

Rory D. Bentley

Writer / Director

Rory Dhariwal Bentley is an award-winning Writer / Director of mixed British-Punjabi heritage from Leicester / Edinburgh.

His first feature **AMRIT** is in active late-stage development with the **BFI** after being selected for a coveted place on the BBC Films / BFI / Creative UK **iFeatures** initiative - the UK's premier development lab for debut feature films. His debut TV show '**CUTH - Just A Little Bit Brown**' has been selected as one of 7 U.K projects through The Independent Film Trust's Creative Corridor scheme 2022, backed by **Sony Pictures**.

Rory was one of the inaugural 25 **FILM LONDON LODESTARS**, celebrating emerging talent in the capital and is a **BAFTA** connect member. He was selected as a BAFTA scholar at NYU Tisch School of the Arts and was a recipient of the prestigious John Brabourne Award.

His award-winning 16mm independent short film **SURPRI-!** premiered at BFI London Film Festival 2022 and won '**Best Super Short**' at the **British Short Film Awards**. He co-wrote/shot/directed the award-winning 8mm short **JAMELLA**, starring **Jamie Demetriou** - which won **first prize** at the **Straight 8** 'one roll, no editing' Industry Competition. He has made several other independent & diy short films on 8mm, 16mm (and digital) - which have screened at Academy / BAFTA qualifying film festivals around the world.

Alongside making his own films, he cut his teeth working in-house and freelance for award winning production companies on commercials and features. Notably, he was assistant to **Paul King** (**PADDINGTON 2**) on a feature film for Disney, through Film London's [Equal Access Network](#).

He has been mentored by **Sally Potter** (**ORLANDO**) as part of the Four Corners' *Zoom* programme, and is currently being mentored by *Camera D'Or* winner **Anthony Chen** (**ILO ILO**) as part of *iFeatures* / Director's UK *Inspire* Scheme.

He studied French & English Literature and, after a stint writing and marinating in Paris, is now based in the UK.



Agents

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Credits

In Development

Production	Company	Notes
AMRIT 2022	BFI / The Other Gemini Pictures / Betes Sauvage	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Feature film in development as Writer & Director- Took part in iFeatures 2019/2020 Initiative- John Brabourne Award recipient- Set during the summer holidays of the year 2000, it tells the story of how a 12-year-old boy from Leicester copes with losing his father, name, Sikh religion, family and identity after a sudden accident forces his mother to move him and his younger sister 300 miles away to Edinburgh

Short Films

Production	Company	Notes
SURPRI-! 2022	Fred Deedes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Original short film- As Writer and Director- Official Selection: BFI London Film Festival 2022
BELONGING 2019	Rory D. Bentley / Elizabeth Middleton / Fred Deedes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Writer, Director, Editor and Producer- Official Selection: Edinburgh International Film Festival, Cork Film Festival & British Shorts Berlin
VARKEN 2017	The Other Gemini Pictures	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Writer, Director and Editor- Selected for the Palm Springs and Aesthetica film festivals, for which, at the latter, it was featured as one of their all time favourite shorts
JAMELLA 2016	The Wagon	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Co-Writer / Director, DOP and Sound Editor- Stars Jamie Demetriou (STATHS LETS FLATS) and Susannah Scott- Won first prize at the Straight 8 'One roll, no editing' Industry Competition in Cannes
