



JOSH APPIGNANESI

THE INFIDEL

Josh Appignanesi is best known for his dark feature, *Song of Songs*, which took viewers inside London's orthodox Jewish community. Now *The Infidel* is an introspective journey into the cultural background of a Muslim man.

For Appignanesi, the film is semi-autobiographical: "I come from a mixed family; when you see that in the film, that's me," he says. "This is a story about a guy who's fairly comfortable in the role of Dad and husband, and sort of 'more-or-less Muslim' and suddenly, all of those roles are thrown into question."

The Infidel scored a distribution deal of more than 50 screenings: "It's done very well for a low-budget little indie," he says.

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DEV BENEAL

ROAD, MOVIE

As a teenager, Dev Benegal ran away from home to become an apprentice with an independent filmmaker. Now, Benegal makes his TFF debut with his film *Road, Movie*. Benegal took an irregular approach when making *Road, Movie*, writing the film in a mere ten days. On the set, Benegal and crew simply let the film happen. "We just decided that's how we were going to make the film," Benegal says. "No script, no call sheet, no schedules. We'd go out and discover the film we wanted to make."

Benegal knows his film is not a typical Bollywood production. "It's very exciting to see audiences watching the film, since it doesn't have the songs and dances that you typically see in Indian films."

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BRIAN HILL

CLIMATE OF CHANGE

Brian Hill's debut, *Climate of Change*, departs from the darkness of his past work: "I thought, 'Wouldn't it be great if I could make a film about really great people who are actually working to make a positive change in the world?'"

Climate of Change was shot on location around the world, and stories abound: "In India, one impoverished 13-year old girl was quoting Wordsworth and talking about the ephemeral joys of materialism," Hill says. "I just thought, 'Wow. If these kids were in charge, there would be no problems.'"

As for the impact Hill wants to have, "I would like people to feel that it's not hopeless, that actually taking small actions will make a difference."

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TARIK SALEH

METROPIA

Saleh draws inspiration for his latest stark vision from many sources. "A lot of artists and writers have been influential when it comes to *Metropia*, Kafka and El Greco, to name a few."

The director realizes his medium is rapidly affected by technology. "I try not to judge what's happening with distribution and the internet because it's going to happen anyway. It's extremely interesting how people are watching films today."

"My film doesn't look like anything anyone has seen," Saleh says. "I want people to feel like they're waking up from a dream. But that the dream was their dream, that it was personal."

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