SUAD BUSHNAQ

composer for film, television and games

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QUICK HIGHLIGHTS:

THE SECRET WORLD OF SOUND WITH DAVID ATTENBOROUGH *(Sky, CBC, Netflix),*
CRASHING EID *(Netflix),* **QUEEN TUT** *(Cinephobia, Crave),* **THE NATURE OF THINGS** *(CBC),*
I DO OR I DIE *(Amazon Prime),* **ASHBRIDGE** *(CBC),* **MONTREAL GIRLS** *(Level 33 Ent.)*

AWARDS & NOMINATIONS

BILLBOARD CANADA nomination	2026	*Women in Film Female Composer of the Year*
CANADIAN SCREEN AWARD nomination	2026	*Achievement in Music, Original Score* **(YUNAN)**
CANADIAN SCREEN MUSIC AWARD win	2025	*Best Original Main Title Theme Music* **(AL BATAL/THE HERO)**
HOLLYWOOD MUSIC IN MEDIA AWARDS win	2024	*Best Music: Main Title - TV Show Foreign Language* **(HOTEL BEYROUTH)**
HOLLYWOOD MUSIC IN MEDIA AWARDS nomination	2024	*Best Music: Documentary Series* **(SECRET WORLD OF SOUND WITH DAVID ATTENBOROUGH)**
CANADIAN SCREEN AWARD nomination	2024	*Achievement in Music, Original Score* **(QUEEN TUT)**
CANADIAN SCREEN AWARD nomination	2024	*Achievement in Music, Original Song* **(QUEEN TUT)** "Chez Habibi (Kul illi Batmannah)"
CANADIAN SCREEN AWARD nomination	2024	*Achievement in Music, Original Song* **(QUEEN TUT)** "I Won't Break"
CANADIAN SCREEN MUSIC AWARD win	2024	*Best Original Score, Documentary, Factual, Reality Series* **(THE SECRET WORLD OF SOUND, ep1)**
CANADIAN SCREEN MUSIC AWARD nomination	2024	*Best Original Main Title Theme Music* **(FROM THE ASHES)**
CANADIAN SCREEN MUSIC AWARD nomination	2023	*Best Original Score, Short Film* **(CORVINE)**
CANADIAN SCREEN AWARD nomination	2022	*Achievement in Music, Original Score* **(JASMINE ROAD)**
CANADIAN SCREEN MUSIC AWARD nomination	2022	*Best Original Score, Television Special* **(WHY WE DANCE)**
HOLLYWOOD NORTH FILM AWARDS win	2022	*Best Original Score* **(INCORRIGIBLE – A FILM ABOUT VELMA DEMERSON)**
HOLLYWOOD MUSIC IN MEDIA AWARDS win	2021	*Instrumental Performance, Orchestra*
ARTEMIS WOMEN IN ACTION FILM FESTIVAL win	2019	*Best Foreign Score* **(THE BORROWED DRESS)**
HOLLYWOOD MUSIC IN MEDIA AWARDS nomination	2019	*Best Original Score, Short Film Live Action* **(A VERY IMPORTANT APPOINTMENT)**

GLOBAL MUSIC AWARDS silver medal winner	2018	*Outstanding Achievement in Original Score* **(AL MUNATAF, THE ROAD TO JENIN)**
HOLLYWOOD MUSIC IN MEDIA AWARDS nomination	2018	*Best Music: World* **(AL MUNATAF, THE ROAD TO JENIN)**
ARAB FUND FOR ARTS AND CULTURE grant	2019	**Original Soundtracks, Independent Arab Cinema**

FEATURE FILMS

AMERICAN DOCTOR (documentary) Alef Multimedia, Elk Film, Tiny Boxer Films, Watermelon Pics.	2026	H. Ali, K. Alvi, M. Atalla, K. Barfod, A. Dalsgaard, R. Elghandour, H. Elmasry, various, prod. Poh Si Teng, dir.
JARAS ENZAR 2 (drama) Ideation Studios, Netflix	2026	M. Alawi, F. Baltyuor, A. Jamal, prod. Abdullah Bamajboor, dir.
YUNAN (drama) Fresco Films, Microclimat Films, Red Balloon Films	2025	D. Beinemeier, C. Chagnon, H. Anabtawi, prod., Ameer Fakher Eldin, dir.
ET MAINTENANT? (drama) ATO Media	2025	Kristel Viduka, prod. Jocelyn Forgues, dir.
L'HERITIER DES SECRETS (drama) Objectif 9, Awman Productions	2025	M. Nadif, R. Saadi, B. Essoussi, S. Gagnon, prod M. Nadif, dir.
CONCEIVING CLARA (drama) Aquainter Films, Solomon Studios, Capital Motion Picture Grp	2025	J. P. Alviz, S. Desai, L. McCall, M. Morris, T. Prka, T. Qayumi, L. Solomon, prod., Tarique Qayumi, dir.
BASMA (drama) Film-Clinic, Netflix	2024	F. AlBanawi, W. Bahefzallah, M. Hefzy, prod. Fatima Albanawi, dir.
HOBAL (drama) Shaf, Film-Clinic	2024	F. Abuali, M. Al Turki, A. Alshlahei,, S. Majali, prod. Abdulaziz Alshlahei, dir.
MOUNTAIN BOY (adventure) Desert Rose Films, Flying Tiger Entertainment	2024	Meredith Brett, Nancy Paton, prod. Zainab Shaheen, dir.
FLIGHT 404 (drama) Film-Clinic, Ceema Films FZCO	2024	Mohamed Hefzy, prod. Hani Khalifa, dir.
FROM THE ASHES (drama, thriller) Ideation Studios, Netflix	2024	M. Alawi, F. Baltyuor, A. Jamal, prod. Khalid Fahad, dir.
MADAR (drama) Aquatinter Films, Solomon Studios	2024	L. McCall, M. Morris, T. Prka, T. Qayumi, Tarique Qayumi, dir.
QUEEN TUT (drama) Fae Pictures, Hawkeye Pictures, pUNK FILMS	2023	L. Blair Goeldner, A. Poulos, S. Di Rienzo, I. Veninger, S. Joshi, prod., Reem Morsi, dir.
RIEN DE MAL (drama) *additional music* Fae Pictures, Hawkeye Pictures, pUNK FILMS	2023	Josh Ary, prod. Samuel Plante, dir.
PASSING DREAMS (drama) Cinepal Films, Kinana Films, Coorigines Production	2023	Rashid Masharawi, B. Mawlawi, prod. Rashid Masharawi, dir.
HANGING GARDENS (drama) Odeh Films, Purattu Film Production	2022	H. al Kadhimi, M. Glover, M. Odeh, prod. Ahmed Yassin Aldaradji, dir.

MONTREAL GIRLS (comedy, drama, romance) Flirt Films, Objectif 9	2022	P. Cadieux, P. Chica, S. Gagnon, B.A. Martin, B. Essoussi-Gagnon, prod., Patricia Chica, dir.
INCORRIGIBLE – A FILM ABOUT VELMA DERMSON (doc.) Top Dollar Sisters Productions	2022	Karin Lee, Cheuk Kwan prod. Karin Lee, dir.
SALMA'S HOME (drama) Reel LA Productions, Ivy Images	2022	Nathan Bennett, prod. Hanadi Elyan, dir.
ASWAT ACHERIM (documentary) 02A Media	2021	Ose Oyamendan, prod. Ose Oyamendan, dir.
JASMINE ROAD Raging River Pictures	2020	C. Sponheimer, W. Sulatycky, prod. Warren Sulatycky, dir.
IN HER CITY (drama) Raven West Films	2020	Carl Bessai, Laura Lightbown, prod. Carl Bessai, dir.
CONNECTING THE DOTS (documentary) Film Blanc, Indiecan Entertainment	2021	N. Weis, D.J. Goldfield, T. Eddington, prod. Noemi Weis, dir.
ROADS OF ITHRIYA (action, thriller, drama) Spit Shine Flicks	2019	Javier Badillo, Shayan Bayat, prod. Javier Badillo, dir.
THE BORROWED DRESS (documentary) Creative Media Solutions, MAD Solutions	2018	Sarah Hassan, Sam Lahoud, prod. Leen Alfaisal, dir.
TWICE UPON A TIME (documentary) Placeless Films	2016	Niam Itani, prod. Niam Itani, dir.
THE CURVE (adventure, drama) Imaginarium Films, Eaux Vives Productions	2015	Rula Nasser, Mohamed Hefzy prods. Rifqi Assaf, dir.

TELEVISION

THUNDER OF CLOUDS (documentary) Snapshot Studios, Telus Originals	2026	J. Steele, B. Farnon, R. Hamdard, L. O'Grady, prod. Laura O'Grady, dir.
AL BATAL (THE HERO) Pentalens Arts & Entertainment	2025	Ramy Koussa, Al Laith Hajo, prod. Al Laith Hajo, dir.
SECRET WORLD OF SOUND WITH DAVID ATTENBOROUGH Infield Fly Productions, CBC, Netflix, Sky Original (doc series)	2024	S. Choudhury, B. Appleby, G. Brandt, S. Dunlevy, R. Hart, D. Maudsley, prod.
HOTEL BEYROUTH (comedy series) Productions Ocho, Sahkosh Productions	2024	J. Blanc, A. Jamila, E. Idriss Kanago, D. Mujica, prod., J. Blanc, A. Jamila, dir.
CRASHING EID (4-part comedy, drama series) ContentZilla, Netflix	2023	N. Aboushousha, S. Al Ghabra, prod. Ali Alattas, Said Zagha, dir.
THE NATURE OF THINGS: WHY WE DANCE (doc.)) CBC, Kensington Communications	2022	Robert Lang, prod. Nathalie Bibeau, dir.
I DO OR I DIE – A KILLER ARRANGEMENT (drama thriller) Neshama Entertainment, MarVista Ent., Amazon Prime	2020	Avi Federgreen, Allegra Newman, prod. Stanly M. Brooks, dir.

HOCKEY MOM (TV documentary) Hockey Mom Films, CBC.	2019	Andrew Moir, prods. Teyama Akamli, dir.
QATA-EF (TV mini-series) Vogue Magazine	2021	Camilla Fitz-Patrick, prods. Zaid Abu Hamdan, dir.
ASHBRIDGE (TV mini-series) Raven West Films Ltd.	2019	Munire Armstrong, Carl Bessai, prods. Carl Bessai, dir.
16 HUDSON (1 episode) Big Bad Boo	2019	S. Rezaei, A. Jetha, M. Malabar, prod. Shabnam Rezaei, Eddie Soriano, dir.

INTERACTIVE/NEW MEDIA

THUNDER OF CLOUDS (immersive exhibition) Snapshot Studios	2025	J. Steele, B. Farnon, R. Hamdard, L. O'Grady, prod. Laura O'Grady, dir.

SHORT FILMS

POUR THE WATER AS I LEAVE (documentary, animation) Little Giant Motion, Mojo Entertainment	2026	J. Daugherty, D. Repas, E. Louise Smith, prod. Daniela Repas, dir.
HIND UNDER SEIGE (drama) Fajrona Film, Iguana Films	2025	Aida Al Amercani, Sari Silawi, prod. Naji Salameh, dir.
EITR (comedy, drama) Khafeef Dam Productions	2023	F. Abdo, L. Mackinlay, prod. Fateema Al-Hamaydeh Miller, dir.
THE CURTAIN (drama) 2053152 Ontario	2023	Leslie Ann Coles, prod. Leslie Ann Coles, dir.
CORVINE (animation) McCarron Productions	2022	Sean McCarron, prod. Sean McCarron, dir.
MP3 (drama) Purattu Film Production	2022	Maytham Jbara, Olga Tsesliv, prod. Essam Al-Shammari, dir.
ROAD TO EL KEF (drama) Eqlae Studios	2021	Ihsen Kammoun Anis Kriaa, prod. Ihsen Kammoun, dir.
HEMMINGWHY (comedy, drama) MAD Distribution	2021	G. Al-Adwan, G. Al Adwan, S. Tadros, prod. Ghaith Al Adwan, Laith Al Adwan, dir.
NIGHT (animation) Fabian and Fred	2021	Fabian Driehorst, Jessica Neubauer, prod. Ahmad Saleh, dir.
THE ALGORIGHM (comedy, drama) N-tertainment Productions,	2021	N. Krishnan, P. Paul, prod. Prasanna Paul, Natasha Krishnan, dir.
LOVESICK IN THE WEST BANK (comedy)	2020	Mais Salman, prod. Said Zagha, dir.
COMING HOME! (drama)	2020	Dina Fadil, H.K. Shewnarain, prod. Dina Fadil, dir.

TRUCE (action drama) Jwan Media Production and Distribution	2020	Rfiqi Assaf, prod. Saleh Al Khataybeh, dir.
A HOUSE FOR RENT Mais Salman	2020	Mais Salman, prod. Siad Zagha, dir.
A VERY IMPORTANT APPOINTMENT Canadian Film Centre	2019	James Gilchrist, Sameer Jafar, prod. Michael Mazzuca, dir.
COLORS OF RESISTANCE (documentary) Creative Media Solutions, Tale Box, The Royal Film Commission, Tiny Leaps Prods	2019	Brigid Maher, Arreb Zuaiter, prod Areeb Zuaiter, dir
TAMMY (comedy) CFC (Canadian Film Centre)	2019	Julia Rowland, prod. Brendan Brady, dir.
SAND.ROCK.PALM (drama) Canadian Film Centre (CFC)	2018	Alexandra Roberts, prod. Isa Benn, dir.
GRETA FOLLOWS RIVERS (drama) Canadian Film Centre (CFC)	2018	Sarah Kolasky, Jeff So, prods. Sam Coyle, dir.
YASMINA (drama) Kholaaa Films	2018	Andy Alvarez, prod. AJ Simmons, dir.
TIGHT SPOT (comedy) Columbia University	2018	Christina Wood, prod. Kevin Haefelin, dir.
THE DEAD DIE ONCE (fantasy) Linden Studios	2018	Max McGillivray, Alex Morelli, dir.
SETBACK OF THE SPIRIT (drama) SAE Institute	2017	Sa'ed Arouri, dir.
(OUT)CASTE (drama) American Film Institute	2017	Elena Aksenova, prod. Shilpi Shikha, dir.
AT HOME WITH THE HORSES (documentary) Independent	2017	Dima Alansari, prod. Dima Alansari, Eric Sanderson, dir.
ABOUT HER (drama) Independent	2015	Ontonio Karam, Teresa Velez, prods. Otbah Rayees, dir.

LIVE COMMISSIONS

SINBACH	2023	Commissioned by The Canadian Arab Orchestra
CLIMATE CANTATA	2023	Commissioned by the Boston Children's Chorus
UAE NATIONAL DAY COMMISSIONS *Ousha's Theme* Variation 1: ***Whale Song*** Variation 2: ***A Mothers Love*** Betty Productions	2019	Commissioned by United Arab Emirates National Day of Celebration Dec 2, 2019 Performed by: The London Philharmonic Orchestra

BIOGRAPHY

Hailed as an **'incredible artist'** by the legendary Hans Zimmer upon hearing her orchestral music, Suad Bushnaq is an **internationally acclaimed, multi award-winning** film and concert music composer whose versatile style spans a number of genres, and whose music, described as **'reflective and touching' by the BBC**, has moved listeners to their core. With more than 40 film credits to date, she scored award-winning features & shorts that screened at festivals like Locarno, Hot Docs, Edinburgh, Dubai, and Clérmont - Ferrand to name a few. Suad was competitively selected for the **Festival de Cannes 'Spot the Composer'** programme, and the SESAC film scoring residency in LA where she was mentored by A-list composer Christophe Beck. Be it orchestral, atmospheric, or minimalist, Suad's distinct sensitivity to picture and love for cinema make her an in-demand composer who ensures that each film gets its unique identity through the score. Ethnically speaking, Suad is a dual Jordanian Canadian citizen of Bosnian, Syrian, and Palestinian roots. She is based in Toronto but can be found travelling the world.

Suad won the **Hollywood Music in Media Award-Exceptional Instrumental Performance** for her Orchestral piece 'Tomorrow', and was nominated for the same awards in 2019: Short Film Live Action Score for A Very Important Appointment, and 2018: World Music for The Road to Jenin. She won the Beyond Music Foundation Creativity Award (2019 by Grammy-laureate Larry Klein), won the Artemis Women in Action Film Festival Award (2019 Best Foreign Score), won Best Original Score for the feature film Jasmine Road at the Fine Arts Film Festival of the Venice Institute of Contemporary Art in LA, & won the Arab Fund for Arts & Culture grant for her album 'Soundtracks from Independent Arab Cinema' (2019). In 2022, 2024 and 2026, Suad was **nominated** for **Canadian Screen Awards** (the Canadian equivalent of a BAFTA or César); in 2022 for her original score for the feature film Jasmine Road by Warren Sulatycky and won the Best Original Score for 'Incorrigible: The Story of Velma Demerson' at the Hollywood North Film Awards. She was also selected in that same year as the recipient of the 2021 Kathleen McMorrow Music Award; a merit-based award presented once a year to a Canadian composer by the Ontario Arts Foundation. She was competitively selected for & completed the Canadian Film Centre Slaight Music Residency, as well as the Krakow Film Music Festival SynCamp. Most recently, Suad was shortlisted for **Billboard Canada's 2026 Female Composer of the Year**.

Her orchestral music was performed by the Belgian National Orchestra, Vermont Symphony, the National Arab Orchestra, Friedenauerkammerensemble, Luneburg Symphony, & the Syrian Expat Philharmonic (of which she's a composer in residence) to name a few, in venues like Konzerthaus Berlin, Philharmonie Berlin, BOZAR, Malmo Live Konserthus, & Elbphilharmonie. In 2021, her 20-minute cello concerto, Sampson's Walk on Air, commissioned by the Vermont Symphony Orchestra and performed live at the Flynn Center for the Arts, received a five-minute standing ovation from all 1400 audience members in attendance. Her instrumental music was performed in Finland, Norway, Hawaii, Jerusalem, & Carnegie Hall. She brought some of her film scores to the concert stage. She was commissioned by Betty Productions (London Olympics 2012) to compose music for the UAE 48th official celebration, which was recorded by the London Symphony & played at a huge audio-visual show in December 2019 with 30K attendees.

Suad earned a scholarship & holds a bachelor's degree in music composition from Canada's top music school, **McGill University**, & studied at the **Higher Institute of Music in Syria**. She gave film-scoring lectures & workshops in schools, universities, & festivals in the US, Canada, & Oman, & moderated panels for the **DOC Institute & the Academy of Canadian Cinema & Television**.

She raised thousands of dollars for the Syrian Kids Foundation & the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation through non-profit music album sales. She was an invited composer to the joint concert between the Orquesta Sinfonica de Bergara & SOS Racismo in the Basque country, raising thousands of euros for El Sistema Greece's children refugee music integration program. Suad gave interviews in four languages to BBC, NPR, Der Tagesspiegel, Radio Canada, Mother Jones, Radio Euskadi, & France Info. She speaks Arabic, English, French, Spanish, & holds an additional Bachelor in Education. She is a Screen Composer's Guild of Canada Board Member, a member of the Alliance for Women Film Composers, & is represented by Core Music Agency.

PRESS LINKS

MOTHER JONES
https://www.motherjones.com/media/2015/11/composer-suad-bushnaq-syrian-refugees-damascus-higher-institute-music/

BBC THE ARTS HOUR
https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p03fq2w5

BBC WORLD SERVICE
https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p03d492r

WUNC/NPR 'The State of Things' with Frank Statio
https://www.wunc.org/post/amman-raleigh-life-arab-composer-suad-bushnaq

NEW YORK TIMES-WOMEN IN THE WORLD
https://womenintheworld.com/2015/11/30/arab-composer-recalls-a-syria-unlike-the-one-you-see-on-the-news/

VERMONT SYMPHONY BLOG
https://www.vso.org/2017/12/06/suad-bushnaq/

CBC RADIO CANADA (French)
https://ici.radio-canada.ca/premiere/emissions/desautels-le-dimanche/segments/reportage/53596/syriens-refugies-orchestre

Franceinfo (French)
https://www.francetvinfo.fr/monde/revolte-en-syrie/un-orchestre-d-expatries-syriens-joue-pour-la-premiere-fois-en-france-cest-un-genre-de-resistance_2494775.html