

Yousaf Ali Khan

Writer / Director

My films explore issues of identity, marginalisation and belonging. I have received numerous awards for my work including BAFTA nominations for the films SKIN DEEP and TALKING WITH ANGELS.

My first feature film ALMOST ADULT is about two children who, escaping civil war, seek asylum in the UK.

My second feature film NO WAY HOME is about a 10-year-old boy who convinces himself that an injured man hiding out in a shipping container is his returning father.

Projects in development:

Road Movie / Rights of Passage:

FATIMA'S JOURNEY – FATIMA (78) has advanced TB and osteoporosis has bent her forward to half her true height. She lives with her daughter-in-law and grandchild in a small mountain village in the shadow of the Hindu Kush, Afghanistan. She is speaking to her son, who works on a building site in Kabul. An explosion is heard and the line goes dead. She decides to go and find him. On foot, over mountains and through Taliban controlled Afghanistan, she makes her way to far away Kabul.

Action / Thriller / Drama

BREAKING POINT – Frank (65) is angry at the world, his country has gone to the dogs and he blames it on immigration. When his car is stolen and the police have more important crimes to solve, it's the last straw. Frank decides that he must uphold the law and bring the criminal to justice. But when he kidnaps Mo (17), the teenager responsible, he becomes the criminal and is forced to face his own past wrongs.

Science Fiction / Thriller:

COLONIZE - Colonize is a sci-fi noir thriller about Blake, an AI psychologist, who works with a sentient system that becomes infected with an alien virus. The virus's goal is to prepare humanity for a 'meta invasion', a speed of light 'upload' from a neighbouring star. When Blake asks too many questions, his colleague is murdered and he becomes the next target.. the clock is ticking.

Horror / Thriller:

BLACK DOG - Winston Churchill coined the phrase BLACK DOG to describe his PTSD, the feeling of being stalked by a wolf in the shadows. Carson (30) is haunted by 2 tours of duty in Afghanistan. His truck breaks down on an isolated Forest road. From the trees emerges a Black Wolf; from his mind a past he cannot reconcile. Once again, he is in battle for his life, and his soul.

In addition:

- I served on the Board of Directors for Directors UK 2013 to 2015 during which time I participated in the development of the new diversity, access and inclusion policy www.directors.uk.com/news/four-members-co-opted-to-directors-uk-board-changes-to-election-rules-announced
- I have run participatory drama and story development workshops with various community and arts organisations including; Salford Drug Action, Collage Arts, The Writers Room, Hi8us Productions, Mountview Theatre School and the UK National Archive.
- I am co-founder of Amazonas Comics which creates and distributes FOREST PATROL COMIC to schools in the Amazon Basin, Costa Rica and the UK.

AWARDS



SKIN DEEP (short film)

Is about Romo, a mixed-race teenager, struggling to come to terms with his identity. When this film was released on the festival circuit it fast became the most requested short film ever in the history of the British Council Film Department. It was Produced by Andy Porter (executive Producer of OSCAR nominated feature SOLOMON AND GAENOR). Shot by David Katznelson (EMMY and BAFTA winning Cinematographer). Production Designed by Eve Stewart (OSCAR winning designer for Mike Leigh's TOPSY-TURVY).

- Kodak/BAFTA Showcase (UK) - **Best Short Film (Main Prize)**.
- British Academy of Film & Television Awards (BAFTA) (UK) - **Nomination for Best Short Drama**.
- Carlton Television Multi Cultural Achievements Awards (UK) - **Nomination for Achievement in Film**.
- Siena International Film Festival (Italy) - **Best Short Film (Main Prize)**.
- Brest International Film Festival (France) - **Best Short Film (Main Prize)**.
- Cinéma Tout Ecran (Switzerland) - **Best Short Film (Main Prize)**.
- Buffalo Black and Asian Film Festival (UK) - **Best Short Drama (Main Prize)**.
- Turner Classic Shorts (UK) - **Best Short Drama- 3rd prize**.



TALKING WITH ANGELS (short film)

Is about how 10-year-old Alan copes with the stigma of his mother's mental illness. It was co-financed by Fox Searchlight and has been screened at every prestigious film festival around the world.

- British Academy of Film & Television Awards (BAFTA) (UK) - *Nomination for Best Short Drama.*
- Melbourne International Film Festival (Australia) - *City of Melbourne Grand Prix for Best Short Film (Main Prize).*
- Aspen Film Festival (USA) - *Special Recognition Prize.*
- The New Fest (USA) - *Best Short Film (Main Prize).*
- Sydney Film Festival (Australia) - *Best Short Film Audience Award.*
- Tirana International Film Festival (Albania) - *Best Fiction Film (Main Prize)*
- Da Vinci Film and Video Festival (USA) – *Best Indie Narrative Award.*
- Salford Film Festival (UK) - *Best Short Film (Main Prize).*
- Zoie Films Festival (USA) - *Best Short Film (Main Prize).*
- Corto in Bra Film Festival (Italy) - *Best Short Film (Main Prize).*
- Humbolt Film Festival (USA) - *Chel White's Juror's Choice Award.*
- Festival der Nationen (Austria) - *Diplom 4th Place.*
- Huesca International Film Festival (Spain) - *Jury Prize.*
- Show Commotion Film Festival (UK) - *Best Live Action Short (Main Prize).*
- Festival of European Films (Turkey) - *Best Short Film Audience Award.*
- Seagate Foyle Film Festival (Ireland) - *Special Commendation.*
- International Festival of Cinema & Technology (UK) - *Best UK Film.*
- SediciCorto International Film Festival Forlì (Italy) - *Best Short Film (Main Prize) & Best Interpretation (for lead actor Stephen Buckley)*

ALMOST ADULT (feature film)

Is about two girls Mamie and Shiku who arrive in the UK as child asylum seekers. They meet at a bus station in Birmingham. Although they speak different languages, they find a way to understand each other. Unwelcome and unwanted by the immigration authorities, the girls soon become each other's family facing a hostile world. www.bankside-films.com/films/almost-adult It was Produced by Sally Hibbin (Producer of BAFTA nominated Ken Loach films RAINING STONES, CARLA'S SONG, DOCKERS) Shot by David Katznelson (EMMY and BAFTA winning Cinematographer).

- Official selection (competition) London Film Festival
- Official Selection Dinard Film Festival
- Official selection Nantes Film Festival

NO WAY HOME (feature film)

Ryan doesn't remember his dad but still dreams of him returning one day. So, when he discovers a man hiding out in the wasteland near his house, it's a dream come true. Or is it? Staring BAFTA / EMMY winning actress Hayley Squires and EFA nominee / star of this years PALME D'OR, Goran Bogdan. To date it is winner of 'Best Feature Film' at 4 international film festivals and garnering excellent reviews.

- World Premiere at Black Nights Film Festival - POFF (Tallinn)
- Tribeca All Access Development Prize.
- Winner of 'Best Feature Film' at PriGlobal -2024 (Kosovo)

- Winner of 'Best Feature Film' at Mei International Film Festival - 2024 (India)
- Winner of 'Best Feature Film' at Ponza Film Festival - 2024 (Italy)
- Winner of 'Best Feature Film' at Rameshwaram International Film Festival - 2024 (India)