

# Hammad Khan

## Writer, Director, Producer

Hammad Khan is a London-based filmmaker with several short films and two features under his belt. His first short film *Samovar*, about disaffected youth on the Afghanistan-Pakistan border was nominated for Best International Short Film at the Raindance Film Festival.

*Explosions*, a lottery-funded UK drama set in the wake of the 7/7 London bombings explored themes of

Islamophobia and the power of cricket, and premiered at the 50<sup>th</sup> London Film Festival. It was also nominated for the Satyajit Ray Short Film Award.



For his first feature, Khan directed microbudget coming-of-age indie drama *Slackistan*— replacing smalltown America with the sleepy capital city of Islamabad in Pakistan. The film garnered unprecedented international media attention for a foreign film of its smallness, with write-ups in *The Guardian*, a two-page centrefold in *Metro*, and veteran critic Howard Feinstein describing it in *Filmmaker* magazine as ‘one of the best films I saw at Cannes’, where it was marketed and picked up for global distribution by Cinetic Media. The film was subsequently banned by Pakistan’s film censor board.

The filmmaker followed his debut with a surrealist satire on media and violence in Pakistan- *Anima State*. A masked gunman goes on a killing spree and can’t get arrested, so he strikes a unique deal with a 24-hour news channel. A more experimental cult narrative film ‘Anima State’ had underground screenings in Pakistan and played at the Fantasia Festival in Montreal, Tromso, Budapest, at the London Indian Film Festival, and finally had a special LSFF screening at the Institute of Contemporary Arts in London.

Khan is a truly independent filmmaker who is known to write, direct, shoot, edit, produce and even distribute his own work. Whilst making his films on the fringes of the film industry, Khan has spent 15 years watching all types of films and videos as a resident Film Examiner at the British Board of Film Classification (BBFC).

He currently has several short and feature-length projects in both development and in production.

### **Slackistan (2010)**



### **Anima State (2013)**



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