

# Tarun Saldanha

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10+ years in Factual HETV Production | Netflix & Amazon Documentaries | Long & Short form Content Production

## ‘Multifaceted experience in factual documentary production working on highly acclaimed HETV documentaries’

A versatile television professional with a strong track record in factual and factual entertainment programming across the UK and India. Specialising in archive research, licensing, copyright, and clearance, ensuring seamless production workflows while managing budgets, compliance, and broadcaster deliverables. Brings a sharp editorial eye for research and developing storylines, paired with excellent communication skills to foster meaningful relationships with contributors and crews. Skilled in production coordination, logistics, location access and risk assessment for overseas shoots. Also, an independent filmmaker, creating impactful awareness and educational films in India's third sector. Driven by a passion for fresh perspectives, rich characters, and bringing stories to life with heart and authenticity.

## Key Skills

- Research & Fact checking
- Contributor Development & Care
- Archive Production, Sourcing & Licensing
- Budgeting & Cost Control
- Concept, script & story development
- Compliance & Delivery Documentation
- Logistics & Scheduling
- Production & Post workflows
- Dynamic Risk Assessment & Monitoring
- HSSE & EDI Compliance
- DSLR & Mirrorless Filming
- Production Planning & Coordination
- Development Sector experience
- Access, Permit & Release Management
- Project Strategy & Implementation

## Work Experience: Freelance Producer – Factual / Factual Entertainment

03/2013 – Current

Production Consultant ‘Alexander Armstrong in India (W/T)’, Burning Bright Productions  
3-part presenter led travelogue across India as a rising global superpower.

Archive Producer ‘The Mighty Dons (W/T)’, Massive Owl Productions  
Feature documentary development about the remarkable true story of the Wimbledon Club FC and its fanbase.

Archive Producer: ‘PV Sindhu: Going for Gold (W/T)’, Massive Owl Productions  
4-part all-access docuseries following Indian badminton star, PV Sindhu, on her quest for a third Olympic medal in Paris 2024.

Archive Producer: ‘AP Dhillon: First of a Kind’ - Amazon Prime, Passion Pictures  
4-part music observational docuseries that follows the journey of singer AP Dhillon, a Canadian-Punjabi phenomenon.

Archive Producer: ‘Caught Out: Crime. Corruption. Cricket.’ - Netflix, Passion Pictures  
Sports documentary about India’s biggest match-fixing scandal, the icons caught in its web and journalists who uncovered it.

Archive Producer: ‘Mumbai Mafia: Police vs the Underworld’ - Netflix, Minnow Films  
Crime documentary depicting brazen clashes between Mumbai organized crime syndicates and the police’s ‘encounter cops.’

Producer: ‘Crime Stories: India Detectives’ - Netflix, Minnow Films  
Access-driven observational docuseries following Bengaluru City Police in their investigations of serious crime.

Development Producer: ‘Mother Teresa: For the Love of God?’ - Sky Docs, Minnow Films,  
Historical docuseries revealing the extraordinary truth behind the controversial and complex figure.

Producer: ‘Bad Boy Billionaires: India’ - Netflix, Minnow Films  
Investigative docuseries about India’s most infamous tycoons. Episode 1: The King of Good Times.

Location Producer: ‘Who Do You Think You Are?’ - SBS, Warner Bros., Australia  
Lisa Wilkinson, S11 Genealogy documentary TV presenter and journalist Lisa Wilkinson discovers family tree connections in India.

Location Producer: ‘Great Indian Railway Journeys’ - BBC TWO, Boundless Productions  
UK A travel documentary series hosted by Michael Portillo filmed in South India.

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|-----------------------|---|
| Co-producer / Camera: | Feature stories for 'Eco India' – DW (Deutsche Welle)<br>A weekly magazine show on environmental and social projects that are improving lives in India - Tele-consult With Your Vet in Bangalore   Using Green Therapy to Improve Mental Health   Deccan Development Society - Women Farmers of Telangana.  |
| Camera:               | 'In Search of Gold - A Portrait of Kolar Gold Fields' - Sahapedia<br>A documentary about the history and legacy of the Kolar Gold Fields in Karnataka (30 min)  |
| Camera:               | 'Kho-Ki-Pa-Lü / Up, Down and Sideways' - U-ra-mi-li project<br>A multi award-winning musical portrait of a community of rice cultivators in Nagaland. The film follows the cycle of paddy cultivation and the polyphonic music of the community. <a href="http://uramili.in">http://uramili.in</a> (83 min) |
| Director / Camera:    | 'Belaku Kendra: The Centre of Light' - Mariamma Charitable Trust)<br>Short film about initiatives to provide sustainable, alternative livelihood for women around Bandipur. (15 min)  |
| Director / Camera:    | 'Idhu Mudeevalla Aarambam (Not an End, a Beginning)' - DEMCARES<br>A two-part short film to raise awareness about dementia through lived experiences of caregivers. (36 min)  |
| Director / Camera:    | 'Schizophrenia Research Foundation' - SCARF, Chennai<br>A short film about the mental health organization for broadcast on national network Doordarshan. (10 min)   |
| Director / Camera:    | 'Anbulla Kadu' (Beloved Forest)<br>Short film in support of a land struggle campaign by villagers outside Chennai.  |
| Director / Camera:    | 'C/o Platform' - Public Service Broadcasting Trust (PSBT)<br>A short film about the lives of urban homeless in Georgetown, Chennai for broadcast on DD National (38 min)<br>(Others on request)   |

## Other Professional Experience & Voluntary Work

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|---|--|-------------------|
| Internal Communication Strategist:  | Wipro, Global Infrastructure Services (GIS), Bangalore | 01/2012 – 03/2013 |
| Devising and facilitating communication media to promote smooth functioning between Practice & Delivery teams.            |  |                   |
| Senior Producer & Correspondent:  | Real Estate TV, Chennai                                | 02/2007 – 06/2008 |
| Helped launch Real Estate TV, a national channel for news and analysis on real estate, urban planning and architecture.   |  |                   |
| Co-Founding Partner:  | Filter Coffee Productions, Chennai                     | 02/2004 – 02/2007 |
| An indie documentary & short film production house. Developed and co-directed over 20 films for a diverse set of clients. |  |                   |
| Research/Production Assistant:  | Synergy Communications, New Delhi                      | 08/2003 – 01/2004 |
| Worked the acclaimed quiz show 'University Challenge India' for the media company headed by quiz-master Siddhartha Basu.  |  |                   |

### Voluntary Work

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|---|---|---------|
| Fundraising and Events Volunteer            | Bristol A.R.C (Animal Rescue Centre)      | Current |
| Community Outreach & Relationship Volunteer | A Good Thing (Community Interest Company) | Current |

## Education

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| Post Graduate in Broadcast Journalism: | Asian College of Journalism, Chennai, India   Broadcast Journalism & Production   BBC World Service certificate in Television Journalism |
| BA in English (Honours):               | University of Delhi, Shaheed Bhagat Singh College, India   |
| SSCE/HSC - 12th Std / A-Levels:        | St. Columba's School, New Delhi – CBSE   Commerce Stream   |

## Additional Information

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| Software & Project Tools: | Adobe Creative Suite - Photoshop, Lightroom & Premiere Pro, DaVinci Resolve, Wordpress, Canva, MS Office, Project & SharePoint, Google Workplace, Zoom |
| Languages:                | English, Hindi and Tamil   |
| Other information:        | Full UK Driving Licence, British Residence Permit since 2021   |