

MEERA SYAL

Current

MRS SIDDHU: wrote additional material and polished scripts for Monumental Television Ltd.

RUNAWAY BRIDE (FKA INDIAN WEDDINGS): written pilot script and bible for FilmNation TV Development Ltd.

AYAHS: written treatment and series outline with Tanika Gupta for BBC Studios. Writing the first script.

JAYABEN & GEORGE (FKA STRIKERS IN SARIS): writing screenplay for Bright Pictures Ltd.

MRS ROY: writing new three-part drama with Smita Bhide. Optioned to Two Brothers Pictures.

Television

HOUSE OF HIDDEN MOTHERS: Meera's third novel was published by Transworld in June 2015. The rights were optioned to Drama Republic and it was developed for ITV.

HEAL ME: outline and pilot script for original serial set in Scotland for Touchpaper/Rob Pursey/BBC.

GOODNESS GRACIOUS ME: Meera wrote new material for and starred in a Reunion Special for the BBC2 50th Anniversary in 2014.

LIFE ISN'T ALL HA HA HEE HEE: second novel published by HarperCollins October 99. TV and Film rights optioned to Hat Trick. Adapted into 3 part drama (co-wrote first two episodes with Abi Morgan) for Hat Trick/ BBC. Producer Jo Willett, director Andy De Emmony. TX May 2005.

GOODNESS GRACIOUS ME: Co-created, wrote and acted in five series across BBC Radio 4 and BBC Two. First radio series a Sony Radio Award Winner '97. First tv series – BAFTA nominated. **RIMA and EMMA awards. 1998 British Comedy Award Winner for best comedy series.** Successful stage tour from

February / March '99.

SUGAR AND SPICE: co-written with Jonathan Harvey two episodes of new series for BBC/Jon Plowman.

NINA: Written comedy script. BBC/ Geoffrey Perkins.

WATCHING THE DETECTIVES: Wrote 1/2 hr play for Carlton TV's SINGLE VOICES series. Producer Parminder Vir. **TX: 10/10/01, Carlton.**

AUNTIE'S REVENGE: wrote Screen Two commissioned by BBC. Producer Asmaa Pirzada.

SISTER WIFE: wrote BBC Screen Two. Directed by Lesley Manning and produced by Ruth Baumgarten. Transmitted February 1992. **NIMA award.** Nominated for Writer's Guild Award; awarded Best TV Film by Asian Film Academy and by Commission for Racial Equality.

A NICE ARRANGEMENT: wrote script for and appeared in 11 minute film from idea developed with Gurinder Chadha for Umbi Films/British Screen/Film Four International. 35mm colour. Shown at New York Film Festival and at Cannes.

BLACK SILK: BBC TV series. Meera co-wrote an episode with John Constable. Producer Ruth Boswell. Transmitted November 1985.

TANDOORI NIGHTS: Channel 4/Picture Palace series. Meera wrote two episodes and worked on them with Jon Amiel for the second series.

SOUTHALL STORY: film commissioned by BBC (Graham Massey). Not produced. Meera bought back rights.

HUNGRY HEARTS: a three part serial commissioned by Peter Ansorge at Channel 4 based on the SOUTHALL STORY.

FLICK series: wrote comedy material.

THE REAL McCOY: regular performer and contributor to 3 series of BBC comedy.

Film

THE DESCRIBER written original screenplay for producer Paul Raphael/UK Film Council based on an idea by Raina Haig & Paul Raphael.

MY INDIAN WEDDING written screenplay for World Productions/Simon Heath.

ANITA AND ME: wrote screenplay from own novel. Producer Paul Raphael. Director Metin Hussein. Stars Sanjeev Bhaskar, Lynn Redgrave, Mark Williams, Max Beesley, Kathy Burke and Meera. Icon UK distributor. Opened in India and shortly opens in Australia. Meera's first novel was a **Betty Trask Award Winner '96** and shortlisted for the Guardian fiction prize. Published by Flamingo. Meera read for Woman's Hour.

BHAJI ON THE BEACH: wrote screenplay for Film on Four/Umbi Films. Shown at Edinburgh Festival and winner of Audience Award for Best Film at Galway Festival. Broke box office records in Birmingham and London. Nominated for the 1995 BAFTA Alexander Korda award for Outstanding British Film of the Year.

Stage

RIVERS: monologue written for One Voice 2018 Season, The Old Vic.

GENERATION NEXT: written for the National Theatre's 2012 **Connections** season.

BOMBAY DREAMS: wrote book of new musical for Really Useful Group. Lyricist Don 2 Black, Composer AR Rahman, Director Stephen Pimlott, Associate Producer Shekhar Kapur. Executive Producer Andrew Lloyd Webber. Successfully recouped investment after 14 months at Victoria Palace Theatre. Worked on script for N. American Production. Opened on Broadway April 2004. Three Tony Award Nominations.

THE OPPRESSED MINORITIES BIG FUN SHOW: co-wrote and performed with Bryan Scott; Gilded Balloon, Edinburgh Festival and Shaw Theatre, September 92.

ONE OF US: National Student Drama Festival 1983. Co-written with Jackie

Shapiro and it won best performance award for Meera and YTV outstanding achievement. The play toured at Kings Head, Soho Poly, Riverside and various community centres and the Edinburgh Fringe. Meera received Most Promising Performer award at Edinburgh.

THE LEATHER MONGOOSE: sequel to One of Us written solely by Meera. Filmed for Channel 4 and transmitted in 1986 in ASIAN ARTS programme.

BLOSSOM TIME IN HANWELL: play commissioned by Royal Court.

Radio

GOSSIP AND GODDESSES WITH GRANNY KUMAR: wrote 6-episode radio chat show for CPL Productions/BBC R4 featuring two new celebrity guests each week. Episode One TX 10th February 2021.

GOODNESS GRACIOUS ME: see above.

MASALA FM: Wrote 6-part radio comedy series for BBC. Producer Liz Anstee. First series broadcast Autumn '96 on Radio 4. Nominated for CRE award '96.

Meera created the Sharma family and wrote several episodes of **CITIZENS** for Radio 4. She has also contributed to **FIVE SQUEEZY PIECES**.

Meera is represented by ROCHELLE STEVENS.

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