

Sabina England

Filmmaker, Playwright, ASL Poet & Performance Artist



sabina@sabinaengland.com
SabinaEngland.com

EDUCATION

London Film Academy, London, UK— *Certificate in Filmmaking*

2003

I took a Certificate Course in summer of 2003 to learn about directing, screenwriting, creating storyboards, editing, lighting, and sound design. I studied under teachers like Brian Blamey, the sound editor of *A Clockwork Orange*.

University of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri— *B.A in Theatre*

August 2002-December 2006

I studied Theatre with an Emphasis on Playwriting. I also took classes on World Theatre History, Dramaturgy, Costume Design, Set Design & Construction, World Cinema, African American Film Studies, and British Poetry & Literature.

FILMS

“Wild Whispers: New Mexico” (2017/2018) — *Actor, Director, Producer*

I shot & edited the video in New Mexico, and I performed an Afrikaans poem with Navajo voice over. The project received funding from the Arts Council of England. The film will screen at poetry festivals in the UK starting in the spring of 2018. More details will be provided upon request.

“Deaf Brown Gurl” (2014) — *Actor, Writer, Director, Producer*

I shot, edited, wrote & performed the video in Bihar, India. The film is on Youtube & has been shown at various galleries and festivals. Some examples include (but not limited to):

- Fierce Poetry in Motion screenings in Glasgow, Scotland (2017-18, ongoing)
- Deaf People of Color exhibition at University of California, Northridge (Fall 2016)

“Wedding Night” (2010) — *Writer, Director, Producer*

I wrote, directed and produced my first narrative short film. My film was

AWARDS

St. Louis Visionary Awards
Emerging Artist of 2016

British Muslim Awards 2018
(Nominated)

LANGUAGES

English, Spanish, American
Sign Language

shown at various festivals and galleries around the world. Most notable examples include (but not limited to):

- Tribeca Cinemas, New York City (New York Indian Film Festival, 2011)
- Toronto International Deaf Film & Arts Festival, Toronto, Canada (2011)
- International Documentary & Shorts Film Festival, Kerala, India (2011)

OTHER FILM WORKS

(Links will be provided upon request. I wrote, directed, shot, edited & performed all of these videos. These videos have received screenings at various galleries, festivals around Europe and USA)

Allah Save the Punk!

I wrote, performed, shot & edited this video. It is a silent comedy video about right-wing Islamic fundamentalism, terrorism, and punk rock in Pakistan. Famous movie critic Roger Ebert watched the video, loved it & discussed it in his newsletter, The Ebert Club. That is one of the best highlights of my career.

Poema 15: A Poem by Pablo Neruda

I shot, edited & performed this video, based on a poem by Pablo Neruda. Performed in American Sign Language with Spanish voice-over and English subtitles.

Allah Earth: Costa Rica

I wrote, performed, shot & edited this video in Costa Rica. Performed in American Sign Language with English voice-over.

Namaaz Ki Udasi: Prayers of Sorrow

I wrote, performed, shot & edited this video. Silent film with no dialogue.

Seasons: Mawsam

I wrote, performed, shot & edited this video. It is about the four seasons interweaved with Urdu words for each season. It displays beautiful Urdu calligraphy and American Sign Language. Silent experimental film performed in American Sign Language.

***The Friendship Game* (animated silent film)**

I animated the whole video using 8-bit pixel art to imitate 1980s and early 90s videogames that I grew up playing. It took me about a month to work on it. It's a video-game style mock-up with a story about racism, xenophobia, and friendship.

***Into the Woods, Love is Death* (in ASL only)**

I wrote, performed, shot & edited this video. Silent experimental poetry film performed in American Sign Language.

***Of Winter's Beauty* (silent film)**

I wrote, performed, shot & edited this video. Silent experimental film with no dialogue.

***A Vampire in India* (silent film)**

I wrote, performed, shot & edited this video. It is a silent comedy film about a vetala (vampire) in India.

PLAYS

I have written a few stage plays that received professional productions, workshop readings, and/or staged readings. Note: ACE stands for the Arts Council of England.

***How the Rapist was Born* — One-Act play written by Sabina England**

- Workshop Readings in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago
- Tristan Bates Theatre, London UK (with funding by ACE)
- Soho Theatre, London, UK (with funding by ACE)
- East 15 Acting School, Essex, UK

***Chess for Asian Punks, Greek Losers, and Dorks* — One-Act play written by Sabina England**

- Theatre Royal Stratford East, London, UK (with funding by ACE)
- Corner Playhouse, Columbia, Missouri

PERFORMANCES

Note: I was accepted to perform and present my own show at the 2016 St. Louis Fringe Festival, but due to my spouse's unexpected passing, I had to withdraw from the festival and I did not perform at all in 2016-2017. I wanted to explain the lack of performances for 2016-17.

***“Allah Earth: The Cycle of Life”* (Multimedia ASL Poetry)**

St. Louis Deaf Visual Arts Festival, April 2018 (Florissant Valley Community College, St. Louis)

DEAFinitions Conference, March 2018 (Hampshire College, Amherst, MA)

Tucson Fringe Theatre Festival, January 2018 (Exploded View, Tucson, AZ)

***“The Age of Glam”* (Master of Ceremonies)**

Festival fundraiser, March 2016

St. Louis Fringe Festival

Attitudes Nightclub, St. Louis, MO

***“Allah Earth: The Cycle of Life”* (Multimedia ASL Poetry)**

University of Washington, April 2015

Deaf & Disability Awareness Month

Seattle, Washington

***“After Drowning: A New Woman”* (ASL poetry)**

Literature on the Halibut, May 2014

Midwest Mayhem Festival

The City Museum, St. Louis, MO

"Deaf Brown Gurl"/ "Ugly Beautiful Brown White" (ASL Poetry)

Be(coming) Desi in America exhibition, March 2014
Subcontinental Drift / Beyond Bollywood Festival
The Fridge, Washington, D.C

"Alice in Fringeland" (Stage Play)

Five Fifths, March 2014
St. Louis Fringe Festival
Kranzberg Arts Center, St. Louis, MO

"Allah Earth" (ASL poetry and mime)

Taste of Fringe, October 2013
St. Louis Fringe Festival
Parc Frontenac, St. Louis, MO

"Allah Earth" (ASL poetry and mime)

Venus Envy, August 2013
Cherokee Performing Arts Center, St. Louis, MO

"Deaf Brown Gurl," "N.A.P.s," "Chi-Town Glory" (ASL Poetry)

PRIDE Fest, June 2013
Soldiers' Memorial, Downtown St. Louis, St. Louis, MO

"Deaf Brown Gurl," "N.A.P.s," "Chi-Town Glory" (ASL Poetry)

Haberdashery Revue, May 2013
St. Louis Fringe Festival
Westgate Lofts, St. Louis, MO

"Kismet" (Musical Performance with Mime and Dance)

Generation 2013 exhibition, March 2013
RAW: Natural Born Artists
The Coliseum, St. Louis, MO

"A Different Story," "Lux Ascension" (Musical Performance with Mime and Dance)

St. Lou Fringe Festival, June 2012
Kranzberg Arts Center, St. Louis, MO

"The Vagina Monologues" (Stage Play)

Deaf, Inc. Fundraier, April 2012
Ivory Theatre, St. Louis, MO

"Ugly Beautiful Brown White" (ASL Poetry & Video)

Yoni Ki Baat, March/April 2012
Women's Building, San Francisco, CA