

RODRIGUE HAMMAL, Filmmaker

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LINKS

www.rodriguehammal.com

PROFILE

The reason I make films is because I have something to say.

I have over 17 years of experience in the film industry, which have taught me to meet the various needs within the stages of production by being highly adaptable and versatile. Throughout my career, I gained a wide array of skills across many formats, from short films, webs series, to documentaries, TV shows and corporate content. Fluent in four languages (English, French, Arabic and Italian), I was able to access different markets and audiences across the Middle East, North Africa, Europe and Latin America.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

SHORT FILM

2013 — 2021

“The Bridge” | Director |

A drama Indie short film about suicide, and how far someone would go to save another person's life.

“Where Was I?” | Writer - Director - Editor |

An intimate journey inspired by my confinement experience during the Covid-19 lock-down. While being stuck in Saudi Arabia, I wrote and shot this film which tells the story of Alma, a woman confined in her hotel room pondering on her own life. The project is currently in the post-production phase.

“In 2 Words” | Writer - Director - Editor |

A romantic comedy about two strangers who accidentally meet on New Year's Eve and share a random conversation that would change their lives forever.

“We Were There” | Writer - Director - Editor |

Shot on a smart phone, and originally conceived as a mini web series, this project was assembled as a short film. It's an homage to Beirut through the true story of my parents, whose paths have crossed at the most critical period of the city's history. Selected at the Toronto Arab Film Festival (TAFF) 2020.

“Family Ties” | Writer - Director - Producer - Editor |

This indie black comedy and thriller uses Lebanese urban religious myths to explore how parents feed on the element of suggestive fear to discipline their children. Winner at Best Shorts Awards in 2014, and selected at the following festivals: International Film Awards Berlin (IFAB) 2014; International Film Festival of Cinematic Arts (IFFCA Los Angeles) 2014; LA Indie Film Festival 2014; Thriller Chiller Film Festival 2014 and VOB Film Festival 2014.

2014 — 2017

WEB SERIES

“The Little Drop” (Season I – II – III) | Co-Writer – Director |

A thrilling web series that speaks about the young generation struggling to overcome the repercussions of the Arab Spring, and to strive in a world threatened by corruption and the misuse of religion. From the research and writing process all the way to filming and editing, I worked closely with all the departments of the production, bringing to life a successful and controversial project that gathered during a 3 seasons span, over 18 million of views on YouTube.

“The Peacemakers” | Co-Writer - Director |

A drama web series, inspired by true events which portrays the separate fates of Syrian characters colliding in intertwining plots of struggle and loss and during the ongoing war. We were faced with the challenge of recreating and filming a foreign reality in Lebanon and tackling a sensitive topic as the conflict was happening. The project has not been released yet.

2007 — 2022

DOCUMENTARIES

“Anatomy of a Warrior - Steve Nijjar Story” | Writer - Director - Editor |

A biopic feature documentary about an immigrant who moved to Canada in early 70s, and battled against racism and all odds to become a professional soccer player, actor and a successful businessman.

Over the course of 5 years, I created, developed and directed various anthology series of documentaries across Lebanon, Qatar and The UAE tackling different topics and subjects about success stories, pioneering business women, expats, race, urban and emotional landmarks.

“In the Shades of Doha” || “Passion Rules” - Season 1 and 2 || “Memory of a Place” || “Foreigners”

TV SHOWS**“The Mall” | Creative Director | Client: SBC TV**

Fourteen Saudi contestants are isolated in a shopping mall without money or possibility to communicate with the outside world. I developed the original format, managed an editorial team of 17 people, and followed up with the technical crew to bring to life this unique show.

“The Quest” | Creative Director | Client: DUBAI TV

Across the seven Emirates of the UAE, thirteen teams from the Arab world compete against each other in a series of physical challenges and riddles. I supervised each stage of the production, from conceiving the idea to creating the games, recruiting the editorial team, to filming and delivering all 13 episodes to the client.

“Wipe Out” | Story Producer | Produced by “Endemol ME” for MBC

In this reality competition, contestants try to navigate an extreme obstacle course with one competitor taking home a \$50,000 prize each week. The filming was set in Buenos Aires, Argentina and the post-production took place in Beirut.

“Ton of Cash” | Story Producer | Produced by “Endemol ME” for Abu Dhabi TV

Billed as the largest scale reality TV show in the Arab world, “Ton of Cash” was shot on location in the UAE and Oman over 60 days, in harsh weather conditions. During the shoot, I followed closely the steps of the game, highlighted the conflicts between the candidates with thorough interviews, and assembled a full outline of the 90 min episode which was edited weeks later in Beirut.

“Dr Chef” | Content Producer |

Shot in Lebanon for MBC4 (KSA), this morning show sheds the light on the inseparable relation between health, medicine and sports, to provide a healthy lifestyle

“Tekkroom” | Director |

After 4 successful seasons, I was asked to direct 42 episodes of a show centered on the latest technologies and inventions around the globe. Shot in Lebanon, UAE and Berlin for Abu Dhabi TV.

“The X-Factor” (Ar Version – Season 1 & 2) | Story Producer | Client: Rotana TV**“The Biggest Loser” (Ar Version - Season 1) | Story Editor | Client: MBC****CORPORATE FILMS****“Make the Cut” | Copywriter – Director |**

A Hair Donation Campaign, commissioned by “OneWigStand”, as an incentive for women to donate their hair and create high-quality wigs for chemotherapy patients.

“Al Siyaha Tuthri” (Tourism is Enriching) | Writer – Director |

Commissioned by Bahrain Ministry of Tourism and Culture, as part of a launching campaign for “Bahrain, Capital of Tourism 2013”. The Shooting was in Manama and the post-production took place in Lebanon.

“Sar Dawrik” (Now, It’s Your Turn) | Writer – Director |

Commissioned by the Lebanese Presidential office of the First Lady, this film sheds the light on the global warming issue and encourages women to apply for the 2010 municipalities elections in Lebanon.

“Neonate Films” | Director – Editor |

Commissioned by “The Neonate Fund” for their annual gala fundraising event, to provide financial assistance to families with newborns in need of specialized medical care.

EDUCATION

2002 — 2005

Bachelor Degree in Filmmaking, Académie Libanaise des Beaux Arts (alba)

Beirut, Lebanon

Thesis: Policies of Cinema censorship in Lebanon

SKILLS

Adobe Premiere Pro

Celtx

Languages:

Avid Media Composer

Keynote

English, French, Arabic, Italian

Final Cut Pro

Knowledge of MS Office

Adobe Photoshop