



# IT HAPPENS TO US

Written, directed and Produced by ANUBHAV SINGH

Co-Produced by NIGHTINGALE NGUYEN Cinematography by WESTIN NGUYEN

Production Design by LORI SI Edited by PRANAY NICHANI Colour by CLINTON HAMOUTH

Sound Design by KERTHEKAN BALASUBRAMANIAM Music by KALAISAN KALAICHELVAN

Distributed by ALPHA FILMS



Canada Council  
for the Arts

Conseil des arts  
du Canada



ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL  
CONSEIL DES ARTS DE L'ONTARIO  
an Ontario government agency  
un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

α  
FILM



ALPHA FILM PRESENTS

# IT HAPPENS TO US

a film by  
Anubhav Singh

*"In an attempt to rescue their schizophrenic father, the Baig sisters' misfortune turns for the worst when they have to rely on an emergency helpline."*

Alpha  
FILM

Gaetano Natoli  
info@alphafilm.it - www.alphafilm.it

Materials and information:  
<https://www.alphafilm.it/en/It-Happens-to-Us>

*International title...* **IT HAPPENS TO US**  
*Original title .....* **It Happens To Us**  
*Running time .....* **15'**  
*Genre .....* **Drama**  
*Year .....* **2024**  
*Language .....* **English**  
*Country .....* **Canada**  
*Color-B/W .....* **Color**  
*Format .....* **16:9**

### ***Synopsis***

---

Amidst the pandemic, the Baig sisters, Nur and Zainab, navigate a challenging family situation. Their father, Umar, plagued by schizophrenia after the demise of their mother Abida, lives in a hallucinatory world where Abida is still alive. On the anniversary of Abida's demise, Umar's condition spirals into panic attack and what follows next is a turn of unfortunate events.

#### **Official website:**

<https://www.alphafilm.it/en/It-Happens-to-Us>

**Sales / Distribution:** Alpha Film  
info@alphafilm.it  
www.alphafilm.it



## CAST

---

Urooj Khan  
Sara Jaffri  
Afroz Khan



## CREW

---

*Written and Directed by* Anubhav Singh  
*Director of Photography* Westin Nguyen  
*Editing* Pranay Nichani  
*Production Design* Lori Si  
*Make-up* Rhythm Malhotra  
*Composer* Kalaisan Kalaichelvan  
*Sound* Evan Gareth Hoffman  
Kertheakan Balasubramaniam  
*Color* Clinton Homuth  
*Producer* Anubhav Singh  
Nightingale  
*Distribution* Alpha Film

## OFFICIAL SELECTIONS & AWARDS



---

WORLD PREMIERE

---

## ***Director statement***

I still remember it was March of 2020, the panic of COVID 19 had not settled and we were all cooped up during the first lockdown. That is when I came across the headline that put me in a spiral. A 60 year old schizophrenic man was killed by Peel police during a wellness check. This unsettling news grew more disturbing as I read the details. The man was a father, an uncle and a loving human being going through deep emotional and psychological trauma. He needed help but was failed by the system.

This led me to research about the wellness checks in Canada and the trend of recurring violence associated with them. Turns out there is a repetitive trend of violence, police brutality and racism following these distress calls, inflicted by the poorly trained police. The victims in the majority of the cases belong to BIPOC communities. Chantel Moore, Ejaz Chodury, Regis Korchinski, D'Andre Campbell and so many others who have been killed during police wellness checks were all going through mental health crises. It is so tragic that they have been reduced to mere headlines and statistics by the media. There is no widespread acknowledgement of this failure. No justice has been served till date.

As someone who has a family history with schizophrenia and anxiety, having lived with a loved one suffering from mental illness has helped me empathize with the family members of such individuals who have been victims of these systemic failures. Their struggle inspires me and I wish to tell a story from their perspective.



## ***Anubhav Singh, director***

Originating from New Delhi, India, Anubhav is a film director who is currently based in Mississauga, Canada. With a foundation in fine art as well as film directing, Anubhav thrives on understanding of both artistic and technical aspects of filmmaking. He aims to tell stories that are diverse in nature but possess a common, relatable emotional ground with emphasis on empathy.

Filmography:

- ***IT HAPPENS TO US***

Short Film

funded by Canada Council Of The Arts, Ontario Arts Council

- ***MA'S BUTTON BOX***

Short Film

- ***GET UP AISHA***

CBC Gems Digital series

(To be released)

