

Fanny Pack



USC Graduate Thesis Film

What is “Fanny Pack”?

“Fanny Pack” is a comedy short film about a young Indian-American woman who wants to follow her dreams, and her fanny pack-clad, Indian father who chases her through an airport hoping that she will follow his.

Who Wears a Fanny Pack, Anyway?

The story of “Fanny Pack” is inspired by Director Uttera Singh’s own father, who loves the convenience of wearing a fanny pack. “He’s the gentlest man you’ll ever meet, but his outdated accessory paired with his brown skin and blue eyes, make him a suspicious character at airports. When you’re brown, airports are a fun family activity. Thanks to my father’s experience, my family has been stopped at airport more frequently than I can remember.” Over time, Uttera began to see the humor in the awkward encounters with the aviation authorities.

As a recent citizen of the United States, Uttera is passionate about all things American. However, as a woman of color with a strong accent, she deals with race, identity, and cultural differences on a daily basis. In “Fanny Pack”, she aimed to explore with humor the challenges faced by immigrants in these highly dramatic situations.

“At a time when there is so much hate around us, I wanted to use humor to change perception and create a sense of unity —we’re all in this craziness together. We all dream of co-existing in love and freedom, in a safe world.” That’s why Uttera decided to make Fanny Pack. It’s a story that embraces the universal emotion of the moment in our culture.

Festival Run

“Fanny Pack” has been fortunate to have been accepted in numerous festivals including: Austin Film Festival, “The Hamptons International Film Festival, LA Shorts, New York Television Film Festival, DC South Asian Film Festival, San Diego Asian Film Festival, Seattle South Asian Film Festival, Chicago South Asian Film Festival , Boston Asian Film Festival, Toronto Reel Asian Film Festival, Reel Diaspora Film Festival, Lady Filmmaker’s Film Festival, Burbank International Film Festival, KAPOW Film Festival, Edmonton International Film Festival and the Heartland International Film Festival.



Uttera Singh



Director/Writer/Actor

Drama has always been a part of Uttera Singh's life. On the day she was born, her mother, who was nine months pregnant, was hit by a firecracker, and her father rescued her and rushed her to the hospital to deliver the baby. That's how Uttera - a real life firecracker - was born and that same fiery spirit is still very much alive in her. Uttera is a 2016 MFA graduate of the USC School of Cinematic Arts. She is a recipient of one of the first ever Ryan Murphy Diversity Fellowships and just finished directing her thesis film, "Fanny Pack" starring Brian George ("Big Bang Theory", "Seinfeld), a proof of concept for a half hour TV show. Her one-woman show "Indian Lady Shakespeare wears Underwear" is set to premiere in Los Angeles in the fall of 2016. While still attending USC, Uttera was chosen as one of the directors on the USC/James Franco feature film "Mad Whale" starring Camilla Belle, Dominic Rains, Summer Phoenix and James Franco. Uttera lives in Los Angeles. She spends her time going on adventures and then writing about them.



Fanny Pack FAQ's

Q: How did “Brian George” from Big Bang Theory, Seinfeld agree to do a student film?

A: It's a long but very adventurous story. The secret was the script: Brian loved it! He is a brilliant actor and an amazing person to work with.



Q: Where did you film “Fanny Pack”?

A: We shot at the Bob Hope Burbank International Airport in the middle of a very busy day. It was the most hectic and exciting day of our shoot.



Q: Is it hard to act in a film you also direct?

A: Acting and directing at the same time was challenging but I love the masochistic relationship. Lena Dunham, Nadine Labaki, Lake Bell, and Charlie Chaplin are just a few of my idols!



Q: Who else helped bring “Fanny Pack” to life?

A: The main creative team behind “Fanny Pack” consists of three tough women, all hailing from very different backgrounds and with wildly different tastes. Uttera Singh (Director), Isabel Marden (Producer) and Guan Xi (DP).

CONTACT

Uttera Singh, Director/Writer/Actress

utterasingh@gmail.com

[\(718\) 501-8313](tel:(718)501-8313)

I look forward to hearing from you :)