



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), ASHRIDGE (CBC), MONTREAL GIRLS (Level 33 Ent.)

AWARDS & NOMINATIONS

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| 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) |

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| HOLLYWOOD MUSIC IN MEDIA AWARDS nomination | 2018 | <i>Best Music: World (AL MUNATAF, THE ROAD TO JENIN)</i> |
| ARAB FUND FOR ARTS AND CULTURE grant | 2019 | Original Soundtracks, Independent Arab Cinema |

FEATURE FILMS

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| 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) Aquatinter 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) <i>additional music</i> 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. |

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| 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

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| 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 Zaghera, 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. |

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| 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

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

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| HIND UNDER SEIGE (drama) Fajrona Film, Iguana Films | 2025 | Aida Al Amercani, Sari Silawi, prod. Naji Salameh, dir. |
| POUR THE WATER AS I LEAVE (documentary, animation) Little Giant Motion, Mojo Entertainment | 2025 | J. Daugherty, D. Repas, E. Louise Smith, prod. Daniela Repas, 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-ertainment 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. |

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| 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

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| SINBACH | 2023 | Commissioned by The Canadian Arab Orchestra |
| CLIMATE CANTATA | 2023 | Commissioned by the Boston Children's Chorus |
| UAE NATIONAL DAY COMMISSIONS <i>Ousha's Theme</i> Variation 1: <i>Whale Song</i> Variation 2: <i>A Mothers Love</i> 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, Suad was nominated for a Canadian Screen Award (the Canadian equivalent of a BAFTA or César) 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 McMorow 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 Slight Music Residency, as well as the Krakow Film Music Festival SynCamp.

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.

She 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](#). π

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/>

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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