: EMBRACING SLOW TIME IN TAJIKISTAN. New East Festival, **IDEAL Barcelona**, Spain | 2023.

Film showcase with DAVRA Collective **Dokumenta 15**. Kassel, Germany | 2022.

HOJA ALO Book for the IF NEED BE Exhibition with Pejvak Collective. **Art Museum Z33**. Hassel, Belgium | 2021.

Exhibition of Independent Photographers | **Tbilisi, Georgia** | 2023.

Personal Exhibition, **Dushanbe Serena Hotel, Dushanbe, Tajikistan** | 2018.

Photo exhibition. **The Islamic Countries Photographers Meeting**, Konya, Turkey | 2016.

Books

WHITE BIRDS OF HOJI ALO | IF NEED BE EXHIBITION, Z33, Brussels, Belgium | 2016.

DEVANAGRAD, Irfon Publishing House, Dushanbe, Tajikistan | 2014.
(Won the **PADIDA Tajik State Award in Literature** issued by The Union of Writers of Tajikistan in 2014)

Publications

Reimagining Central Asian Cinema. Decolonising the (Post-)Soviet Screen. (ed. by Heleen Gerritsen). **Special issue of Apparatus**. Film, Media and Digital Cultures in Central and Eastern Europe 17 | [Link](#)

Embracing Slow Time In Tajikistan. **NEW EAST DIGITAL ARCHIVE** (former Calvert) | [Link](#)

Persian poetry: the rise and fall of Tajikistan's post-Soviet film culture. **Klassiki** | 2022 | [Link](#)

Il nuovo cinema indipendente prende piede in Asia centrale **Meridiano13** | [Link](#)

Kasym Turaev. **Novaya Gazeta**, 25 Poslednie Imperatory Special Issue | 2016 | [Link](#)

Collections

Work 'Insomnia': **Luciano Benetton's collection 'Imago Mundi'** Piazza del Duomo, Treviso, Italy. Purchased in 2016.

The Independence Project, **Doc Society, Documentary Council**. Sheffield DocFest | 2024.

DAE Talks: Journeys in Transnational Filmmaking with Mariia Ponomorova in conversation with Kesmat El Sayed, **DAE** | 2024.

Storytelling in Tajikistan: Tradition and Modernity.

The Royal Society for Asian Affairs | 2024.

Decolonising the (Post-)Soviet Screen. EFM Debate, **EFM Berlinale**, with Tamara Tatishvili, Zane Balčus, Romas Zabarauskas, Daria Badior | 2023.

Decolonising the (Post-)Soviet Screen, focus on Central Asia.

goEast International Film Festival | 2023.

Decoloniality in Central Asian Cinema: Madina Tlostanova, Anisa Sabiri. **Klassiki** | 2022.

The Basel Peace Forum. On The Power Of Art | 2021.

TED Mastercard: Anisa Sabiri, Filmmaker of the Year | 2021.

My language, My story, My freedom. Women Writers Committee at the 80th

PEN International Congress in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan | 2014.



Film industry awards

Outstanding Screenwriting Award,
The London Film School & Final
Draft / 2021.

CineDoc Tbilisi Mentorship Award
for best project - GENERATION /
2023.

Ji.hlava International Film
Festival
Selection Award- GENERATION
/2023.

The Audience Award - RHYTHMS OF
LOST TIME. The Calvert Journal
International Film Festival
/2022.

Best Photography Award - RHYTHMS
OF LOST TIME. Sole Luna Doc IFF,
Palermo, Italy /2021.

Best Picture Award - RHYTHMS OF
LOST TIME. Musée des Confluences,
Lyon/ 2022.

Best International Short Film -
THE CRYING OF TANBUR. Sama IFF,
Sweden/ 2021.

Best Young Women Storyteller -
THE CRYING OF TANBUR. Imagine
This Women IFF, Brooklyn, USA/
2021.

Best International Film - THE
CRYING OF TANBUR. Varesh IFFI,
Iran /2019.

Message of Peace Special Jury
Award - THE CRYING OF TANBUR.
FRESCO IFF, Armenia/ 2019.

Jury Special Prize - THE CRYING
OF TANBUR. The Golden Tower IFF,
Russia/ 2019.

PADIDA Tajik National Award in
Literature
The Union of Writers of
Tajikistan /2014.

Scholarships

CHEVENING Scholarship Award
from the Federal and Commonwealth
Office, UK, to cover the 1-year MA
Screenwriting degree at the London
Film School | 2019-2020.

Documentary Filmmaking, International
Visitor Leadership Programme, US
Department of State | 2021

Mentions in Press

A generation of filmmakers who
grew up during Tajikistan's civil
war tell their country's stories.
Meduza. [Link](#)

Interview with a recent London
Film School MA Screenwriting
graduate. **London Film School** [Link](#)

Meet the woman fighting to create
a new wave of DIY filmmaking in
Tajikistan. **Calvert Journal** [Link](#)

Tajik-born artist Anisa Sabiri
speaks of the injustices rife
within Tajikistan's social and
political atmosphere. **Artists at
Risk Connection.** [Link](#)

Anisa Sabiri - Regisseurin und
drehbuchautorin aus Tadjikistan
Goethe Institute. [Link](#)

Rhythms of Lost Time: an
otherworldly journey in the fight
to preserve Tajikistan's ancient
musical rituals. **Calvert Journal**
[Link](#)

Transforming Tajikistan: Between a
Soviet past and a Tajik future
Al Jazeera. [Link](#)

In Tajikistan alla ricerca dei
"ritmi dei tempi perduti":
intervista ad Anisa Sabiri.
EastJournal [Link](#)

