

# Rupinder

Nagra



## Actor

You simply can't take your eyes off this rising star, Rupinder Nagra. The Hamilton, Ontario native garnered critical acclaim for his breakthrough role as a rickshaw driver in the award-winning film, *Amal*, sharing many scenes with screen luminaries Naseeruddin Shah, Seema Biswas and Roshan Seth. The Richie Mehta-directed film premiered at the 2007 Toronto International Film Festival. The red carpet rolled right up to awards season where he was nominated for a Genie—the Canadian equivalent of the Academy Awards—and nabbed the Best Actor award at the 2007 Whistler Film Festival. Bollywood's uber director, Karan Johar produced Nagra's latest feature film, *Kurbaan* under the banner of one of Bollywood's top production houses, Dharma Productions. Directed by Rensil D'Silva of *Rang De Basanti* fame, *Kurbaan* had Nagra rubbing shoulders with veteran actors and heartthrobs such as Om Puri, Saif Ali Khan and Kareena Kapoor. Next up are projects with award-winning director Santosh Sivan (*Before the Rains*, *The Terrorist*) and an action adventure film. Nagra is also very interested in the behind-the-scenes aspects of filmmaking and is currently co-producing and acting in a film titled *Fricky*. This Canadian lad is well on his way to becoming a recognizable face amongst South Asian actors.

Rupinder brings humility to his acting, which is very unique for an actor.  
 — Naseeruddin Shah, actor

## Q&A:

**Zodiac sign:** Virgo.

**Relationship status:** Married.

**Best way to unwind:** Listening to music and having a 'Rupinder' (a very special drink that only a lucky few have had a chance to try).

**Fave Bollywood movie:** *Kaagaz ke Phool*.

**Favorite Hollywood movie:** *The Shawshank Redemption*.

**Favorite book:** *Maximum City*.

**Guilty pleasure:** Really good vanilla ice-cream mixed with fresh organic peanut butter, cashew nuts and Smarties.

**If you could choose a superpower, what would it be and why?**  
 The ability to fly, so I would never have to be stranded without my passport or worry about visa issues.

**What is on your iPod?** What isn't?? Guns & Roses, Snow Patrol, Spek, Jagjit Singh, Michael Jackson, Madonna, U2, Radiohead, Pilot Speed, K-OS, Eminem, MIA, Kings of Leon, Depeche Mode, Duran Duran, Pink, Indian film music and yes, *bhanga*.

**Something quirky about you no one would know:** I believe in pedicures.

**Best personal feature and why:** You tell me!

**Best feature on the opposite sex:** The neck.

**Celebrity crush:** Salma Hayek.

**If you had to choose, would it be Romance or Hot Sex?**  
 Why choose!

**Three things you can't live without:** Music, MacBook and passport.

**Most memorable professional moment:** Sharing screen time with Naseeruddin Shah, Roshan Seth and Seema Biswas—three actors I admire.

**Most valuable life lesson:** Get out there, live life and learn.

**Motto you live by:** Leap and the safety net will appear.