



Adirka Ramkusen

FILMMAKER – WRITER – EDITOR – CONTENT CREATOR – FOUNDER

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BIO

I'm a 22-year-old, born and raised in KZN, Durban, South Africa with over a year of professional experience in screenwriting. A recent AFDA film graduate qualified in both writing and directing film with secondary skills as a content creator / editor and a producer with qualifications in project management. My work focuses on developing strong, artistic projects spanning short films, feature films, documentaries and social media marketing content with creativity, collaboration and intense research. Now, I stand as the Founder & Director of Aloe Lantern Productions (Pty) Ltd. A collective opened to emerging creatives, graduates and those qualified in film and media to build their own experience into the industry while pursuing my own path as a freelance filmmaker and content creator.

EXPERIENCE

Co-screenwriter

05/2024 – 04/2025

Nishal Singh Productions - Durban North, KZN

Contract – Hybrid

Co-screenwriting a South African feature film with head writer & producer: Nishal Singh. Gained practical industry experience in writing, film business and professional networking.

Roles and Responsibilities:

- Creating and developing detailed character biographies, plot structure and treatments.
- Participating in structured brainstorming sessions for script development, several hours per week.
- Implementing screenwriting techniques, structures and formatting techniques.
- Providing research, creativity and notes.

Founder – Filmmaker - Content creator

03/2026 – Current

Aloe Lantern Productions - Umhlanga, KZN

Founded to create a collaborative platform where qualified filmmakers and film graduates can come together within a voluntary capacity to develop professional portfolios, gain practical production experience and maintain industry-relevant technical skills through active participation in film and media projects.

Roles and Responsibilities:

- Partnering and networking with freelancers, creatives, Film schools, Production houses, Casting agencies and Businesses within a voluntary capacity.
- Producing, Directing and Writing productions.
- Casting and Recruitment of qualified-entry level filmmakers and actors.

- Arranging and producing promotional material for collaborators in exchange for project/production resources.
- Shooting and editing promotional material for both ALP and collaborator parties.
- Collaborating with fellow creatives and filmmakers on projects.
- Managing the company and overseeing projects.

Sample:

- Debut Short Film: The Ribbon Trail
- Genre: Slice-of-life
- Link: (Currently in post-production)

EDUCATION

Bachelor's degree / Matriculant

2017 – 2021

Verulam Secondary School

Course: English, Math's Lit, Afrikaans, Geography, History and Drama.

Notable Activities:

- **Lifeco UnLtd & Ashoka's Changemaker School Program.** Entrepreneurial thinking and practicing solving social and environmental problems. Fostered critical thinking, innovation and leadership skills. Encouraged students to approach problems with a business mindset to identify opportunities and create solutions. Given the opportunity to act and apply our business ideas to the community alongside other schools.

Bachelor of Arts in Motion Picture Medium - Cum-Laude

2022 – 2025

AFDA Durban Film school

Majored in Directing and Writing.

Made 10 student productions within 3 years of study: 8 short films, a Documentary and an Experimental. Writer and Director of 7 productions. Producer and Editor of 1 production each. Cinematographer and VFX designer of 1 production each. Managed and assisted in location scouting and networking.

Notable Activities:

- Conducted interviews and consultations to develop a documentary on the crisis of rhino poaching. Collaborated with **KZN wildlife spokesman: Musa Mntambo and Regional Manager of East: Cedric Coetzee** from **Hluhluwe game reserve**.
- Negotiated and collaborated with **Ushaka Marine World** for Experimental. Used their aquarium as a location for our fantasy concept and in return filmed and edited a **promotional video** in return.
- Collaborated with **Sunfield Homeschool**. Set up a stall within their market day program to raise funds and promote our Experimental production: *The Land of Aether (2024)*
- Collaborated with the **community of Tongaat** for Graduation project: **Trubel Primary, Reaction unit, Syls Auto and many local netball teams** from Tongaat and Durban.
- Achieved the **Critics Award** for highest reviews based on the public opinion at the screening of my graduation project: *Playing the Side Lines (2024)* in **Sun Coast Cinema** during the **AFDA Film Festival**.

Sample:

- Graduation Short Film: Playing the Sidelines (2024)
- Genre: Sports / Drama
- Link: <https://films.afda.co.za/film/1490/Playing-the-sidelines/>

Studying how to initiate, plan, execute, control and close projects, manage project risks, motivate and lead project teams, manage project finances and project procurement and manage project quality.

POSITIONS & SKILLS

Editor / Content creator

- Editing (DaVinci Resolve)
- Color grading basics
- Sound & Music basics
- Cinematography
- Photography
- Self-equipped

Producer

- Project management
- Time management
- Resource management
- Set management
- Networking & Recruitment
- Social media marketing
- Negotiating
- Admin & Logistics
- Location scouting

Writer

- Screenwriting
- Scriptwriting
- Creative input / innovation
- Collaborative writing
- Critical / Creative Thinking
- Dialogue crafting
- Concept development
- Writing techniques & methods
- Characterization
- Plot development
- Research
- Scriptwriting format & software

Director

- Acting techniques
- Improvisation
- Technical direction
- Operational direction
- Post- production supervision
- Communication
- Collaboration
- Script analysis
- Floor planning
- Storyboards
- Shot lists

SOCIALS

	 Adi the Filmmaker	A L O E L A N T E R N P R O D U C T I O N S 
	https://youtube.com/@aloe-lantern-productions?si=MSrMd6SQW5nao6iv	
	https://www.instagram.com/adi_the_filmmaker?stkn=MXJoY2ExdTRxOXc3YQ==	https://www.instagram.com/aloe.lantern.productions?stkn=MTZvcDkxczh6dDgzNg==
	https://www.tiktok.com/@adi_the_filmmaker?_r=1&_t=ZS-9AACp9NZnko	https://www.tiktok.com/@aloe.lantern.productions?_r=1&_t=ZS-9AACnnw3j6t