

# Amisha Upadhyaya

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## PLAYS

### **Asian American Theatre Company**

2009: Selected Playwright, NewWorks Incubator Program

### **The Lark Theatre New Play Competition**

2008, Finalist, "The Horizon Problem."

*Summary: Two couples deal with infidelity in completely different ways as their mutual friend, a physicist, is launching a new renegade theory of light that could make or break his flailing career.*

### **Playwrights Foundation of San Francisco**

2007, Scholarship to develop work with Leigh Fondakowski of Tectonic Theatre  
Developed a full-length dramatic play, "The Horizon Problem."

## SCRIPTS

### **Asian American Theatre Festival**

2005, Best Original Feature Film Script, "A Place" (now "The Other Side of Dreams").

*Summary: Naya must return after her friend's untimely death where she is left in charge of her orphaned son, a piano prodigy lost in the streets of Mumbai. As Naya becomes engrossed in finding him, she discovers a secret behind her friend's death that jeopardizes her marriage and transforms her life.*

### **Indo-American Arts Council**

2003, Best Short Film, "Imperfection" (writer and director).

*Summary: A couple must decide what to do when their unborn child is diagnosed with the same birth defect that killed the husband's mother years earlier.*

## FILM

**Aksha Productions, LLC, Producer / Writer** (2001 to present) New York, NY & Mumbai, India  
Founded a production company bridging the public and private sectors through films targeting social issues, such as HIV/AIDS and birth defects. Secured \$50,000 in grants, donations, and investments. Secured marketing partnerships with MTV, UNICEF, PSI, UNAIDS and Government of India (NACO). Coordinated budget, scheduling, and payments to staff, crew, talent, of production shoots up to \$2 million.

Films: "A Place," feature film. "Imperfection," a short dramatic film.

### **Halal Films, Associate Producer** (2006-2008)

New York, NY

A production company that filmed a documentary feature in 12 different countries on Muslims negotiating their faith with their homosexuality

Film: "A Jihad for Love," directed by Parvez Sharma, produced by Sandi DuBowski.

Premiere: 2008 Toronto Film Festival; released nationally: fall 2008

## EDUCATION

Columbia University, Barnard College, B.A. with Honors in Religion & Dance

Alvin Ailey School of Dance, Martha Graham Dance School, The Lee Strasberg Theatre Institute