



ÉMIGRÉ/ AMERICANA

PRESS KIT



WHAT WE
WANT MOST
IS TO BE
SEEN AS WE
TRULY ARE.



LOGLINE

On the day his asylum is finally set to be approved, a Pakistani immigrant becomes the victim of a violent racist attack, triggering a chain of events that transform his life in ways he never expected.



SYNOPSIS



"In the midst of America's rising anti-immigrant climate, a Pakistani asylum seeker is fighting for his future. With his legal immigration status hanging by a thread, he scrambles to deliver the final document to immigration authorities—his last chance for safety. But as he races against time, every step forward is met with unexpected obstacles that threaten not just his hopes for a new life, but his very survival. That is, until he meets someone who sees him for who he truly is—a person, not a problem—and offers him a glimmer of hope that, perhaps, there is still light at the end of the tunnel."

DIRECTED BY USMAN ALLY

Usman Ally is an award winning director, actor and writer.

After his directorial debut with *Émigré/Americana*, Usman's second short film, *STUCK* has completed post-production. His feature film script, *Mimi and Saad: An American Love Story*, received acclaim on the Blacklist and is currently raising funds to begin production.

As an actor Usman is most well known for *VEEP* (Emmy Award Best Ensemble) as well as *A Series of Unfortunate Events* among others. On stage he originated several roles including the Pulitzer winning *Disgraced*, and Pulitzer finalist *The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity*. He is of Pakistani heritage, born and raised in Southern and Eastern Africa, and lives in LA.



DIRECTOR'S NOTE

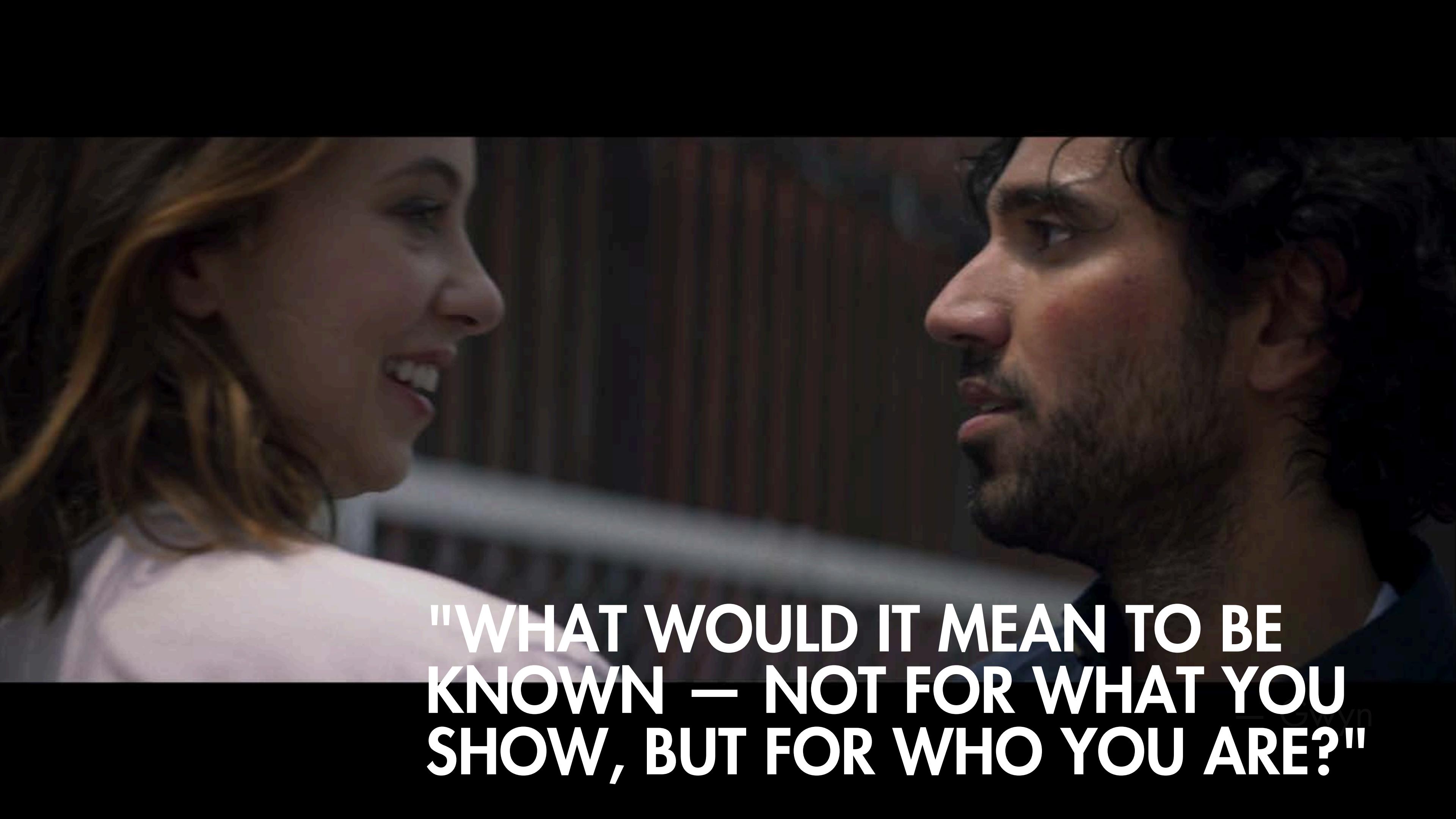
As a director, my mission is to bring to light stories from underrepresented communities, revealing the common humanity that unites us all. I feel a responsibility to honor experiences often marginalized, giving them the significance they deserve. At the heart of my work is the power of human connection—the urgent need for individuals to be truly seen and understood. I strive to create films where characters are recognized not only by the audience but also within their own worlds, capturing that silent, universal cry for visibility and belonging. It is through this recognition that the deepest beauty and truth emerge.





LOVE IN A MODERN AMERICA.

RACE. PRIVILEGE.
THE OTHER.



**"WHAT WOULD IT MEAN TO BE
KNOWN – NOT FOR WHAT YOU
SHOW, BUT FOR WHO YOU ARE?"**

THE CAST AND CREW



SAAD

Played by **Omar Maskati**

(68 Whiskey, The Recruit, The Handmaids Tale)

Our story's protagonist, Saad is thoughtful, cautious, wistful, and quiet, though his demeanor is actively holding back the frustration he feels as a Muslim immigrant in America. Saad is hyper aware of how he is perceived in this country and is eager to find a sense of belonging.



MIMI

**Played by Britt Baron
(GLOW, All Rise)**

A Punk Rock/ANTIFA Activist, Mimi loves a confrontation, speaking her mind, and being a 'good ally.' The epitome of the "woke" white female, but much of her tough exterior is a cover for a difficult childhood and a lack of belonging.

POOJA

Played by **Mouzam Makkar**
(THE FIX, LAW AND ORDER)



An incredibly smart, opinionated and frank coporate lawyer and best friend from college to Saad. Pooja is the friend everyone needs even when they don't know it. She has spent much of her adult life trying to build the perfect South Asian family in a post-9/11 America, but still battles with inadequacies in her own relationship.

CREW CREDITS



**COURTNEY ROWE,
PRODUCER**

Cougartown, The Librarians



**MEENA K SINGH,
CINEMATOGRAPHER**

Wedding Season (NETFLIX),
GUTS (Sundance)



**DANIEL RAJ KOOBIR,
EDITOR**

FallOut, Wilfred, Blindspot

FESTIVALS



OFFICIAL SELECTION
20TH TASVEER
FILM FESTIVAL
Oscar® Qualifying
2025

International South
Asian Film Festival
Canada
2025

OFFICIAL SELECTION
**VENEZIA
SHRTS**



OFFICIAL SELECTION
PALM SPRINGS INTERNATIONAL
**SHORT
FEST**
2025

★★★
OFFICIAL SELECTION
**BUSH
WICK**
FILM FESTIVAL
2025

BEST SHORT FILM
Hollywood Reel
Independent Film
Festival
2025



NEW FILMMAKERS LA

KEY FACTS

Production company

All Our Stories, Inc

Production location

Los Angeles

Genre, subcategories

Drama, Romance

Running time

16 mins 7 seconds

Audio format

Digital Stereo Sound

Original Composition

Mikhail Fiksel

Shooting format

4k, high resolution

Aspect ratio

2:66:1

Exhibition format

4k digital

Languages

English

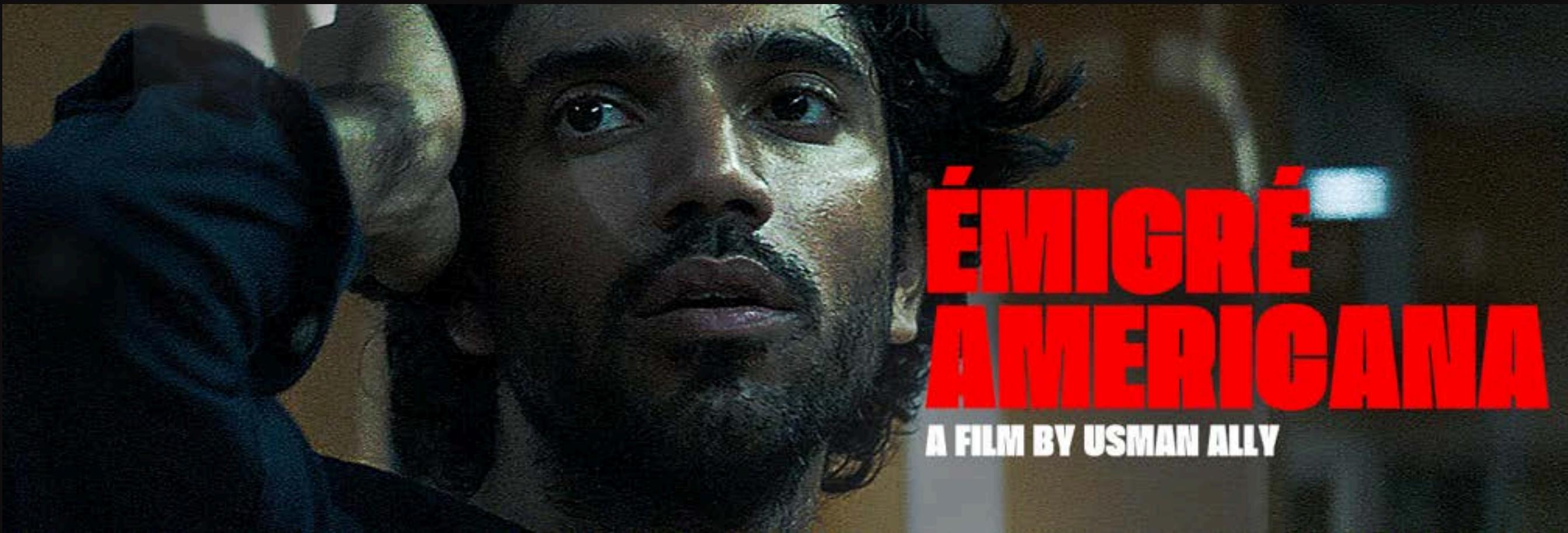
Subtitles

English

Production year

2024

TRAILER



GET IN TOUCH

Email

emigreprod@gmail.com

Social media

@emigreamericana

Phone

312-535-0066