

EYING ON THE SILVER SCREEN

Quite undecided about her professional career after graduating in science from Delhi University, SELINA SHETH did a one-year course in Mass Communication from the Indian Institute of Mass Communication. A meeting happened with Television 18's Raghav Behl who was then looking out for young people to join his team for the various shows

he was working on. And Selina joined TV 18 in 1993.

For two-and-a-half years she worked for TV 18's 'India Business Report' (BBC World) as news correspondent. From a news correspondent, she graduated to anchoring and anchored the daily business show 'India Business Day' which was aired on ABN1 and also shot short features for



Selina Sheth with co-director Anil Sharma on the sets of Agnichakra.

'Amul India Show'. With 'Aakarsha' she got a break to write her first fictional programme of which she was the script and dialogue writer.

While she says she found TV 18 an ideal and a very professional organi-

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sation to work for where she got her basic training in a thoroughly professional environment, she decided to come to Mumbai because for a creative person wanting to experiment and explore the TV medium, the options were limited in Delhi. The first person she met in Mumbai was Vinta Nanda. "She had nothing on air then but there were a couple of shows she was working on and she asked me to join her team," recounts Selina who wrote a few stand-off episodes of Saturday Suspense and X Zone for Tracinema. Then along with Anil Sharma, her colleagues at TV 18, she shot the pilot of Agnichakra which made it to Zee airwaves within no time "because the channel liked its concept and format."

Agnichakra is a docu-drama which deals with real-life crime stories. While the actual crime is recreated

visually, between scenes the voice-over is used to explain the modus operandi of the criminals. Selina says the show deals with only solved cases which have judgment papers.

Selina is not directing any other show at the moment because Agnichakra takes lot of her time. However, right from the beginning she has been a part of the story development team for Raahen and Aur Phir Ek Din, the popular soaps on Zee and Star Plus respectively. She finds the television medium very challenging because for a creative person there is so much to do and experiment with different ideas. Which is why for the next couple of years she will concentrate on making television software though the ultimate goal is to graduate to the silver screen.

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