

Starting out as an apprentice Mechanical Engineer with the **Ministry of Defence**, Andrew Rajan has worked on steam locomotives, **Formula One** cars, elephant's teeth and meteorites. Thereafter, travelling around the world, he then trained at the **Guildhall School of Music & Drama** studying classical texts alongside the likes of Damian Lewis, Ewan McGregor, Joseph Fiennes and Dominic West; he graduated in 1993 and worked as a professional actor for the next 12 years.

Andrew appeared in high-end, award winning dramas *Loved Up* and *Holding On*, aswell as Hollywood blockbuster *The League Of Extraordinary Gentlemen*, working with, among many others, Richard Harris, Jason Isaacs, Andrew Lincoln, Ian Hart, Peter Cattaneo, Adrian Shergold, Jack Gold and Hanif Kureishi.

Radio work included numerous pieces for the **BBC World Service**, as well as the award-winning *My Beautiful Cash & Carry*, *Laundrette* And *Assorted Confectionary* and *Goodbye Moses* for **BBC Radio 4**.

During this time he also regularly worked as an actor on script development for **PAL**, helping writers flesh out characters and story arcs on intense, secluded courses deep in the Kent countryside with mentors Roy Battersby and Roger Smith. Scribes such as Nick Stafford, Andrea Arnold and Gurpreet Bhatti brought their work to this crucible of creativity.

Tiring of the stereotyping afforded in the main to actors of colour, Andrew soon branched out into filmmaking, producing a Short, *Losing Heart*, funded by the **William & Eva Fox Foundation** and **A4E Express** through the **National Lottery** and then went on to co-write, direct and produce debut feature film *Offending Angels*. Made on a shoestring, *Angels* premiered at **Raindance 2001** and went on to **Gothenburg** and become the **Gala Opening Film** at **Britspotting** in Berlin, with a UK theatrical release following in 2002.

In 2005 he took the plunge and, leaving acting behind, he successfully applied to the **National Film & Television School**, graduating with a **Screenwriting Masters** (Commendation) in 2007. Whilst at the **NFTS** he made the controversial short *Opportunist*, which was subsequently picked up by **Propeller4Film** and sold to **FoxTV**.

Since then, as Director of **Ambient Film Ltd**, he has made two documentaries and a new feature drama *Greys Inbetween*. In all, he has now written, produced and directed eight films, including two features and two feature length documentaries. He has four further feature scripts completed and currently has a Sci-Fi TV Pilot **with Parallel Films**.

He was invited to sit on the Jury for the **Bafta's** for Comedy, the **Sony Radio Awards** for Drama and the Short Film Jury for **Vevey Film Festival**.

In 2012, he was invited by the **British Council** to run **Radio Playwriting Workshops** in Kathmandu and was subsequently engaged as sole juror for their resulting Nepali Radio Playwriting Competition.

As an actor, Andrew Rajan appeared in high-end, **BAFTA** award winning dramas *Loved Up* and *Holding On*, as well as Hollywood blockbuster *The League Of Extraordinary Gentlemen*, working with, among many others, Richard Harris, Jason Isaacs, Andrew Lincoln, Ian Hart, Peter Cattaneo, Adrian Shergold, Jack Gold and Hanif Kureishi.

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Andrew's first stage play '**Mental**' was longlisted for the prestigious Bruntwood Prize in 2013. He also recently completed his first novel, **Cathedrals In The Sky**, to be published later this year.

Additionally, Andrew has sat on the Jury for the **BAFTA's** for Comedy, the **Sony Radio Awards** for Drama and the Short Film Jury for the **Vevey Film Festival**. This year he has been asked to sit on the jury for the **Sandford St Martin Trust Religious Television Awards**.