

## MAYOOR SCHOOL, AJMER

## ABHIMANYU KANODIA

## **CLASS OF 2007**



Born at Ajmer, Rajasthan on 31st December, 1988. After completing class 12th from Mayoor School Aimer, he moved to Mumbai (India), to take up Chartered Accountancy course and completed it in year 2013. He completed his 3.5-year CA Articleship period from a Big Four- Deloitte, Mumbai and was an integral part of Statutory Audit Team for companies like Cadbury India Limited, Jindal Steel Works etc.

In 2013, he joined Mumbai based film school, Whistling Woods International to study filmmaking. He graduated in July 2015 with a major in Film Direction.

An award-winning film director and writer, his debut short film KATHAKAAR, featuring Piyush Mishra in the lead role has achieved a rare feat of being a Semi-Finalist in the Foreign

Narrative category of the 43rd Annual Student Academy Awards, Oscars, 2016. Among 1,749 films that were submitted to the Student Academy this year, Kathakaar made it in roughly the top 5% of all films submitted. The film also qualified as a Finalist at the Jio Filmfare Short Film Awards, 2017. Kathakaar has bagged prestigious awards at renowned film festivals such as 5th Vancouver International South Asian Film Festival- 2015, 5th Washington D.C. South Asian Film Festival, Washington D.C. - 2016, II International Motivational Film Festival, Russia- 2015 and 6th Jagran Film Festival, Mumbai -2015. On top of that it has won 20 awards including 3 international awards and has been officially selected in more than 30 film festivals across the globe.





In 2015, Abhimanyu was selected to participate in an international film making program called Looking China, jointly established by Beijing Normal University and International Data Group (IDG), the Institute for International Communication of Chinese Culture. Abhimanyu travelled to Xiamen, China and stayed there for a period of 16 days in July, 2015, at the Xiamen University and made a short documentary titled BEYOND THE TIDES. The documentary was officially selected and screened at the Chinese American Film Festival, 2015, held in California, USA. It was also screened at Xiamen University, China.

In 2017, he made it in the **top three young directors of India**, during the country wide hunt by **MTV INDIA**. He was commissioned a short film by MTV powered by HP Laptops and was mentored by Radhika Apte. The film premiered on MTV India's TV Channel along with Abhimanyu's Interview with Radhika Apte.



Abhimanyu went on to make some of the extremely successful and acclaimed professional short films, Jangle Bells (2015), Queen of Hearts (2016), MTV Abhineta (2017), Truce (2019), Tape: A Love Story (2020), Sau Gram Zindagi (2020), Tera Yaar Hu Main (2020), Meri Pehli Bike (2020), Nice to MeetYou(2020).

He has also made three acclaimed short documentaries- NOOR-E-MAYOOR (2022), Rajesh Deewana (2017) & Beyond the Tides (2015) and many successful Music Videos like Tum Bhi Na (2016), Kahe Koi Aansoo (2020), Tera Kya Hota x Nene Lekunte Mashup (2020) and O Bandeya (2020). He has also worked as a director on various TV Commercials/Brand films.

In January 2021, he directed a Web Series for Dice Media titled, FIRSTS: SEASON 5.

His films have been selected in over **65 international and national film festivals**, winning over **30 awards**. The combined YouTube, Facebook and Instagram views of all his work stands at more than **30 million**.

Recently, Abhimanyu has made his first featurette documentary film **Main Thansu Dur Nahi (2023)** on the life and legacy of Maharaja Hanwant Singh of Jodhpur! The film was officially selected for the competition section at one of the most prestigious film festivals of India- the **18th Mumbai International Film Festival 2024 organized by the National Films Development Corporation of India (NFDC), I&B <b>Ministry, Government of India.** 

Abhimanyu has successfully collaborated with renowned film and media personalities like Piyush Mishra, Radhika Apte, Manoj Bajpai, Darshan Jariwala, Smita Jayakar, Namit Das, Monali Thakur, Sumeet Vyas, Manasi Parekh, Vipin Sharma, Vatsal Sheth, Mukti Mohan, Smita Bansal, Saurabh Dubey, Deepti Devi, Priya Banerjee and Shruti Vyas on various projects. He has worked with Mr. Subhash Ghai's film production company Mukta Arts Ltd, MTV India, Voot, Hotstar, Dice Media, The Zoom Studios, Scroll India, Songfest India, Being Indian, Hungama, Looking China on various projects.







Abhimanyu is also an educationist and has *written and directed* **10 hours of online Direction Course Material** for Whistling Woods International's online learning platform 'WWI VIRTUAL ACADEMY'.

Abhimanyu Kanodia is also a *guest faculty* at **Whistling Woods International**, for imparting *lectures* on various aspects of Film **Writing and Directing**.

Abhimanyu has conducted **Filmmaking Talks & Workshops** across India at prestigious schools like Mayoor School Ajmer, Mayo College Ajmer, Sunshine Worldwide School Goa, Oberoi International School, Mumbai to name a few.

He was invited as a **Judge** on various prestigious film festivals like The Mumbai Fest, International Short Film Festival and Film General Championship at **IIT Mumbai**.













