

# SMAHI ANAND

Producer | Director | Assistant Director

Mumbai & Los Angeles • smahianand.film@gmail.com • www.smahianand.com

## CAREER SNAPSHOT

---

Award-winning filmmaker with a BFA from New York Film Academy (2024) and a track record spanning 3 feature films, 10+ short films, and multiple commercials and music videos across India and Los Angeles. Recognized at 15+ international festivals — including Ayodhya Film Festival, Beverly Hills, Atlanta Indian Film Festival, and Oscar-qualifying Bengaluru International Short Film Festival with wins for Best Director, Best Screenplay, and Best Short Film. Fluent in every stage of production, from scheduling and budgeting to post-production workflow.

## CORE SKILLS

---

- **Creative Leadership:** Directed and produced across film, TV, commercials, and music videos — from single-camera shorts to multi-crew feature sets.
- **Production Management:** Scheduling, budgeting (Movie Magic), call sheets, logistics, and full crew coordination across 15+ projects.
- **Technical Proficiency:** DaVinci Resolve, Avid Media Composer, Final Draft, Movie Magic Scheduling & Budgeting.
- **Cinematic Knowledge:** Strong command of cinematography, lighting, equipment selection, and post-production workflow.
- **Festival Strategy:** 15+ festival selections, 6 award wins, and OTT placements on Shorted India and Pocket Films.

## EDUCATION

---

**BFA in Filmmaking** | New York Film Academy | Los Angeles, CA 2024

## DIRECTING EXPERIENCE

---

**Silent Cycle (Short Film)** | Writer | Director | Producer | Mumbai, India

- Wrote, produced, and directed a socially impactful short examining cultural taboos around menstruation starring Cannes-credited actor Sunita Rajwar— led a full cast and crew through all production phases: casting, location scouting, scheduling, and post.

🏆 *Best Women Director & Best Supporting Actress — Ayodhya Film Festival; Best Screenplay — Boston IFF; Best Short Film — Synergy Film Festival; Nominated: Best Fiction & Best Performance — Watersprite (UK); Audience choice award — Poppy Jasper Film Festival.*

🏆 *Selections at festivals: Chicago South Asian, Poppy Jasper, Yellowstone International Film Festival, Blackbird International Film Festival, Beverly Hills Film Festival, Pasadena, Boston IFF, Atlanta IFF, Bengaluru IFF (Oscar qualifying), Wyoming IFF, DC South Asian Film Festival*

- Screened at the prestigious TCL Chinese theatre, Hollywood
- Streaming on Shorted India & Pocket Films

**Daffodils (Short Film)** | Writer | Director | Producer | Los Angeles, CA

- Directed actors and oversaw full post-production pipeline for this festival-circuit winner, screened at TCL Chinese Theatre.

🏆 *Best Short Film & Producer's Choice Award— Idyllwild International Film Festival 2024*

🏆 *Selected at Cannes World Film Festival, Beverly Hills Film Festival 2024, Independent shorts awards, Pune short film festival, Indie Vegas Film festival, International Independent shorts Awards*

**Star of the Night (Short Film)** | Director | Los Angeles, CA

- Directed a drama exploring misogyny and gender dynamics in the workplace; guided actors through emotionally demanding scenes, maintaining a safe, collaborative environment while sustaining narrative authenticity.

**Abandoned (Short Film)** | Writer | Director | Producer | Los Angeles, CA

- Crafted an atmospheric minimal-cast narrative; managed end-to-end post-production workflow to on-time delivery.

**Remember the Roses (Short Film)** | Writer | Director | Producer | Delhi, India

- Produced and directed a family-drama short, overseeing every department: casting, scouting, principal photography, and editorial.

🏆 *Semi-Finalist at Next international Short Film Festival 2020*

**Heads or Tails (Short Film)** | Producer | Los Angeles, CA

- Produced and oversaw budgeting, scheduling, hiring, and on-set coordination from pre-production to picture lock — starring Ranjita Chakraborty (Never Have I Ever) and Sophia Ali (The Pitt); delivered on time and on budget.

**Are We Different? (Short Film)** | Producer | Los Angeles, CA

- Managed production logistics, insurance, and vendor negotiations; coordinated shooting schedules and locations for smooth execution.

**The Uninvited Child (Short Film)** | Producer | Rudrala LLC | Los Angeles, CA

- Directed full production cycle from pre-production through final delivery; collaborated with cast and crew to uphold creative integrity.

## COMMERCIALS & MUSIC VIDEOS (DIRECTOR)

---

- Dr. Kitchen Ketchup Commercial — Los Angeles, CA
- "UR LYING" — Ira Sharma (Music Video) • Los Angeles, CA
- "Home For Christmas" — Ira Sharma (Music Video) • Los Angeles, CA
- "Teri" — Ira Sharma (Music Video) • Los Angeles, CA
- "Can't Resist" — Shreya Gupta (Music Video) • Delhi, India

## ASSISTANT DIRECTING EXPERIENCE

---

**Falafel (Feature)** | 1st AD | Media Ave Studios

- Developed master shooting schedule and call sheets; managed all on-set operations for a feature-length production.

**Ensnared (Feature)** | 1st AD

- Streamlined logistics and supervised full crew management across principal photography.

**Blind Spot (Vertical Series)** | 1st AD | Unreal Imagine & ODK Media

- Managed fast-paced vertical-series schedule; supervised 2nd AD and coordinated rehearsals across multiple shoot days.

**Shakedown (Short Film)** | 1st AD

- Directed inter-departmental communication to ensure the director's vision was realized on schedule.

**Solivagant (Short Film)** | 1st AD

- Oversaw production logistics, maintaining efficiency and on-time delivery throughout principal photography.

**The Persistence of Hate (Short Film) | 1st AD**

- Broke down script, built shooting schedule, and managed daily call sheets for the production.

**Vande Bharat Via America (Gujarati Feature) | 2nd AD**

- Coordinated extras management, prepared call sheets, and supported on-set operations for a feature film production.

**Saavle (Music Video) | 2nd AD | Diljit Dosanjh**

- Coordinated cast and crew, created call sheets, and supported 1st AD on a high-profile music video set.

**You Messed with the Wrong Lawyer (Vertical Series) | 2nd AD | Vanishing Point LLC**

- Assisted 1st AD, created call sheets, and managed extras across the full vertical-series shoot.

**Dettol Commercial | Direction Intern | Picture Perfect Films**

- Supported the AD team in coordinating talent movement, scheduling, crowd management, and inter-department communication on a national-brand commercial shoot.

## **ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE**

---

**Creative Development Intern | Graphic India | Los Angeles, CA**

- Delivered script coverage and research to evaluate projects and talent; provided recommendations on story potential, character development, and market viability.
- Attended industry development meetings, contributing to discussions on creative direction and production feasibility.

**Business Development Executive | Vrozart Group | India**

- Led creative development of AI-driven film projects for clients including Allyra.ai, iNVERGY power supply, and Brahmand Ka Rakshak (web show trailer) — overseeing story concept, visual direction, shot design, and end-to-end execution.