



## SOMAN CHAINANI

### *Director / writer*

Soman Chainani is a graduate of the MFA Film Program at Columbia University, and the recipient of the school's top prize, the FMI Fellowship for writing and directing. He also received the CINE Golden Eagle Prize for excellence in directing (joining the ranks of former recipients including Ron Howard, Steven Spielberg, and Robert Altman). His short films have played over 150 international film festivals, won over 20 jury and audience awards, and secured theatrical and ancillary distribution in over 100 territories.

#### CURRENT

**LOVE MARRIAGE** (feature film) as writer and director. In development for producers Ophira Dagan (Framework Pictures – LA), Tracy Brimm and Kate Myers (Forward Films – UK).

**WEDDING HOUSE** (television series) as creator and writer. In development with Ophira Dagan (Framework Pictures) and Greg Brenman (Tiger Aspect).

**MUMBO JUMBO** (animated feature film) as lead writer. In development for Aardman Features Studio. Director – Sam Fell.

#### CREDITS include

**SUHANE SAPNE** ('SWEET DREAMS') – short film

**DAVY & STU** – short film

*An adaptation of Anton Dudley's acclaimed stage play it won Grand Jury awards at the Rhode Island International Film Festival, the Hamptons International Film Festival, and the CINE Awards during its international tour which took it to over 50 events on five continents. It was acquired for distribution in over 100 international territories, and in November 2007 was released exclusively in North America by Strand Releasing, as part of the long-standing, best-selling BOYS LIFE series.*

**KALI MA** – short film

*Jury/audience prizes at its first three events in Honolulu, New York City, and Philadelphia. It then played over 55 film festivals including events in Seattle, Dublin, Sao Paolo, Johannesburg, Lisbon, Melbourne, San Francisco, Copenhagen, Warsaw, Moscow, New Orleans, Tehran, Madrid and Mumbai. It was featured in The Times of India, the country's largest newspaper as one of the 'undiscovered gems' of the year. North American distribution: PictureThis Entertainment; international distribution: Quat Media; premiered on the MTV-owned channel LOGO in October 2007.*

Before joining the Columbia University film program, Soman graduated Harvard University in 2001, *summa cum laude* and top-ranked in his field, with a degree in English & American Literature. He worked alongside Mira Nair at Mirabai Films and was the co-founder of the South Asian International Film Festival, the largest event of its kind in the country, now entering its fourth year in New York City.

Soman is based in New York.