

CLAYTALK PICTURES

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FOR REAL

A SONA JAIN FILM

PRESS KIT

COUNTRY OF PRODUCTION: INDIA/U.S.A
RUNNING TIME: 86 MINUTES
LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

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FOR REAL
SYNOPSIS

***A child's determination to keep her family together,
When the all-powerful adults are intent on destroying it.***

Six-year old Shruti knows something no one else does. An alien has come in place of her mother and her real mother has been sent to the Orion Galaxy. While the alien looks just like her mother on the outside, Shruti knows she is completely different from her beloved mother on the inside.

Shruti turns to her brother for help but he doesn't believe her. Her father, like always, remains wrapped in work and unavailable to her. Unable to accept the Alien in her home and desperate to be with her mother, the lonely child runs away.

What follows is a child's passage to finding her real mother, a man's struggle to save his family and a woman's journey to finding herself.

FOR REAL

Media Coverage and Reviews

“Asian Festival of First Films in Singapore... awarded four honors to "For Real" and its Indian-born, director-producer-screenwriter Sona Jain.”

- Hollywood Reporter, Dec 6, 2009

“Zoya S. Hassan, youngest award recipient, walks away with Best Actress Honors”

- Channel News Asia, Prime Time News and News 5 Tonight

“Seemingly childish fantasy unveils a deeper issue that is rarely discussed... Seeing marital problems through the eyes of a child comes as a rude awakening for many who watch the film.”

- Channel News Asia, The Big Picture

“Writer-director Sona Jain’s movie “For Real” picked up four prizes, including best screenplay and producer for Jain, and the best actress and actor for the film’s two child stars, Zoya S. Hasan and Sriharsh Sharma Churai.”

- Bloomberg, Dec 6, 2009

“Sona Jain debuts with a film that sees an intensely personal world through the eyes and mind of a child. The result... is heartwarming.”

- India Abroad

“Indian Films win major awards at Asian Fest...with Sona Jain’s “For Real” bagging four major awards including Best actor and best actress awards for its child actors.”

- Deccan Herald

“For Real Premiere Grabs Center Stage... at IFFI’s Panorama Section”

- Asian Age

“For Real’, the only English film in the Indian Panorama section, has drawn praise at the 40th International Film Festival of India (IFFI)

- Times of India.

“Delhi School Children Win Accolades at Singapore Fest”

- Hindustan Times, Dec 9

FOR REAL
The CAST

CAST	CHARACTER
Sarita Choudhury	Priya Singh Shukla
Zoya S. Hassan	Shruti Shukla
Adil Hussain	Dr. Ravi Shukla
Sameer Dharmadhikari	Deepak Choudhary
Sriharsh Sharma	Paras Shukla

FOR REAL
The CREW

Writer and Director	Sona Jain
Executive Producer	Ira Deutchman
Producer	Sona Jain
Original Songs by	Zakir Hussain
Original Composer	Deborah Mollison
Cinematography	Ruben O'Malley
Editors	Amitabh Shukla Julie Carr
Sound Designer / Mixers	Roland Heap Arun Choudhury
Associate Producers	Josh Green Udayan Bajjal Amitabh Shukla
Assistant Music Director	Taufiq Qureshi
Line Producer	Gaurav Dhingra
Unit Production Manager	Ricky Saxena
First Assistant Director	Raj Acharya

FOR REAL

Festival and Award History

Date of Completion: November 13, 2009

Festivals:

1. International Film Festival of India, Goa, India- Nov 28 and Dec 2, 2009
2. Asian Festival of First Films, Singapore- Dec 2, 2009.

Awards:

1. Asian Festival of First Films, Singapore. Best Actress for Zoya S. Hassan.
2. Asian Festival of First Films, Singapore. Best Actor for Sriharsh Sharma Churai.
3. Asian Festival of First Films, Singapore. Best Producer for Sona Jain
4. Asian Festival of First Films, Singapore. Best Screenplay for Sona Jain.

Nominations:

1. Asian Festival of First Films, Singapore. Best Film, For Real.
2. Asian Festival of First Films, Singapore. Best Director for Sona Jain.

FOR REAL

DIRECTOR'S Note

What would you do if the person you love the most, changes?

What does a child do when a beloved parent turns into someone unrecognizable?

FOR REAL is a story of a six-year-old who witnesses a moment of discord within her family. The ensuing depression evident in her parents causes a chain reaction in the child's mind, making her withdraw into a fantasy world where she believes her real mother has been sent to the Orion Galaxy and "mother" at home is really an Alien. No one believes her story till the lonely child runs away in search of her real mother.

For young parents today, the pressures of modern existence are cracking the armor of even the most balanced adults. Burdens of aspiration and slaps of failure cause domestic discord in homes around the world everyday, affecting the lives of millions of children. Studies indicate that a combination of parental depression and marital discord can be a precursor to behavioral and psychological problems in children, making them withdraw internally (depression) or externally (misbehavior, flights of fantasy etc). Even a child with every conceivable comfort and the unconditional love of the parents can crumble in the face of domestic strife. Younger children are more susceptible to replicating parental behavior patterns as adults, thereby causing a garbled legacy that gets handed down from generation to generation.

To my mind, subjecting a child to an unhappy home environment is in one word, abusive. It runs the risk of the child in question never reaching his/her full potential.

In FOR REAL, I have explored the story of an unhappy home through the eyes of an imaginative little girl, whose only motivation is to see her mother happy. This film is my attempt to hold a mirror up to society, asking it to acknowledge the most widespread form of child abuse that remains socially acceptable till date.

My hope is that if one responsible parent watching the film acknowledges the effect of his/her actions on their child, a child's life somewhere will change for the better.

- Sona Jain, New Delhi, November 5, 2009.

FOR REAL

TECHNICAL Specifications

Running Time	86 Minutes 13 Seconds
Country of Production	India/USA
Language	English
Subtitles	English (partial)
Frame Rate	24 Frames Per Second (fps)
Shooting Format	Super 16mm
Exhibition Formats (Film):	35mm
Aspect Ratio (Film)	1:1.85
Sound (Film)	Dolby Digital (Preferred) Stereo
Exhibition Formats (Video)	HDCAM SR, Digibeta (PAL)
Aspect Ratio (Video)	16:9
Sound (Video)	Dolby Digital (HDCAM) Stereo (Digibeta)
Shot on	Kodak Super 16mm Emulsion
Printed on	Kodak 35 mm negative and positive stock
Filming Locations	New Delhi, New York
Edited on	Avid
Film Laboratory	Prasad Labs, Mumbai
Digital Intermediate	Adlabs, Mumbai (Reliance Mediaworks)

FOR REAL

CAST Biographies

SARITA CHOUDHURY- Priya Singh Shukla

SARITA CHOUDHURY was recently seen in *The Accidental Husband*, M. Night Shyamalan's *Lady In The Water*, and the Independent Spirit Award nominee, *The War Within*. She appeared in the New Group's universally acclaimed production of the play *Rafta Rafta* and just completed the NBC television pilot *Kings*.

Choudhury made her film debut as the love interest to Denzel Washington's character in Mira Nair's *Mississippi Masala*. Choudhury's performance as the Queen in Mira Nair's controversial film *Kama Sutra* captured the attention of many critics who took notice of her exotic beauty and depth of emotion.

Choudhury garnered raves on stage for her performance as Frida Kahlo in 2007's *The Rise of Dorothy Hale*. She has also appeared in the acclaimed productions of playwright Vijay Tendulkar's *Sakharam Binder* and The New Group's *Roar* with Annabella Sciorra. Other film credits include Spike Lee's *She Hate Me*, *Rhythm Of The Saints*, Lee Davis' *3 A.M.*, Fisher Stevens' *Still A Kiss*, David Atwood's *Wild West*, Lisa Cholodenko's *High Art*, Bille August's *The House of the Spirits*, Sidney Lumet's *Gloria* and Andy Davis' *A Perfect Murder*.

On television, Choudhury has had recurring roles on *Deadline*, *100 Center Street*, and *Homicide*. She has also starred in *Damages*, *Law & Order*, *SUBWAYStories: Tales from the Underground*, and *Down Came a Black Bird*.

ADIL HUSSAIN- Dr. Ravi Shukla

Khandkar Mohammed Adil Hussain was born in 1963 in Assam. After initial adventures as an actor in film, television, theater and radio he joined the National School of Drama (NSD) in New Delhi, India, from where he graduated, specializing in acting in 1993. Immediately after that he received the Charles Wallace Trust Scholarship to study acting in England at the Drama Studio, London. Adil continued to act and to teach acting at different institutions in India and at the same time was undergoing intense training on the finer aspects of acting under the guidance of his teacher, Khalid Tyabji, who focused on the in-depth relationship between body, voice and emotion. In 1997, Adil was invited to act as the lead in the production 'Moeder India' by the Amsterdam based International Danstheater Company that toured for eighteen months.

In 1999, Adil acted as Othello in the acclaimed production of 'Othello: A play in Black and White' by the Indian Shakespeare Company, directed by Roysten Abel which was awarded the Edinburgh Fringe First. He tours with this production till date, which has traveled in the last decade to countries far and wide,

including Zimbabwe, France, England, Egypt, Germany, Holland, Belgium and India.

Adil's acting credits for film and television include 'Jasoos Vijay' for BBC World Trust Service Production, A&B motion pictures film production of 'In Othello' where he plays the role of Othello, lead parts in films such as 'Iti Srikanto' (Dir. Anjan Das), and 'For Real' (Dir. Sona Jain) and in the play 'Orientations' (Dir Michael Walling) by Border Crossings Theater Company in London. He also plays a lead role in the Hindi Feature film, 'Ishqiya' (Dir. Abhishek Chaubey, Prod. Vishal Bharadwaj.)

Adil has in the past and continues to serve as Visiting faculty at the National School of Drama in New Delhi, Drama School in Amsterdam, Royal Conservatory of Performing Arts in The Hague, and Film and Television Institute of India in Pune. From 2004 to 2007 Adil served as the Artistic Director and Trainer of the Society for Artists and Performers in Hampi, Karnataka. The prime objective of this residency program was to discover a perpetual access to one's creative reservoir that lies deep within.

ZOYA S. HASSAN- *Shruti Shukla*

Zoya is a student of class four at Vasant Valley School, New Delhi. She plays the central role of the little girl, Shruti, in the feature film, FOR REAL.

Zoya is a member of the NGO 'Kids for Kids' in New Delhi that raises funds for under-privileged children through the arts. In this connection Zoya has acted in three theatre productions for children titled 'Bhangra on the Moon', 'Major Hype and Magic Hoopla' and 'Theatre Express'. Zoya is a voracious reader and aspires to be a full-time actor when she grows up.

SRIHARSH SHARMA CHURAI- *Paras Shukla*

Sriharsh (Sibu) Sharma Churai is a 14 year old boy studying at Bluebells School, New Delhi. He has acted in two full-length films, namely, 'For Real' directed by Sona Jain and 'Darjeeling Limited' directed by Wes Anderson. Sriharsh has studied drama under the guidance of Delhi theatre veteran Dilip Shankar, who continues to be his mentor. Gifted, bold, questioning and fearless in voicing opinion, Sriharsh is interested in history, social and current issues. His interests lie in gaming, graphics, karate, acting and he is currently learning to play the violin.

SAMEER DHARMADHIKARI- *Deepak Choudhury*

Sameer Dharmadhikari is a Mumbai based Actor and Producer of feature films. He began his acting career with the Hindi feature film SATTA (Dir. Madhu Bhandarkar) for which he was Nominated as Best Debut Actor by the Zee Cine Awards. His recent film work includes NIROP (Dir. Sachin Kundalkar, Prod. Aparna Dharmadhikari) which is the recipient of the National Award, India's most prestigious film award.

Sameer has also appeared in leading and supporting roles in AGNIPANKH (Dir. Sanjeev Puri), RAINCOAT (Dir. Rituporno Ghosh), NIGEHBAAAN (Dir. Dilip Shankar), MUMBAI MERI JAAN (Dir. Nishikant Kamat), MADHUBALA and GAME (dir. SHIVRAM) and KATHPUTLI (Dir Sanjay Khanna), QUICKSAND (Dir. Sam Firstenberg) and FOR REAL (Dir. Sona Jain).

Sameer's theatre credits include Marathi productions, SANGEET UTTARKRIYA and JALLI TUJHI PREET and the English production, NATHURAM GODSE- AN EXPERIENCE where he played the title role. Following extensive work in Marathi Theatre, Sameer has made a vital contribution to the Marathi Film Industry as well. He appeared in Marathi Feature films KOHHATYA CHA POUR (Dir S.M.Ranjan) where he was once again nominated for a Zee Cine Award in the Best Actor category, and SAMANTAR (Dir. Amol Palekar, Prod. Big Pictures).

Prior to his entry in film as an actor, Sameer modeled extensively and represented over 175 brands across India. He continues to be the brand ambassador for some of India's biggest brands such as Raymond Suitings, LifeBuoy Soap and ICICI Bank.

FOR REAL

CREW Biographies

Sona Jain Writer/Director/Producer

Madhurika Sona Jain is the Writer, Director and Producer of the feature film, FOR REAL. At age 20 she made her first film titled 'THE OUTSIDERS' about the disenfranchised *Hijra* community in Delhi. This documentary short won her admission to the Graduate Film Program at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts. While at Tisch, her student film, 'VASARMA'S LOVERS,' played at a host of international festivals and received commercial distribution domestically in the U.S. and internationally through Hypnotic Inc and British Shorts. Sona has written and directed the documentary, 'Krishen Khanna: MY LIFE,' on the life of the acclaimed Indian contemporary artist, Krishen Khanna. 'FOR REAL' is her first feature film venture.

Sona was the recipient of the Graduate Fellowship at New York University. She holds the unlikely distinction of being the youngest published author of an Economics textbook for High School students in India. She is currently completing an anthology of short stories, titled, *GOD 101*.

Sona holds a Masters in Fine Arts from the Graduate Film Program, Tisch School of the Arts, New York University and Bachelors in Economics (Hons), St. Stephen's College, Delhi University.

Director's Filmography:

1. "For Real" Narrative, Feature; Writer, Director and Producer;
2. "Vasarma's Lovers" Narrative, Short . (Distributed by Hypnotic Inc.); Writer and Director;
3. "Krishen Khanna: My Story" Documentary/Biopic on legendary Indian Artist, Krishen Khanna, Short; Writer and Director;
4. "Hijra: The Outsiders": Documentary on Hermaphrodite Community in Delhi, Short; Writer, Director and Producer;
5. "Searching": Documentary on Adoption, Short. Writer and Director.

IRA DEUTCHMAN Executive Producer

Ira Deutchman has been making, marketing and distributing films for twenty-seven years, having worked on over 130 films including some of the most successful independent films of all time. He was one of the founders of Cinecom and later created Fine Line Features—two companies that were created from scratch and in their respective times, helped define the independent film business.

Currently Deutchman is President and CEO of Emerging Pictures, a New York-based digital film production and exhibition company. Deutchman is also a partner in Redeemable Features, an independent production company, that he founded to develop and produce a wide range of theatrical and television programming.

Formerly, Deutchman was the founder and President of Fine Line Features and Senior Vice President of parent company New Line Cinema. Among the over 60 films he acquired and released at Fine Line were Jane Campion's "An Angel at My Table," Gus van Sant's "My Own Private Idaho," Jim Jarmusch's "Night on Earth," Robert Altman's "The Player" and "Short Cuts," Roman Polanski's "Bitter Moon" and "Death and the Maiden," Alan Rudolph's "Mrs. Parker and the Vicious Circle," Mike Leigh's "Naked," and the award-winning "Hoop Dreams," now the highest grossing non-music documentary in history.

Prior to Fine Line, as President of The Deutchman Company, he provided marketing consulting services for such films as Steven Soderburgh's "sex, lies, and videotape" for Miramax, Charles Burnett's "To Sleep With Anger" for The Samuel Goldwyn Company and Whit Stillman's "Metropolitan" for New Line Cinema.

Previously, Deutchman was one of the founding partners and President of Marketing and Distribution for Cinecom Entertainment Group, the film distribution company known for such diverse releases as Merchant/Ivory's "A Room with a View," Jonathan Demme's "Stop Making Sense," Gregory Nava's "El Norte" and John Sayles' "The Brother From Another Planet."

While at United Artists Classics, Films Incorporated and Cinema 5 Ltd., highlights included Lina Wertmuller's "Seven Beauties" and "Swept Away," Barbara Koppel's "Harlan County, USA," Jean-Jacques Beineix's "Diva," and Francois Truffaut's "The Last Metro." While still in college, he organized and marketed the midwest premiere of John

Cassavetes' "A Woman Under the Influence."

Deutchman is an Associate Professor in the Graduate Film Division at Columbia University, and serves on the advisory boards of the Sundance Film Festival and the Los Angeles Independent Film Festival. His screen credits include Associate Producer of John Sayles' "Matewan," Executive Producer of Jonathan Demme's "Swimming to Cambodia," Gary Sinise's "Miles From Home," Paul Bartel's "Scenes from the Class Struggle in Beverly Hills," Matty Rich's "Straight Out of Brooklyn," Stephen Gyllenhaal's "Waterland," Maggie Greenwald's "The Ballad of Little Jo," Alan Rudolph's "Mrs. Parker & the Vicious Circle," Paul Auster's "Lulu On the Bridge," Wayne Wang's "Center of the World," Daniel Noah's "Twelve" and Anthony Jaswinski's "Killing Time." Deutchman was the Producer of Tony Vitale's "Kiss Me, Guido," Sarah Kernochan's "All I Wanna Do," Mark Christopher's "54," Adam Davidson's "Way Past Cool" and two upcoming films—Bob Gale's "Interstate 60" and Tanya Wexler's "Ball in the House." He was also Consulting Producer on the CBS sitcom "Some of My Best Friends."

He is a graduate of Northwestern University, with a major in film.

ZAKIR HUSSAIN Composer, Original Songs

Zakir Hussain is today appreciated both in the field of percussion and in the music world at large as an international phenomenon. A classical tabla virtuoso of the highest order, his consistently brilliant and exciting performances have not only established him as a national treasure in his own country, India, but gained him worldwide fame. His playing is marked by uncanny intuition and masterful improvisational dexterity, founded in formidable knowledge and study. The favorite accompanist for many of India's greatest classical musicians and dancers, he has not let his genius rest there.

Widely considered a chief architect of the contemporary world music movement, Zakir's contribution to world music has been unique, with many historic collaborations, including *Shakti*, which he founded with John McLaughlin and L. Shankar, *Remember Shakti*, the *Diga Rhythm Band*, *Making Music*, *Planet Drum* with Mickey Hart, *Tabla Beat Science*, *Sangam* with Charles Lloyd and Eric Harland and recordings and performances with artists as diverse as George Harrison, YoYo Ma, Joe Henderson, Van Morrison, Airto Moreira, Pharoah Sanders, Billy Cobham, Mark Morris, Rennie Harris, and the Kodo drummers. His music and extraordinary contribution to the music world were honored in April, 2009, with four widely-heralded and sold-out concerts at Carnegie Hall's *Artist Perspective* series.

The recipient of countless honors, Zakir has received the titles of *Padma Bhushan*, in 2002, and *Padma Shri*, in 1988, becoming the youngest percussionist to be awarded these, given to civilians of merit, by the Indian government. In 1990, he was awarded the Indo-American Award in recognition for his outstanding cultural contribution to relations between the United States and India. In April 1991, he was presented with the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award by the President of India, making him one of the youngest musicians to receive this recognition from India's governing cultural institute. In 2006, he was the recipient of the prestigious *Kalidas Samman*, an award for artists of

exceptional achievement, from the government of Madhya Pradesh. In 2007, readers' polls from both *Modern Drummer* and *Drum!* magazines named him Best World Music and Best Worldbeat Drummer respectively. On February 8, 2009, Zakir received a Grammy in the Best Contemporary World Music category for *Global Drum Project*, his group with Mickey Hart, Giovanni Hidalgo and Sikiru Adepaju.

A child prodigy, Zakir was touring by the age of twelve, the gifted son of his great father, tabla legend Ustad Allarakha. Zakir came to the United States in 1970, performing his first concert at the Fillmore East in New York City with Pandit Ravi Shankar, embarking on an illustrious international career. Zakir has composed and recorded prolifically and has received widespread recognition as a composer for his many ensembles and collaborations. In 1987, his first solo release, *Making Music*, was acclaimed as “one of the most inspired East-West fusion albums ever recorded.” In 1992, *Planet Drum*, an album co-created and produced by Zakir and Mickey Hart, became the first recording to win a Grammy in the Best World Music category, the *Downbeat* Critics' Poll for Best World Beat Album and the NARM Indie Best Seller Award for World Music Recording. The band has re-emerged as *Global Drum Project*, touring widely in the '07 and '08 seasons.

Zakir received the distinct honor of co-composing the opening music for the Summer Olympics in Atlanta, 1996. He was commissioned to compose music for Alonzo King's *Lines* (for which he received an Isadora Duncan Award), and to compose an original work for the San Francisco Jazz Festival, both in 1998. He has received numerous grants, including participation in the Meet the Composer programs funded by the Pew Memorial Trust. In 2000, Zakir worked again with choreographer Alonzo King, this time composing music for The Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. In 2002, his commissioned work for choreographer Mark Morris' “Kolam” premiered as part of YoYo Ma's “Silk Road Project” with YoYo Ma and Zakir performing together live for the performance. In September, 2006, *Triple Concert for Banjo, Bass and Tabla*, a piece co-composed by Zakir, Edgar Meyer and Bela Fleck, was performed by them with the Nashville Symphony at the gala opening of the Schermerhorn Symphony Hall in Nashville. In January, 2009, it was re-created with the Detroit Symphony, again under the baton of Leonard Slatkin. This performance and new original works composed by Zakir, Edgar and Bela, will be released as *The Melody of Rhythm* in late summer, 2009.

Zakir reunited with Alonzo King in 2007 for Lines Ballet's 25th anniversary celebration, creating acclaimed music for King's new work, *Rasa*. Zakir is currently working with Alonzo for a new piece for Lines Ballet, the only American ballet company invited to perform by the Ballet de Monte Carlo as they celebrate 100 years of the Ballet Russe in December, 2009.

In 2007, the government of India chose Zakir to compose an anthem to celebrate India's 60th year of independence. The song, “Jai Hind”, has been recorded by an array of India's finest classical vocalists and pop singers.

Zakir has scored for many films, including *Heat and Dust* (in which he also co-starred), Bertolucci's *Little Buddha*, for which Zakir composed, performed and acted as Indian music advisor, *Vanaprastham (The Last Dance)*, *Saaz*, *Everybody Says I'm Fine*, *Mr. And Mrs. Iyer*, *In Custody* and *The Mystic Masseur*, these last two directed by Ismail Merchant.

Zakir is the recipient of the 1999 National Heritage Fellowship, the United States' most prestigious honor for a master in the traditional arts, presented by First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton at the United States Senate on September 28, 1999. In 2005, he was named an Old Dominion Fellow by the Humanities Council at Princeton University, where he resided for the 2005-2006 autumn semester as full professor in the music department, teaching a survey course in Indian classical music and dance. In the spring of 2007, this course was taught again by Zakir, this time at Stanford University.

In 1992, Zakir founded Moment! Records which features original collaborations in the field of contemporary world music, as well as live concert performances by great masters of the classical music of India. The label presents Zakir's own world percussion ensemble, *The Rhythm Experience*, both North and South Indian classical recordings, *Best of Shakti* and a *Masters of Percussion* series. Moment Records' 2006 release "Golden Strings of the Sarode" with Aashish Khan and Zakir Hussain was nominated for a Grammy in the Best Traditional World Music category for that year.

DEBORAH MOLLISON Composer, Original Score

Deborah Mollison is a truly versatile composer who divides her time between projects in London, LA and Dublin. She is perhaps best known for her score to **East is East** which was one of the most commercially successful independent British movie ever produced in the UK. In 2000 *East is East* won the BAFTA for Outstanding British Film Award and also Best Film at the Evening Standard British Film Awards.

Deborah has just finished scoring *Tied to a Chair* a comedy feature for American director Michael Bergmann who has sponsored her for a three year US Visa/film deal. Currently, Deborah is scoring feature *For Real*, directed by Sona Jain.

Recent films include *Souli*, a French feature film directed by Alex Abela, Trevor Steven Smiths's heist movie *Too Much Too Young* and multi award winning political thriller *Infinite Justice* directed by Jamil Dehlavi. Mollison has enjoyed scoring for film and television on both sides of the Atlantic and other projects have included the US feature, *The Boys of Sunset Ridge*, *Simon Magus* for Film Four and the Carlton drama series *The Thing About Vince* with Timothy Spall. She also scored *No Tears* featuring Brenda Fricker which won the award for Best Mini-Series at the Monte-Carlo Television Festival in 2002.

As well as an impressive list of short films, Deborah has worked extensively for the BBC and Channel 4 on documentary series including *Wild Weather*, *Better Designs* and *Secrets of the Ancients*.

A student of the Royal Academy of Music, Mollison went on to study at UCLA, Lancaster University and finally gained her Phd in music. She has a body of classical work, which includes commissions from the London Philharmonic Orchestra and the Britten Sinfonia. In 2007 Deborah was awarded an ARAM from the Royal Academy of Music for her exceptional contribution to music in media.

RUBEN O'MALLEY Director of Photography

Ruben O'Malley is a DP and occasional director, known for his creative and character driven approach to camerawork. In all his work he tries to tell each character's story as the narrative demands. While honing his craft, Ruben tries to never forget the nature of the people and stories he's working with and treat them honestly and with affection. He's seen into the lives of people who never saw a lens before when he shot a doc in the middle of Sudan, and witnessed performances of people who make their lives around lenses in his feature work. He brings the same passion and dedication to both disciplines and sees them as strongly related when they are at the best. Whether the simple truth is in front of the lens, or a more complex relationship created by the filmmakers, it is best approached with care, precision and honesty.

He began his career as a lighting technician in San Francisco working at the highly prolific commercial house Colossal pictures, where he moved in to shooting old school animation and motion control for spots. It was here that he developed a keen eye for special effects and the precision needed to pull off footage for highly complex time lapse and composite work. After a few years Colossal's incredible attention to detail and complete creative freedom caught up with them. Ruben and many other talented people had to find a new way to work. Ruben worked for years after that as a union Camera Assistant on commercials in the Bay Area, before he shot his first feature Cutting Horse for his Larry Clark. After that Assisting became sidelined as he shot another feature (Max, 13) and numerous short pieces. A commitment to camerawork brought him to New York University, where he focused on shooting a number of award winning shorts, and his own documentary movie Go Army (about army recruiters right before 9/11). Since NYU, he's shot numerous features (For Real, Deceit, & Love Ludlow) and occasionally vacations in the television world where's he's photographed Queer Eye for the Straight Guy, Indy Sex ii and Fabulous for IFC among many other docs, commercials, music videos and shorts.

AMITABH SHUKLA Editor & Associate Producer

Amitabh Shukla is an award-winning film Editor based in Mumbai. A Graduate of the Film & Television Institute of India, Shukla holds a Masters in Business Administration from the Xavier Institute of Management, Bhubaneswar, majoring in Finance and Systems.

Shukla has edited some of the highest grossing Hindi cinema of the last decade including the award-winning films, 'CHAK DE INDIA', 'KRRISH', 'NAMASTE LONDON', 'PAHELI', 'CHALTE CHALTE' and many more. Due to his expertise in digital technology he is considered a leading resource in the area of film postproduction in India.

Shukla serves as Technical Head at Shah Rukh Khan's entertainment firm, Red Chillies International. He also serves as Visiting Faculty at the Department of Film Editing at the Film and Television Institute of India (FTII), Pune, India's premier graduate film school.

JULIE CARR Editor

Julie Carr is a New York based feature film editor. She began her editing career working on several features directed by Barbet Schroeder such as and KISS OF DEATH and MURDER BY NUMBERS. She has edited several features which were selected for the Sundance film festival including EVERGREEN and SLEEP DEALER . Carr also teaches an editing course at Columbia University. For Real is her first collaboration with Sona Jain.

ROLAND HEAP Sound Designer

Roland Heap is a London based Sound Editor and Designer. He started his film work as location mixer and sound designer on the Academy Award Nominated short film, 'The Little Terrorist' (Dir. Ashvin Kumar.) Since then he has worked on several projects including 'For Real' (Dir, Sona Jain), 'Things to See When You're Not looking' (Dir Yovi Bentovim and Emily Harris), 'Reconciliation' (Dir. Thomas Nerling), 'The Audio Scientist' (Dir. Peter Leontiades), 'Beyond the Forest' (Dir. Yovi Bentovim and Emily Harris), 'Aylesbury Compsite' (Dir. Harjinder Grewal), 'Exit' (Dir John Vandepurjie), 'Party at the End of the World' (Dir Matt Stevens), 'The Forest' (Dir. Ashvin Kumar), 'Rag Tag' (Dir Adaora Nwandu), 'The Ballad of Jamie Allam' (Live Opera, Composer John Harle) and more.

Heap began his career at Abbey Road Studios as an assistant engineer, where he specialized in film scoring and classical recording. Whilst there he worked on a diverse range of projects, from Hollywood blockbusters such as Lord of the Rings Trilogy and the Harry Potter movies to full scale studio opera recordings such as Tristan and Isolde. Working in the most technically advanced studio in the world gave him a solid audio grounding and musical training beyond his degree. He left the studio in 2005 and has since then worked on a range of projects as a sound recordist, designer and music engineer.

Heap holds a BMus (Tonmeister) in Music and Sound Recording from the University of Surrey.

ARUN CHAUDHARY Location Sound Mixer

Arun Chaudhary is a filmmaker working in politics. He was a key member of Barack Obama's New Media team during the presidential campaign and transition period. As the New Media Road Director, Arun oversaw the team responsible for capturing the day-to-day life of the future president in video and stills. He traveled with the candidate on his plane, filming both public events and behind-the-scenes moments.

He and his team have set a new standard in documenting history, delivering crucial images to the public from the road in real time using consumer-grade computers and cameras. They often posted their footage online within minutes of shooting it.

Before joining the Obama team, Arun worked in fiction film in New York as a writer, director, location sound recordist, post-production sound designer, and film critic. For five years, he was part of the NYU Graduate Film Department faculty. He got his MFA in Filmmaking from NYU and his BA in Film Theory from Cornell University.

His work documenting the Obama campaign has been featured in the National Journal, Fortune Magazine Online, and as part of the Frog Design Mind Series. He currently lives in Washington, D.C., with his wife, Laura Moser, and their son, Leo.

JOSH GREEN Associate Producer

Green currently serves as the VP, Distribution for Emerging Pictures. Green acts as a sales agent/producer's rep and is responsible for securing distribution (i.e. theatrical, home video, pay TV, network television, cable, foreign, etc.) for films either produced or represented by Emerging Pictures. On films for which Emerging Pictures acts as a distributor-for-hire for theatrical release, he plans and manages the distribution campaigns.

During his tenure at Emerging, Green has worked on more than 40 films including: Tanya Wexler's DVD Premiere Award Winner "Ball in the House" (Screen Media/Universal and Showtime); Milos Forman and Adam Davidson's festival award-winner "Way Past Cool" (Artisan); Nina Seavey's Emmy-nominated documentary "The Ballad of Bering Strait" (Emerging Pictures, Country Music Television and Koch Lorber Films); Oscar-nominated filmmaker Paola di Florio's critically acclaimed documentary "Home of the Brave" (Emerging Pictures, Court TV and Home Vision/Image); and Eric Weber and Joe Pantoliano's Sundance title "Second Best" (ThinkFilm).

Green has been a key part of recent film sales which include Roger Paradiso's "Tony N' Tina's Wedding," loosely based on the Off-Broadway hit, which will be released by ThinkFilm in the Spring of 2006; Georgia Lee's festival favorite "Red Doors"; which was just sold to Polychrome Pictures and Warner Home Video, also expected to be released this Spring; and Kief Davidson's award-winning documentary "The Devil's Miner," which was sold to First Run Features for another expected theatrical release this Spring.

Green is also a frequent speaker at film industry panels, workshops and other festival events including those for the Independent Feature Project (IFP), Stonestreet Studios, Columbia Alumni Club and Columbia Business School, MBA Media Conference, [the] Long Island Film Expo, [the] New York Filipino Film Festival, and [the] New York Latino Film Festival.

Green began his entertainment industry career in financial planning and analysis at In Demand, the nation's largest pay-per-view network. He holds an MBA from Columbia Business School, and an undergraduate degree from Cornell University.

UDAYAN BAIJAL Associate Producer

Udayan Baijal is a filmmaker, Assistant Director and Post Production Editing supervisor. He has worked as Assistant Editor on the Academy Award winning *Slumdog Millionaire* (Dir, Danny Boyle). His Assistant Director credits include *Eat, Pray, Love* (Dir. Ryan Murphy), *Bollywood Hero* (Prod. IFC), *The Last Days of the Raj* (Dir. Mark Hayhurst, Prod. Channel 4), *Broken Thread* (Dir Mahesh Mathai, Prod Deepak Nayar) and others. He is the Associate Producer on the independent feature film, *For Real* (Dir. Sona Jain).

Udayan's writing and directing credits including *A Moment of Respect* (Finalist, Berlin Talent Campus, India 2004), *Travis* (2003), *The Cockroach* (2004), *The Two Executioners* (2004), *Trivial Pursuit* (2005).

Udayan holds a Bachelor in Arts Degree (History, Honors) from St Stephen's College, Delhi University and a Masters in Mass Communication from MCRC, Jamia Millia Islamia University. He was the 2007 recipient of the prestigious INLAKS Scholarship by the INLAKS Foundation.

TAUFIQ QURESHI Assistant Music Director

Taufiq Qureshi, an ace percussionist of India, is also an acclaimed composer. Being the son and disciple of the legendary tabla maestro Ustad Allarakha; Taufiq's performances showcase the traditional flavour and intricacies of Indian rhythm, interwoven with his phenomenal command and sparkle of contemporary world percussions.

Taufiq's trademark style incorporates body and vocal percussions to create unique rhythmic motifs spanning across cultures. His sense of tone and his command over a wide variety of percussion instruments and styles is commendable.

Taufiq's albums have been released world over and he has performed at prestigious music festivals all over the globe. Taufiq has been featured as a performing artiste on the 2009- Grammy award winning album 'Global Drum Project'. Taufiq's album 'Rhythun' amongst others is said to have set new standards for world music in India. Taufiq Qureshi is the worthy torchbearer of a rich legacy of percussion, being the son and disciple of the legendary Ustad Allarakha and brother of the maestro Ustad Zakir Hussain. Taufiq has been greatly influenced by his illustrious brother, Ustad Zakir Hussain and is privileged to receive guidance from Ghatam Vidhwan, Pandit Vikku Vinayakram. After a long and arduous journey of over twenty years, Taufiq continues to evolve as a percussionist in the ever- inspiring world of live-audience performances. By virtue of his amazing versatility as a percussionist and as a composer of sorts he has carved himself a special niche in the field of world music and is fondly referred to as: Prince of Percussion.

GAURAV DHINGRA Line Producer

Gaurav's tryst with media began in a somewhat dramatic fashion when in 2001, he decided to go to Mumbai and learn the ropes as a struggler in the Hindi Film Industry. He joined a production house as a Light Boy and worked on more than 150 advertisements. Before long, he caught the attention of Kaleidoscope founder, Bobby Bedi, who asked Gaurav to join his outfit in the Production department. Since then, Gaurav has gone on to work on Feature Films including Saathiya, American Daylight, The Rising - The Ballad of Mangal Pandey and Rang De Basanti. He has also worked on Pandora Films' Valley of Flowers and on 'Delhi – 6' and 'For Real.' Gaurav has been the primary Facilitator for international productions such as CBS' 'The Amazing Race' (Seasons 7, 12, 13 & 14), AXN's 'The Amazing Race – Asia' and BBC's 'The Search'. Most recently, he was appointed Line Producer for Disney's Indian production, 'The 19th Step'.

Gaurav holds a Bachelors in Commerce from University of Delhi, and a Post Graduate Degree in Film and television from the School of Convergence.

RICKY SAXENA Unit Production Manager

Ricky Saxena currently serves as the Associate Vice President – Production Management and Operations for Colosseum Media Pvt. Ltd. He is one of the leading production professionals in the Indian television industry, specializing in production of reality formats such as MTV Roadies, The Amazing Race, MTV Stunt Mania, BBC's highly awarded show BBC Wheels, Romance Adventure Aap Aur Hum (R.A.A.A.H) and Haath Se Haath Mila. He has been associated with brands like MTV, BBC, Miditech, AXN, Viacom 18 and more.

Ricky is an alumina from National Institute of Advertising and holds a Masters degree in Political Science. His production work for Feature Films includes 'For Real' and 'Mangal Pandey.'

RAJ ACHARYA FIRST ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Raj Acharya is a Mumbai-based First Assistant Director, who won the 2009 DGA Award for Outstanding Directorial Achievement in Motion Picture with Danny Boyle, for the multiple Academy award-winning film, SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE. He has served as First Assistant Director on the films like EAT, PRAY, LOVE (Dir. Ryan Murphy, Prod. Brad Pitt and Dede Gardner), THE WAY BACK (Dir. Peter Weir. Prod. Scott Rudin Productions), FOR REAL (Dir. Sona Jain), BOLLYWOOD HERO (Prod. IFC), SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (Dir. Danny Boyle, Prod. Celador), ONE NIGHT WITH THE KING (Dir. Michael O. Sajbel), MISTRESS OF SPICES (Dir. Paul Mayeda Berges, Prod. Gurinder Chadha, Deepak Nayar) and many more. He is currently developing his Directorial debut feature titled PROJECT X.