

CHANDIGARH I 2024 I 27-31 MARCH

Festival Catalogue

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Festival Director	VS Kundu	
Artistic Director	Bina Paul	
Program Team	Mauli Singh, Senior Programmer	
	Monica Gyamlani, Senior Programmer	
	Shivika Jain, Programmer and Program Manager	
Curator, Children's Films	Monica Wahi	
CIFF/ Market Curator	Namrata Joshi	
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Head, Children's Section	Hydra Sandhu	
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Consultant	Anupama Bose Lancy John	
Coordinator, Workshops	Mrinal Varhadi	

WELCOME NOTE



VS KUNDU Festival Director Cinévesture International Film Festival (CIFF)

It gives me immense pleasure to welcome you to the inaugural edition of the Cinevesture International Film Festival and to the City Beautiful - Chandigarh - the City that symbolises design, architecture and

interactive public spaces. CIFF aspires to reflect the same - with a balanced focus on the art and business of filmmaking in its design, and aiming at a global scale while maintaining an intimate and immersive form. Every member of the team that brings CIFF to you shares an uncompromising love for some facet of the cinema space. As an art form, Cinema lends itself to a wide variety of creative expressions and has an amazing ability to penetrate into all strata of the society.

Over its century old history, this medium has often triggered significant social and cultural changes, shown a remarkable resilience in the face of catastrophes and weathered technological storms with aplomb. It transcends language and physical barriers to provide an intimate access to the diversity and richness of global culture and has evolved as an effective tool to foster tolerance and harmony.

CIFF aims to bring you an experience that encompasses it all. This edition brings you the best of this year's World and Indian Cinema. While we are starting small, meticulous planning has gone into the curation of films, masterclasses, panel discussions and interactive sessions to meaningfully engage the audiences. The CIFF Film Market aims at building a wholesome ecosystem for the business of film making vide a professional and efficient networking platform that we hope will become global in the following editions.

I am sure you will appreciate the loving attention that has gone into every aspect of preparation for this festival including our tribute to Raj Kapoor and Dev Anand through an exhibition celebrating their centenary. Cinevesture and the Union Territory of Chandigarh take pride in bringing this festival to you, and, with your support, hope to lay a strong foundation for an annual event to enrich the cultural landscape of the City Beautiful.

WELCOME NOTE



BINA PAUL
Artistic Director
Cinévesture International Film Festival (CIFF)

Setting up a new festival is always a pleasure. The challenges of bringing a new experience of cinema to cities with their own history and culture and burgeoning young audiences with an appetite

for cinema is exciting. The artistic culmination of cinema infused with a spirit of discovery ignites newer spaces with conversation and local flavour cinema.

Cinevesture International Film Festival's first edition will pilot with a plethora of films - bringing you some accessible films while making cinema accessible to the newer audience, and in some ways expanding the idea of accessible itself.

The city of Chandigarh, with its foundation in design and art with the architecture of Le Corbusier, is becoming a new destination where meaningful development of cinema will be explored with the CIFF/ market being held alongside the festival.

Curating for CIFF has been exciting. We are discovering and building an audience and we also want to have children involved, as the future torch bearers of good cinema. The selection has been motivated by these concerns. Academy, Cannes and Venice favourites, some under explored gems from Asia are here to celebrate cinema in this urban landscape of Chandigarh. We've planned some striking shorts and endearing children's films that will be appreciated by all. Classics like Guru Dutt's Kagaz ke Phool, Ray's Jalsaghar and Kundan Shah's Jaane Bhi Do Yaaron will be a celebration of our repertoire culture as we embark to nurture and design a new one.

CIFF is a hand in to people who are interested in culture cinema viewing and making.

We look forward to this journey with Chandigarh as a partner.

CINÉVESTURE

ABOUT CINEVESTURE - https://cinevesture.com/about-us/

Story-telling is universal, and as the front end of the film business goes global, as films and series transcend linguistic and cultural boundaries, we believe it is time to create connectivity across these barriers in the back end of the business.

Cinevesture's focus is on building the business of film and addressing the needs of a producer at various stages of filmmaking. These include film festivals and marketplaces to connect investors and creators.

Investors broadly encompass content developers, financiers, producers, exhibitors, and the key stakeholder around whom returns on investment revolve - the audience.







ABOUT CIFF (https://ciff.in/)

Cinévesture International Film Festival (CIFF), is a celebration of diverse filmmaking, featuring an array of content across genres, cultures, and perspectives.

It also seeks to provide a launchpad for upcoming talent.

Your film experience would include masterclasses, workshops, and an opportunity to work with the film industry as potential investors and collaborators with film professionals. The CIFF Market facilitates business through the creation of connections between investors, presentation of curated and other projects.

CIFF also offers ancillary events that are open to the public, including a film exhibition, production design installations, karaoke evenings, and late evening open air screenings.

ADVISORY BOARD



RANA DAGGUBATI ACTOR/PRODUCER

Rana Daggubati is a National Award-winning filmmaker and a successful actor in Telugu, Tamil, and Hindi (Indian) films. He made a sensational debut, simultaneously winning the Filmfare Award and Zee Cine Award for Best Male Debut in Telugu and

Hindi for his roles in Leader (2010) and Dum Maaro Dum (2010),respectively. He is widely known for his roles in the magnum opus films Baahubali: The Beginning (2015) and Baahubali 2: The Conclusion (2017). A Belly Full of Dreams (2004), a film he co-produced at the age of 20, received two National Awards for Best Picture and Best Child Actor. His company, Spirit Media, currently works with all the leading platforms and studios. Having a keen eye for top-quality content, he has presented films like C/O Kancharapalem, Charlie 777, and Pareshan through his home production house, Suresh Productions. Daggubati's entrepreneurial spirit has seen him invest in tech companies like Gamezop and Iknoz Club and promote unique media-tech startups through Anthill Studio. His latest venture includes SouthBay, a pop-culture marketplace driven by setting new narratives in cinema, showbiz, music, and marketing. He also owns a large part of the iconic publication company Amar Chitra Katha.



AJITPAL SINGH DIRECTOR/WRITER

Ajitpal Singh is a self-taught filmmaker living in Mumbai. Born in Punjab, Ajitpal was a young boy when his father's cinema in Bathinda suffered huge losses during the Punjab insurgency of the 1980s and 90s. The family was forced into a move to an

Ahmedabad ghetto in Gujarat, where they lived amid poverty and violence. Ajitpal overcame these early barriers to study chemistry, theatre and photography, before choosing filmmaking to express himself creatively.

His first feature film which he wrote and directed, Fire in the Mountains (2021), premiered at the 2021 Sundance Film Festival, where it was nominated for a Grand Jury Prize in the World Cinema – Dramatic competition. It went on to play at more than 30 film festivals around the world and win numerous awards. Kino Lorber has acquired the film and will release it theatrically in North America and Canada from May 2022. Ajitpal directed his debut web series Tabbar (2021) which is streaming on SonyLIV and was ranked highly in various Indian 'Best of 2021' lists – it came in fifth in Variety's Best International Shows of 2021. In 2018, his short film Rammat Gammat won two honours at the prestigious Oberhausen International Short Film Festival and is now available to watch on Mubi.

Ajitpal is currently working on a horror film set in Kashmir.



JEROME PAILLARD
FILM PRODUCER/CONSULTANT

After successively working as a classical musician, artistic director and CFO for a classical record label, Jérôme Paillard produced over a dozen feature films alongside Daniel Toscan du Plantier at Erato Films by famous directors like Satyajit Ray,

Mehdi Charef, Souleymane Cissé, Maurice Pialat, Jean-Charles Tachell.

Executive Director for Festival de Cannes' Marché du Film from 1995 to 2022 he developed and managed what is now heralded the world's leading film market.

He has also been the co-Director of Ventana Sur, the first market specialised in Latin-American films, since its creation in Buenos Aires in 2010. Paillard is also the founder of cinando.com, a leading online resource, communication and screening platform for the industry.

He now consults for events, film and business projects; he is the President of the ACM Distribution commission at CNC and mediates in audiovisual industry disputes. Paillard has participated in several commissions at CNC and SACEM, has been a professor at the ESCP-EAP, the INA SUP, the Universities of Avignon and Lausanne, and is Chevalier des Arts et des Lettres.

In a second life, he is also an aircraft commercial pilot and flight instructor.



JULIAN FRIEDMANN SCREENWRITER

Julian Friedmann is co-owner of the Blake Friedmann Literary Agency and was the publisher of ScriptWriter magazine, which became the premiere magazine for screenwriters in the UK and Europe. At the agency, he represents both book and

scriptwriters and also acts as Executive Producer for and with clients.

Julian is the author of the Make Money Screenwriting series (an updated version of the previous How to Make Money Scriptwriting), co-author of The Insider's Guide to Writing for Television, and editor of two volumes on Writing Long-Running Television series.

He has taught at universities and film schools all over the world. He designed the MA in Television Scriptwriting at De Montfort University, and PILOTS (for developing long-running television series) for the EU MEDIA Programme.

He has been on both Emmy and Grierson Juries and is Senior Advisor to the London Screenwriting Festival.



NICOLE GUILLEMET FILM PRODUCER

Guillemet has worked in key positions in the film industry for over thirty-five years. For 16 years she worked at the Sundance Institute as Vice-President and Co-Director of the Sundance Film Festival. In 2002, she founded the Utah Film

Center bringing the world of film to local audiences, emphasising social content and artistic excellence. From 2002 - 2007, Guillemet was the Director of the Miami Film Festival leading the Festival through an astounding five-year period of growth. In the last 18 years she has worked as an executive consultant for various international film festivals including, the Middle East Film Festival in Abu Dhabi. She co-founded two festivals in Latin America: Costa Rica and Dominican Republic. She is currently a Senior Programmer at El Gouna Film Festival. In 2005 she was awarded the Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres from the French Minister of Culture for her support of French Cinema.



NUHASH HUMAYUN WRITER/DIRECTOR/PRODUCER

Nuhash Humayun is a Bangladeshi writer/director with a love for combining genre with South Asian identity.

A self-taught filmmaker, Nuhash wrote, directed and edited the short film MOSHARI (2022), Executive produced by Jordan

Peele and Riz Ahmed. MOSHARI won the 2022 SXSW Jury Award as well as 10 awards at HollyShorts, Fantasia, Atlanta, Melbourne and many more. It is now slated for a feature film adaptation.

Nuhash also wrote and directed the Disney/Hulu original FOREIGNERS ONLY as part of 20th DIGITAL'S BITE SIZE HALLOWEEN, Season 3. It is the first Bangladeshi production on any U.S. streaming platform. Nuhash is currently working on his debut feature film MOVING BANGLADESH, a co production between Bangladesh, Taiwan, and USA. Nuhash is a Sundance Screenwriting Fellow, and has received support from Berlinale Talents, Film Independent, the Hollywood Foreign Press, the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, Cannes Marche du Film & ScreenCraft.

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PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARDS

The People's Choice Award underscores our commitment to inclusivity and the diverse tastes within our audience.

By placing the spotlight on films that resonate with a broad spectrum of viewers, we aim to celebrate cinematic works that engage and connect with audiences on various levels.



At the end of each screening, attendees would be requested to cast their votes using the voting options provided by the festival.









La passion de Dodin Bouffant

The Taste of Things

French | France | 2023

Narrative | Feature | 135 mins

1885. Peerless cook Eugenie has worked for the famous gourmet Dodin for the last 20 years. As time went by, the practice of gastronomy and mutual admiration turned into a romantic relationship. Their association gives rise to dishes, one more delicious than the next, that confound even the world's most illustrious chefs. But Eugenie is fond of her freedom and has never wanted to marry Dodin. So, he decides to do something he has never done before-cook for her.

Director's Biography

Trn Anh-Hng (b. 1962, lives and works in Paris, France) is a French filmmaker of Vietnamese descent. After the fall of Saigon at the end of the Vietnam War in 1975, he immigrated to France at the age of 12. He studied philosophy at a university in



France. By chance, he saw Robert Bresson's film A Man on the Run and decided to study film instead. He then studied cinematography at the Louis Lumiere Academy.

Hng has been at the forefront of a wave of acclaimed overseas Vietnamese cinema over the past two decades. His films have received international recognition and acclaim, including an Oscar-nominated debut for Best Foreign Film with *The Scent of Green Papaya* (1993), which also won two top prizes at the 46th Cannes Film Festival (1993). His follow-up, *Cyclo* (1995), starring Hong Kong film star Tony Leung Chiu-Wai, won the Golden Lion at the Venice Film Festival. Recently, he returned in a French production, *La Passion de Dodin Bouffant/The Taste of Things* in 2023, which won him the Best Director award at the 76th Cannes Film Festival.

Festivals/Awards

Cannes Film Festival 2023 Winner - Best Director BFI London Film Festival 2023 Vancouver International Film Festival 2023 Tokyo International Film Festival 2023 Chicago International Film Festival 2023 Busan International Film Festival 2023 Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival 2023 MAMI Mumbai Film Festival 2023

Cinematographer Jonathan Ricquebourg

Editor Mario Battistel Sound Designer

Sales Gaumont Eva.DURIEZ@gaumont.com

Director(s) Anh Hung Tran
Writer(s) Marcel Rouff(novel), Anh Hung Tran
Producer(s) Oliver Delbosc
Production Company Curiosa Films, Gaumont, France 2
Cinma. Umedia









Pa - myo

Exhuma

Korean | South korea | 2024

Narrative | Feature | 134 mins

Young shaman Hwa-rim and her partner and comedium Bong-gil respond to a call for help from the USA, where the wealthy Park family, Korean exiles, is plagued by irritations: something is wrong with the family's descendants and the head of the family himself is hearing screams. The duo accept the job after all, it's well paid - and, along with a feng shui expert and an undertaker, they start to exhume the ancestors' grave in the north of Gangwon-do province. In the process, something escapes from the coffin, people die, others prove to be obsessed and the real problems haven't even started yet. Jang Jae-hyun's third feature film is a horror mystery thriller full of humour and verve, addressing issues of class, history, tradition, religion and superstition. Unfolding around the strange coffin in this odd place is an episodic series of lushly staged incantation rituals with linguistic analyses of grave lids, that relishes in cinematic effects and is carried by a great cast - besides Oldboy star Choi Min-sik as the geomancer, above all Kim Go-eun.

Director's Biography

Born in 1981 in South Korea, he studied at the Korean National University of Arts. His short film 12th Assistant Deacon won the Best Director award at the Jeonju International Film Festival and Best Short Film at the Paris Korean Film Festival.



Continuing his directorial journey, he wrote and directed *The Priests* in 2015 and *Svaha: The Sixth Finger* in 2019.

Festivals/Awards

Berlin International Film Festival 2024

Director(s) Jang Jae-hyun Writer(s) Jang Jae-hyun Cinematographer Lee Mo-gae **Editor** Jeong Byeong-jin **Music** Kim Tae-seong **Sound Designer** Kim Byung-in All Ears

Bosnian Pot

Breaking Ice

Daaaaaali!

Evil Does Not Exist

Fallen Leaves

Goodbye Julia

If Only I Could Hibernate

Let Me Go

Monster

Paradise

Roleless

Seven Winters in Tehran

Something Like An Autobiography

Sultana's Dream

Sunday

The New Boy

The Old Oak

The Promised Land

The Tenants

The Whale

The Zone of Interest

Where the Road Leads





Bu Xu Ci Xing

All Ears

Chinese | China | 2023

Narrative | Feature | 119 mins

Wen Shan is a mediocre screenwriter struggling to make a living in Beijing. Commercial projects are left undone, and his own stories fall by the wayside. He lives a stagnant life in a fast growing city. By chance, he begins to write eulogies for a living. He meets the families of the deceased, carefully observes, listens to the stories, and at last, puts pen to paper. As he restores the lives of others, he finds his own place in the city and finally realises that ordinary people can take the centre stage too.

Director's Biography

Writer-director Liu Jiayin, a Beijing Film Academy (BFA) graduate and current Associate Professor in Screenwriting, is known for her unique cinematic style and thematic focus in China's independent filmmaking. Her debut feature Oxhide



(2005) won the Caligari Film Award and Fipresci Jury Prize at the 55th Berlinale. *All Ears* (2023) marks the first film for Liu since *Oxhide II* (2009), which screened in Directors' Fortnight at Cannes and Rotterdam's Bright Future.

Festivals/Awards

Shanghai International Film Festival 2023 Winner - Best Director, Best Actor Vancouver International Film Festival 2023 Hawaii International Film Festival 2023 Tokyo International Film festival 2023

Director(s) Liu Jiayin Writer(s) Liu Jiayin Producer(s) Mao Chuxiao, Liang Tongyu Production Company Cinematographer Zhou Wencao Editor Yan Yiping Music Hank Lee

Sound Designer Zeng Xiaoming, Liu Jie

Sales Rediance fen@rediancefilms.com, jing@rediancefilms.com



Bosanski lonac

Bosnian Pot

Croatian and German | Croatian | 2023

Narrative | Feature | 103 mins

Faruk ego, a Bosnian writer living in Austria, is suddenly left without a residence permit due to stricter immigration rules and his own negligence. In order to not be deported, Faruk must prove to the authorities that he's made a cultural contribution to Austrian society.

Director's Biography

Pavo Marinkovi graduated from Dramaturgy at the Academy of Dramatic Arts in Zagreb. In 2006, together with Draen arkovi, Pavo co-directed the film *Treeta / Tressette – a Story of an Island*. Marinkovi was also the author of the script. The film won



6 international and 2 domestic awards and has been screened at more than 30 international festivals. In 2013 he finished a Czech-Croatian documentary *Occupation*, the 27th Picture. In 2021 he was appointed the artistic director of "Pula Film Festival" for the next two editions.

Festivals/Awards

Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival 2023 Sarajevo Film Festival 2023 International Film Festival of India 2023

Director(s) Pavo Marinkovi **Writer(s)** Pavo Marinkovi **Cinematographer** Peter Roehsler **Editor** Dubravko Slunjski **Music** Ted Regklis



Ran Dong

Breaking Ice

Mandarin | Singapore | 2023

Narrative | Feature | 97 mins

In cold wintry Yanji, a city on China's northern border, young urbanite Haofeng, visiting from Shanghai, feels lost and adrift. By chance, he goes on a tour led by Nana, a charming tour guide who instantly fascinates him. She introduces him to Xiao, a personable but frustrated restaurant worker. The three bond quickly over a drunken weekend. Confronting their individual traumas, their frozen desires slowly thaw as they seek to liberate themselves from an icy world.

Director's Biography

Anthony Chen is an award-winning writer, director and producer from Singapore. Anthony Chen became the first Singaporean to be awarded at Cannes with the short film *Ah Ma* in 2007. His debut feature *Ilo Ilo* (2013) was awarded the



Caméra d'Or at the Cannes Film Festival, followed by 40 awards internationally including 4 Golden Horse Awards. His sophomore film *Wet Season* (2019) was nominated for the Platform Prize at the Toronto International Film Festival. Both films are Singapore's official submissions for the Academy Awards.

In 2021, he contributed a short to the anthology film *The Year of the Everlasting Storm*, which premiered at Cannes. *Drift* marked his English-language debut and premiered at Sundance 2023. *The Breaking Ice* is his first Chineselanguage film made in China.

Festivals/Awards

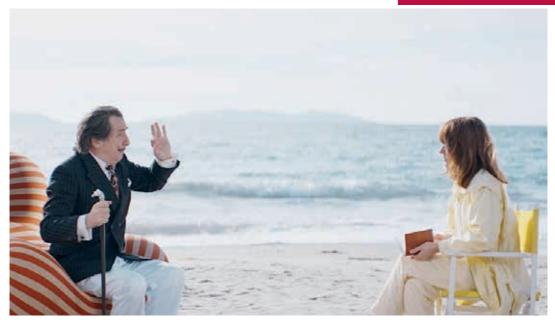
Cannes Film Festival 2023 Uncertain Regard Toronto International Film Festival 2023 Asia Pacific Screen Awards 2023 Nominee - Best Performance MAMI Mumbai Film Festival 2023 Denver International Film Festival 2023 Winner - Excellence in Directing Award Warsaw International Film Festival 2023

Director(s) Anthony Chen Writer(s) Anthony Chen Producer(s) Meng Xie, Anthony Chen Cinematographer Yu Jing-Pin Editor Hoping Chen, Soo Mun Thye

Music Kin Leonn

Sound Designer Zhe Wu

Sales Rediance fen@rediancefilms.com, jing@rediancefilms.com



Daaaaaali!

Daaaaaali!

French | France | 2023

Narrative | Feature | 77 mins

A French journalist meets the iconic Spanish surrealist artist Salvador Dali on several occasions for a documentary project that never gets to start shooting.

Director's Biography

Born in Paris on April 14, 1974, Quentin Dupieux discovered cinema and bought his first synthesizer at 18. Under the name Mr Oizo, he released his track Flat Beat and albums.

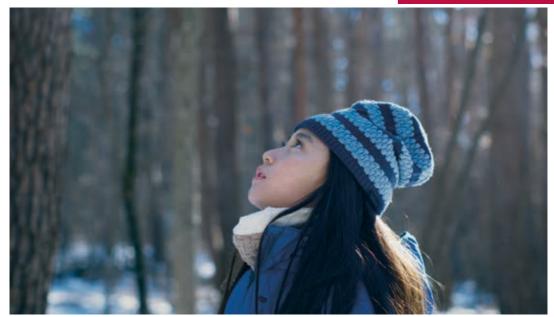


In 2007, Dupieux directed, photographed, edited, and composed the music for his first feature film, Steak. He went on to direct the absurdist horror film Rubber(2010) and the comedy Wrong, followed by Wrong Cops (2012), Reality (2014), Keep an Eye Out (2018), Deerskin (2019), Mandibles (Venice 2020), Incredible But True (Berlinale 2022), and Smoking Causes Coughing (Cannes 2022). In 2023, Yannick premiered in Locarno.

Festivals/Awards

Venice Film Festival 2023 International Film Festival Rotterdam 2024 BFI London Film Festival 2023 Mar del Plata International Film Festival 2023 Gteborg Film Festival 2024 Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival 2023 Geneva Film Festival 2023 MAMI Mumbai Film Festival 2023

Director(s) Quentin Dupieux Writer(s) Quentin Dupieux Producer(s) Mathieu Verhaeghe, Thomas Verhaeghe Cinematographer Quentin Dupieux Editor Quentin Dupieux Music Thomas Bangalter



Aku Wa Sonzai Shinai

Evil Does Not Exist

Japanese | Japan | 2023

Narrative | Feature | 106 mins

Takumi and his daughter Hana live in Mizubiki Village, close to Tokyo. Like generations before them, they live a modest life according to the cycles and order of nature. One day, the village inhabitants become aware of a plan to build a glamping site near Takumi's house; offering city residents a comfortable 'escape' to nature. When two company representatives from Tokyo arrive in the village to hold a meeting, it becomes clear that the project will have a negative impact on the local water supply, causing unrest. The agency's mismatched intentions endanger both the ecological balance of the nature plateau and their way of life, with an aftermath that affects Takumi's life.

Director's Biography

Ryusuke Hamaguchi was born in Japan in 1978. In 2008, *Passion*, his master's degree graduate work from Tokyo University of Arts, was selected at the San Sebastian International Film Festival and Tokyo Filmex. In 2015, his award-winning film

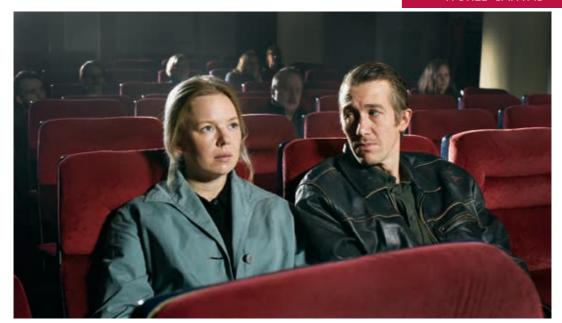


Happy Hour premiered at the 68th Locarno International Film Festival. In 2021, Wheel of Fortune and Fantasy won the Silver Bear Grand Jury Prize at the 71st Berlinale. At the 74th edition of Cannes, Drive My Car won the Screenplay Prize and three independent prizes, including FIPRESCI. The following year it received four Academy Award nominations, including Best Film, Best Director, Best Adapted Screenplay and won the Academy Award for Best International Feature Film.

Festivals/Awards

Venice Film Festival 2023
Toronto International Film Festival 2023
International Film Festival Rotterdam 2024
San Sebastian Film Festival
Winner - Lurra, Greenpeace Award
BFI London Film Festival 2023
Winner - Best Film
Vancouver International Film Festival 2023
Chicago International Film Festival 2023
Busan International Film Festival 2023
Mumbai Film Festival 2023
International Film Festival of Kerala 2023
Winner - Best Film
Red Sea International Film Festival 2023

Director(s) Rysuke Hamaguchi Writer(s) Rysuke Hamaguchi, Eiko Ishibashi Producer(s) Satoshi Takata Production Company NEOPA Inc., Fictive LLC Cinematographer Yoshio Kitagawa Music Rysuke Hamaguchi, Azusa Yamazaki Sound Designer Eiko Ishibashi Sales M Appeal films@m-appeal.com



Kuolleet Lehdet

Fallen Leaves

Finnish | Finland, Germany | 2023

Narrative | Feature | 81 mins

This tender romantic tragicomedy is both a loving tribute to the filmmaker's beloved contemporaries and a timeless, hopeful and ultimately satisfying love story about two lonely souls' path to happiness – and the numerous hurdles they encounter along the way. Set in contemporary Helsinki, and shot through with Kaurismki's typically playful, idiosyncratic style and deadpan humour, this tender romantic tragicomedy is a timely reminder of the potency of movie-going from one of cinema's living legends.

Festivals/Awards

Cannes Film Festival 2023 Nominations - Jury Prize, Palme d'Or Golden Globes 2024 Nominations- Best Picture, Non-English Language Toronto International Film Festival 2023 Winner - TFCA Award, Best International Feature BEI London Film Festival 2023

Director(s) Aki Kaurismki Writer(s) Aki Kaurismki

Producer(s) Aki Kaurismki, Misha Jaari, Mark Lwoff, Reinhard Brundig

Production Company Sputnik Oy, Bufo Oy (Finland) and YLE in co-production with Pandora Film (Germany) and ZDF/ ARTE

Director's Biography

Born in 1957, Aki Kaurismki grew up in "the age terrorised by television", and has tried and managed to capture the inseparable truths of the real world and screen world, which only 35 mm film-pure light instead of digital machinations, artisan practice rather



than technological overkill-makes possible. He has never worked in any other format, least of all video, and is proud to represent the continuity of cinematic tradition.

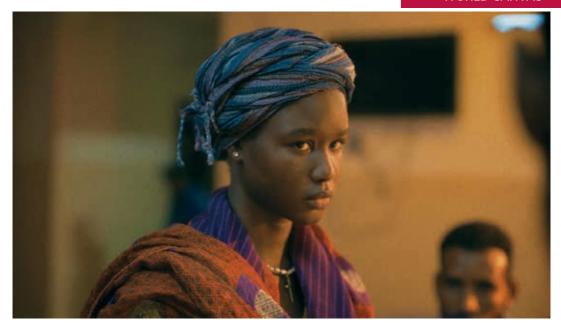
Having never studied at the Finnish Film School (he was thought to be "too cynical"), Aki's minimalist style is all his own (and that of his longtime cinematographer Timo Salminen). At the same time, his films are full of references, acting as inconspicuous participants in a constant dialogue that reveals our environment, society, and psyche as it is now and as it was during the tender years of his childhood. Though little- known to international audiences, Finnish culture is always present in local customs, "objects of love" and allusions to well-known literary works, paintings and of course popular music and beloved films.

Best International Independent Film Vancouver International Film Festival 2023 Busan International Film Festival 2023 Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival 2023 MAMI Mumbai Film Festival 2023 International Film Festival of Kerala 2023 Dharamshala International Film Festival 2023

Cinematographer Timo Salminen Editor Samu Heikkil

Sound Designer Pietu Korhonen

Sales Patricia Perez - pperez@mubi.com



Wadaan Julia

Goodbye Julia

Arabic | Sudan, Egypt, Germany, France, Saudi Arabia, Sweden | 2023

Narrative | Feature | 120 mins

The fated story of the bond between two women, and of redemption for a transgression committed years before, is set in relatively recent troubled times, when the inhabitants of South Sudan fought for regional autonomy from the ruling Arab North. After her husband's tragic death, young Julia and her little son Daniel end up on the streets, until the abandoned pair are taken in by Mona, a well-to-do former singer. The maid and half-orphan are gradually accepted as members of the family, while Mona and Julia become inseparable confidantes. Even a shocking event from the distant past, which only one of them knows about, seems to have been completely forgotten.

Director's Biography

Mohamed Kordofani is a Sudanese filmmaker whose short film *Nyerkuk* won the Black Elephant Award for Best Sudanese Film, NAAS Award for Best Arab Film at the Carthage Film Festival, Jury Award at the Oran International Arab



Film Festival, and Arnone-Belavite Pellegrini Award at the FCAAA in Milan. His second short *Kejers Prison* was screened during the Sudanese revolution at the sit-in square in front of thousands of protesters, and his documentary *A Tour in Love Republic* was the first prorevolution film to be broadcast on Sudan's national TV. His latest work was the film *This Sudan*, which was commissioned by Sudan's former prime minister Abdallah Hamadok to promote Sudan's potential for investment.

Festivals/Awards

Cannes Film Festival 2023 Winner - Un Certain Regard, Freedom Prize BFI London Film Festival 2023 Vancouver International Film Festival 2023 Chicago International Film Festival 2023 Winner - Roger Ebert Award International Film Festival of Kerala 2023

Director(s) Mohamed Kordofani Writer(s) Mohamed Kordofani Producer(s) Amjad Abu Alala Cinematographer Pierre de Villiers Editor Heba Othman Music Mazen Hamid Sound Designer Rana Eid

Sales Ahmed - ahmed.kastawy@mad-solutions.com



Baavgai Bolohson

If Only I Could Hibernate

Mongolian | Mongolia | 2023

Narrative | Feature | 96 mins

A poor but prideful teenager, Ulzii, lives in the yurt area of Ulaanbaatar with his family. He is a physics genius and is determined to win a science competition to earn a scholarship. When his mother finds a job in the countryside, she leaves him and his younger siblings to face a harsh winter by themselves. Ulzii will have to take a risky job to look after them all and keep his home heated.

Director's Biography

Zoljargal Purevdash is a Mongolian filmmaker who studied filmmaking at the University of Obirin in Japan. Her short films were screened at Tampere Film Festival, Short Shorts Film Festival Asia, Open Doors Locarno Film Festival, etc. In 2021,



her short film *Stairs* won the first prize at the Chicago International Children's Film Festival and entered the 94th Oscars Award. She is an alumnus of Talents Tokyo, Asian Film Academy, Locarno Open Doors, Torino Film Lab, and Berlinale Talents. Her first feature film *If Only I Could Hibernate* was officially selected for the Un Certain Regard at the Cannes Film Festival.

Festivals/Awards

Cannes Film Festival 2023
BFI London Film Festival 2023
Vancouver International Film Festival 2023
Busan International Film Festival 2023
MAMI Mumbai Film Festival 2023
Jerusalem Film Festival 2023
Special Mention - First Feature Competition
Hawaii International Film Festival 2023
Winner - NETPAC Award
Fajr Film Festival 2024
Winner - Best Film in the Eastern Showcase Section

Director(s) Zoljargal Purevdash Producer(s) Frdric Corvez, Mava Savinien, Zoljargal Purevdash Cinematographer Davaanyam Delgerjargal Editor Alexandra Strauss Sound Designer Philippe Grivel Sales Urban Florencia Gil - us@urbangroup.biz



Laissez-moi

Let Me Go

France | French | 2023

Narrative | Feature | 93 mins

Every Tuesday, a neighbour takes care of Claudine's son while she goes to a mountain hotel to meet men passing through. When one of them decides to extend his stay for her, Claudine is confused and finds herself dreaming of another life.

Director's Biography

Born in 1986 in Geneva, Maxime Rappaz worked in the fashion world before turning to cinema. In 2016, he obtained a master's degree in cinema and screenwriting (HEAD/ECAL) and then directed the short films *L't* and *Tendresse*. His first feature film



Laissez-Moi, starring Jeanne Balibar, will be released in 2023. Maxime Rappaz is currently writing his second feature film.

Festivals/Awards

ACID Cannes 2023

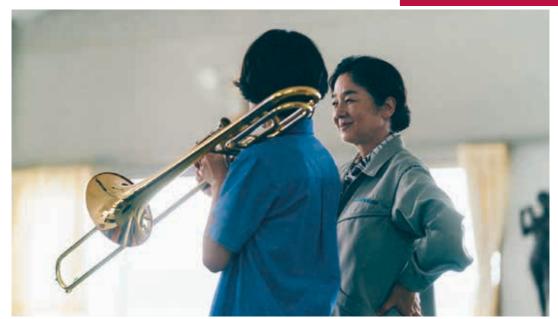
Vancouver International Film Festival 2023 Winner - Audience Award (Vanguard) Zurich Film Festival 2023 Special Mention - Focus Competition Stockholm International Film Festival 2023 Santa Barbara International Film Festival 2024 International Film Festival of India 2023 FIFF Namur 2023

Director(s) Maxime Rappaz

Writer(s) Maxime Rappaz, Florence Seyvos, Marion Vernoux Producer(s) Gabriela Bussmann, Yan Decoppet, Camille Genaud, Micha Wald, Gladys Brookfield-Hampson, Alexander Weiss Cinematographer Benot Dervaux

Music Caroline Detournay

Sales M Appeal - films@m-appeal.com



Kaibutsu

Monster

Japanese, English | Japan | 2023

Narrative | Feature | 127 mins

When her young son Minato starts to behave strangely, his mother feels that there is something wrong. Discovering that a teacher is responsible, she storms into the school demanding to know what's going on. But as the story unfolds through the eyes of mother, teacher and child, the truth gradually emerges. Palme d'Or winner and internationally acclaimed director Kore-Eda Hirokazu returns with a delicate, powerfully moving story of love, duty, social conflict and secrets.

Festivals/Awards

Cannes Film Festival 2023 Winner - Best Screenplay, Queer Palm Toronto International Film Festival 2023 BFI London Film Festival 2023 Vancouver International Film Festival 2023 Winner - Audience Award

Director(s) Kore-eda Hirokazu Writer(s) Yji Sakamoto Cinematographer Ryto Kond

Director's Biography

Born 1962 in Tokyo, Japan. After graduating from Waseda University in 1987, Kore-eda joined TV Man Union where he directed several prize winning documentary programs. In 1995, his directorial debut, *Maborosi* won the 52nd

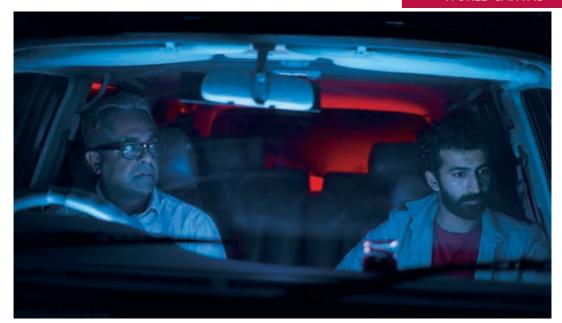


Venice International Film Festival's Golden Osella. After Life (1998), distributed in over 30 countries, brought Koreeda internationally acclaimed. In 2009, Air Doll was world premiered at Un Certain Regard of the 62nd Cannes Film Festival and in 2011, I Wish won the Best Screenplay Award at the 59th San Sebastian International Film Festival. His film Like Father, Like Son (2013), winning the Jury Prize at the Cannes Film Festival, received the audience awards at San Sebastian, Vancouver, and Sao Paulo International Film Festivals and broke the Box Office record of his past films in many territories. In 2018, Shoplifters won the Palme d'Or at the 71st Cannes Film Festival, the Best Foreign Film at the 44th Cesar and many other awards, moreover it was nominated for the 91st Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film. In 2022, his first Korean film Broker won the Ecumenical Jury Prize and also Song Kang-Ho the Best Actor Award, the first award for a Korean actor at the 75th Cannes Film Festival.

Chicago International Film Festival 2023 Winner - Gold Q-Hugo Busan International Film Festival 2023 International Film Festival of Kerala 2023 MAMI Mumbai Film Festival 2023

Editor Kore-eda Hirokazu Music Ryuichi Sakamoto

Sales Impact Films - impactfilmsindia@gmail.com



Paradise

Paradise

English, Sinhalese, Malayalam, Tamil, Hindi | Sri Lanka | 2023

Narrative | Feature | 93 mins

Eager to celebrate their 5th wedding anniversary, Amritha, a video blogger, along with her husband Kesav, a film producer, arrive in Sri Lanka from Mumbai to experience a mystical tour of historical places. When three masked men enter their hill country bungalow, and steal their mobile phones, laptops and Amritha's camera, the couple seeks aid from the local police. They report the theft to Sergeant Bandara. Pressured to find the culprits, Sgt. Bandara produces three unemployed men as suspects. Kesav identifies them as the culprits. One of the men collapses at the police station. The injured man is sent to hospital and dies while receiving treatment in the ICU. The arrests fail to recover their stolen goods, leaving Kesav and Amritha confined to their bungalow. Amritha finds solace in the beautiful surroundings, however Kesav grows increasingly frustrated as he is unable to proceed with his work. The difference in their attitudes creates a deep chasm in their marriage.

Director's Biography

Prasanna Vithanage, winner of over 35 international and national awards, is widely regarded as one of the most talented and influential filmmakers in South Asia. He is best known for his thought-provoking films that delve into social, political, and cultural



issues. Vithanage holds the unique distinction of being the only filmmaker to win the NETPAC Best Filmmaker award five times. Beyond his achievements in cinema, he has been actively involved in human rights and peace initiatives.

Festivals/Awards

Busan International Film Festival 2023 MAMI Mumbai Film Festival 2023 International Film Festival of Kerala 2023 Dharamshala International Film Festival 2023 Vesoul International Film Festival 2024 Pune International Film Festival 2024

Director(s) Prasanna Vithanage
Writer(s) Anushka, Senanayake, Prasanna Vithanage
Producer(s) Anto Chittilappilly, Jaison Chittilappilly, Sanita
Chittilappilly, Vincent Chittilappilly, Newton Cinema, Alexandra
Kelleher, Jyothi Krishna, Sunitha Rajagopal
Production Company Newton Cinema

Cast Roshan Mathew, Darshana Rajendran, Mahendra Perera, Shyam Fernando

Cinematographer Rajeev Ravi **Editor** A. Sreekar Prasad

Music K Krishna Kumar Sound Designer Tapas Nayak

Sales Anto Chittilappilly - anto@newtoncinema.com



Miyamatsu to Yamashita

Roleless

Japanese | Japan | 2022

Narrative | Feature | 85 mins

A man with no past dies a thousand deaths in films, until he rediscovers his own life. Miyamatsu lives a modest life as a cable car operator and as a sideline works as an extra in Japanese gangster and samurai films, constantly slipping into short-lived existences of nameless strangers. Through a chance meeting he is confronted with a different life - his own, the one he lost. The triumvirate of directors portray their protagonist Teruyuki Kagawa in clearly composed pictures, but constantly surprising sequences, and investigate his existence on the fringe of film.

Director's Biography

Masahiko Sato (b. 1954), Yutaro Seki (b. 1987) and Kentaro Hirase (b. 1986) met at Tokyo University Of The Arts and have been working together since 2012. Their first short film *Happoen* (2014) was invited to the Cannes Film Festival short



film competition. Since 2020, they have been active as the directors' collective **Gogatsu**. After several more internationally successful short films, they made their first feature film *Roleless* in 2022, which was screened in competition at the 2022 San Sebastian Film Festival.

Festivals/Awards

San Sebastian International Film Festival 2022 Golden Horse Film Festival 2022 Hamburg Film Festival 2022

Director(s) Hirase Kentaro, Masahiko Sato, Seki Yutaro Writer(s) Hirase Kentaro, Masahiko, Sato, Seki Yutaro Cinematographer Shigeto Kunii Editor Hirase Kentaro, Masahiko Sato, Seki Yutaro

Music Masayuki Toyoda

Sales Yuji Sadai - sadai@bitters.co.jp



Sieben Winter in Teheran

Seven Winters in Tehran

Persian | Germany, France | 2023

Documentary | Feature | 97 mins

In the summer of 2007, an older man approaches Reyhaneh Jabbari and asks the architecture student who has a side job as an interior decorator for her help in the design of offices. During the site inspection, he tries to rape her. Revhaneh stabs him in self-defence. She is arrested for murder and sentenced to death. Reyhaneh was to spend the next seven years in prison while her family hired lawyers and made the public aware of the case. However, in spite of the efforts of national and international politicians and human rights organisations, the Iranian judiciary continued to cite the "right of blood-revenge". This meant that, as long as Reyhaneh did not withdraw her accusations against the man, his family could demand her death. Reyhaneh stuck to her testimony and was hanged at the age of 26. In her moving and shockingly topical documentary debut, director Steffi Niederzoll uses among other things original audio and visual material that was smuggled out of Iran. This film, in which Holy Spider actor Zar Amir Ebrahimi lends Reyhaneh her voice, makes visible the injustice in Iranian society and portrays an involuntary heroine who gave her life in the fight for women's rights.

Director(s) Steffi Niederzoll Producer(s) Melanie Andernach, Knut Losen Co-Producer(s) Laurent Lavolé, Milena Poylo, Gilles Sacuto Cinematographer Julia Daschner

Director's Biography

Steffi Niederzoll was born in Nuremberg in 1981. She studied audiovisual media arts at the Academy of Media Arts Cologne (KHM) and the Escuela deCine y Television in Cuba (EICTV) from 2001-2007. Her short films have successfully screened at numerous



renowned national and international film festivals such as Berlinale. In addition to her film work, she is also involved in interdisciplinary artistic works. She was a member of the core group of the collective 1000 Gestalten, which caused a worldwide sensation with its performance during the G20 summit in Hamburg. Her collective works have been presented at the Brecht Festival, the Kunsthalle Baden-Baden and the Museum of Contemporary Art in Roskilde and Vejle, Denmark, among others. Together with Shole Pakravan, she wrote the book How to Become a Butterfly about Reyhaneh Jabbari, which will be published by Berlin Verlag in 2023. SEVEN WINTERS IN TEHRAN is her first feature-length documentary.

Festivals/Awards

Rights 2023

Bayerischer Filmpreis 2024
Friedenspreis des deutschen Films 2023
CPH:DOX 2023
F:ACT Award
IFF Berlin 2023
FIFDH - International Film Festival and Forum on Human

Editor Nicole Kortlke **Music** Flemming Nordkrog

Sound Designer Csar Fernndez Borrs

Sales Cercamon Docs, Suzanne Nodale - suzanne@cercamon. biz

bi



Something Like An Autobiography

Something Like An Autobiography

Bengali | Bangladesh | 2023

Narrative | Feature | 82 mins

Farhan, a director, and Tithi, an actress, are a married couple living in Dhaka. In the conservative and patriarchal Muslim society, they face criticism for not having kids even though they have been married for ten years. When her work slows down during the pandemic, Tithi wants to have a baby. She persuades Farhan and succeeds in getting pregnant. One day, near the end of her pregnancy, Tithi grows uneasy at the loud firecracker sounds that continue late into the night. Farhan ventures into the night to investigate. The film, which began as a romantic comedy, momentarily shifts to a thriller, and finally turns into the type of poignant social drama for which director Farooki is best known.

Director's Biography

Mostofa Sarwar Farooki is a Bangladeshi film director, screenwriter and film producer. Farooki is considered one of the leading figures to bring modernism/realism in Bangladeshi Cinema, those who have bridged the gap between escapism and reality.



He set a new trend in terms of presentation and direction in the late 1990s. His first two films, which he considers to be an educational effort, were *Bachelor* (2004) and *Mad_e in Bangladesh* (2007). His third film *Third Person Singular Number* (2009) premiered in Busan International Film Festival (2009), European premier in International Film Festival Rotterdam (2009), and was competing in the official competition section in the Middle East International Film Festival (2009) (Abu Dhabi).

Festivals/Awards

Busan International Film Festival 2023 MAMI Mumbai Film Festival 2023

Director(s) Mostofa Sarwar Farooki

Writer(s) Mostofa Sarwar Farooki, Nusrat Imrose Tisha

Producer(s) Redoan Rony

Co-Producer(s) Mostofa Sarwar Farooki, Nina Lath Gupta, Anna Kachko, Nusrat Imrose Tisha Cinematographer Tahsin Rahman

Music Momin Biswas

Sound Designer Pavel Areen, Sumon Parvez, Arafatul Hasan

Shanto

Sales Shawana - shawana.mahmud@gmail.com



El sueo de la sultana

Sultana's Dream

English, Spanish, Hindi, Basque, Bengali | Italy | 2023

Narrative | Animation Feature | 80 mins

In this animated frame story, Ins, from Spain, stumbles upon a 1905 book titled **Sultana's Dream** while staying in India. This book by Bengali feminist thinker Rokeya Hossain describes a utopia called Ladyland, where men must stay at home so that women can move about and develop freely. Doesn't it make more sense to lock up the dangerous people, she wonders, rather than those whose safety they threaten?

The book forms a starting point for a magical-realist exploration of the role of women in the past and present, the dynamics between the two sexes, and the importance of dreamers and dreams. Ins concludes her journey via thinkers including Mary Beard and Paul B. Preciado, and a visit to her father in Rome, with the abandoned and neglected widows of Vrindavan.

Each part of this film by director Isabel Herguera is rendered in its own unique visual style: Ins's journey is in ink and watercolours; shadowy figures populate Hossain's story; and Ladyland is composed of traditional Mehndi patterns.

Director(s) Isabel Herguera Producer(s) Mariano Baratech

Co-Producer(s) El Gatoverde Producciones (Madrid, Spain), Goya Sultana Films (Donostia, Spain), Abano Producions (A Coruna, Spain), UniKo estudio (Bilbao, Spain), Fabian & Fred (Hamburg, Germany)

Voices Paul B. Preciado, Mary Beard, Miren Arrieta, Mireia

Director's Biography

Isabel Herguera, an animation film director, studied under video artist Nam June Paik at the Art Academy in Dsseldorf, and holds a fine arts degree from the Universidad del Pas Vasco. She earned her master's degree from the California Institute of the Arts.



During her time in Los Angeles from 1990 to 2003, she worked as an animator for various studios and directors, contributing to music videos like Oasis' All around the World and Sting's interactive CD-ROM, All this Time. In 1996, she founded Loko Pictures. Herguera has also made several short films and serves as a professor in experimental animation at multiple institutions globally. Sultana's Dream is her first full-length film.

Festivals/Awards

San Sebastin International Film Festival 2023 Winner - Euskal Gidoigileen Elkartea Award, Irizar Basque Film Award International Film Festival of Kerala 2023 MAMI Mumbai Film Festival 2023 Dharamshala International Film festival 2023 Tokyo International Film Festival 2023

Gabilondo

Cinematographer Eduardo Elosegi

Editor Gianmarco Serra

Music Moushumi Bhowmick, Tajdar Junaid Sound Designer Gianmarco Serra, Simon Bastian Sales Wouter Jansen - wouter@squareeyesflm.com



Yakshanba

Sunday

Uzbekhi | Uzbekhistan | 2023

Narrative | Feature | 97 mins

An elderly Uzbek couple live as they have always done: shearing their sheep, milking their goats, growing watermelons, weaving carpets. The old woman never lets anyone leave the house without a gift and gently attends to her curmudgeonly husband. His habitually simmering ill humour reaches boiling point when their two adult sons - one who lives nearby, one far away - start replacing their household goods with newfangled ones they can't operate. Their next plan is to pull down and replace the family home, whatever their parents say. This story of generational division and hurt unfolds with the slow rhythm of the changing seasons.

Director(s) Shokir Kholikov Writer(s) Shokir Kholikov Producer(s) Firdavs Abdukhalikov Cinematographer Diyor Ismatov

Director's Biography

Shokir Kholikov, an emerging writerdirector from Uzbekistan, graduated with a Master's degree in Film and TV directing from the Uzbek State Institute of Arts and Culture in 2023. Shokir's short films have gained international recognition,



participating in numerous festivals and receiving over 20 awards. These include the short animation *Girl and Cloud* (Animart Festival Greece 2022) and the short documentary *Life Without Spring* (Turkish World Documentary Film Festival 2022). In 2021, Shokir was granted an opportunity to study at the esteemed New York Film Academy, further honing his skills and artistic vision. Most recently, his debut feature film, *Sunday*, completed in 2023, won the Asian New Talent Award for Best Film at the 25th Shanghai International Film Festival and is set to travel to film festivals around the world. Currently collaborating with Kazakh producer Aigerim Satybaldy, Shokir is developing his second feature, *Leg.*

Festivals/Awards

Bengaluru International Film Festival 2024
Red Sea Film Festival 2023
Winner - Best Director
International Film Festival of Kerala 2023
Winner - Best Director, NETPAC Best Asian Film Award
International Film Festival of India 2023
Shanghai International Film Festival 2023
Winner - Best Film Asian New Talent Award
Vesoul International Film Festival of Asian Cinema 2024
Winner - Critics Jury Award, Audience Award for Fiction

Editor Shokir Kholikov Sound Designer Anvar Fayz Sales Raushan - afilmskz@gmail.com



The New Boy

The New Boy

English/Aborgine | Australia | 2023

Narrative | Feature | 116 mins

From Dirty Films and Scarlett Pictures comes writer/ director Warwick Thornton's The New Boy. In a remote monastery in 1940s Australia, a mission for Aboriginal children is run by a renegade nun, Sister Eileen (Cate Blanchett). A new charge (Aswan Reid) is delivered in the dead of night - a boy who appears to have special powers. When the monastery takes possession of a precious relic, a large carving of Christ on the cross, the new boy encounters Jesus for the first time and is transfixed. However, the boy's Indigenous spiritual life does not gel with the mission's Christianity and his mysterious power becomes a threat. Sister Eileen is faced with a choice between the traditions of her faith and the truth embodied in the boy, in this story of spiritual struggle and the cost of survival.

Director's Biography

Warwick Thornton is an Australian film director, screenwriter and cinematographer. His debut feature film *Samson and Delilah* won the Camra d'Or at the 2009 Cannes Film Festival and the award for Best Film at the Asia Pacific Screen Awards, along with



many other awards around the world. He also won the Asia Pacific Screen Award for Best Film in 2017 for Sweet Country, along with the Special Jury Prize at Venice Film Festival and the Platform Prize at Toronto International Film Festival the same year. This will be his third feature film. In recent years, Warwick has made the documentary We Don't Need a Map, which opened Sydney Film Festival, the slow-TV series The Beach for NITV/SBS that sold to A24 in the US and Firebite, an AMC TV series he co-created that recently premiered.

Festivals/Awards

Cannes Film Festival 2023 Toronto International Film Festival 2023 BFI London Film Festival 2023 MAMI Mumbai Film Festival 2023 San Sebastin International Film Festival 2023

Director(s) Warwick Thornton
Writer(s) Warwick Thornton
Producer(s) Kath Shelper, Andrew Upton, Cate Blanchett,
Lorenzo de Maio

Co-Producer(s) Georgie Pym
Cast Aswan Reid. Cate Blanchett

Cinematographer Warwick Thornton

Editor Nick Meyers ASE Music Nick Cave & Warren Ellis Sound Designer Liam Egan

Sales Livia Van Der Staay, Veterans, Ivanderstaay@goodfellas.

film



The Old Oak

The Old Oak

English | UK | 2023

Narrative | Feature | 113 mins

The Old Oak is a special place. Not only is it the last pub standing, but it's also the only remaining public space where people can meet in a once thriving mining community that has now fallen on hard times after 30 years of decline. TJ Ballantyne (Dave Turner) the landlord hangs on to The Old Oak by his fingertips, and his predicament is endangered even more when the pub becomes contested territory after the arrival of Syrian refugees who are placed in the village without any notice.

In an unlikely friendship TJ meets a curious young Syrian Yara (Ebla Mari) with her camera. Can they find a way for the two communities to understand each other? So unfolds a deeply moving drama about their fragilities and hopes.

Director's Biography

Ken Loach was born in 1936 in Nuneaton. He attended King Edward VI Grammar School and went on to study law at St. Peter's Hall, Oxford. After a brief spell in the theatre, Loach was recruited by the BBC in 1963 as a television director. This



launched a long career directing films for television and the cinema, from Cathy Come Home (1966) and Kes (1969) to Land and Freedom (1995), Sweet Sixteen (2002), The Wind That Shakes the Barley (Palme d'Or at Cannes Film Festival in 2006), Looking for Eric (2009), The Angels' Share (2012), I, Daniel Blake (Palme d'Or at Cannes Film Festival and Prix du Public UBS at Locarno Film Festival in 2016) and Sorry We Missed You (2019).

Festivals/Awards

Cannes Film Festival 2023

Locarno International Film Festival 2023
Winner - Prix du Public UBS
BAFTA Awards 2024
Nomination- Outstanding British Film of the Year
Vancouver International Film Festival 2023
Busan International Film Festival 2023
Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival 2023
International Film Festival of Kerala 2023
MAMI Mumbai Film Festival 2023

Director(s) Ken Loach Writer(s) Paul Laverty Producer(s) Rebecca O'Brien

Production Company Sixteen Films, Why Not Productions, Goodfellas, BFI, BBC Film, Les Films du Fleuve, France 2 Cinéma, Canal +, France Télévisions, Le Pacte, Cinéart, Ciné +, VOO, Be tvet Casa Kafka Pictures Cinematographer Robbie Ryan Editor Jonathan Morris

Music George Fenton
Sound Designer Kevin Brazier

Sales Flavien Eripret - feripret@goodfellas.film



Bastarden

The Promised Land

Danish, Swedish, German, Norwegian Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Germany 2023

Narrative | Feature | 127 mins

In 1755, the impoverished captain Ludvig Kahlen sets out to conquer the harsh, uninhabitable Danish heath with a seemingly impossible goal: to build a colony in the name of the King. In exchange, he'll receive a desperately desired Royal name for himself. But the sole ruler of the area, the merciless Frederik de Schinkel, arrogantly believes this land belongs to him. When De Schinkel learns that the maid Ann Barbara and her servant husband have escaped for refuge with Kahlen, the privileged and spiteful ruler swears revenge, doing everything in his power to drive the captain away. Kahlen will not be intimidated and engages in an unequal battle-risking not only his life, but also that of the family of outsiders that has formed around him.

Director(s) Nikolaj Arcel Writer(s) Nikolaj Arcel, Anders Thomas Jensen, Ida Jessen Cinematographer Rasmus Videbk

Director's Biography

Nikolaj is a Danish filmmaker and screenwriter. His widely acclaimed 2012 film A Royal Affair won two prizes at the Berlin International Film Festival and was nominated for Best Foreign Language Film at the Academy Awards.



He made his directing debut in 2004 with the political thriller *King's Game*, which won him the award for Best Director at the Danish Film Academy Awards. It was followed by the adventure film *Island of lost Souls* in 2007 and the generational comedy *Truth About Men* in 2010. As a writer, he penned the screenplay for the original Danish language *The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo*.

He recently worked on the *Riders of Justice* remake for Lionsgate, co-writing with the film's director Anders Thomas Jensen with whom he originated the story. And he is currently developing alongside Jensen a limited series *The Monster of Florence*, with Wildside and StudioCanal producing and Antonio Banderas attached to star.

The Promised Land is his latest film.

Festivals/Awards

Venice Film Festival 2023
Toronto International Film Festival 2023
International Film Festival Rotterdam 2024
Vancouver International Film Festival 2023
Chicago International Film Festival 2023
Busan International Film Festival 2023
Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival 2023
International Film Festival 2023

Editor Olivier Bugge Coutt Music Dan Romer

Sales Impact Films - impactfilmsindia@gmail.com



Seibja

The Tenants

Korean | South Korea | 2023

Narrative | Feature | 90 mins

In near future Seoul, suffering from pollution and housing issues, Shin-dong must find a new rental due to his landlord's notice. His friend suggests renting part of his place to complicate eviction. Shin-dong advertises, and a peculiar newlywed couple wanting to live in the bathroom appears. He accepts them, but their strange behaviours soon become unbearable.

Director's Biography

Director Yoon Eunkyoung was born in Seoul, Korea, and majored in Educational Psychology at Ewha Womans University, Film Studies at Chung-Ang University, and completed a filmmaking course at Vancouver Film School in Canada. Starting



with her first feature film, *Hotel Lake* in 2020, she has been trying to mix genres such as horror, thriller and mystery. *The Tenants* is her second feature film.

Festivals/Awards

Singapore International Film Festival 2023 Winner - Best Director, Fipresci Award

Director(s) Eun-Kyung Yoon Producer(s) Mongsik Ahn Writer Eun-Kyung Yoon Cast Heo Dong-won, Dea-geon Kim, So-hyun Park Sales Eunkyoung p- eppa@naver.com



The Whale The Whale

English | United States | 2022

Narrative | Feature | 117 mins

Writing instructor Charlie never seems to have his webcam enabled while teaching online. He makes excuses and is so good-natured that no one makes a fuss, but the real reason for his invisibility is his appearance. Charlie weighs 600 pounds. His obesity starts to pose a grave threat to his health and his friend Liz, a nurse, begs him to check into a hospital, but also recognizes that it might be more important to simply offer support.

Charlie's current status quo is upended by the return of his long-estranged adolescent daughter, Ellie, though her willingness to resume a relationship seems prompted as much by Charlie's offers to ghostwrite her school essays as it is by her sense of familial loyalty. Meanwhile, Charlie receives visits from a door-to-door evangelist who engages him in a dialogue about redemption that, despite Charlie's lack of religious inclination, proves surprisingly resonant. Can any of these folks, regardless of their personal agendas, serve as the lifeline to self-acceptance that Charlie so urgently needs?

Director(s) Darren Aronofsky Writer(s) Samuel D. Hunter Cinematographer Matthew Libatique

Director's Biography

Darren Aronofsky is an American film director, producer, and screenwriter. His films are noted for their surrealistic, melodramatic, and sometimes disturbing elements, often in the form of psychological fiction. Aronofsky attended Harvard



University, where he studied film and social anthropology, and then the American Film Institute where he studied directing. In 1997, he founded the film and TV production company Protozoa Pictures.

Festivals/Awards

Golden Globes 2023

Nomination - Best Performance by an Actor in a Motion Picture - Drama

BAFTA Awards 2023

Nomination - Best Screenplay (Adapted), Best Leading Actor, BAFTA Film Award, Best Supporting, Best Make Up & Hair

Academy Awards 2023

Winner - Best Achievement in Makeup and Hairstyling, Best Performance by an Actor in a Leading

Nomination - Best Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Role

Venice Film Festival 2022

Winner - Leoncino d'Oro Agiscuola Award, Interfilm Award, 10th Interfilm Award for Promoting Interreligious Dialogue, Sorriso Diverso Venezia Award, Best Film in a

Foreign Language, Premio CinemaSar Award Nomination - Golden Lion Best Film, Queer Lion

Editor Andrew Weisblum

 $\textbf{Sales} \;\; \textbf{Impact Films - impactfilmsindia@gmail.com}$



The Zone of Interest

The Zone of Interest

German, Polish, Yiddish | United States, United Kingdom, Poland | 2023

Narrative | Feature | 107 mins

The commandant of Auschwitz, Rudolf Hss, and his wife Hedwig strive to build a dream life for their family in a house next to the camp. The two play host to all manner of guests, tend to a lavish garden, and take in the surrounding natural beauty, all the while the horrors of the Holocaust rage just beyond their garden wall. As the war nears its end, Hedwig refuses to abandon her "idyllic" homelife, while her husband works to further distinguish himself among the Nazi rank-and-file, both existing in a state of moral squalor and permanent denial.

Director's Biography

Jonathan Glazer (London, 1965) has combined his career as a filmmaker with directing videos for bands including Radiohead, Massive Attack, Jamiroquai and Blur. In 2000 he made his feature debut, Sexy Beast (New Directors), an Academy



Award and Golden Globe nominee for Best Supporting Actor (Ben Kingsley) and winner of Best Independent Film at the British Independent Film Awards. The second, Birth (2004), competed at Venice and garnered the Golden Globe for its leading lady, Nicole Kidman. He competed yet again at Venice with Under the Skin (2013), considered by Cahiers du Cinma to be one of the 10 top movies to come out of the 2010s. With The Zone of Interest, an adaptation of Martin Amis's homonymous novel, he won the Grand Prix and the FIPRESCI Prize at Cannes.

Festivals/Awards

Cannes Film Festival 2023 Winner - Groer Preis der Jury Toronto International Film Festival 2023 International Film Festival Rotterdam 2024 BAFTA Awards 2024

Winner - Outstanding British Film of the Year, Best Sound Vancouver International Film Festival 2023 International Film Festival of Kerala 2023 International Film Festival of India 2023 Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival 2023

Academy Awards 2024

Winner - Best International Feature Film, Best Sound Nominations - Best Adapted Screenplay, Best Director, Best Picture

Cinematographer Ryto Kond

Editor Paul Watts Music Mica Levi

Sound Designer Johnnie Burn

Sales Impact Films - impactfilmsindia@gmail.com

Director(s) Jonathan Glazer

Writer(s) Martin Amis, Jonathan Glazer Producer Ewa Puszczynska, James Wilson

Co-Producer Bugs Hartley, Bartek Rainski

Cast Christian Friedel, Sandra Hüller, Johann Karthaus, Luis

Noah Witte, Nele Ahrensmeier



Ovuda ce proci put

Where the Road Leads

Serbian | Serbia | 2023

Narrative | Feature | 81 mins

As soon as a foreign-young man sets foot in the village, the electricity goes out. It might be the construction of a new highway nearby - but no one knows for sure. Maybe the new guy has something to do with it? News of his arrival spreads and the villagers are polarised as out-of-towners have visited them before and they always have an agenda. After a night of drinking and feasting, a rumour starts going around that two rowdy villagers, known troublemakers, are looking to kill him. The only person that seems to take their threat seriously is Jana, who will do everything in her power to prevent it. The foreigner is her only ticket out of there.

Director's Biography

Nina Ognjanovi is a Serbian writer-director. She graduated from the Faculty of Dramatic Arts in Belgrade in 2022. In January 2023, her thesis film premiered at the Slamdance Film Festival winning the Audience Award for Best Narrative Feature and a Grand Jury



Honourable Mention. It has been on the festival circuit ever since.

Festivals/Awards

Slamdance Film Festival 2023
Winner - Audience Award for Best Narrative Feature,
Grand Jury Honorable Mention
Belgrade International Film Festival FEST 2023
Winner - Audience Award for Best Film
Riviera International Film Festival 2023
Winner - Student Jury Award for Best Film
Mammoth Lakes Film Festival 2023
Winner - Grand Jury Award for Best International
Feature, Audience Award for Best International Feature

Sombor Film Festival 2023 Winner - Best Film Award, Best Young Actress Stony Brook Film Festival 2023

Winner - Spirit of Independent Filmmaking Award Linden Fest 2023

Winner - Grand Jury Special Award for Directing

Director(s) Nina Ognjanovic Writer(s) Nina Ognjanovic Producer(s) David Jovanovi

Production Company Pointless Films, Faculty of Dramatic Arts, Radio Television of Serbia

Cast Jana Bjelica, Zlatan Vidovi, Vladimir Maksimovi, Ninoslav ulum, Svetozar Cvetkovi, Branislava Stefanovi, Igor Filipovi,

Pavle emeriki, Marta Bogosavljevi, Eva Ras & Demijan Kosti

Cinematographer Vladislav Andrejevi Editor Rastko Ubovi

Music Ana Krstaji

Sound Designer Stevan Masnec

Sales Pointless Films, david@pointlessfilms.rs



A Match

And, Towards Happy Alleys

Bahadur - The Brave

Crescent Night

From The Shadows

Guras

I am Sirat

Imroz-A Walk Down Memory Lane

Jaggi

Malaikottai Vaaliban

Mithya

On Either Sides of the Pond

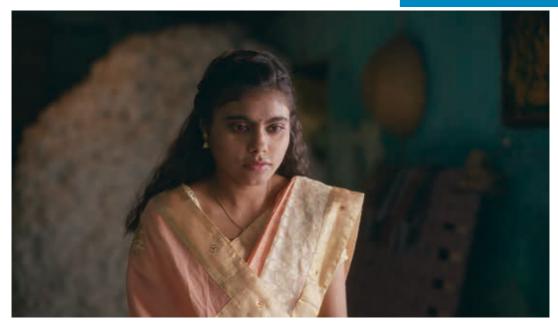
Rapture

Stolen

Tora's Husband

Whispers of Fire & Water

India Unveiled



Sthal

A Match

Marathi India | 2023

Narrative | Feature | 104 mins

In a village in the Vidarbha region of India, a determined young girl, Savita, yearns for education and a brighter future. However, as her farmer parents anxiously struggle to find a suitable match for her, societal expectations place immense pressure on her to prioritize marriage over personal aspirations.

Being dark-complexioned and short in height, Savita is seen as an added 'burden' on her parents and 'marrying her off', as difficult as finding fair price for their crop. Facing countless rejections from potential suitors, she must navigate a world where the pursuit of marriage overshadows the very sustenance of life.

Shot on real locations with real people from the village, all non-actors, Sthal (A Match) is the director's debut feature film that explores the tradition of arranged marriages in rural India while highlighting patriarchy, colorism and social evil deeply rooted in society.

Director's Biography

Born in a village in the Vidarbha region of India, Jayant Digambar Somalkar is an engineering graduate, but his creative bent of mind made him veer towards filmmaking. His debut short film, *Iyatta-Class*, showed at many film festivals and



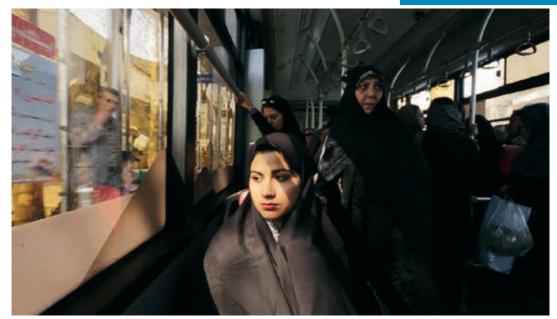
won many awards. He has co-written and co-directed the critically acclaimed Amazon Prime Video Original Series *Guilty Minds. Sthal – A Match* marks the director's debut feature, showcasing his talent for storytelling and commitment to presenting social issues in an authentic and compassionate manner. The film had its World Premiere at the 48th Toronto International Film Festival and received the prestigious NETPAC award for the best Asian film.

Festivals/Awards

Toronto International Film Festival 2023 MAMI Mumbai Film Festival 2023 Dharamshala International Film Festival 2023

Director(s) Jayant Digambar Somalkar Writer(s) Jayant Digambar Somalkar Producer(s) Shefali Bhushan, Jayant Digambar Somalkar, Karan Grover, Riga Malhotra

Cast Nandini Chikte, Taranath Khiratkar, Sangita Sonekar, Suyog Dhawas, Sandip Somalkar, Sandip Parkhi, Swati Ulmale, Gauri Badki Cinematographer Manoj Karmakar Editor Abhijit Deshpande Music Madhav Agarwal, Tamara Kazziha Sound Designer Sanjay Chaturvedi Sales shefali.bhushan@gmail.com



Be Kucheye Khoshbakht

And, Towards Happy Alleys

Farsi, English | India | 2023

Documentary | Feature | 75 mins

Fascinated by Iran's film culture and the poetic works of the feminist poet Forough Farrokhzad, Indian filmmaker Sreemoyee Singh sets out in search of the protagonists of Iranian cinema. The numerous interviews she conducts over a period of six years with filmmakers Jafar Panahi, Mohammad Shirvani and human rights activist Nasrin Sotudeh, among others, show the precarious situation in which critics of the regime find themselves, including the constant threat of imprisonment and being banned from practising their profession. With a keen eye for unusual situations, she documents the effect of the Islamic Republic's strict and omnipresent censorship on the daily lives of Iranian women whose uncompromising struggle has put them at the forefront of the protests that are currently rocking the country.

And, Towards Happy Alleys is a passionate declaration of love for the cinema and poetry of Iran which also provides a frank view of daily life, and bears witness to a fearless generation raising its voice and implacably demanding its civil liberties.

Director(s) Sreemoyee Singh Writer(s) Sreemoyee Singh Producer(s) Sreemoyee Singh

Cast Jafar Panahi, Nasrin Soutodeh, Jinous Nazokkar, Farhad Kheradmand, Aida Mohammadkhani, Mina Mohammadkhani, Mohammad Shirvani, Maede, Sreemoyee Singh

Director's Biography

Sreemoyee is a filmmaker and producer from Kolkata, India. She has a PhD degree on "The Exiled Filmmaker in Post-Revolution Iran" from the department of Film Studies at Jadavpur University. She learned Farsi and travelled to Iran to film



her debut documentary And, Towards Happy Alleys which launched at the Berlinale International Film Festival (Panorama section) in February 2023 and has screened at many prestigious film festivals such CPH:DOX (Denmark), Thessaloniki (Greece), Sheffield (UK), DMZ Docs (South Korea), Antenna Film Festival (Australia), Jio MAMI (India), Docpoint Helsinki (Finland) winning the 'best film' in the International Competition at BAFICI, Argentina.

Festivals/Awards

Berlinale 2023

Dharamshala International Film Festival 2023 CPH:DOX 2023

Buenos Aires International Festival of Independent Cinema 2023

Winner – Best Feature Film International Competition Sheffield International Documentary Festival 2023

Cinematographer Sreemoyee Singh

Editor Joydip Das, Jabeen Merchant, Pradyatan Bera

Music Majdy

Sound Designer Anirban Borthakur **Sales** sreemoyeesingh89@gmail.com



Bahadur - The Brave

Bahadur - The Brave

Hindi, Nepali India | 2023

Narrative | Feature | 90 mins

A nationwide lock-down is imposed in India during the coronavirus pandemic. While all Nepalese migrant labourers are boarding the vans to leave for Nepal, Hansi sees this as an opportunity to earn more money for his ailing son in the emerging labour crises. His brother-in-law, Dil Bahadur, offers him illegal work in a godown. One day they find alcohol there that they sneak out for fun. Things take a tragic turn when Dil Bahadur is accused of stealing money instead. Hansi encourages him to leave for Nepal. However, Nepal has closed its border during the pandemic and the migrants have no place to go. Their innocent mischief has led to a tragedy of an irretrievable accord, ignorant of the pawns they have become at the mercy of the bigger powers at play.

Director's Biography

Diwa Shah is the first Indian recipient of the Kutxabank New Directors Award at the 71st San Sebastián International Film Festival. She has studied Creative Writing from the esteemed Durham University, United Kingdom. Bahadur The Brave is



her first feature length project that got selected in the WIP Lab by NFDC Film Bazaar and won the Prasad Lab DI award. It world premiered at the 71st San Sebastián International Film Festival and won the Kutxabank New Director's Award. It also won the Silver Gateway Award at the Jio Mami Mumbai Film Festival. Her second project was selected for the screenwriters lab by NFDC Film Bazaar and is currently under development.

Festivals/Awards

San Sabastian Film Festival 2023 Winner - Kutxabank New Directors Award MAMI Mumbai Film Festival 2023 Winner - Silver Gateway Award

Director(s) Diwa Shah Writer(s) Diwa Shah Producer(s) Visvesh Singh Sehrawat, Thomas Ajay Abraham Co-Producer(s) John Anand Abraham, Deepak Diwan Production Company Hardhyaan Films, Sinai Pictures Pvt Ltd.

Cast Rupesh Lama, Rahul Mukhia Cinematographer Modhura Palit

Editor Viraj Zunjarrao

Sound Designer Rakesh KJ, ThomasAjay Abraham, Jishnu Dev Sales ThomasAjay Abraham - thomasaj.1495@gmail.com, Visvesh Singh Sehrawat - lightscamerasher@gmail.com



Adh Chanani Raat

Crescent Night

Punjabi | India | 2022

Narrative | Feature | 109 mins

In the context of the story, violence comes full circle for the protagonist Modan. His sincere efforts to shun violence and restart his life by having a family, come to nought in the end as old wounds have still not healed. Provocation is always round the corner and to be provoked means having to give a befitting reply. And it no longer remains confined to a befitting reply, but to strive to gain power and an upper hand in the local power equations. To dethrone the 'villains', through any means that justify the end. The story does not have visible villainous characters, they are omnipresent. They don't come face to face, but haunt the protagonist, to the extent that his entire being is driven by their invisible presence. It symbolises the invisible character of the structurally violent establishment. When the decadent structure is resisted violently, the resistor has to face consequences, the way Modan does. The Crescent Night aims an intimate and close look at all of the above besides gender equations in a by and large patriarchal society.

Director's Biography

Gurvinder Singh (1973, India) worked as a graphic artist in advertising while studying at Delhi University. After that, he followed a postgraduate course in film directing at the Film and Television Institute of India (FTII) in Pune. For several years, he collaborated



closely with filmmaker Mani Kaul. Before his feature debut, Alms for the Blind Horse (2011), Singh made several documentaries. The Fourth Direction (2015) was screened in the Un Certain Regard competition at Cannes. His film Bitter Chestnut (2019) premiered at the Mumbai Film Festival. He received the Indian National Film Award twice and has been awarded many other prizes at international film festivals.

Festivals/Awards

International Film Festival Rotterdam 2022 MAMI Mumbai Film Festival 2022

Director(s) Gurvinder Singh Writer(s) Gurvinder Singh, Jasdeep Singh Producer(s) Bobby Bedi

Cast Jatinder Mauhar, Samuel John, Mauli Singh

Cinematographer Satya Nagpaul

Editor Avneesh Chhabra Music Marc Marder

Sound Designer Kanishk Bhoklay

Sales bobby@kepl.in



From The Shadows

From The Shadows

English, Hindi, Bengali | India | 2022

Documentary | Feature | 76 mins

From the Shadows uses the imagery of public art to delve into missing narratives... Paint cans and stencils in hand, artist Leena Kejriwal sprays splattered walls with a black shadow of a girl. Curious onlookers stop to stare at her message #missing #everyeightminutes.

The day a missing girl returns and asks for help to file a case against her traffickers, Leena needs to step up from being an artist to support a prosecution case. A gruelling court battle questions whether law enforcement agencies instead of protecting victims are part of a network that exploits them? Why is the conviction rate for trafficking less than 10% in India so traffickers roam free while thousands of girls continue to go missing. Leena connects with veteran activist Hasina who has helped a survivor win the rare conviction of a political kingpin despite 400 witnesses turning hostile.

A rocky journey through the Indian subcontinent's most trafficked route connects stories of survivors and the women who fight alongside them in a courageous bid for justice.

Director(s) Miriam Chandy Menacherry Writer(s) Triparna Bannerjee Producer(s) Miriam Chandy Menacherry Cinematographer Ranu Ghosh

Director's Biography

Miriam makes films that celebrate everyday heroes, approaching every story through the lens of popular culture to find the intersection of social cause and the arts. Her films have premiered at IDFA, nominated for the Alliance of Women Film Journalists



– EDA award, won the Mipdoc Coproduction challenge at Cannes and nominated for the youth jury award at Sheffield (UK). Broadcast internationally on channels like Arte, DR1, NGC, Al Jazeera, YLE and Netflix. In India her films have had theatrical releases. Miriam is one of 18 fellows selected for the Global Media Makers Fellowship by Film Independent (USA) and the US State Department. She has been selected as BAFTA (British Academy of Film and Television Arts) breakthrough talent 2024.

Festivals/Awards

Toronto International Women's Film Festival 2022 International Documentary and Short Film Festival of Kerala 2022

Beyond Borders Feminist Film Festival 2022

Editor Irene Dhar Mallik Music Parvathy Baul

Sound Designer Fibin Mohammed **Sales** miriamchandy@yahoo.com



Guras

Guras

Nepali, Hindi | India, Nepal | 2023

Narrative | Feature | 114 mins

The fall in cardamom prices in the mountain village of Darjeeling brings instability in nine-year-old Guras's life. Adding to this chaos, Guras's pet dog 'Tinkle' goes missing. Tinkle is a friend who accompanies Guras to her school and everywhere around. Despite the looming fear of a loose leopard in the village, a faint dog bark from the other side of the valley brings Guras some hope. Shivas, her best friend from school, has a different opinion around Tinkle's disappearance. Guras's begins seeing dreams about a little Buddhist monk in her sleep, which holds a secret to the on-going chaos around the village as well in her life.

Guras embarks on a journey to the other side of the valley, amidst the lush green tea garden, which soon turns mystical as she meets unworldly beings on her way. The ever-floating fog in the valley hides mysterious surprises for Guras. Will she find Tinkle?

Director's Biography

Saurav Rai is an alumnus of the Satyajit Ray Film and TV Institute, India. His diploma film *Gudh/Nest* was the official selection at the 69th Cannes Cinefondation (2016). *Nimtoh* (*Invitation*), his debut feature film had its international premiere at the



Rotterdam International Film Festival, in 2020 in Bright Future Category. It also won the Grand Jury Prize at the 2019 Jio MAMI Mumbai Film Festival, India. As a part of the Hong Kong Asian Forum, Work In Progress Lab, *Nimtoh* won the HAF Goes to Cannes Award. *Nimtoh* was the closing film of The Images Festival Canada, 2020 and further travelled to the NARA International Film Festival, Japan in 2020. *Guras*, his sophomore feature, received the Hubert Bals Fund (2021) for Project development and was recently invited to the Hong Kong Asian Film Financing Forum, Work-In- Progress Lab, 2023.

Festivals/Awards

Karlovy Vary Film Festival 2023 Winner - Jury Award Busan International Film Festival 2023 MAMI Mumbai Festival 2023 Dharamshala International Film Festival 2023

Director(s) Saurav Rai Writer(s) Saurav Rai Producer(s) Ram Krishna Pokharel, Sanjay Gulati Cast Khagendra Lamichhane, Menuka Pradhan,Tulsi Khawas Cinematographer Subal KR Editor Saurav Rai, Ankita Purkayastha Music Lokesh Kanithi Sound Designer Ankita Purkayastha Sales peshokunder@gmail.com



I am Sirat

I am Sirat

Punjabi | Canada | 2023

Documentary | Feature | 87 mins

I am Sirat features a transgender woman who is caught between duty and self-determination. As Aman, she lives in New Delhi with her widowed mother as a son. fulfilling responsibilities in the tradition of an Indian male. But for herself, her friends and co-workers at the Ministry of Social Defence in New Delhi, she identifies as Sirat, the woman she has always felt she is. The film approaches Sirat's trans experience from multiple angles, whilst opening a window on the contradictions in both her life and contemporary India. Despite her circumstances, Sirat is optimistic in her quest to reclaim herself and tries not to view her life as a tragedy. She is a fighter and amongst other things uses Instagram Reels to manifest the life she wants. All she truly longs for is acceptance as Sirat from her mother who refuses to see her as anyone but Aman.

The film is a collaboration between Sirat Taneja & Deepa Mehta. Shot on smartphones, Sirat controls her narrative and makes it accessible to us.

Director's Biography

Deepa Mehta is an Oscar-nominated filmmaker whose emotionally resonating work is known to be provoking and challenging. Her films include Fire, Earth, and the Oscar-nominated Water, Bollywood/Hollywood, Heaven on Earth,



Midnight's Children, Beeba Boys, Anatomy of Violence, and recently Funny Boy, which won Best Director, Best Adapted Screenplay, and Best Original Score at the Canadian Screen Awards. Deepa has directed numerous TV episodes that include Netflix's Leila, Apple TV's Little America, and Showtime's Yellowjackets.

Sirat Taneja is a transgender woman who lives in New Delhi. She works in the Accounts Department at the Ministry of Social Defence. Previously, she worked at Love Life Society, an NGO working with people living with HIV or AIDS and Sexual Minorities on the issues of HIV/AIDS.

Festivals/Awards

Toronto International Film Festival 2023 BFI London Film Festival 2023 Vancouver International Film Festival 2023

Director(s) Deepa Mehta, Sirat Taneja Producer(s) David Hamilton Cinematographer Deepa Mehta Editor Kabir Singh Chowdhry Sound Designer Lou Solakofski, Jane Tattersall, Kathy Choi Sales david@hamiltonmehta.com



Imroz-A Walk Down Memory Lane

Imroz-A Walk Down Memory Lane

Punjabi, English | India | 2022

Documentary | Feature | 42 mins

Imroz-A Walk Down Memory Lane celebrates the journey of an artist who painted his way into the heart of the most precious jewel of Punjabi Literature, the one and only, Amrita Pritam. While Amrita was a popular and much loved writer who painted with words, Imroz was a magician who played with colors on his canvas. When Amrita met Imroz, their collective genius altered the course of Punjabi literature and art in ways which still remain unfathomed.

Embellished with relevant and very rare interviews, soulful music and loads of visual delights interwoven around their unique bond of love in the lush, vibrant, colourful and nature-infused canvas of Harjit Singh's film, one finds manifold answers to the Amrita-Imroz enigma, the most prominent one being how Imroz was the answer to Amrita's prayers - the man who would live her poetry and writings; the painter of her dreams; the gentle force lending strength to her fierce feminism - with love and art.

Director's Biography

In his career of over 40 years, he has been a notable producer-director for TV and film industry. He has been the ASD for Jalandhar DD and was the Chief Producer for Tara Punjabi Channel. Indo-Hungarian co-produced documentary series *In Search*



of Le Corbusier's India had him as the producer and codirector. He was the creative consultant for films like Waris, Ek Chaadar Maili Si and Hawayein. In 1979, he produced and directed India's first ever soap Supne te Parchaavein. As a writer he penned Sandli Booha, Ibarat, Punjab Di Lok Kala, Sandal Bar and Sachi Muchi Avien Muchi. He has contributed to anthologies like Mera Kamra and Aur Raat Sulagti Rahi, edited by Amrita Pritam. Dr. Singh is known for writing and directing Visakhi, Heer Ranjha and TIFF award winning film Eh Janam Tumhare Lekhe.

Festivals/Awards

Kolkata International Film Festival 2022

Director(s) Harjit Singh Writer(s) Inderjit Singh Paintal Producer(s) Dr. Tejinder Harjit, Harjit Singh Cast Inderjit Singh Paintal Cinematographer Harjit Singh Editor Kumar Surjit, Jugraj Saggu Music Gurmoh

Sales harjitshiva@gmail.com



Jaggi

Jaggi

Punjabi | India | 2022 Narrative | Feature | 117 mins

A schoolboy from rural Punjab encounters impotence and is mistaken to be homosexual.

Eighth-grader Jagdeep Singh or Jaggi was in an allboys school where he heard his friends discussing masturbation. He attempts to do it, but fails to get an erection. He tries everything possible to no purpose. Disheartened Jaggi shares his experience with his best friend who betrays him and tells everyone. People start accusing him of being a gay. His life becomes a living hell as he gets bullied at school.

One day two of his seniors rescue him from some bullies, they seem friendly but rape him later. He decides to drop out of school. When he becomes an adult his parents plan to marry him off. His struggles seem to be piling up. To protect his soon-to-be wife and to end his misery, he does something he could have never imagined.

Director's Biography

Anmol Sidhu is a theatre artist and content specialist who works with various media houses across India. He makes short films and documentaries mostly addressing social issues. His short film, *The Last Tree*, has won various awards across the



world. *Jaggi* is his debut feature that addresses issues like discrimination, sexual abuse, mental health, etc.

Anmol believes art acts as a mirror to society. As a theatre artist, he has performed over 200 stage play shows across India. Although he started his career in filmmaking as an actor, later he pursued his interest in writing and directing.

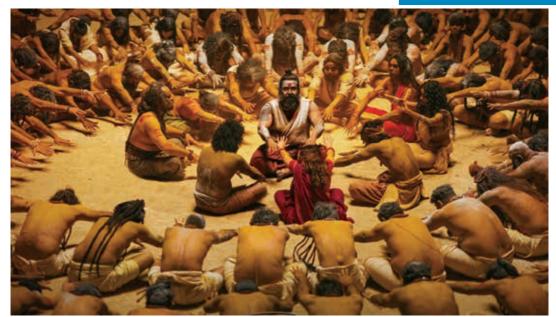
He hails from a small village, Kauloke, in Punjab, India. Anmol strives to make issue-based films with the hope to contribute to society.

Festivals/Awards

Indian Film Festival of Los Angeles Winner - Uma da Cunha Award for feature film debut, Audience Award

Indian Film Festival of Melbourne Winner - Best Indie Film

Director(s) Anmol Sidhu Writer(s) Anmol Sidhu Producer(s) Dhruv Bakshi, Pardeep Taina Cast Ramnish Chaudhary ,Harmandeep Singh, Gaurav Kumar, Shivam Kamboj, Aks Mehraj Cinematographer Pardeep Taina Editor Anmol Sidhu Music Jappreet Singh Sales anmolsidhu028@gmail.com



Malaikottai Vaaliban

Malaikottai Vaaliban

Malayalam | India | 2024

Narrative | Feature | 141 mins

The story follows an aged warrior who travels across the land, proving himself unbeatable. With his experience, he returns to his village, which is under the colonisation of marauding Spanish warriors, to challenge them to a one-on-one fight. However, an enemy from his sketchy past tracks him down and sabotages his efforts. Despite this, the warrior fights off the Spanish warriors and liberates the enslaved. His enemy continues to pursue him, causing the death of those close to him and driving a wedge between the remaining ones. Eventually, it is revealed that the warrior was deceived from birth: he is the son of an infamous mutant warrior. Those who cared for him as foster parents abducted him as a baby due to his genetic uniqueness, intending to train him to fight against his biological father using cunning and deception.

Director's Biography

Lijo Jose Pellissery is an Indian actor and filmmaker who predominantly works in the Malayalam film industry. He is known for his nonlinear storylines and unconventional approach to directing films. In 2010, he debuted as a feature film director with



Nayakan (2010). He followed it up with City of God (2011), using the hyperlink cinema format as the narrative structure. He went on to direct films like Amen (2013), Angamaly Diaries (2017), R.I.P. (2018), Jallikattu (2019), Churuli (2021), and Nanpakal Nerathu Mayakkam (2022). Pellissery has won several awards. He was the recipient of the Kerala State Film Award for Best Director, and he also won the Silver Peacock Award for Best Director for two of his movies, R.I.P. (2018) and Jallikattu (2019).

Director(s) Lijo Jose Pellissery
Writer(s) P.S. Rafeeque, Lijo Jose Pellissery
Producer(s) Jacob K. Babu, Achu Baby John, Shibu Baby John,

Producer(s) Jacob K. Babu, Achu Baby John, Shibu Baby John, Kochumon, Siddharth Anand Kumar, Vikram Mehra, MC Philip

Co-Producer(s) Sahil Sharma

Cast Mohanlal, Sonalee Kulkarni, Hareesh Peradi

Cinematographer Madhu Neelakandan

Editor Deepu Joseph Music Prashant Pillai

Sound Designer Renganaath Ravee Sales chacphilip@gmail.com



Mithya

Mithya

Kannada, Marathi | India | 2023

Narrative | Feature | 98 mins

Mithya is a journey along- side Mithun, a 11 year old, who is coming to terms with the loss of his parents. How would the little kids come to terms? How long before the wounds heal, or do they even? How do children grieve? We walk in step with his tottering feet, as they search for solid ground. Can a new house be home, can friendships be forged again or is it all just a search for something long gone!

Director's Biography

An engineer by qualification, Sumnath Bhat left his IT job and established a design firm in his hometown in coastal Karnataka. Soon he realised filmmaking to be his ultimate calling, to articulate his language of expression. He joined the writing team



of Paramvah Studios and became a core contributor for them. Sumanth has written and directed 4 of the 7 episodes in *Ekam*, a yet-to-release web-series, presented by Paramvah Studios. His debut short as a director, *Neralu*, won the best Kannada film at the Bengaluru International Short Film Festival (BISFF) in 2018.

During COVID time the sudden death of his relatives compelled him to write his debut feature fiction Mithya. The Kannada indie film was the winner of the NFDC Film Bazaar's work-in-progress lab. It premiered at the renowned MAMI Mumbai Film Festival and was nominated in the Best South Asian Film category.

Festivals/Awards

MAMI Mumbai Film Festival 2023 Bangalore International Film Festival 2024

Director(s) Sumanth Bhat
Writer(s) Sumanth bhat
Producer(s) Rakshit Shetty
Production Company Paramvah Pictures
Cast Athish S Shetty, Prakash Thuminad, Roopa Varkady

Cinematographer Udit Khurana Editor Bhuvanesh Manivannan Music Midhun Mukundan Sound Designer Shreyank Nanjappa Sales Rakshit Shetty, contact@paramvah.com



Pokhar Ke Dunu Paar

On Either Sides of the Pond

Hindi India 2022

Narrative | Feature | 105 mins

Amidst the Covid Lockdown, Sumit and Priyanka, an eloped couple, are back in their conservative hometown. While Sumit looks for work, unsuccessfully, Priyanka, who has been estranged from her family, seeks to re-establish contact with her father. While she suffocates alone, rejected by friends and family, in their dilapidated room, Sumit's celebrated return to his tribe of friends, is a reminder of carefree days. He falls into a life of wastefulness, while Priyanka, unable to awaken a sense of responsibility within him, contemplates a return to the cradle of her estranged father's home. Unable to fulfil each other's emotional and tangible needs, every conversation between Sumit and Priyanka turns into a playground for an argument. As the town drowns in the monsoon, their relationship inches towards a tragic end.

Director's Biography

Having graduated with a degree in Engineering from IIT Kanpur, but feeling disillusioned, he proceeded to study direction from Whistling Woods. While there, he was selected by Looking China, where he made his short documentary



The Ballad of Toyuk about the architecture and people of Xinjiang. His first feature screenplay A Temple In The Village was selected for the NFDC Screenwriters' Lab, 2017. Unable to secure funding for the project at the Film Bazaar, his next work was as the editor on Nisheeta Keni's Bogda. He has also been part of the writing team on Achal Mishra's critically acclaimed film Dhuin and Anubhav Sinha's Bheed. His debut feature as a director Pokhar Ke Dunu Paar had its World Premiere at the San Sebastian International Film Festival in the New Directors section, where it won the Special Mention from the Jury.

Festivals/Awards

San Sebastian International Film Festival 2022 Special Mention – New Directors Award Dharamshala International Film Festival 2022

Director(s) Parth Saurabh
Writer(s) Parth Saurabh, Abhinav Jha
Producer(s) Achal Mishra, Parth Saurabh
Co-Producer(s) Sonal Jha, Paresh Kamdar
Cast Abhinav Jha, Tanaya Khan Jha, Dheeraj Kumar,
Sheelnidhi, Abhishek Singh Rathod, Nikita Gupta

Cinematographer Pradeep Vignavelu **Editor** Parth Saurabh

Music Yash Sahai

Sound Designer Rohan Deep Saxena

Sales partaura@gmail.com



Rimdogittanga

Rapture

Garo | India, China, Switzerland, Netherlands, Qatar | 2023

Narrative | Feature | 127 mins

Every couple of years rare cicadas emerge from the earth at night. As these are considered a delicacy, the villagers throng the forest to collect them. On one such night a boy goes missing. The villagers are gripped with fear of an alleged group of people who kidnap the villagers for human organ-transplant business. Meanwhile, the church announces the arrival of the miraculous statue of Mary that carries a message, "there will be complete darkness lasting for 80 days". The villagers prepare themselves for the kidnappers and the apocalyptic darkness.

Meantime, two more people disappear. The villagers catch a stranger and enquire about his purpose of visiting, something gets lost in translation. In anger, the villagers lynch the stranger.

Through Kasan (male, 10) suffering from night blindness we witness all these unfolding events.

Director's Biography

Dominic Megam Sangma is a graduate of Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute, India, specialised in Direction and Screenplay Writing. He worked at National Film and Development Corporation Ltd, for two years before he opened his own



Production Company called **Anna Films.** His first feature film MA•AMA became the first Garo film to win a National Award. The film won Best Cinematography Award at the 22nd Shanghai International Film Festival 2019. He has just finished his second feature film called *Rapture* which is Indo-China-Switzerland-Qatar Co-production. The project just won a prestigious fund from Hubert Bals Fund for Project Development, Rotterdam. A production fund from Visions Sud Est, Switzerland, and a post-production fund from Doha Film Institute. This Project was also selected for the prestigious Cannes Film Festival 2019, in La Fabrique Cinema.

Festivals/Awards

Locarno Film Festival 2023

Winner - Cultural Diversity Award, presented by APSA Indian Film Festival of Los Angeles 2023 Honourable mention

Director(s) Dominique Sangma Writer(s) Dominic Sangma Producer(s) Aditya Grover, Eva Gunme R. Marak, Anu Rangachar, Jianshang Xu, Stephen Zacharias Co-Producer(s) Harsh Agarwal

Cast Torikhu A. Sangma, Handam R. Marak, Celestine K.

Sangma, Balsrame A. Sangma, Johan Ch. Sangma Cinematographer Tojo Xavier

Editor Mohan Kumar Valasala Music Anon Cheran Momin Sound Designer Vineet Vashishtha

Sales Jianshang Xu, jianshangxu@gmail.com



Stolen

Stolen

Hindi, English, Marwari, Santali India | 2023

Narrative | Feature | 92 mins

In the wee morning hours, at a remote railway station, an encounter changes the lives of a few people forever.

Gautam has come to pick up his younger brother Raman for a wedding. The relationship between the two is tenuous and the thin veneer of familial love is challenged when they chance upon Jhumpa Mahato. A broken woman, Jhumpa is beside herself when she discovers her infant daughter missing.

A series of incidents embroil the two into Jhumpa's pitiful endeavour to be reunited with her child. For Raman, it's their moral duty to help her while Gautam hardly cares about what does not concern him. This journey thrusts the men out of their sheltered existence, compelling them to confront the harsh reality.

They are forced to navigate the underbelly of society, testing their resilience and humanity. The film does not shy away from the inequalities of our world while also drawing attention to the strength of the human spirit. Amidst the struggles, themes of motherhood, classism and xenophobia emerge, adding layers to the narrative.

Director(s) Karan Tejpal Writer(s) Karan Tejpal, Agadbumb, Gaurav Dhingra Producer(s) Gaurav Dhingra Cast Abhishek Banerjee, Shubham, Mia Maelzer, Harish

Khanna, Sahidur Rahaman

Director's Biography

Karan Tejpal, an Indian writer and director, unveils the intricate tales of a complex and contradictory world that captivates his vision. His debut feature film Stolen, premiered at the 80th Venice Film Festival, delving into a realm where brutality



coexists with profound humanity. Born in New Delhi and shaped by a nomadic childhood in an army family, Tejpal's work exposes the harsh realities of society, emphasising the vulnerabilities of the powerless and the erosion of trust in social systems. Studying filmmaking at the New York Film Academy, Tejpal's early career in Bollywood, advertising, and television culminated in a niche within independent cinema. Recognized by prestigious platforms like the Sundance Screenwriters Lab (2016) and NFDC Screenwriters Lab (2014), Tejpal's journey reflects a profound commitment to unveiling the layers of human experience through the lens of independent filmmaking.

Festivals/Awards

Venice International Film Festival 2023 MAMI Mumbai Film Festival 2023 Palm Springs International Film Festival 2023 BFI London Film Festival 2023 International Film Festival of Kerala 2023

Cinematographer Isshaan Ghosh Editor Shreyas Beltangdy Music Arpad Bondy Sound Designer Susmit Bob Nath Sales yohann@charades.eu



Tora's Husband

Tora's Husband
Assamese | India | 2022

Narrative | Feature | 150 mins

Loss and lockdowns, life and death – like everywhere around the world, a small-town businessman in Assam is grappling with uncertainty and restlessness.

With a worldview unlike those living around him, Tora's Husband - Jaan, strives to give his best and expects the same from others. But Tora struggles to understand him.

The constant conflict between his inner world and outer world is draining him emotionally. Juggling with his underperforming business and strained personal relationships, he tries to find motivation within to keep going.

Director's Biography

Rima Das, filmmaker from India is known for making indigenous and realistic stories that explore complicated relationships, finding purpose, coming of age and life amidst nature.



Her films Village Rockstars and Bulbul Can Sing premiered at Toronto International Film Festival, and were screened at over 120 prestigious film festivals around the world winning over 70 Awards including the National Film Awards in India, Village Rockstars was also India's Official Entry to the Academy Awards 'Oscars' 2019. She has donned multiple hats of writer, director, producer, cinematographer, editor for her projects. Her film Tora's Husband had its World Premiere at Toronto International Film Festival 2022, as part of the Platform Competition section and had its Asian Premiere at Busan International Film Festival 2022.

Rima has been on the jury of Berlin International Film Festival Generation 14plus, Mumbai International Film Festival, Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival and Zlin Film Festival for Children & Youth.

Festivals/Awards

Toronto International Film Festival 2022 Busan International Film Festival 2022 Dharamshala International Film Festival 2023

Director(s) Rima Das
Writer(s) Rima Das
Producer(s) Rima Das
Cast Abhijit Das, Tarali Kalita Das, Bhuman Bhargav, Das,
Purbanchali Das. Simanta Malakar. Nilima Das

Cinematographer Rima Das Editor Rima Das Music Sagar Desai

Sound Designer Bigyna Dahal

 ${\bf Sales}\ rimadas flying river films@gmail.com$



Whispers of Fire & Water

Whispers of Fire & Water

Hindi, Bengali, English | India | 2023

Narrative | Feature | 83 mins

Shiva, an audio installation artist visits the largest coalmining region of Eastern India, plagued by depleting natural resources and a burning fire in its belly. Faced with the highly complex socio-political system – unavoidable like the omnipresent smoke and fire in the area, he fails to find leads in his work and succumbs to the monstrous pressure. Fire, as an element, engulfs him.

Shiva eventually moves to a tribal village in a dense forest area, along with Deepak, a worker in the coal mine who hails from the village. The panoply of sounds which he experiences in dense forests triggers an inward personal journey which questions his urban values, gaze and fundamental notion of self, carefully constructed over years. Water, as an element, forms the labyrinth of his quest for truth.

Director's Biography

Lubdhak Chatterjee is a filmmaker based out of Kolkata, India. His debut feature film Whispers of Fire & Water had it's world premiere at the prestigious 76th Locarno Film Festival. His short film Aahuti was an official selection at International Film



Festival Rotterdam 2020. He won Doordarshan fellowship for his film *Vaikhari*, commissioned by PSBT India and Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. He also works professionally as a cinematographer and editor. His films have been shown in various national and international festivals and platforms and has worked on projects commissioned by various national and international organisations like Michigan Art Council, American Dance Therapy Association, Ministry of Culture (India), etc. Academically an engineer, Lubdhak also used to blog for The Times of India and also runs an art-based social organization UPAJ India.

Festivals/Awards

Sao Paulo International Film Festival 2023 RIDM - Montreal International Documentary Festival 2023

El Gouna Film Festival 2023 Johannesburg Film Festival 2024 Asia Pacific Screen Awards 2023 Nominee, Best Cinematograph Alternativa Film Awards 2023 - Nominee

Director(s) Lubdhak Chatterjee Writer(s) Lubdhak Chatterjee

Producer(s) Aruna & Shaji Mathew, Bauddhayan & Monalisa Mukherii

Cast Sagnik Mukherjee, Amit Saha, Deepak Halder, Rohini Chatterjee, Saikat Chatterjee Cinematographer Kenneth Cyrus

Editor Arjun Gourisaria & Lubdhak Chatterjee

Music Rohen Bose

Sound Designer Saugata Banerjee

Sales Bauddhayan Mukherji buddymukherji@gmail.com

A Day, That Year

A Lullaby for Yellow Roses

A Shelter

Batto ka Bulbula

Chadariya

Dammi

Dear Me

FairPlay

Hello Guyzz!

In Between Us

Intrusion

Kiss

Coming to terms or, Making your Terms?

Moonless

Moshari

My Grandfather's House

Nocturnal Burger

None of That

One Day When I Was Lost

Regard Silence

Same Old

Scale

Suddenly TV

The Discoverer of the Discoverers

The Late Wind

The Scent of Tulsi

Think something nice

This is TMI

Whispers of Hues

Yellow





A Day, That Year

A Day, That Year

Chinese | Taiwan | 2022

Narrative | Live Action Short | 9 mins

Shorts Package - Memories

Five years old Yang spends an afternoon with his mother on a shopping trip. When he throws a tantrum after feeling neglected, she decides to punish him by walking away. A seemingly harmless punishment eventually becomes a pivotal childhood experience for Yang that will forever change him.

Director's Biography

Stanley Xu is a Singaporean filmmaker. In 2019, his short film *Reprise* world premiered at the 24th Busan International Film Festival and competed in the Wide Angle Short Film Competition. His previous short film *Lullaby* was selected to compete



in the Hawaii International Film Festival amongst other festivals.

Stanley Xu draws inspiration from his memories of childhood and adolescence, as well as observations of everyday life. He seeks to explore and capture the nuances and poignancy of the human experience using moving images.

Festivals/Awards

Singapore International Film Festival 2022 Split Film Festival, International Festival of New Film 2022

Barcelona International Short and Animation Film Festival 2023

Baku International Short Film Festival 2023

Director(s) Stanley Xu Writer(s) Stanley Xu Producer(s) Liu Hsuan Cast Ray Liao, Eliza Peng **Cinematographer** Eric Ha **Editor** Stanley Xu **Sound Designer** Claire Pao



A Lullaby for Yellow Roses

A Lullaby for Yellow Roses

Hindi India | 2023

Narrative | Live Action Short | 18 mins

Shorts Package - Finding Yourself

An estranged migrant working-class couple embarks on a deeply emotional journey to find friendship in one another as they grapple with the loss of their daughter to an ill-fated custom.

Director's Biography

Born in Kolkata, India, Rahul Roye (he/ them) works as an independent filmmaker and screenwriter. They, a Queer Feminist, advocate strongly against any agency of social suppression or segregation adhering to hierarchy fashion, especially concerning gender politics and norms.



Their directorial debut, a short film named *Man & Wife* (2021) has been screened and won awards at more than 158 international film festivals. Their second short film *A Lullaby for Yellow Roses*, acquired by CANAL+ France, was part of Oscar and BAFTA qualifying Flickerfest, Brussels Short FF, London International SFF, etc. Their upcoming short *Aman*, has received the QDrishti grant.

Festivals/Awards

Flickerfest International Short Film Festival 2023 Brussels Short Film Festival 2023 International Documentary and Short Film Festival of Kerala 2023 Kaohsiung Film Festival 2023

Director(s) Rahul Roye Writer(s) Rahul Roye Producer(s) Abdullah Al Kandari Co-Producer(s) Tushar Tyagi, Abid Aziz Merchant Cast Trimala Adhikari, Somnath Mandal, Uma Jhunjhunwala Cinematographer Enosh Olivera
Editor Arghyakamal Mitra
Music Anam Cara
Sound Designer Anindit Roy, Adeep Singh Manki



Gotho

A Shelter

Marathi India | 2023

Documentary | Live Action Short | 12 mins

Shorts Package - Memories

Sainath, age 25, is a film student in Pune, India and his grandmother, Sunila, age 80, lives far afield in the village of Merces in Goa, India. They share a 'film letter' with each other. A film mounted with an expression like a warm letter weighted with feelings. A written letter is a compilation of words and sentences and a 'film letter' is an assembly of images and sounds. A shelter(Gotho) unfolds the journey around Polem district with voice recordings of the director and his grandmother.

Director's Biography

Sainath S. Uskaikar is a filmmaker based in Goa. He is a post graduate from Film and Television Institute of India, Pune in Direction (TV). His debut short film *Wagro* was part of the Indian Panorama at the 53rd International Film Festival of India (IFFI) 2022.



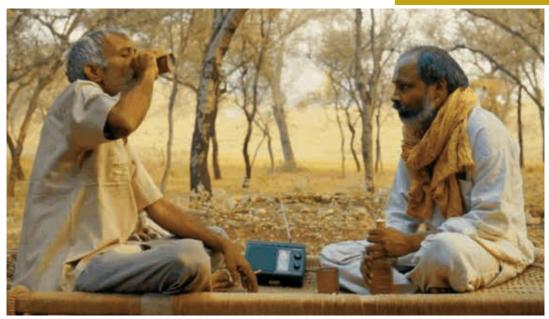
Festivals/Awards

International Documentary and Short Film Festival of Kerala 2023

Dharamshala International Film Festival 2023

Director(s) Sainath S Uskaikar Writer(s) Sainath S. Uskaikar Producer(s) Film and Television Institute of India, Pune Cast Sunila Uskaikar Cinematographer Vishesh Gandhi Editor Chinmay Wagh Music Madhay Patil

Sound Designer Madhav Patil



Batto ka Bulbula

Haryanvi India

Narrative | Live Action Short | 35 mins

Shorts Package - Student Films from Haryana

In a rustic village in Haryana, lives Batto, a genial yet alcoholic elderly man, who seeks to sell the last piece of his land to live with his estranged friend, Sultan. Batto's wife died a decade ago in an accident, leaving him with an adopted son, Bittu, who desires to inherit the last piece of land for himself. Bittu deceives Batto over the death of his wife, prompting Batto to question his relationships, his choices, and the life he has led with the Sultan and alcohol. Sultan, who harbours doubts, confronts Batto for the truth. Through trials of deception and betrayal, Batto learns the importance of scepticism, resilience, and the enduring strength of genuine friendship.

Director's Biography

Born in a small village in Haryana, I, a little boy, became entranced in a rental CD store. I spent my entire childhood finding ways to watch more films, and in my youth, I joined a film school to learn the craft of filmmaking and while making a film, I found myself. For



me, storytelling is about being empathetic and crafting emotion by building a path through perspective so that the world can see my land, my people, and my dreams.

About Institute

Dada Lakhmi Chand State University of Performing & Visual Arts, Rohtak has been conceived to facilitate and promote studies



and research in emerging areas of higher education with focus on new frontiers of Design, Fine Arts, Film and Television and Urban Planning and Architecture to achieve excellence in these and connected fields.

The University aims at creative exploration and interdisciplinary learning, enriched by meaningful practical experiences in arts and culture, to facilitate the refinement of insight, innovation, imagination, and enlightenment.

Director(s) Akshay Bhardwaj Writer(s) Akshay Bhardwaj Cast Krishan Natak, Gulab Singh, Mohit Sangwan Cinematographer Aryan Singh Editor Saksham Yadav Sound Designer Dilip Ahirwar , Gagan kagra



Chadariya

Chadariya

English, Hindi | India | 2022

Documentary | Live Action Short | 25 mins

Shorts Package - Reviewing Reality

Chadariya unearths the individual and collective experiences of young unmarried Indian women facing the pain and violence of abortion. Through a multivoiced narrative, it weaves intergenerational stories, creating a 'sense-scape' and highlighting the real violence faced by women daily.

Director's Biography

Nimisha Srivastava's films and art reflect intersectional feminist themes and human rights issues. She has been involved with various projects that deal with the personal and political in evocative and avant-garde ways. Her poetry makes up for a large

personal archive and she has been a choreographer and performer of both poetry and dance, often together.

Festivals/Awards

Monitor 15 - experimental film and video program, SAVAC (South Asian Visual Arts Centre) USA, Canada and India

Best-emerging Artist of the Year - Mimesis Documentary Film Festival, USA.

Honourable mention - Student World Impact Film Festival, USA.

Cinevesture International Film Festival, Chandigarh.

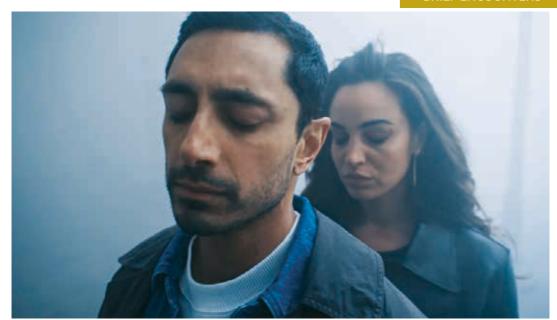
Dharamshala International Film Festival

Gandhara Independent Film Festival - Women's Special Edition (online), Pakistan

The HeArt Space studios - Ahmedabad

Udaipur Film Festival

Director(s) Nimisha Srivastava Writer(s) Nimisha Srivastava Producer(s) Daljeet Wadhwa Cinematographer Nimisha Srivastava Editor Nimisha Srivastava Music Nimisha Srivastava, Manisha Srivastava Sound Designer Nimisha Srivastava, Gurleen Grewal



Dammi

Dammi

English, French | France | 2023

Narrative | Live Action Short | 16 mins

Shorts Package - Finding Yourself

Returning from the United Kingdom to Paris, city of his birth, a man who used to be known as Mounir (Riz Ahmed) moves through memories of his past and surreal fragments of the present, searching for connection with his estranged father (Yousfi Henine) and a sense of his misplaced Arab identity. On his journey, he meets a French Algerian woman called Hafzia (Souheila Yacoub) whose own persona suggests to him a possible way of being. Together, they drift between recognisable corners of Paris and stage sets that remind us this is a discussion of ideas, while the narrative also moves between fictional realism and a dream where dancing troupes appear out of the fog. All these fractured moments fit together to form a fascinating picture of internal strife.

Director's Biography

Born in Paris and raised in London and of French Algerian heritage, Yann Mounir Demange has always been passionate about telling unexpected stories. Demange made a name for himself in the U.K. directing BAFTA-nominated series *Dead Set* (2008),



and the entire first season of critically acclaimed multi-BAFTA-nominated series *Top Boy* (2011-2023), as well as his feature film debut '71 (2014), for which he received the British Independent Film Award for Best Director. Moving to work in the U.S., Demange most recently directed the feature film *White Boy Rick* (2018), and the pilot episode of HBO's *Lovecraft Country* (2020). He also served as an Executive Producer on Bassam Tariq's *Mogul Mowgli* (2020). Demange is directing the upcoming Marvel film, *Blade*, starring Mahershala Ali, as well as the episodic reimagining of Cronenberg's *Scanners* for HBO.

Festivals/Awards

Locarno Film Festival 2023

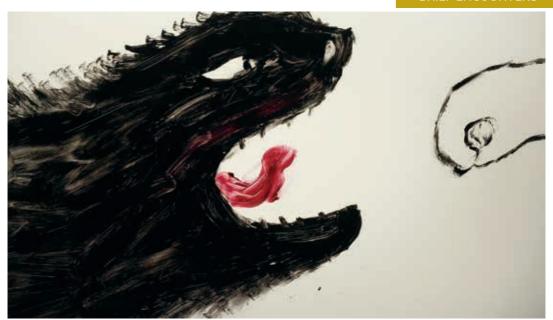
Director(s) Yann Mounir Demange Writer(s) Yann Mounir Demange, Rosa Attab Producer(s) Alexandre Mattiussi, Gary Farkas, Clment Lepoutre, Olivier Muller, Rosa Attab, Mava Tenneroni Production Company AMI PARIS, Vixens Films Cast Riz Ahmed, Souheila Yacoub, Yousfi Henine

Cinematographer Josepha Madoki

Editor Rich Orrick

Music Oliver Coates

Sound Designer Pierre Carlier, Simon Farkas



Priyo Ami

Dear Me

Bengali | India | 2022

Narrative | Animation Short | 4 mins

Shorts Package - Un-Shackle

Priyo Ami (Dear Me) is a film about a woman who is in search of herself. She discovers unpleasant truths, childhood traumas and deals with her fragmented reality. It is a journey of discoveries about loneliness, madness and emptiness within herself and how she comes to terms with it. In an open letter to herself, filmmaker Suchana animates an intimate, transformative migration through the trauma, loneliness, and emotionally uneven pathways to selfacceptance. Deeply personal, yet poignantly relatable, Dear Me offers an outstretched hand of compassion. Out of all the things with which we must learn to live, none of them is as essential as doing it with oneself. But no one said it would be easy, and cinema has taken note of that caesura. Priyo Ami tries to explore more than just one abyss to find oneself.

Director's Biography

Suchana is an animation filmmaker based in Mumbai. She completed her education from SRFTI. She is a freelancer and has worked with Swiggy, Khatabook, UNDP, Khabar Laharaiya, Reliance, Quest and many independent film productions. Her film Maa



Tuki won 13 awards and was selected in 51 International film festivals including VGIK, IIT-Bombay, Simorgh, Dharamshala, BISFF. *Priyo Ami* got awarded at NFDC Film Bazaar, Emami art India and got selected at Busan IFF, Zagreb Animafest 2023, Annecy Festival 2023 and IFFR 2023. *Priyo Ami* was shortlisted for BAFTA 2023. She was awarded as one of the **75 creative minds** by the Ministry of I&B at IFFI 2021. She was on the pre-selection jury for International Animation for the Macau International Short film festival in 2020.

Festivals/Awards

Annecy International Animated Film Festival 2023 International Documentary and Short Film Festival of Kerala 2022

Busan International Film Festival 2022

Director(s) Suchana Saha Writer(s) Suchana Saha Editor Suchana Saha Sound Designer Shireen Ghosh Animation Suchana Saha



FairPlay

FairPlay

French | Switzerland, France | 2022

Narrative | Live Action Short | 18 mins

Shorts Package - Alt-Muse

A teenager in search of recognition, a worker ready to do anything to hit the jackpot, a senior executive at the end of his career who wants to prove to himself that he is still alive. Three characters who are losing speed on the competition highway.

Director's Biography

Born in 1993 in Paris (France), he is of Swiss and Vietnamese origin. Marked by the short films of the Kourtraim collective, he started experimenting with a DV camera. In 2017, he finished a bachelor's degree in cinema at the ECAL (Ecole cantonale d'art

de Lausanne). His graduation film, Bonobo (2017), was presented in international competition at the Clermont-Ferrand Film Festival and received the Audience Award. Bonobo won the Student Academy for the best student film in 2019.

Festivals/Awards

Locarno Film Festival 2022

Director(s) Zoel Aeschbacher

Writer(s) Zoel Aeschbacher, Gania Latroche, Pauline Feiler Simon

Producer(s) Nelson Ghrenassia, Elena Tatti

Production Company Yukunkun Productions &, Box Productions

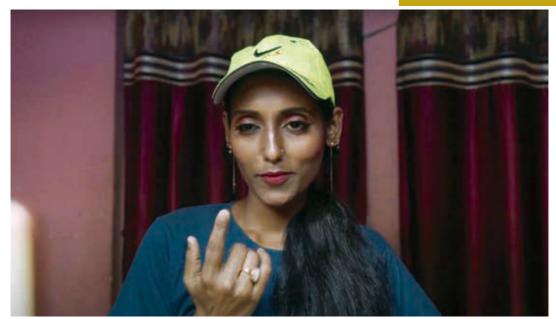
Cast Sokhna Diallo, Elise Esnault, Pierre Gomm, Apollonia Luisetti, Christopher Manzinga, Fady Nasser

Cinematographer Dino Berguglia

Editor Youri Tchao-Debats

Music Mario Batkovic

Sound Designer Melia Roger



Hello Guyzz!

Hello Guyzz!

Bengali, English, Hindi | India | 2023

Documentary | Live Action Short | 24 mins

Shorts Package - Reviewing Reality

Hello Guyzz is a reflection of modern day India where - cheap internet, longing to become the next big star, and high aspirations are a reality. But so are class, caste and gender differences. To Sumita, the protagonist, social media is a tool that provides her a space to have an alternate identity on TikTok. An identity away from getting kids ready to school, away from being a homemaker, away from struggling to find means to lead a good life. Sumita straddles between her mundane domestic life, and life on social media in hopes of being able to make a successful career out of it and also maybe fulfill her long lost dream of becoming an actor. With this film, we aim to document this at the intersectionality of gender, society and class. Sumita, is like any other modern Indian woman trying to navigate between her personal and public space dichotomy, all this while trying to find financial independence and identity.

Director's Biography

Samiksha Mathur is an alumni of the prestigious Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute, Kolkata. Prior to this, she completed her honors degree in Journalism from Lady Shri Ram College for Women, University of Delhi. She is known for her work around gender, culture and technology.



She believes in impact cinema and is always motivated to tell stories that can stir conversations around the room. Hailing from a small town in Uttar Pradesh-a northern state in India she had very little exposure to World Cinema. On growing up and learning about society and cultures, she realized her calling. For the last few years, she has been working with major media houses in India such as The Quint, The Swaddle, and BuzzFeed to ensure that real conversations reach the real masses.

Festivals/Awards

Indian Film Festival Stuttgart 2023 International Documentary and Short Film Festival of Kerala 2023

Beyond Borders Feminist Film Festival 2023 Dharamshala International Film Festival 2023

Director(s) Samiksha Mathur Writer(s) Shruti Parthasarthy Producer(s) Satyajit Ray Film and TV Institute Cinematographer Piyush Pal Singh (Baadol) Editor Ankit Prakash Sound Designer Puneet Dwivedi



Humare Beech Mein

In Between Us

Hindi India 2023

Documentary | Live Action Short | 35 mins

Shorts Package - Reviewing Reality

Shot on mobile phone cameras in western Uttar Pradesh, In Between Us seeks to explore the personal positions of two women-Rajkumari, a social activist, and Ruchika, a documentary filmmaker and educator-within the stratified structure of caste.

Director's Biography

Rajkumari Prajapati is a social activist renowned for her collaborative film project Raat: Night Time in Small Town India.

Ruchika Negi, a documentary filmmaker, visual artist, and educator, boasts a rich portfolio of work including *Two Autumns in Wyszogrd* and *Every Time You Tell A Story*.



Festivals/Awards

Dharamshala International Film Festival 2023

Director(s) Rajkumari Prajapati, Ruchika Negi Producer(s) Rough Edges Cinematographer Rajkumari Prajapati, Debankon Singh Solanky **Editor** Ruchika Negi, Gurleen Grewal **Sound Designer** Ruchika Negi, Rajkumari Ahirwar, Asheesh Pandya



Fár

Intrusion

Icelandic | Iceland | 2023

Narrative | Live Action Short | 5 mins

Shorts Package - Alt-Muse

At a busy downtown caf, three business colleagues are discussing a future investment opportunity. Anna, one of the colleagues and the protagonist, zones out during their dull business meeting about real estate. A drifting seagull, betrayed by the false allure, hits the cafe's window right in front of them. This becomes a sudden intrusion and disruption to the commonly-accepted norms of business culture. The customers notice the incident but shortly stop paying attention. Anna tries to ignore the event too but is unable to shake it off as she notices the seagull is still alive but greatly suffering. This becomes a gripping moral dilemma She heads outside to euthanise the bird. What happens when the laws of business and the laws of nature combine?

Director's Biography

Gunnur is an Icelandic/ German actress and director, currently based in Reykjavik. Through stories she aims to mirror and dissect human actions and desires in daily life, using both the tools of theatre and film. Born in Reykjavik and living over a decade



in Germany where she gained a B.A. in theatre directing at the University of Music and Theatre in Hamburg, Gunnur is currently studying acting at the University of Arts in Iceland. Gunnur has created, acted in and been part of the creative process of numerous projects, she is an **Edda Award** nominee and has received other recognition.

Festivals/Awards

Cannes Film Festival 2023 (Special Mention)

Director(s) Gunnur Martinsdttir Schlter Writer(s) Gunnur Martinsdttir Schlter, Ann lafsdttir Producer(s) Rnar Ingi Einarsson, Sara Nassim Cast Gunnur Martinsdttir Schlter, Jrundur Ragnarsson Cinematographer Eli Arenson Editor Brsi lason, Gulaugur Andri Eyrsson Sound Designer Bjrn Viktorsson & Haraldur, rastarson



Kiss

Kiss

Hindi India 2022

Narrative | Live Action Short | 17 mins

Shorts Package - Memories

At a preview theatre, a young filmmaker waits in the hope of getting his new sci-fi drama certified with 'no cuts' by the conservative men of the Indian Censor Board. The board finds a kissing scene in the film beyond the duration stipulated by official, orthodox rules. The filmmaker and board members argue, but when they enter the movie theatre to review the film, the laws of physics begin to disintegrate, sending these men into a world of chaos.

Director's Biography

Varun Grover is one of India's leading screenplay writers, stand-up comedians, and lyricists based in Mumbai, India. *Masaan* (2015), his debut feature as a screenplay writer, played in Un Certain Regard section at 68th Cannes Film Festival and went on to win FIPRESCI Jury as well as Promising



to win FIPRESCI Jury as well as Promising Future prizes in the section. $\,$

He is the lead writer and Executive Producer of Netflix India's critically acclaimed original series, Sacred Games (2018 - 2019).

He has won a National Film Award for his lyrics **Moh Moh Ke Dhaage** for the film *Dum Laga Ke Haisha* (2015).

Festivals/Awards

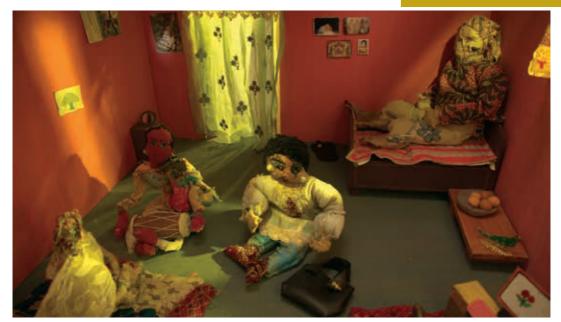
New York Indian Film Festival (NYIFF) Bengaluru International Short Film Festival (BISFF) International Documentary & Short Film Festival of Kerala (IDSFFK)

Chicago South Asian Film Festival (CSAFF) GAZE International LGBTQ + Film Festival, Dublin River to River Florence Indian Film Festival Beijing Queer Film Festival (BJQFF)

Director(s) Varun Grover
Writer(s) Varun Grover
Producer(s) Arya A Menon, Shubham Karna, Anto
Chittilappilly, Sanita Chittilappilly
Cast Shubhrajyoti Barat, Aurobindo Bhatacharjee, Ashwath

Bhatt, Ravi Dudeja, Adarsh Gourav, Swanand Kirkire

Cinematographer Sylvester Fonseca Editor Nitin Baid Sound Designer Allwin Rego, Sanjay Maurya



Kyaa hai ye Samjhauta

Coming to terms or, Making your Terms?

Hindi | India | 2023

Documentary | Animation Short | 9 mins

Shorts Package - Un-Shackle

Two case workers who have been working on cases of domestic violence over years, travelling to remote corners of Bundelkhand, are creating a lexicon of words often used by women on the field. This film, commissioned by Nirantar, Delhi, looks at the word, Samjhauta: Do you make your terms? Do you come to terms? The film works with material of the everyday, scraps of cloth, needle thread and the timbre of human voices to explore these questions. The scraps of cloth animate the grain of the voices and tell a story, of the many choices women make when faced with domestic violence.

Director's Biography

Hansa Thapliyal is a filmmaker, teacher, writer, doll maker, whose work, for the past many years, has been to return a tactile presence to her practices, to make it sensory, even if and particularly if, we are working with virtual mediums, like film.



Language of all kinds interests her, and work that plays with the straitjackets of language. How might the many languages of art speak to each other?

She has worked extensively on Kamal Swaroop's Phalke project, researching the early history of Indian cinema, writing narrative fragments. She has been working on supervising hindi translations for Agents of Ishq, which has been doing seminal work on 'giving sex a good name'. She has collaborated with Surabhi Theatre, Hyderabad, working with children and science in theatre. She has been a dramaturge on Mallika Taneja's recent play, *Do you Know this Song*.

Festivals/Awards

Dharamshala International Film Festival 2023

Director(s) Hansa Thapliyal Writer(s) Hansa Thapliyal Production Company The Third Eye Cast Pushpa Devi, Avdhesh Gupta, Manju Soni, Shabeena Mumtaz Cinematographer Nebu George, Pankaj Baral Editor Hansa Thapliyal Sound Designer Amir Musanna, Shashank Kothari



Chandraheen

Moonless

Hindi India | 2023

Narrative | Animation Short | 24 mins

Shorts Package - Alt-Muse

On a moonless night, a cheeky bull escapes from his herd. He dashes through fields and over hills until he finally stops at a pond, where a piece of paper on which a poem is emerging attaches itself to him. The bull shakes off the paper and sneaks into town, where he watches people at their nocturnal business. He witnesses a police investigation, listens in on two truck drivers and observes the theft of a bus stop shelter. All these experiences are accompanied by the narrator's poetic comments and culminate in a hilarious singing sequence, complete with a dance and performance number by the bull.

Meanwhile, the people in the town are in an uproar about the undetectable moon. They search, discuss and protest. But the moon stays missing - until the bull transforms himself at the end of his journey.

Director's Biography

Adheep Dasis a graduate of the Film and Television Institute of India, Pune. He likes mixing various mediums and finding out what comes of them. Fascinated by science and arts alike, his interests take him to places that merge the two. He received the



ThinkArts Grant for Children in 2022 as part of a 3- person collective. *Moonless*, a film he directed and animated, has competed at Dok Leipzig, Germany, and Dharamshala Intl. Film Festival. His documentary *Khaalti Kaay Varti Kaay* competed at IDSFFK, Kerala. Some of his work has also been exhibited as part of the Kochi-Muziris Students' Biennale and the Wrong Biennale.

Festivals/Awards

DokLeipzig Dharamshala International Film Festival Animela Kaboom Animation Festival

Director(s) Adheep Das Writer(s) Avanti Basargekar Producer(s) Tamali Bhattacharya Cast Bhanu Pratap Editor Adheep Das Music Shivpal Singh Kang Sound Designer Shivpal Singh Kang



Moshari

Moshari

Bengali | Bangladesh | 2022

Narrative | Live Action Short | 22 mins

Shorts Package - Finding Yourself

Moshari is a traditional South Asian mosquito net, made for protection against vermin at night.

When the world is overrun with bloodthirsty creatures, the last of mankind perseveres in Dhaka, Bangladesh by spending their nights inside the moshari - the only known shelter from the unknown threat.

Two sisters, Apu and Ayra, must navigate this strange new world to survive. However, their strained relationship is becoming as much of a threat as the dangers outside.

One night, when Ayra's curiosity lures her outside the safety of the moshari, Apu must rise to the occasion - as they face their demons, together.

Director's Biography

Nuhash Humayun (born 1st January 1992) is a Bangladesh-based writer/director with an undying love for blending genres with South-Asian identity. Nuhash is a 2022 Sundance Institute Alfred P. Sloan Fellow and an Asian Film Academy alumni. He's



received support from Film Independent, Cannes Marche du Film, Locarno Open Doors & NFDC Film Bazaar.

Festivals/Awards

Atlanta Film Festival 2022 Winner - Grand Jury Award Fantasia Film Festival 2022 Winner- Audience Award Melbourne International Film Festival 2022 Winner - MIFF Shorts Award Palm Springs International ShortFest 2022 SXSW Film Festival 2022 Winner- SXSW Grand Jury Award

Director(s) Nuhash Humayun Writer(s) Nuhash Humayun Producer(s) Buchra Afreen N

Producer(s) Bushra Afreen, Nuhash Humayun

Cast Sunerah Binte Kamal, Nairah Onora Saif, Moyed Bhuiyan,

Tony Ji

Cinematographer Ejaz Mehedi Editor Nuhash Humayun Music Dameer Khan

Sales Ye Sng



Azobancha Ghar

My Grandfather's House

Marathi India | 2023

Documentary | Live Action Short | 29 mins

Shorts Package - Memories

Alvina visits her late Grandfather's House, on the 5th anniversary of his demise. She and her grandmother bond over their memories and affection towards him. As they spend slow afternoons together, talking about him, his patriarchal tendencies begin to surface. Alvina speaks to her father, and a childhood of fear and tyranny surfaces in her father's recollections. Her grandmother's experiences as a woman and a wife are colored by the same tyranny. These well kept secrets only had the tree outside the balcony and the walls of the house as witness, and their burden brings the house to life, and makes the tree restless.

Director's Biography

Alvina Joshi studied film editing in Whistling Woods International (2018-2020). She works as an editor and has begun directing creative documentaries. Her first documentary was selected in PSBT's Doc_Commune - a mentorship and



funding program. Her second film was one of 6 projects from all over the world selected in Doc-in-progress, Interaction (Serbia). She is currently a Sundance Ignite Fellow. She has edited 2 feature films and a documentary feature along with several short films and commercials. She is currently editing a docu-series. The first feature film she edited was screened at MAMI. Her diploma film was screened at IFFSA Toronto, and a short film that she co-wrote and was associate director on, was selected and screened by the UNHCR in Dhaka.

Festivals/Awards

International Festival of Ethnological Film - 2023 MAMI - Mumbai Film Festival 2023

Director(s) Alvina Abhijeet Joshi Producer(s) Rajiv Mehrotra Production Company PSBT India Cinematographer Omkar Khandagale Editor Mehdi Jahan Sound Designer Rahul Rabha



Nocturnal Burger

Nocturnal Burger

English, Hindi, Marathi | United States | 2023

Narrative | Live Action Short | 28 mins

Shorts Package - Un-Shackle

A 13-year-old girl and a 30-something man are brought to a police station in Mumbai in the middle of the night by two strangers. Simi wants to file a case against Sanu who was forcing upon a minor in a moving auto rickshaw that night. This leads a male cop and the junior female constable to take the account of the story in order to register a complaint. Amidst questionable motives and unreliable narrators, a frustrated female constable investigates what happened that night and what could've happened. The event sparks a complex and emotional dialogue-that unfolds only partly in words-among various women from different walks of life.

Director's Biography

Reema is a two-time Sundance Film Festival nominated filmmaker. Her 2018 short film Counterfeit Kunkoo had its world premiere at the Sundance Film Festival 2018, where it was the first Indian fiction short to be nominated in 16 years. It has



since been selected at 120+ international film festivals and won 40 awards. It was also showcased in Sundance 2022 as part of their 40th Anniversary program. The film was also featured on Criterion, Mubi, Nowness and was awarded Vimeo Staff Pick - Best of Month. Her 2023 short Nocturnal Burger, presented by XRM Media, had its world premiere at Sundance Film Festival 2023 in January and has won 12 awards so far. Under the banner of her awardwinning production studio CATNIP, Reema has directed campaign films for global brands and music videos for some of India's biggest independent artists.

Festivals/Awards

Sundance Film Festival 2023 Aspen Shortsfest 2023 Aesthetica 2023

Director(s) Reema Maya
Writer(s) Reema Maya
Producer(s) Michael Y, Chow, Reema Maya
Cast Bebo Madiwal, Millo Sunka, Shrikant Yadav, Trupti
Khamkar

Cinematographer Harshvir Oberai **Editor** Reema Maya, Rohan Kapoor

Music Lifafa

Sound Designer Sethu Venugopal, Devraj Bhowmik, Kalhan

Raina



Nada De Todo Esto

None of That

Spanish | Spain, Argentina, United States | 2023

Narrative | Live Action Short | 17 mins

Shorts Package - Alt-Muse

Whilst a mother drives with her daughter through the wealthy suburbs of her home city, eyeing the houses of the rich, she accidentally drives her car into a beautiful flower patch inside the front yard of a mansion, bogging their car down. The daughter tries to find a way out, before her mother's visceral fascination with the house and its owner drives them both to a point of no return.

Director's Biography

Francisco Canton and Patricio Martinez were born in Buenos Aires, Argentina in the years 1992 and 1985. They have been working together for almost ten years, making short documentaries, music videos and ty commercials. Their first short film



Loose Fish was completed in 2020 and shown at TIFF, BFI London, and Camerimage Festival. Their second short film Nada de todo esto premiered at Cannes in May 2023. They are currently developing two feature film projects and editing a documentary film about Argentinian musician and actor Juana Molina.

Festivals/Awards

Cannes Film Festival 2023

Director(s) Patricio Martnez, Francisco Cantn Producer(s) Zico Judge, Agustina Costa, Malena Kremenchuzky

Production Company BLUR, Anonymous Content, Volpe, Pantera

Cast rica Rivas, Miranda de la Serna, Mara Bestelli

Cinematographer Matthew Ballard

Editor Andrs Pepe Estrada Music Mateo Yaya

Sound Designer Martin Grignaschi



Le jour o j'tais perdu

One Day When I Was Lost

French, English | France | 2023

Narrative | Live Action Short | 30 mins

Shorts Package - Finding Yourself

Alain Diaw begins his first day of work in a prestigious automobile company. Gradually, we get to know his position and outlook on life. In parallel, a new space operation is launched: another small step in the utopic desire to understand the infinite. The Voyager probe is about to leave our solar system.

Tackling the idea of contemporary mythology, where self-made men and the conquering of space have supplanted the ancient heroes, *Le jour ou j'tais perdu* (One day When I was Lost) seduces the audience with ambiguity and continuous shifts of perception. Alain has come a long way, and is also aiming for the unknown.

Festivals/Awards

IFFR International Film Festival, Rotterdam Festival International du court-mtrage, Clermont-Ferrand Busan International Short Film Festival, Busan Festival COMETT - Courts mtrages et territoires, Agen

Director(s) Soufiane Adel Writer(s) Soufiane Adel, Yassine Qnia

Producer(s) Socit Acphale

Cast Souleymane Sylla, Damien Bonnard, Franois Loriquet

Director's Biography

Soufiane Adel was born in Algeria and arrived in France at the age of 8. It was while attending a design school that he discovered cinema. In 2004, he decided to film his father: this was to be his first short film, Closed Nights, which debuted



at Clermont-Ferrand International Film Festival. In 2007, he directed Kamel Has Committed Six Times Suicide, His Father Died, which was selected at both Directors' Fortnight and ACID in Cannes. In 2009, he co-directed with Angela Terrail On the Head Of Bertha Boxcar, which won the Jury Prize at the Silhouette Festival, was shown worldwide and broadcasted on Arte. In 2013, he directed his second documentary Go Forth, about the story of his Algerian grandmother, which was screened in dozens of international festivals. His exploration of fictional forms of self-filming continued with Vincent V and Maids. In 2017, he again directed his father in a fictional film, Hunger, and then in the essay The Light Falls. His latest short film One Day When I Was Lost, starring Souleymane Sylla and Damien Bonnard, debuted at the IFFR Rotterdam and the Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival in 2023.

Festival Cinebanlieue, Paris et Saint-Denis – Prix France Television

Sharja Film Platform, Sharja (mirats Unis) — Best Fiction Short Award

Festival Premiers plan, Angers

Cinematographer va Sehet

Editor Jrmy Gravayat

Music Othman Louati

Sound Designer Claire-Anne Largeron



Mira El Silencio

Regard Silence

Non-verbal | Mexico | 2022

Documentary | Live Action Short | 29 mins

Shorts Package - Reviewing Reality

A diverse group of deaf people explore the Mexican Sign Language through a scenic lab of poetic creation.

Director's Biography

Santiago Zermeo, a filmmaker and film student from Mexico City, transitioned to filmmaking after exploring photography, mathematics, and social sciences. His debut short film *Agua* was part of the DIFF 2021 programme and has earned acclaim, winning awards in over 30 festivals.



Festivals/Awards

International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam 2022

Festival de Cine de Cartagena de Indias 2022 Flicker's Rhode Island International Film Festival 2023

Director(s) Santiago Zermeo
Writer(s) Santiago Zermeo
Producer(s) Centro de Capacitacin Cinematogrfica, A.C.
Cast Alex Gallardo, Socoro Castillo, Roberto De Loera,
Berenice Falcn, Ian Alexis, Jess Alexei, Isela Moreno, Farid
Hakim Loaiza, Riako-Sama

Cinematographer Angel Jara Taboada Editor Santiago Zermeo Sound Designer Jorge Leal Carrera, Cosme Ivarez



Same Old

Same Old

English | USA, Canada | 2022

Narrative | Live Action Short | 15 mins

Shorts Package - Finding Yourself

Lu is a Chinese immigrant living day to day on tips from his job as a delivery worker. He supports his wife and ailing mother as they desperately try to make ends meet in the unforgiving city. One night, his bicycle, and in essence his livelihood, are stolen from him. He's forced to embark on a desperate journey to reclaim his bike or shatter the fragile life in America he's built.

Director's Biography

Lloyd is a Korean-Canadian New York based director who found a magical escape with cinema early on. Growing up, he was a regular fixture at the local theater, and eventually, began to secretly create films of his own. As he honed his craft,

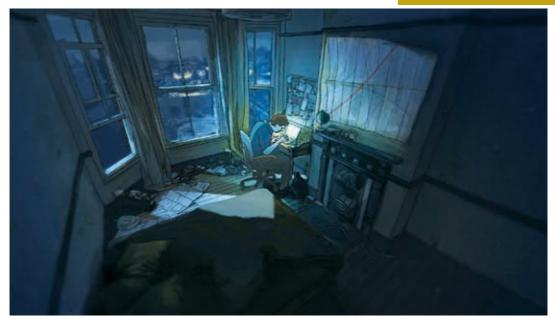


he discovered storytelling through creative collaboration as the soul of filmmaking and found directing to be his passion. With a number of awards including a Silver Cannes Lion for his Cornetto campaign, 40 Love featuring Lily Allen, Lloyd has gone on to create global campaigns for Google, Chevrolet, Sony, Peloton; just to name a few. Lloyd also released his first original scripted 30-minute short film, Before Mars, for National Geographic which is streaming on Hulu, iTunes, and Amazon.

Festivals/Awards

Cannes Film Festival 2022
Toronto International Film Festival (2022)
Special Jury Mention
Raindance Film Festival (2022)
Winner - Best Short of Festival
Winner - HBOmax APA Visionaries Award (2022)
TIFF Too Ten Films

Director(s) Lloyd Lee Choi Writer(s) Lloyd Lee Choi Producer(s) Anthony Zhai Yang Cast Limin Wang, Maggie Law, Anna Wang, Lei Han, Hung Mao Lin Cinematographer Norm Li Editor Lloyd Lee Choi Sound Designer Tom Bjelic



Scale

Scale

English | France, UK, Belgium, Czech Republic | 2022

Narrative | Animation Short | 15 mins

Shorts Package - Alt-Muse

Driving along the motorway, Will loses his sense of scale. As his crippling drug addiction deepens, he struggles to unpick the sequence of events that led to his predicament, before he's lost forever.

Director's Biography

Joseph is a British filmmaker and animator. Upon graduating from the National Film and Television School was featured in Screen International's **Stars of Tomorrow**. His short films have toured internationally, winning over 40 prizes. He's worked extensively



in theatre and live events, including collaborations with the Met Opera NYC, Royal Opera House and the National Theatre. He's currently developing his first feature with Melocoton Films.

Festivals/Awards

Cannes' International Critic's Week - 2022

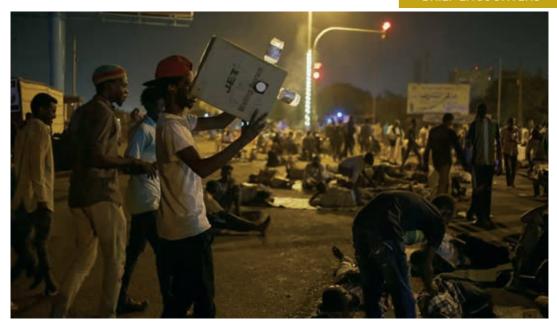
Director(s) Joseph Pierce Writer(s) Joseph Pierce, Nicolas Pleskof Producer(s) Joseph Pierce

Cast Sam Spruell, Zahra Ahmadi, Evelyn Neghabian Pierce, ou Neghabian Pierce, Aaron Neill, Eddie Chamberlin, Gemma Lokat-Smith

Cinematographer Vanessa Whyte

Editor Robbie Morrison Music Lung Dart

Sound Designer Dominic Fitzgerald



Suddenly TV

Suddenly TV

Arabic | Qatar, Sudan | 2022

Documentary | Live Action Short | 19 mins

Shorts Package - Reviewing Reality

A group of young Sudanese revolutionaries create an imaginary television station. Interviewing protestors, they confront the violence of the regime and imagine a new Sudan.

In April 2019, after the fall of President Omar al-Bashir, Sudanese people from across the country make their way to the capital, Khartoum, to demand civilian rule. Protestors occupy the military headquarters, setting up tents and constructing barricades. In this liminal space, a group of young revolutionaries perform an alternate reality as a roaming television news crew. Using a cardboard box as a camera and a plastic bottle as a microphone, they playfully interview protesters and together build a vision of a new Sudan.

Director's Biography

Roopa Gogineni is a photographer and filmmaker from West Virginia, now based between Paris and Atlanta. For a decade she lived in Nairobi where she developed a practice rooted in co-creation, working alongside communities of resistance across



the region. She directed reality television in Somalia, documented revolutionary theater in Sudan, and chronicled the journey of Mau Mau veterans suing the UK government for colonial-era abuses in Kenya. Her films have premiered at festivals including IDFA, Hot Docs, SXSW, Full Frame and Sheffield Doc/Fest. Her short film *I Am Bisha* earned the Oscar-qualifying Full Frame Jury Award for Best Short, a One World Media Award, and a Rory Peck Award. Suddenly TV, her latest short about magical thinking and revolution, earned the 2023 SXSW Special Jury Award and the 2023 IndieLisboa Short Film Grand Prize. She has received fellowships from CatchLight, Logan Nonfiction and FRONTLINE/Firelight. Roopa holds degrees from the University of Pennsylvania and the University of Oxford.

Festivals/Awards

IDFA 2022 SXSW Film Festival 2023 Special Jury Award Indielisboa International Film festival 2023 Emel Short Film Grand Prize Sheffield Doc Fest 2023

Director(s) Roopa Gogineni Producer(s) Roopa Gogineni **Cinematographer** Roopa Gogineni **Editor** Roopa Gogineni



The Discoverer of the Discoverers

The Discoverer of the Discoverers

Fon Norway 2022

Documentary | Live Action Short | 25 mins

Shorts Package - Memories

A family in the West African republic of Benin, tells the story of their ancestor's first encounter with the European explorers in 1548 - to a European film crew. As the story unfolds, we get to see how this encounter is still remembered ritually as they share their version of history, including rituals and perspectives on this pivotal event, questions arise about the accuracy of these claims and the filmmaker's perspective. But do all the claims about the historic event bear a closer look? And to which degree can we trust the filmmaker's white gaze? The Discoverer of the Discoverers, a short documentary explores how pride and conscience may affect collective memories.

Director's Biography

C.S. Nicholson is a British-Norwegian filmmaker. He has worked as a director, story producer, and editor for 15 years, mainly in TV. *The Discoverer of the Discoverers* is his directorial debut in cinematic documentary.



Festivals/Awards

Mirage - Art of the Real Film Festival 2022 Minimalen Short Film Festival 2023 Norwegian Documentary Film Festival 2023 Revelation Perth International Film Festival 2023

Director(s) C. S. Nicholson Writer(s) C.S. Nicholson Producer(s) C.S. Nicholson

Cast Mit Kpatnon Mijlhounkpon Mnouwa, Roger Soul Kpatnon, Akhint Avocvouy Zounvi Cinematographer Peder Bratterud Editor Peder Bratterud, Stoffer Slind Music Stian Kjelstad Granmo, C.S. Nicholson Sound Designer Anna Nilsson, yvind Stjern



Keshigip Soqqan Zhel

The Late Wind

Kazakh | Kazakhstan | 2023

Narrative | Live Action Short | 23 mins

Shorts Package - Un-Shackle

A young Kazakh woman discovers she is pregnant and is preparing for the event she knows will change her life. Then her world turns upside down when her boyfriend suddenly disappears, leaving her alone and uncertain about her future as a mother. She searches for him desperately while the city around her is also fracturing into chaos with protests erupting everywhere around her. Perhaps she can't do anything but wait for her partner's return, hoping for a brighter future.

Director's Biography

Shugyla Serzhan was born in China but later moved to Kazakhstan, from where her family originated. To pursue her passion in storytelling, she joined the Kazakh National Academy of Art to study film, where she made five short films. Her latest short film



The Late Wind was screened at Red Sea International Film Festival 2023. She is currently developing her debut feature *Birds Fly South*.

Festivals/Awards

Red Sea International Film Festival 2023

Director(s) Shugyla Serzhan Writer(s) Shugyla Serzhan Producer(s) Aigerim Satybaldy
Cast Tolganay Talgat, Kuantay Abdimadi



The Scent of Tulsi

The Scent of Tulsi

Hindi | India |

Narrative | Live Action Short | 27 mins

Shorts Package - Student Films from Haryana

In a house stalled amid renovation, Tulsi lived with her grandfather. She builds a hidden world with her lover woven by deep buried desires, expresses her longing for him and recounts a parallel story of her affection for a peachick. As renovation moves towards completion and the lover is destined to leave, her fragile world begins to collapse.

Director's Biography

Utsav is a young independent film-maker by training from Delhi and has done his graduation in BFA specialization film Direction from SUPVA the only state film Institute for undergraduates in north India and got exposed to world cinema- both



documentary and fiction. Currently he is working on a project which merges the forms of documentary, essay and fiction. During his course time his films have traveled to many festivals including last edition MIFF 2022 in the national competition section for his last film *Chhaya*.

About Institute

Dada Lakhmi Chand State University of Performing & Visual Arts, Rohtak has been conceived to facilitate and promote studies



and research in emerging areas of higher education with focus on new frontiers of Design, Fine Arts, Film and Television and Urban Planning and Architecture to achieve excellence in these and connected fields.

The University aims at creative exploration and interdisciplinary learning, enriched by meaningful practical experiences in arts and culture, to facilitate refinement of insight, innovation, imagination, and enlightenment.

Director(s) Utsav Writer(s) Utsav

Producer(s) DLC State University Of Performing & Visual Arts, Rohtak



Think something nice

Think something nice

English | Switzerland | 2022

Narrative | Animation Short | 6 mins

Shorts Package - Memories

At the mercy of the dentist's chair, the protagonist cannot escape the confrontation with pain and the dregs of the miserable human condition. To distract himself, he takes refuge in a fantasized story of fishermen and the sea.

Director's Biography

Claudius Gentinetta, born in Lucerne, pursued graphic design and animation studies in Lucerne, Liverpool, and Kassel. As a renowned Swiss animation filmmaker, he's celebrated for award-winning shorts like *The Cable Car, Sleep*, and *Selfies*.



Festivals/Awards

Rome Independent Film Festival 2022 Winner - Best Animated Short Film Award Solothurner Filmtage 2023 Winner - Prix du Public, 2nd Animation Short Film Award Ismailia International Film Festival for Documentaries & Shorts 2023

Special Mention Animation Films Fantoche International Festival for Animation Film Festival 2023 Special Mention Youth Jury

Director(s) Claudius Gentinetta Writer(s) Claudius Gentinetta Producer(s) Claudius Gentinetta Cinematographer Claudius Gentinetta Editor Claudius Gentinetta

Music Balz Bachmann

Sound Designer Peter Brker

Animation Cécile Brun, Simon Eltz, Claudius Gentinetta



This is TMI

This is TMI

Bengali, English, Hindi, Nepali | India | 2023

Documentary | Animation Short | 6 mins

Shorts Package - Un-Shackle

Big boobs vs. small boobs, who has it worse?

The topic of breast sizes often sparks discussions about societal perceptions and the impact of conservative norms on individuals' feelings about their bodies. A group of women explores the ways in which belonging to a conservative society influences their genuine emotions regarding their breasts-essentially just lumps of fat. They try and make an understanding of the societal pressures and expectations that contribute to personal perceptions of one's body, transcending the simplistic comparison of breast size.

Director's Biography

Subarna Dash is an animation filmmaker based in India. She pursued her studies in Animation Cinema at the Satyajit Ray Film & Television Institute, Kolkata. She was awarded as one of the **75 creative minds** by the Ministry of I&B, at the International Film Festival of India (IFFI). Her films have been screened and awarded at prestigious festivals such as Berlinale, TIFF, SXSW, Annecy, etc.



Vidushi Gupta is an animator, filmmaker, and storyteller from India. She has a

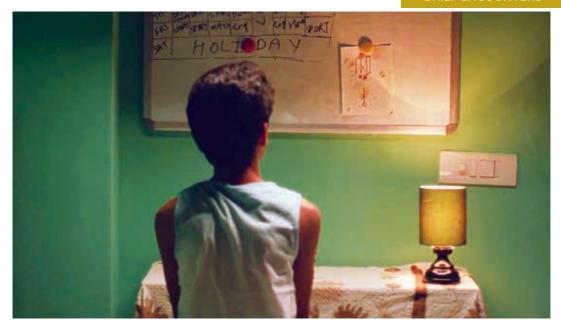
Bachelor's degree in Electronic Media, a postgraduate diploma in Animation Cinema, and is pursuing a Master's degree in Visualization. In 2019, she created her debut animated short film, *Alpaviram*. Since then, she has focused on creating short fictional and documentary animated films. She aims to explore the world of animation, push boundaries, and captivate audiences with her imaginative creations.

Festivals/Awards

Toronto International Film Festival 2023 International Documentary & Short Film Festival of Kerala 2023

SXSW Film Festival 2024

Director(s) Subarna D, Vidushi Gupta Cast Sneha Das, Subarna Das, Vidushi Gupta, Monjima Mullick, Rituparna Saha, Priyadarshini Subba **Cinematographer** Pragadeesh Marimuthu **Sound Designer** Sethu Venugopalan



Whispers of Hues

Whispers of Hues

Hindi India 2024

Narrative | Live Action Short | 27 mins

Shorts Package - Student Films from Haryana

In a bustling high-rise, young Kartik's summer ignites with art lessons from his neighbour, a middle aged Uncle. As their bond deepens Kartik's admiration evolves into a labyrinth of emotions leaving him unsure and in limbo.

Director's Biography

Kushal Shekhawat is an Indian Screenwriter and Film Director who after his senior secondary has studied in SUPVA, the o'ly state film Institute for undergraduates in north India, and have been exploring the medium of cinema as storytelling ever since. He is known for his short documentary *Behind the doors*which was part of various national & mp; International film festivals.

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and research in emerging areas of higher education with focus on new frontiers of Design, Fine Arts, Film and Television and Urban Planning and Architecture to achieve excellence in these and connected fields.

The University aims at creative exploration and interdisciplinary learning, enriched by meaningful practical experiences in arts and culture, to facilitate the refinement of insight, innovation, imagination, and enlightenment.

Director(s) Kushal Shekhawat
Writer(s) Kushal Shekhawat
Producer(s) DLC SUPVA – Rohtak, Haryana.
Cast Nikhil Chawala, Ravi Mahashabde, Shashank Barua
Hansha Mitra

Cinematographer Jay Dhorda Editor Dupinder Kaur Music Prajna Dutta



Rang-e-Zard

Yellow

Persian | United Kingdom | 2023

Narrative | Live Action Short | 13 mins

Shorts Package - Un-Shackle

In Spring 2022, the Taliban implemented a series of new decrees that banned music from being played in public or on TV throughout Afghanistan. Girls were sent home from school on their first day back, and subsequently ordered to wear the Chadari, the infamous full body veil that became iconic during the first Taliban regime in the late nineties.

Laili, a 21-year-old Afghan woman who has been educated and has never had to wear a veil, must now go to her local Chadari seller to purchase her first full body veil. As she wanders through the shop, she is drawn to the sounds of music coming from the back and discovers a young man, a disillusioned Taliban member, secretly playing the Rabab. In her search for a veil that fits, Laili must confront the new future she faces and the limitations it imposes on her, all while glimpsing the world beyond the mesh of her Chadari.

Director's Biography

Elham Ehsas is an award-winning writer and director, based between Kabul and London. His work in film and TV is characterised by its stylish, cinematic approach and thought-provoking storytelling.



As a refugee who fled the Taliban at the age of 10, Elham has developed a style for telling rich ethnic-driven stories that often explores themes of culture, identity, and home.

Elham's debut short film, *Our Kind of Love* was BAFTA received BAFTA long-list recognition. Elham is part of BAFTA Connect and the 2023 cohort for Zurich Film Academy. In addition to his work as a writer and director, Elham is also an accomplished actor. He made his acting debut in the internationally acclaimed film *The Kite Runner* and has since appeared in numerous films and TV shows, including Brad Pitt's *War Machine*, Netflix's *Young Wallander* and so on. Elham will next be seen in *Shantaram* and *Little America*.

Festivals/Awards

Palm Springs International Shortfest 2023 Flickers Rhode Island Film Festival 2023 Vienna Shorts 2023 Aesthetica Film Festival 2023

Director(s) Elham Ehsas Writer(s) Elham Ehsas Producer(s) Dina Mousawi, Azeem Bhati, Yiannis Manolopoulos, Catherine Tschaepe, Elham Ehsas Cast Afsaneh Dehrouyeh, Elham Ehsas Cinematographer Yiannis Manolopoulos Editor Elham Ehsas, Ross Leppard Music Darryl Hanan Sound Designer Guldem Masa Paper flowers

The Music Room

Who Pays the Piper





Kagaz ke Phool

Paper flowers

Hindi | India | 1959

Narrative | Romance/Musical | 148 mins

A troubled film director falls in love with an orphaned woman whom he transforms into a famous star. However, his wife's family is unhappy with their liaison and creates many obstructions.

Director's Biography

Guru Dutt, was an Indian film director, producer, actor, choreographer, and writer. He is regarded as one of the greatest filmmakers of Indian cinema. Dutt was lauded for his artistry, notably his usage of close-up shots, lighting, and depictions



of melancholia. Some of his notable works are *Pyaasa* (1957), *Kaagaz Ke Phool* (1959), *Chaudhvin Ka Chand* (1960), and *Sahib Bibi Aur Ghulam* (1962), all of which are frequently listed among the greatest films in Hindi cinema.

Festivals/Awards

Filmfare Award 1960

Winner - Best Cinematography, Best Art Director Black and White

Director(s) Guru Dutt
Writer(s) Abrar Alvi
Producer(s) Guru Dutt
Production Company Guru Dutt Films
Cast Guru Dutt, Waheeda Rehman, Johnny Walker, Kumari
Naaz

Cinematographer V. K. Murthy **Editor** Y.G. Chawhan

Music Sachin Dev Burman

Sales Ultra Official - business@ultraindia.com



Jalsaghar

The Music Room

Bengali | India | 1958

Narrative | Musical/Drama | 95 mins

Biswambhar Roy, a wealthy landlord and a great connoisseur of music, spends his life in pursuit of prestige. When his self-made neighbour organises musical fests, he struggles with economic upheavals.

Director's Biography

Satyajit Ray was an Indian director, screenwriter, documentary filmmaker, author, essayist, lyricist, magazine editor, illustrator, calligrapher, and composer. Ray is widely considered one of the greatest and most influential film directors in the



history of cinema. He is celebrated for works including The Apu Trilogy (1955–1959), *The Music Room* (1958), *The Big City* (1963) and *Charulata* (1964) and the Goopy–Bagha trilogy.

Festivals/Awards

National Film Award for Best Feature Film in Bengali 1959

Moscow International Film Festival 1959 Winner - Silver Prize Composer Nomination - Grand Prix

Cahiers du Cinéma 1981 Nomination - Top 10 Film Award Best Film

Director(s) Satyajit Ray

Writer(s) Tarasankar Bandyopadhyay, Satyajit Ray, Santi P. Choudhury

Producer(s) Satyajit Ray

Production Company Aurora Film Corporation

Cast Chhabi Biswas, Padmadevi, Gangapada Basu

Cinematographer Subrata Mitra

Editor Dulal Dutta

Music Ustad Vilayat Khan, Robin Majumdar

Sales aurorafilm@bharatmail.com



Jaane Bhi Do Yaaron

Who Pays the Piper

Hindi India | 1983

Narrative | Comedy/Drama | 132 mins

Two photographers, who are employed by a newspaper editor to expose the scandalous activities of the rich, come across corruption by a builder and accidentally photograph a murder.

Director's Biography

Kundan Shah is an Indian director and a writer born in Mumbai, Maharashtra, India, He made his directorial debut with Jaane Bhi Do Yaaro (1983). He made several other movies like P Se PM Tak (2015), {The Three Sisters (2005), Ek Se Badhkar Ek (2004), Dil



Hai Tumhaara (2002), Hum To Mohabbat Karega (2000). He was also honored with the Indira Gandhi Award for Best First Film of a Director Jaane Bhi Do Yaaro in 1983 and received the Filmfare Critics Award for Best Movie Kabhi Haan Kabhi Naa in 1994.

Festivals/Awards

National Film Awards,

Winner - Indira Gandhi Award for Best First Film

Best Debut Film of a Director

Filmfare Award for Best Comic Actor 1985

Director(s) Kundan Shah

Writer(s) Ranjit Kapoor, Satish Kaushik, Sudhir Mishra Producer(s) National Film Development Corporation of India Production Company National Film Development Corporation of India

Cast Naseeruddin Shah, Om Puri, Pankaj Kapur, Neena Gupta, Satish Shah, Ravi Baswani, Satish Kaushik, Bhakti Barve

Cinematographer Binod Pradhan

Editor Renu Saluja Music Vanraj Bhatia

Sales NFDC - irfan@nfdcindia.com

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