

Syed Asad Raza Abidi

Film Director · Editor · Founder of Cinegma Films

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Karachi, Pakistan

PROFILE

Pakistani filmmaker and editor with a BS in Film & TV from Indus University, Karachi. Founder of Cinegma Films, an independent production banner focused on narrative-driven Pakistani cinema. Best known for *Janjaal*, a 23-minute thriller that earned 14 international awards and 22 global selections across Pakistan, India, Canada, Scotland, Turkey, Kosovo, the USA, Iran, and Spain, including a theatrical release at Arena Cinemas on January 2025, Karachi. Skilled in direction, editing, color grading, VFX, and sound design.

DIRECTED FILMS

Janjaal (Tussle)

2024–25

Director · Editor

23-minute Urdu-language thriller starring Shamoos Abbasi, DOP Ghayas Uddin Siddiqui. Theatrical release at Arena Cinemas, Karachi (Jan 2024). Shot in 34 hours across 2 days.

14 awards · 22 global selections · Best Short Film, Toronto Fantasy/Sci-Fi Film Festival 2026

Portrait of Life

2025

Writer · Director · Editor

Thesis film. A painter struggles to portray his wife the way he once did. Official selection at Anymusic Film Festival, Spain and nominated for Best Trailer at TMFF Scotland.

Thesis Film · Global Selections

Mother (Maa)

2022

Writer · Director · Editor · DOP

A mother's prayer defies death to save her son. Official selections in Iran, Egypt, and the United States.

Winner — Cinephilia Flair IFF Pakistan · Global Selections

Zawaal

2026 — Upcoming

Director · Editor

Dark psychological thriller set in Karachi. Currently in production under Cinegma Films.

In Production

Payam e Dil

2026 — Upcoming

Associate Director

A family drama set in the posh area of Karachi. Short film.

In Production

A Soldier Beside Me

2026 — Upcoming

Director of Photography

A story between two soldiers questioning each other's fate. Short film.

In Production

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Year	Award	Festival	Country	Film
2026	Best Short Film	Toronto Fantasy/Sci-Fi Film Festival	Canada	Janjaal
2026	Best Director	Cedar Film Festival	Pakistan	Janjaal
2026	Best Film	Cedar Film Festival	Pakistan	Janjaal
2026	Best Short Film	Cedar Film Festival	Pakistan	Janjaal
2025–26	Best Director	Gandhara Independent Film Festival (GIFF)	Pakistan	Janjaal
2025–26	Best Short Film	Gandhara Independent Film Festival (GIFF)	Pakistan	Janjaal

2025	Best Director	Indus Film Festival (IFF)	Pakistan	Janjaal
2025	Best Director	Kolkata International Short Film Festival (KISFF)	India	Janjaal
2025	Best Short Film	Kolkata International Short Film Festival (KISFF)	India	Janjaal
2025	Best Short Film	Pakistan International Film Festival (PIFF)	Pakistan	Janjaal
2025	Best Trailer Award	The Monthly Film Festival (TMFF)	Scotland	Janjaal
2025	Best Editing Award	IU Film Fest	Pakistan	—
2025	Best Director	Cinephilia Flair IFF Season 06	Pakistan	—
2024	Best Short Film	Cinephilia Flair International Film Festival	Pakistan	Mother

OFFICIAL SELECTIONS

Festival	Country	Film
Islamabad International Film Festival (IIFF)	Turkey	Janjaal
Kosovo Young Filmmakers Festival (KYFF)	Kosovo	Janjaal
Toronto Fantasy/Sci-Fi Film Festival (TFSFS)	Canada	Janjaal
Urbanite Art & Film Festival — Finalist (UAFF)	USA / New York	Janjaal
Gandhara Independent Film Festival (GIFF)	Pakistan	Janjaal
Sobh International Media Festival	Iran	Mother
Egyptian American Film Festival	USA	Mother
Anymusic Film Festival	Spain	Portrait of Life
TMFF Scotland — Nominee, Best Trailer	Scotland	Portrait of Life

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Founder & Director — Cinegma Films LLC Jan 2024 – Present
 Independent production banner focused on Pakistani narrative short cinema. Led creative direction, production, editing and post-production across all projects.

Film Director & Editor — Burrak Organization / Silverlight Studios Jun 2021 – Present
 Directed and edited all short films under Burrak's Silverlight Studios. Led a creative team producing emotionally resonant, narrative-driven Islamic content.

Filmmaker & Editor — Silverlight Studios Mar 2021 – Present
 Post-production of 4K RAW footage from Iran-based productions. Color grading, compositing, and VFX remotely.

Colorist — MediaLine Mar 2022 – Nov 2022
 Color correction and grading for short films, ads, and podcasts using DaVinci Resolve.

Senior Video Editor — The World Federation of KSMC Apr 2022 – Jun 2022
 Senior video editor for WF's visual content and media campaigns. Remote.

2D Animator — (Australia Agency) Feb 2021 – Dec 2021
 Educational animations, content editing, and VFX for Iranian TV and social platforms. Remote.

EDUCATION

BS Film & TV — Indus University, Karachi	2021 – 2025
F.Sc. Pre-Engineering — Comprehensive Boys College	2017 – 2020
Diploma, Computer & IT — Hasani College of Technology	2019 – 2020

CORE SKILLS

Film Direction	Film Editing Scriptwriting	Color Grading (DaVinci Resolve)	
Cinematography	Sound Design (5.1 Surround)	VFX & Compositing	2D Animation
After Effects	Post-Production Management	Casting & Production	Motion Graphics

LINKS

IMDb [imdb.com/title/tt35505024](https://www.imdb.com/title/tt35505024)

YouTube [youtube.com/c/SyedAsad](https://www.youtube.com/c/SyedAsad)

FilmFreeway [filmfreeway.com/SyedAsad](https://www.filmfreeway.com/SyedAsad)

Instagram [instagram.com/asadsyed711](https://www.instagram.com/asadsyed711)