

Muneera Sallies

Director. Writer.
Producer. Creative leader.

Cape Town roots.
Stories that travel.

A life in stories, on screen
and in the rooms where
filmmakers find their way.



DIRECTOR OF
Old Righteous Blues
South Africa's official submission
to the 97th Academy Awards

Stories were part of home.



ON SET / OLD RIGHTEOUS BLUES

Before film became a career, it was part of home. Muneera grew up in Cape Town with a mother who wrote for the stage, page and screen, and a father who worked with paint and cameras. Stories were things people made together.

That inheritance is visible in the work: families negotiating love and conflict, communities carrying their histories, and people searching for a place to belong. Her films make room for the particular textures of South African life while asking questions that travel well beyond it.

More than 20 years in film and television have taken her from directing actors and producing work to supervising stories, leading teams and creating training for other filmmakers. The thread is a practical one: understand the story, bring people into it, and do the work needed to carry it through.

Outside the production world, she has coached young touch rugby players and qualified as a Dive Master. The field, the ocean and the film set give her different ways to work with people, preparation and trust.

Family. Identity. Belonging.

Old Righteous Blues

A Cape story, heard around the world.



“I want the audience to experience a life-lived.”

Muneera Sallies / From her director's statement

[Read the statement excerpt >](#)

MUNEERA'S DIRECTING HONOUR

Best Director

Romford Film Festival
United Kingdom / 2024

SELECTED FILM RECOGNITION

South Africa's official submission
97th Academy Awards

Best African Film
Septimius Awards / 2025

Outstanding Film Fiction Award
National Arts and Culture Awards / 2025

[Watch the official trailer >](#)

[Read Variety coverage >](#)

Different worlds. A filmmaker's eye.



Twisted Christmas

Co-writer & director

A festive ensemble feature where humour, family friction and the possibility of reconciliation meet around the table.



Marjetsah: Rise of the Golden Gift

Producer & co-director with Gasan Sallies / In development

An original fantasy adventure created by Gasan Sallies, taking a young princess into a world fractured by shadow.

TELEVISION DRAMA

Melody

Director

FACTUAL SERIES

David Klatzow: Looking Into Darkness

Director, selected episodes

FEATURE / IN DEVELOPMENT

Salt Water

Writer, director & co-producer

The work grows. So do the people.



OMBURA / NAMIBIA

Training designed. Films mentored to delivery.

Muneera created training in technical directing, directing actors and scriptwriting, and mentored the stories and films from development through final delivery. Her contribution joined practical teaching with sustained work on the films themselves.

BUILDING TALENT

At NEWF, she led Training and Development, coordinated filmmaking labs and created course content. She co-founded FHS Academy with her brother Junaid and coached Western Province junior girls' touch rugby, carrying her experience of preparation, teamwork and accountability into mentorship. Her writing mentorship also includes Longhope TV Writing with the Jakes Gerwel Foundation and M-Net Channels.

CREATIVE & COMMERCIAL PERSPECTIVE

Her career spans directing, producing, story development and executive leadership. She currently serves as Commissioning Editor for Premium Scripted Content at MultiChoice / CANAL+.

Experience includes work on individual projects with budgets ranging from R500,000 to R100 million. Selected executive credits follow on the next page.

Explore the Ombura case study >

Creative authority. Across the slate.

From sustained television storytelling to crime and documentary series, Muneera's executive portfolio brings together content supervision, executive production and story judgement. These selected highlights sit within a wider body of screen work.

Skemergrond

Telenovela

Content Supervisor & Executive Producer

Reënboogrant

Drama series

Executive Producer & Story Supervisor

Die Oord

Crime thriller series

Executive Producer & Story Supervisor

Dark Side of Glory

Documentary series

Executive Producer & Story Supervisor

False Glory

Crime documentary series

Executive Producer & Story Supervisor

EXECUTIVE PRODUCTION, STORY & PRODUCTION MENTORSHIP

#OppiPlaas / Ataman / Speel Aan / Lubinda

Executive Producer, Story Supervisor & Production Mentor

A selection from a wider executive portfolio. Further credits include Die Rooftog, Dhina Boys and Dubbel Moeilikheid as Executive Producer; the selected filmography records additional screen work and exact roles.

[Explore the wider screen record >](#)

Let's make it a conversation.

A local story on an international stage

What Old Righteous Blues reveals about cultural specificity, community and the journey from a South African production to international recognition.

The director and the actor

Building trust, working with ensembles and turning an understanding of character into choices that can be seen and felt on screen.

Mentorship that stays for the whole film

Designing practical training and supporting filmmakers through script development, directing, production and final delivery.

Creative leadership with a filmmaker's eye

Bringing story judgement and production experience to executive work, developing talent and making decisions that serve both the work and the people making it.

SHORT BIOGRAPHY / READY TO USE

Muneera Sallies is an award-winning South African director, writer, producer and creative executive. Raised in a Cape Town filmmaking family, she brings more than 20 years of experience to stories about family, identity and belonging. She directed Old Righteous Blues, South Africa's official submission to the 97th Academy Awards, and creates training and mentorship that helps filmmakers take their stories through to delivery.

Enquiries: hello@muneerasallies.com

For interviews and events, include the topic, audience, date, location or online format, and deadline. For film work, include the project stage and the role you have in mind.

Portraits, biographies & professional documents >

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