Ibad Hasan

sh6103@nyu.edu | **Youtube** | **Instagram** | **Portfolio**

Interdisciplinary researcher, filmmaker, and writer working between analogue and digital forms. Obsessed with the energies of words and the ways images move as a language, my work spans fiction filmmaking, documentary methods, archival research, and cyanotype experimentation, social media, writing for branding and communication across sectors,

EDUCATION

August 2020 - May 2024

New York University | Abu Dhabi, UAE

- *Bachelor of Arts* in Film and New Media; coursework in Literature and Creative Writing; GPA: 3.92
- Awards: Recipient of $300,000+ worth scholarship; NYU Founder's Day Award; CDC Summer Grant; Summer Film Grant
- Relevant Coursework: Feature Writing, Advanced Creative Writing, Intermediate Creative Writing, Docufiction, Foundations of Literature, Cinematography, Advanced Filmmaking, Immersive Audio Storytelling, Archives Methods and Screens, Creative Industries

FILMOGRAPHY, EXHIBITIONS AND SCREENINGS

Trombaywala & Sons

Karachi | July-August 2026

(Non-fiction/ Video Art Installation) | *Director of Photography*

- Produced and directed the Karachi leg of the filming under the long-distance conceptual direction of artists Bani Abidi and Priya Sen
- Documented various corners of the city's coastal strip, including the fishing villages of Ibrahim Hyderi, Baba Island and Bhitt Island, Hawke's Bay, Seaview, Mubarak Village, the Moriro Graves, Daryalal Mandir, Khwaja Khizar's thikana and the Native Jetty Bridge, along with other shrines of coastal communities in Karachi
- Interviewed Majeed Motani, a long-time fisherman and community activist from Ibrahim Hyderi; Toxy Cowasjee, member of the historic Cowasjee family of the shipping company of the same name; Sabzal Baloch, a member of the Zikri community at Mubarak Village; Swaleh, an indigenous digital cartographer from Baba Island; and various owners of shops in Saddar whose name begins with 'Bombay' (Bombay Lighthouse, Bombaywala & Bombay Nimco).

Exhibitions: Qatar Art Museum, Unruly Waters, as a three channel video installation in November 2026

seer mein manik moti lal

December 2025-ongoing (currently filming)

(Non-fiction) | *Director, Producer*

- Ongoing research project and documentary film between Sindh and Gujarat, documenting lives and families of fishermen who have been detained near the Sir Creek disputed region between India and Pakistan
- Launched an ongoing semi-public crowdfunding campaign to support this cross-border pursuit and successfully raised almost 30% of our production budget
- Published our findings as a long-form photo-essay in The Polis Project, from conversations with families of detained fishermen, to local activists and environmental activists

Tohfa

Abu Dhabi | April 2024

(Narrative Short) | W*riter, Director, Editor, Sound Designer*

- Conceptualized and led a 35+ crew to produce a short film exploring a mother-son relationship within a Pakistani migrant family in the Gulf; Developed as a year-long capstone thesis using auto-ethnographic research, affective cinematography, and migration studies;
- *Screenings/ Exhibitions:* Cinemaz Festival Brazil 2024, Egyptian American Film Festival 2024, Festival Angaelica 2025, 41st MESA (Middle Eastern Studies Association) Film Festival 2024

Anna

Abu Dhabi | April 2024

(Narrative Short) | *Director of Photography, Sound Designer*

- Storyboarded, shot-listed and shot a narrative short film about an Ukranian immigrant within the UAE as she navigates her emotional response and familial relationships amidst the ongoing Russian occupation of Ukraine; directed by Katia Yesiyeva;
- Worked as the effects editor for the sound design process of the film, employing Pro Tools to do background sound design, music integration and special sound effects to create an immersive psychological experience;

Vimto Martini

Abu Dhabi | April 2024

(Narrative Short) | *Lighting Designer and Lead Gaffer*

- Prepared a detailed lighting plan, floor layout, equipment lists and equipment management plans to logistically and creatively design the lighting of the film, for both stylistic and realistic impact; directed by Al Reem Al Beshr
- *Screenings/ Exhibitions:* Bayt al Mamzar

Rudimentum

Dubai | December 2023

(Mawaheb Art Studio's Visual Arts Exhibition) | V*isual/ Video Artist*

- A video installation piece exploring the intersection of disability with the four elements; earth, water, air and fire in the context of sustainability in a world afflicted with the climate crisis;
- *Screenings/ Exhibitions:* Blue Zone in Expo City as part of the COP 28 Summit cultural programming

Ocean Without a Floor
(Narrative Short) | *Sound Designer* Abu Dhabi | April 2023

- Fictional short exploring echoes of Alzheimer's disease, emerging recollections of a troubled past and memory as an instrument of non-linear time; background sound design, foley and dialogue correction on Pro Tools, directed by Amna Hadszic;

Screenings/ Exhibitions: 29th Sarajevo Film Festival (World Premiere); New York Shorts International Film Festival 2023 (In competition)

Thoughts in Transit
(Experimental Short) | *Director, Editor* Abu Dhabi, Karachi, New York, Boston | 2022

- An experimental auto-ethnographic documentary set across four cities, exploring displacement through time and space and alienation in a foreign land; shot on my mother's camcorder and 35 mm analog camera. Commissioned by the NYUAD Summer Film Grant

Outtakes
(Experimental Short) | *Director, Director of Photographer* Abu Dhabi | 2023

- Experimental docu-fiction film about two friends navigating the boundaries of intimacy, friendship and their own personalities, without any script, shot list or set design

All Over the Place
(Theatre-Dance Show) | *Graphic Designer and Video Artist* Abu Dhabi | March - April 2023

- An experimental light and dance performance exploring young adulthood; Created a montage through archival home videos and poster art photography and design. Funded by the NYUAD Theatre Program as a Student-Led Theatre Projects, directed by Aryann Sarkari and Abigail Chen

Taddo
(Narrative Short) | *1st Assistant Director* Karachi | October 2024

- A Sindhi student thesis film from IVS School of Art and Architecture about a coming-of-age of an adolescent girl set on the day of her aunt's funeral.

Manduva
(Video Art Exhibition) | *Researcher* Lahore | 2022

- Lahore Biennale Foundation's Virtual Cinema exhibition at Alhamra Arts Council featuring archival research and a video essay on intimacy in Pakistani cinema produced under the mentorship of Sarmad Khoosat

WORK EXPERIENCE

Freelance
Multi-disciplinary Creative September 2025 - present

- Organizing and archiving film negatives and letters spanning five decades within my family's personal archive through film and cyanotype processes exploring contested memories of grief, death, and mortality for an ongoing documentary titled *All of Us That Remain*
- Managed freelance creative work across clients such as Vault, Arsh, and IVS-CEP including video editing, 2D animation, podcasts, performance marketing, campaign shoots, website copyediting, and redesign for branding
- Worked as Assistant Director on a Tapmad web series and the short film Taddo coordinating production workflows across scheduling, locations, production design, crew management, and creative execution

Elements Research Kitchen
Artist-Researcher February 2025 - present

- Conducted interdisciplinary research on the history of the Lyari River and the impact of the Lyari Expressway's construction on its ecology through literary, ecological, and socio-economic lenses
- Worked across cyanotype printmaking, microscopic analysis, and cartographic practices, alongside prose-poetry and written research
- Developed and presented hypotheses using sources from literature, eco-pedagogy, urban planning, news media, and historical maps

NYUAD Global Education
Social Media Assistant January 2024 - June 2024

- Strategized sustained marketing campaigns across social media platforms for annual programming events and deadlines which led to a 30% increase in engagement from key demographic groups
- Employed Google Analytics to track visitor behaviors and preferences, and conducted A/B testing on various content types and posting times using Instagram Analytics, which increased follower interaction rates by over 20%
- Edited and animated 20+ videos across internal and external communications, enhancing social media strategy through After Effects, Maya, Canva, and Adobe Creative Suite

Arts Center, NYU Abu Dhabi
Producing Intern September 2021 - August 2023

- Assisted the lead producer in coordinating with logistical partners and external stakeholders for sponsorships and advertising
- Designed pre-event press releases, promotional materials, and 10+ artist residency study guides, alongside 4 community activations to expand educational outreach
- Reworked the organization's social media strategy for student-centered programming, including Artist Talks and Arts Chat
- Supported the production of large-scale community events such as Barzakh Festival, CinemaNA, Hekayah, Ramadaniyyat, The City and the Writer, and Ya'Samaar Dance Theatre
- Led the Lighting 'Backstage Club,' organizing hands-on training sessions with visiting artists and facilitating backstage learning experiences
- Provided on-ground support for 15+ artist residencies, managing scheduling, administrative coordination, and audio-visual setups across venues including Louvre Abu Dhabi
- Produced post-event marketing content, editing 15+ videos and interviews, with outputs reaching 200K+ views on YouTube

Mawaheb Art Studio
Visual Arts Intern May 2023 - September 2023

- Served as an art and photography teacher for students with disabilities, conducting workshops on experimental techniques such as polaroid emulsion and light painting
- Collaborated with 4 students to produce a video-art installation called Rudimentum as part of Custodes Silvarum, exhibited at COP28 Dubai
- Oversaw photography for the studio's social media and website, alongside supporting day-to-day studio operations and exhibition preparation

The Gazelle
Senior Opinion Editor January 2023 - August 2023

- Wrote 15+ articles on issues such as access to sexual health on campus, gaps in career counseling for art students, and extremism in Pakistan; several becoming the most-read pieces on these topics for three consecutive weeks
- Drove on-campus action by engaging stakeholders like the Career Development Center to expand access to student resources
- Navigated censorship and public sensitivity through careful editorial judgment, while leading a team of 5 editors and 15+ recurring writers

Cinoelio
March 2023 - May 2023
Production Intern

- Conceptualized, produced, and edited three promotional teasers positioning short films as an archive of memory and a global storytelling medium.
- Managed the casting call for an upcoming feature film, including public outreach, shortlisting auditions, scheduling, and on-site coordination.
- Supported the organization and execution of public screenings (Cineolio CineNights) at venues such as the NYUAD Arts Center and Bait Al Janahi

NYUAD Residential Education
Residential Assistant August 2021 - June 2022

- Facilitated the residential experience for 100+ students, managing conflicts, coordinating with leadership, and providing sustained support through administrative and emergency situations, including filing Incident Reports.
- Organized 5 events per semester focused on career development and access to health resources, while managing a programming budget of AED 3,000.
- Prioritized mental health initiatives (including sessions on male hygiene, skincare, and art therapy) and supported the A5 community through social media and design for digital and on-ground activations.