



INTO DUST

Preliminary Press Notes

Directed by Orlando von Einsiedel

Featuring
Indu Sharma
Sudha Bhuchar
Danish Husain

Written by Charlotte Wolf

Produced by
Abhijeet Chhabra
Andrea Cornwell
Harri Grace
Khalid Waseem

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Synopsis

When activist Perween Rahman is murdered, her sister Aquila returns to Karachi, Pakistan to investigate, and finds herself caught up in powerful forces intent on stealing the city's water. Based on a true story, INTO DUST follows the journey of a woman who worked tirelessly to protect the water rights of Pakistan's poor and ended up making the ultimate sacrifice.

Perween Rahman

Perween Rahman was a Pakistani social activist and director of the Orangi Pilot Project Research and Training Institute, a development NGO of Karachi, Pakistan.

Perween was born on January 22, 1957, in Dhaka, then situated in East Pakistan. As a teenager, she moved to Karachi after the fall of Dhaka and obtained a Bachelor of Architecture degree from the Dawood College of Engineering and Technology. She also received a Postgraduate diploma in housing, building and urban planning in 1986 from the Institute of Housing Studies in Rotterdam, Netherlands.

She worked at a private architecture firm before being recruited by Dr. Akhtar Hameed Khan to become Joint Director of the Orangi Pilot Project in 1982, where she managed the housing and sanitation programmes. In 1988, OPP was split into four organisations, and Perween became Director of OPP-RTI (Orangi Pilot Project – Research and Training Institute), also managing programmes in education, youth training, water supply and secure housing.

The OPP operated in the Orangi Town Low Income Settlement of Karachi, which provided water and sanitation services to hundreds of thousands of citizens in poor settlements throughout Pakistan. The innovative project, started in 1980, helped residents of those poor communities build their own sewer and water systems.

A media-shy but prominent social activist and educationist, Perween was involved in creating a water plan with Karachi Water and Sewage Board, which was a water supply plan to the city that was presented to the government, politicians, and NGOs. “For every issue we try to provide a situation analysis, list the issues and provide solutions,” she said.

Perween had been instrumental in devising ways to deal with sanitation problems and devoted her life to the development of impoverished neighbourhoods across the country. She worked in an environment that most people would avoid and was a great help to people who would come to her whenever a problem struck them, trusting her like an elder sister.

In 1989, she founded the NGO Urban Resource Centre in Karachi and was also on the Board of Saiban, another NGO dedicated to low-income housing, and OPP-OCT (Orangi Charitable Trust, the microfinance branch of OPP).

In addition, Perween taught at the University of Karachi, NED University, Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture and Dawood College of Engineering and Technology, all located in Karachi.

Perween was an ardent compiler of records of the land on the fringes of the city, villages that were quickly vanishing due to the ever-increasing demand by thousands of families who were moving to Karachi every year from across the country. She said on record that villages had been merged into the city over the years and that land-grabbers subdivided them into plots and earned billions from their sale. Perween documented everything and also worked to help those whose land had been grabbed, never hesitating to go to an area where her life was constantly under threat.

On March 13, 2013, Perween was killed when four gunmen opened fire on her vehicle near her office, ending her long career of working for water and land rights. She had been an outspoken critic of the land and water mafias in Karachi and their political patrons and had long been receiving death threats. When friends and relatives advised her to take care of herself, she reportedly smiled, waved her hand and said, "What will they do? I have to work a lot and in the middle of the people."

Perween Rahman involved communities in development work and endeavoured to empower people and lessen their sense of deprivation. Not changing her routine to help people was, in her eyes, a defeat to terrorists and her great achievement to bring healthy changes to the lives of the residents of Orangi leaves an indelible impact.

For her work and academic achievements, Perween Rahman was awarded the Mehdi Ali Mirza Award for Academic Excellence (1984), the Jaycees Award for community work (1986), the National Building Research Institute award for Housing (1994), the UN-Habitat Best Practice (with OPP-RTI) in 1996, the Faiz Foundation Award for community research (1997), a World Habitat Award (with OPP-RTI) in 2001, a Rotary Club Award for vocational services (2001) and in 2008 she was granted the title of Lifetime Honorary Member of the Water Academy in Oslo. On March 23, 2013, the Government of Pakistan posthumously conferred on her the Sitara-e-Shujaat, Order of Bravery.

Aquila Ismail

Aquila Ismail worked as an Associate Professor of Electrical Engineering in the NED University of Engineering and Technology, Karachi. She is the author of a seminal novel, *Of Martyrs and Marigolds*, on the experience of Urdu speaking Pakistanis in erstwhile East Pakistan, when from its ashes rose the state of Bangladesh. She has written extensively on literature, women and development issues for newspapers and magazines. She has translated a number of Urdu works of fiction into English, including *Harvest of Anger and other Stories*, *Godavari*, and *Zindabaha Lane*. Her non-fiction works include documentation of the work of Orangi Pilot Project (OPP) a development NGO of Karachi.

At present she is pursuing justice, in the Supreme Court of Pakistan, for her sister, Perween Rahman, who was assassinated in March 2013, as a consequence of her work in seeking access to water, sanitation, and land rights for the poor. She is the Chairperson of the Orangi Pilot Project-Research and Training Institute (OPP-RTI), a Development NGO based in Karachi, Pakistan.

Director's Statement

The emotional heart of the film follows Perween and Aquila and their respective battles for justice - Perween's for local families being robbed of their essential water supplies, and Aquila's for her murdered sister in the face of indifferent and possibly complicit officials. The bigger backdrop to the story is the growing crisis of the world running out of fresh water, and the collapse of governance, growth of criminal networks and opportunistic greed and corruption, that comes with it. The United Nations predicts that over 5 billion people could be affected by water scarcity in just 10 years. The story of Karachi today is the story of Los Angeles and London in years to come if things don't change. Goldman Sachs calls water the 'oil of the next century' and while some may get rich as the world's supply dwindles, it will of course be the poorest and most marginalised communities who suffer.

It's a travesty that the murder of Perween did not get the media and public attention it deserved in 2013. To ensure Perween's work has a global legacy, we have secured funding for a worldwide impact campaign around issues of water scarcity, corruption and the protection of local and indigenous environmental activists which will accompany the film's release. Perween's sister Aquila and her team in Karachi are a key part of this, working alongside a team of US, Indian and Chinese impact producers.

Cast in Order of Appearance

Perween Rahman	INDU SHARMA
Aquila Ismail	SUDHA BHUCHAR
Anwar Rashid	DANISH HUSAIN
Wali Dad	MASOOD AKHTAR
Masood Ismail	SANDEEP MEHTA
Sahar Ismail	SUHANI POPLI
Saima Ismail	NIKITA GROVER
Faisal Siddiqui	SHORBA BHATTACHARYA
Jawaid Ali	VIKYAT GULATI
Aisha	ANUSHKA SAWNEY
Woman getting water	HENNA AKOLKAR
Naseem	SABAK JOSHI
Valve Man	NAGENDRA VERMA
Ahmad (hydrant operator)	PRIYADARSHAN SINGH
Tareen (hydrant boss)	ROHIT MEHTA
Ashraf Khan	NARENDAR RAJPUT
Ali Gujjar	PARITOSH SAND
Man in Suit	AJIT SHIDHAYE
Reporter at Funeral	MAHEIKA SHARMA
Amina Rahman	PRATIBHA RAVAL
IG Khalid Hassan	YURI SURI

Key Cast Biographies**Sudha Bhuchar (Aquila Ismail)**

Sudha Bhuchar is an award-winning actor, playwright and founder of Bhuchar Boulevard. Her theatre acting credits include Gurpreet Bhatti's *KHANDAN* (Royal Court and Birmingham Rep), Tanika Gupta's *LIONS AND TIGERS* (Globe theatre) and *THE VILLAGE* by April de Angelis (Theatre Royal Stratford East). Television credits include *CORONATION STREET*, three series of Ruth Jones' *STELLA* (Sky TV), *NOUGHTS AND CROSSES* (BBC) and the television adaptation of *FOUR WEDDINGS AND A FUNERAL*. Film credits include Rob Marshall's *MARY POPPINS RETURNS* for Disney, Ben Wheatley's *HAPPY NEW YEAR COLIN BURSTEAD*, Bassam Tariq's critically acclaimed *MOGUL MOWGLI*, starring Riz Ahmed, Aleem Khan's upcoming *AFTER LOVE* and Khayam Khan's *A GAME OF TWO HALVES*.

Bhuchar won the UK Asian Film Festival's Tongues on Fire "Flame" Award in 2018; was a Best Actress finalist for BBC Radio 4's Audio Drama Awards in 2019 for *MY SON THE DOCTOR*, which she co-wrote, with Saleyha Ahsan; and won Eastern Eye's Arts Culture & Theatre Award (ACTA) for her Outstanding Contribution to the Creative Industry in 2019.

As Co-Founder of Tamasha with Kristine Landon-Smith, their landmark work includes *A FINE BALANCE* (adapted from Rohinton Mistry's novel), *STRICTLY DANDIA* and the

award-winning musical *FOURTEEN SONGS TWO WEDDINGS AND A FUNERAL*. Bhuchar's acclaimed works as a playwright include *CHILD OF THE DIVIDE* (Winner of the Best Stage Production Asian Media Award in 2018) and *MY NAME IS...*, which she also adapted for Radio 4, where it was "Pick of the Week" (A program which broadcasts a selection of highlights from the past week on BBC Radio).

She is currently appearing in her one-woman monologue *EVENING CONVERSATIONS* (recently featured at the Women of the World Festival at Southbank) and is under commission to Radio 3 and Revolution Arts/Wellcome Collection for *TOUCHSTONE TALES*, an exploration on the theme of Touch with communities in Bury Park.

Indu Sharma (Perween Rahman)

An alumni of the National School of Drama in New Delhi, Indu Sharma graduated from the drama school in 2001. She started as a Hindi theatre and television actor before she quit acting and moved on to casting for Bollywood films and web series.

Project highlights include Hansal Mehta's web series *SCAM 1992* and Vidhu Vinod Chopra's film *SHIKARA* with a special mention in his book *Unscripted*.

She returned to acting for Deepa Mehta's dystopian Netflix sci-fi drama series *LEILA*.

Danish Husain (Anwar Rashid)

Danish Husain is an actor, poet, storyteller and a theatre director. He lives in Mumbai, India, and runs a theatre company called The Hoshruha Repertory. He was instrumental in reviving the lost art form of Urdu storytelling *Dastangoi*, which he later transformed into a multilingual storytelling project *QISSEBAAZI*. He has recently been applauded for his roles in the Netflix series *TAJ MAHAL 1989* and an independent film *MEE RAQSAM* on the Zee5 movie screening platform.

Filmmaking Team Biographies

Orlando von Einsiedel (Director)

Orlando von Einsiedel is an Academy Award-winning director and founder of film production company Grain Media. His work includes: Academy Award-winning short documentary THE WHITE HELMETS, which follows the lives of a group of heroic Syrian civilian rescue workers; Academy Award-nominated feature documentary VIRUNGA, charting the story of a group of courageous park rangers risking their lives to build a better future in the Democratic Republic of Congo; BIFA winning feature documentary EVELYN, a deeply personal story and road trip odyssey about the loss of his brother to suicide and his family's route to recovery; and Academy Award-winning LEARNING TO SKATEBOARD IN A WARZONE (IF YOU'RE A GIRL) which he executively produced and which grew out of his earlier award winning short film, SKATEISTAN; TO LIVE AND SKATE KABUL. Orlando is drawn to telling inspiring stories of humble heroism from around the world, often combining intimate personal narratives with macro level politics and powerful visual aesthetics.

Charlotte Wolf (Screenwriter)

Charlotte is a writer working in film and television. In 2017, she was selected for the BBC's New Talent Hotlist and in 2018 she was nominated for the Breakthrough Talent award at the BAFTA Television Craft Awards for her first TV commission, the 90-minute film INSPECTOR GEORGE GENTLY for Company Pictures and the BBC. She has also written episodes of WHITE STORK for Eleven, MEDICI for Big Light Productions/Netflix and THE LAST KINGDOM for Carnival/Netflix and has several original television and film projects in development, including an upcoming series THE RISING for Sky.

Abhijeet Chhabra (Producer)

Abhijeet Chhabra is an independent producer working in the Indian film and advertising industry. He brings his experience of over a decade, with numerous Indian and international crews, to the table with his sharp production sensibilities, technical know-how and work ethic. A handy on-set man, he loves small crews, independent films and locations that are challenging. He is a propagator of the power of responsible cinema, that can be used to not only entertain but also enlighten and educate. If he's not working, he is possibly riding his motorcycle or looking for adventures in obscure corners of the world.

Andrea Cornwell (Producer)

Andrea Cornwell is an award-winning film producer. Her most recent film SAINT MAUD, directed by Rose Glass (Film4, BFI) was released by A24 and Studiocanal, and was one of the most critically acclaimed British films of the year, winning multiple awards including Best British Film at the London Film Critics Circle, and Best Debut Director at the BIFAs. She is currently producing THE ESSEX SERPENT for Apple TV+, directed by Clio Barnard and starring Claire Danes.

Other recent work includes APOSTASY, directed by Daniel Kokotajlo (BFI, BBC Films) which also received its world premiere in Toronto, and was nominated for a BAFTA for Outstanding Debut, six BIFAs, and won Best British Film at the Screen Awards. In documentary, she produced the feature SEAHORSE directed by Jeanie Finlay (Tribeca Film Festival 2019, UK release in September 2019) and the multi-award-winning BRUCE LEE AND THE OUTLAW, directed by Joost Vandeburg (winner of eleven international awards). Andrea's previous producing credits include SUITE FRANÇAISE starring Michelle Williams, Kristin Scott Thomas and Margot Robbie; LAST DAYS ON MARS starring Liev Schreiber and Olivia Williams (world premiere at Directors' Fortnight in Cannes), the award-winning THE SCOUTING BOOK FOR BOYS, and comedy drama MICRO MEN for the BBC.

Harri Grace (Producer)

Harri Grace is a Senior Producer and Executive Producer at two-time Oscar, Emmy and Peabody-winning Grain Media. He is twice Emmy-nominated, Grierson-nominated, and the winner of two Foreign Press Association Awards, a SIMA Award, a One World Media Award, and three New York Festivals Gold Awards.

He has worked extensively with Orlando von Einsiedel, including on LOST AND FOUND and INTO THE FIRE, part of a series of shorts made in collaboration with the Nobel Peace Prize and both premiered at the Telluride Film Festival. LOST AND FOUND was an official selection at San Francisco Doc Stories, DOC NYC and others. It won the Audience Award at AFI Fest and was nominated for two Emmys (including Outstanding Short Documentary 2020). INTO THE FIRE was nominated for Best Short Documentary at the Critics Choice Awards 2020.

Khalid Waseem (Producer)

Khalid Waseem is a producer and journalist based in Islamabad, Pakistan. Over the last 20 years, he has worked extensively across the country, making films on topics including Partition with India, the Taliban, adoption, drug rehabilitation, Pakistani art, and the persecution of minorities. His films have been screened across the world, including on the BBC, PBS and Netflix.

He met Perween Rahman in 2007, and describes her as one of the most impressive people he's ever met.

Franklin Dow (Cinematographer)

Cinematographer Franklin Dow's work has screened at hundreds of film festivals around the world, picking up numerous awards along the way, including an Outstanding Cinematography EMMY for his work on the Oscar and Bafta-nominated film VIRUNGA, directed by Orlando von Einsiedel.

His collaboration with von Einsiedel over the years has resulted in a stunning array of both feature films and shorts including LOST AND FOUND, EVELYN, A RIDE TO REMEMBER, THE WHITE HELMETS, MOON SHOT, KING OF THE MOUNTAIN, WE ARE FIRE, AISHA'S SONG, MY NAME IS FEKER, RADIO AMINA and SKATEISTAN: TO LIVE AND SKATE KABUL.

To date, Franklin has shot in 40 countries across 6 continents, from Afghanistan to Zimbabwe and that breadth of experience continues to inspire his work.

Masahiro Hirakubo (Editor)

Masahiro Hirakubo has edited numerous feature films, shorts and television series. He first worked with Orlando von Einsiedel editing the Academy Award-nominated feature documentary VIRUNGA, followed by the Academy Award-winning documentary short THE WHITE HELMETS and more recently, EVELYN, winner of the 2018 British Independent Film Award for Best Documentary.

His collaborations with some of the finest filmmakers in the business include four films with Danny Boyle: SHALLOW GRAVE, TRAINSPOTTING, A LIFE LESS ORDINARY and THE BEACH, as well as editing Uberto Pasolini's NOWHERE SPECIAL, Andy Serkis' feature directorial debut, BREATHE, Stephen Frears' THE HI-LO COUNTRY.

Masahiro also recently served as Co-Producer of Daniele Rugo and Abi Weaver's feature documentary ABOUT A WAR.

Patrick Jonsson (Composer)

London-based Patrick Jonsson composed the score for the 2017 Academy Award-winning THE WHITE HELMETS, which earned him a Primetime Emmy Award nomination for Outstanding Music. He worked again with director Orlando von Einsiedel to compose the score for EVELYN, winner of the British Independent Film Award 2018 for Best Documentary, for which Patrick's score was picked out as one of *The Best Scores of 2018* by Film School Rejects. Patrick and Orlando previously collaborated in 2014 on the Academy Award and BAFTA-nominated feature documentary VIRUNGA, executive produced by Leonardo DiCaprio.

Patrick has twice collaborated with director Alexandria Bombach – first on FRAME BY FRAME (co-directed by Mo Scarpelli) and again with ON HER SHOULDERS, following Nobel Peace Prize winner Nadia Murad. For both films, Patrick was nominated for Best Documentary Score at the Hollywood Music in Media Awards.

Recently, Patrick co-composed music for the BBC2/Netflix series BLACK EARTH RISING with Martin Phipps, an 8-part series starring Michaela Coel and John Goodman, and wrote additional music with Rupert Gregson-Williams for TNT's hit series THE ALIENIST, starring Daniel Bruhl and Dakota Fanning.

As a solo artist, Patrick released his debut album *Suddenly We Looked Like Giants* in 2018 to much acclaim, and was picked out as one of the best albums of 2018 by Headphone Commute, alongside Olafur Arnalds, Johann Johansson and Max Richter. Tracks from the album have been played on BBC6 Radio, and Patrick was additionally featured on Spitfire Audio's "Ones to Watch" series.

Mikkel Bondesen (Executive Producer)

Mikkel Bondesen is the founder and CEO of Fuse Entertainment; a Management and Production company, located in Hollywood, California.

Bondesen's entrepreneurial drive can be traced back to his roots in Denmark where, at the age of 14, he published Dansk Wildstyle Graffiti, a book highlighting Danish graffiti artists, and had co-founded one of Denmark's first commercial radio stations by the end of the following year. Upon graduating from United World College of the Atlantic, he moved back to Denmark and enjoyed a prolific career as a production manager and producer before moving to the United States in 1996 to attend film school.

By 1998, Bondesen had graduated from AFI and set out to become a talent manager and quickly established a vast network within the industry. He launched his management company in 2000, and by 2004 his client list comprised of almost exclusively of A-list writers and producers. He was subsequently named on the highly prestigious Hollywood Reporter "Next Generation List."

Bondesen still works as a manager to clients such as Josh Schwartz (THE OC, GOSSIP GIRL, RUNAWAYS), James Vanderbilt (ZODIAK, TRUTH), John Hamburg (MEET THE PARENTS, I LOVE YOU MAN, ALONG CAME POLLY), Chris Fedak (CHUCK, DECEPTION), and Dan Lin (LETHAL WEAPON television show, THE LEGO MOVIE, IT).

While building his management company, Bondesen used his Danish background to carve out an untapped niche by securing the rights to some of Scandinavia's most popular films, books and TV series. He has executive produced television shows such as THE KILLING for AMC and Netflix, BURN NOTICE for USA, BOSCH for Amazon, THE COMEDIANS for FX, 100 CODE for DISCOVERY and American Odyssey for NBC. On the feature side, he produced TRUTH starring Cate Blanchett and Robert Redford.

Leveraging his wide expertise in media and creativity, Bondesen has consulted for some of the world's largest media companies including Netflix, O&M, AMC and Spotify.

He has worked as adjunct professor at the University of Southern California, and is the founder of The Young Storytellers Program, a nonprofit that inspires creativity in children through the art of storytelling.

Bondesen lives in Los Angeles with his Danish wife, two children, dog, and can be found ripping up the local trails with his friends on his mountain bike or running shoes when not working or with his family.

Nikolaj Bondesen (Executive Producer)

After receiving his Masters in International Business studies, Nikolaj was a junior partner working as a brand strategy consultant and key account manager in one of Scandinavia's biggest advertising and marketing companies. He worked closely with global brands in heavy industry, FMCG and technology, and for a decade, one of his favourite accounts was the Danish family Foundation-owned pump manufacturer Grundfos.

In 2010, Nikolaj left advertising and together with his cousin Mikkel Bondesen, started UFUSE, a creative management and brand storytelling agency, working with creative people and projects in companies within media, technology and communication around the world. UFUSE helps teams and companies develop creativity, discover strong emotional visions and powerful purposes that can guide successful businesses and transparent communication.

Together, Mikkel and Nikolaj also own the Los Angeles-based production company FUSE Entertainment, which makes films, digital content and storytelling for brands and organisations.

For the past decade, Nikolaj has helped develop creative strategies and processes, teams and leaders, as well as new branding, digitalisation and business ventures with companies such as Netflix, Spotify, AMC, Fremantle, Pro7Sat1, TV4, SVT, RBC, Danske Bank, Novozymes and many more.

Dan Lin (Executive Producer)

Dan Lin is the founder and CEO of Rideback, the film and television company known for producing tentpole live-action and animated content for global audiences. Since forming his company in 2008, Lin has produced films that have grossed over \$5 billion in worldwide box office. He most recently produced the live-action remake, ALADDIN, Disney's first non-Marvel movie in 2019 to cross \$1 Billion in worldwide box office, and IT: CHAPTER TWO for Warner Bros. which followed up Lin's horror blockbuster hit IT. Lin also produced the awards contender THE TWO POPES for Netflix, which earned three Oscar nominations including acting nominations for its stars Anthony Hopkins and Jonathan Pryce.

Lin is responsible for the worldwide hit LEGO MOVIE franchise, which has included THE LEGO MOVIE, THE LEGO BATMAN MOVIE, THE LEGO NINJAGO MOVIE, and THE LEGO MOVIE 2: THE SECOND PART. Lin also previously produced the mystery thrillers SHERLOCK HOLMES and SHERLOCK HOLMES: A GAME OF SHADOWS, starring Robert Downey, Jr., as well as Fox's highly rated television series LETHAL WEAPON. Rideback is currently in production on WALKER, an update of the popular CBS series WALKER, TEXAS RANGER, for CBS Television Stations and the CW.

Lin also established Rideback Ranch, a creative campus in Historic Filipinotown that serves the needs of world-class writers and creators through unique programs including the Rideback TV Incubator, formed in partnership with MRC, which financially and creatively supports TV writers from diverse backgrounds who seek to create their own series for cable or streaming.

In addition to housing Rideback, the Ranch is also home to industry leading companies such as David Ayer's Cedar Park Entertainment, Margot Robbie's LuckyChap Entertainment, Warner Animation Group and animation studio Animal Logic.

Prior to founding Rideback, Lin served as Senior Vice President of Production for Warner Bros. Pictures. During his eight-year tenure at the studio from 1999 to 2007, he oversaw the development and production of major motion pictures such as Martin Scorsese's Oscar-winning drama THE DEPARTED.

Lin serves on the Board of Directors for several non-profit organizations, including the Evolve Entertainment Fund, the Good Shepherd Center for Homeless Women and Children, and the I Dream of Fish Foundation.

Mark Bauch (Executive Producer)

Currently Senior Vice President of Imagine Television, Mark Bauch is a former independent producer based in Los Angeles, California. He Executive Produced the film THE TWO POPES, directed by Fernando Meirelles (CITY OF GOD) and starring Anthony Hopkins and Jonathan Pryce, which was distributed globally by Netflix. The film premiered at the Telluride Film Festival 2019, and was nominated for three Academy Awards, including Best Adapted Screenplay, and four Golden Globes, including Best Motion Picture – Drama and Best Screenplay – Motion Picture. Bauch also produced five short documentary films for the Nobel Prize, including LOST AND FOUND, which won the AFI Audience Award for Best Short, and INTO THE FIRE. Both films premiered at the Telluride Film Festival 2019 and have screened at numerous festivals. All five films were directed by Academy Award-winning director Orlando von Einsiedel (THE WHITE HELMETS, VIRUNGA), and bought by National Geographic, who will be releasing them on their network, starting with LOST AND FOUND, which was shortlisted for the IDA documentary awards, in November 2019.

Bauch was also previously Vice President at Lin Pictures (now Rideback), a Warner Bros.-based production company.

In addition to his work as a producer, Bauch is a fine art photographer and occasional writer. In 2014, he authored and made photographs for C Magazine's "Flight School" cover story. Preceding his time in Hollywood, Bauch directed content for Nike. In 2005 he wrote, shot, directed and edited KRANK!, a mockumentary for outerwear brand Helly Hanson.

Bauch started his professional career as an action sports and lifestyle photographer and writer, predominantly working in the snowboard world. Mark made photographs for clients such as Vans, Burton, Switzerland Tourism and Austria Tourism, and shot photos and wrote dozens of articles and short stories for publications such as The Times of London, Onboard and many others.

Bauch grew up in London where he received his BA in Graphic Design from Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design. He also studied fine art at The Cooper Union in New York City.

Bauch has lived in New York, Cologne and Austrian Tirol, and speaks fluent German. He moved to Los Angeles in 2006.
