



OFFICIAL
CATALOGUE

54 INTERNATIONAL
FILM FESTIVAL
OF **INDIA**
2023

20 - 28 NOV



#IFFI54

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FILM FESTIVAL
OF **INDIA**
2023

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You can visit us at www.iffigoa.org, www.nfdcindia.com



PRESIDENT
REPUBLIC OF INDIA

MESSAGE

I am happy to know that the 54th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) is being organized in Goa from November 20-28, 2023.

Since its inception, IFFI has been curating outstanding films from all over the world. Cinema reflects the essence of society, culture and human aspirations, making it an integral part of our lives. Film festivals like IFFI provide a precious opportunity to appreciate the creative endeavors of filmmakers from all over India and the world

As we come together to celebrate this festival, we not only honor the art of filmmaking but also acknowledge its role in fostering mutual understanding and harmony among diverse cultures. The films to be showcased in this festival reflect the mosaic of human experiences, and through them we can gain deeper insights into different perspectives and realities.

I hope that this festival will encourage the exchange of ideas, exploration of new horizons, and strengthening of bonds among individuals who share a passion for cinema.

I extend my warm greetings and felicitations to the organizers and participants and wish IFFI-2023 every success.

(Droupadi Murmu)



PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA

MESSAGE

I am happy to learn about the 54th edition of International Film Festival of India (IFFI) being held at Goa. Greetings and best wishes to everyone associated with the organization of the Festival, as well as the film industry.

Cinema transcends barriers, resonating across societies and nations. It strikes a chord by entertaining audiences and being a vehicle for art and culture.

IFFI has evolved and transformed into a vibrant platform for Indian and international filmmakers to showcase their innovation, creativity and refine the art of storytelling.

The wide array of films showcased from across the world will help the audience to experience and enjoy the best global films and at the same time, learn more about cultures, societies and nations. IFFI has emerged as another manifestation of the principle of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' meaning the whole world is one family. May such lofty ideals guide and inspire every participant to continue to work with renewed commitment to uphold the spirit of brotherhood and humanity.

Best wishes to the filmmakers, members of the jury, technicians and cinema lovers for making the 54th IFFI a resounding success.

(Narendra Modi)



MINISTER
INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND
YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MESSAGE

It is with great enthusiasm that I welcome you to the 54th International Film Festival of India (IFFI).

In an age where technology continues to reshape the way we consume content, film festivals remain a testament to the enduring appeal of the cinematic experience. The collective anticipation in a darkened theatre, shared laughter and tears, and the moments of introspection that films invoke are unique and irreplaceable. They remind us of the power of gathering as a community to appreciate and celebrate the art that defines us as a society.

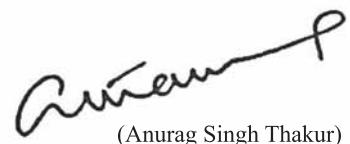
As in past years, this year too, IFFI promises an eclectic selection of films from all parts of the world and every corner of India. The festival will also premiere an array of new films not seen before in India and honour many of their creators.

Besides the film screenings, in alignment with the government's vision to democratize and upgrade cinema education in the country, this year's IFFI will expand the scope of masterclasses, featuring top industry stalwarts from across the world.

We also remain committed to nurturing and inspiring young artists from across the nation as we embark on the third edition of '75 Creative Minds of Tomorrow' initiative this year. Furthermore, we are excited to introduce the 'Best Web Series (OTT) Award', an addition aimed at encouraging and honouring the flourishing OTT content and its creators in India.

I commend the teams of NFDC and ESG for their dedication and hard work in organizing this festival.

My best wishes to all the participants, esteemed delegates, and film enthusiasts attending IFFI 2023.



(Anurag Singh Thakur)



MINISTER OF STATE FOR
INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND
FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MESSAGE

I'm delighted to welcome you at the 54th edition of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI), to be held from November 20 to 28 at Goa.

India, with its rich cultural heritage and diverse landscapes, stands proudly as a hub of cinematic content. Our Government's steadfast commitment to the film industry is exemplified through our co-production initiatives and generous incentives aimed at fostering creativity and collaboration.

The Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, set up the FFO in the National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) through Invest India, with a view to promote and facilitate film shootings by foreign filmmakers in India. It acts as a single-window facilitation and clearance mechanism that eases filming in India, as well as endeavoring to create a film-friendly ecosystem and promoting the country as a filming destination.


Furthermore, the Government recently amended the Cinematograph Act, 2023 to provide full safeguard from film piracy.

To create world class talent pool in India to cater to the Indian as well as global industry and to set-up an incubation Centre for the Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming and Comics (AVGC) sector, this Ministry had setup a Task Force for the AVGC sector.

As we come together to celebrate the magic of cinema, let us forge new paths, strengthen partnerships, and continue to push the boundaries of artistic expression. I am confident that this festival will serve as a catalyst for a future where Indian cinema not only inspires but also leads the world.

May this festival be a source of inspiration and a reminder of the beauty that lies within the art of filmmaking.

Enjoy the captivating journey that awaits you through the lens of Cinema at IFFI 2023.



(Dr. L. Murugan)



SECRETARY,
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MESSAGE

Warmest greetings to all of you as we gather to celebrate the art of cinema at IFFI 2023.

In a world where information travels faster than ever, film serves as a bridge between cultures, a lens through which we can examine our past, understand our present, and envision our future. It sparks conversations, ignites emotions, and challenges us to think beyond our own experiences.

Ever since its inception, IFFI has hosted and celebrated international cinema icons. 54th IFFI is proud to give the Lifetime Achievement Award to the legendary American actor Michael Douglas who will also conclude our stellar series of masterclasses at the festival.

As in the past several years, the government has continued its film friendly policies and this includes the amendment to the Cinematograph Act that introduces new age ratings in the film certification process; and making anti-piracy provisions more stringent to protect the interests of our film industry.

I extend my gratitude to the filmmakers, actors, producers, technicians, and all those involved in the creation of these remarkable films that will be shown at the festival. Your dedication to your craft enriches our lives and contributes to the artistic legacy of cinema.

I wish all the participants, delegate and filmmakers attending IFFI 2023 a wonderful experience and hope that you enjoy the variety of cinema and all the other great events that we have lined up for you.

(Apurva Chandra)



ADDITIONAL SECRETARY,
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING,
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MESSAGE

It is with immense delight that I extend a heartfelt welcome to you to the 54th edition of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) in the captivating landscapes & shores of Goa, as we gather to celebrate the world of cinemas.

This year's festival proudly presents a selection of outstanding films carefully curated by a panel of experts. Recognizing the unique power of documentary cinema in shedding light on untold stories and stimulating thought-provoking discussions, a special space has been carved out for Documentaries in IFFI and Film Bazaar programmes. Building up on their success in 53rd IFFI, Sections like Macabre Dreams, Animation and Restored Classics are being continued in the 54th IFFI. In addition to the screenings, the Festival will be abuzz with an array of exclusive events including Masterclasses, In Conversation Sessions, Cine Mela etc, and an avant-garde Technology Exhibition. IFFI's Film Bazaar will once again house various Pavilions, Co-Production Market platforms, Screenwriters Lab, Book to Box office, Work in Progress Lab and much more, fostering a thriving space for the global film industry.

In conclusion, I extend a warm invitation to all participants, delegates, and film aficionados to the 54th International Film Festival of India, Goa. I am certain the festival will bring joy and inspiration to all involved and also deepen our collective adoration for the captivating world of international cinema at IFFI 2023.

(Neerja Sekhar)



FESTIVAL DIRECTOR
54th International Film Festival of India, 2023
JOINT SECRETARY (FILMS),
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING,
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
& MANAGING DIRECTOR,
NATIONAL FILM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (NFDC)

MESSAGE

Dear Esteemed Guests, Filmmakers, and Cinema Enthusiasts,

Welcome to the 54th International Film Festival of India, Goa, a celebration of the art of cinema from around the world. It is with immense pleasure and pride that I extend my warmest greetings to each one of you.

Cinema is a universal language that transcends borders and brings people together. IFFI has grown over the years into one of the most prestigious film festivals globally, and we are thrilled to bring you another exceptional cinematic journey.

This year's festival promises to be a testament to the power of storytelling through the lens of the camera. We have curated a diverse and compelling selection of films that reflect the rich tapestry of cultures, emotions, and human experiences.

I am glad to inform you that we have received a record number of entries both in Foreign as well as Indian Cinema Sections. I commend the Preview Committee, Indian Panorama Jury as well as our Programming teams for selecting and curating an amazing Festival line-up of diverse films this year, that will captivate your imagination. The gala premieres promise to be even more star studded, bringing in the best of the International as well as Indian filmstars to IFFI. More than 20 Masterclasses and In-conversation sessions are being curated this year, focusing on relevant areas and people in the today's context of modern cinema, as well as delving into our cinematic heritage. We hope to inspire, educate, and entertain our audiences, igniting discussions and conversations that go beyond the screen.

Continuing to serve as the perfect ecosystem of the film makers and eminent film experts from around the globe, this "17th Edition of the NFDC Film Bazaar " will have expanded the scope of its verticals. Documentary & Non-Feature Projects/Films have been included in the Co-production Market, Work-In-Progress Lab and Market Screenings. A newly curated "VFX & Tech Pavilion " has been integrated into Film Bazaar, which will be put along the promenade facing the sea. It will make the filmmakers aware of the latest innovations, to explore the possibilities of story telling by not just "taking the shot", but also "creating the shot". The "Knowledge Series' ' of Film Bazaar has been curated to include pitching sessions from selected filmmakers, countries & states, along with sessions on the important aspects of film production and distribution. This year, Book To Box Office has partnered with The Story Ink for a three-day pop-up at the Film Bazaar, which will include curated meet-and-greets, networking events, and "beachside chats" by experts in the field. The main objective is to provide creative authors a platform to submit their work and introduce these stories to the gatekeepers of the entertainment industry – our producers and heads of platforms.

The 75 Creative Minds of Tomorrow program, which is the vision of Hon'ble Minister of Information & Broadcasting, Shri Anurag Singh Thakur, aims to identify, encourage and nurture young creative talents from across various aspects of filmmaking. Its 3rd edition has been strengthened by masterclasses and talent camps for the creative minds.

As tribute to outstanding achievements of the Indian entertainment industry in the digital realm, we have introduced the Best Web Series Award in 54th IFFI.

We are humbled by the gracious presence of the legendary Michael Douglas for accepting the Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award. His participation along with iconic actress Catherine Zeta Jones will add an extraordinary dimension to the Festival.

We want to express our heartfelt gratitude to the filmmakers, artists, and all those who have contributed to making this festival a reality. Your dedication to the art of storytelling is what makes this event so special.

To our esteemed guests, thank you for your unwavering support. Your presence adds prestige to our festival, and your insights are invaluable. We hope you enjoy the outstanding films, engage in meaningful discussions, and leave with memories that will last a lifetime. Let the powerful narratives transport you to new worlds, provoke thought, and inspire change.

Thank you for joining us at the International Film Festival of India. Together, let us celebrate the power of cinema and the stories that connect us all.



(Prithul Kumar)

CONTENT

018.

IFFI AWARDS 18.
SATYAJIT RAY LIFETIME
ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
FOR EXCELLENCE
IN CINEMA 22.

024.

INTERNATIONAL JURY
INTERNATIONAL
COMPETITION

Andragogy 29.
Asog 30.
Blaga's Lessons 31.
Bosnian Pot 32.
Die Before Death 33.
Endless Borders 34.
Hoffman's Fairy Tales 35.
Lubo 36.
Measures of Men 37.
Party of Fools 38.
The Other Widow 39.
Woman Of 40.
Kantara 41.
Mirbeen 42.
Sanaa 43.

044.

BEST DEBUT
FEATURE FILM OF A
DIRECTOR

Almost Entirely a Slight Disaster 45.
Let Me Go 46.
Ocarina 47.
Sleep 48.
When the Seedlings Grow. 49.
Dhai Aakhar 50.
Iratra 51.

052.

ICFT UNESCO - GANDHI
MEDAL

INTERNATIONAL JURY

ICFT UNESCO

A House in Jerusalem 56.
Citizen Saint 57.
Drift 58.
It's Sira 59.
Kalev 60.
The Prize! 61.
The Sugar Experiment 62.
Malikappuram 63.
Mandali 64.
Rabindra Kabya Rahasya 65.

067.

OPENING FILM

Catching Dust 68.

MID-FEST FILM

About Dry Grasses 72.

CLOSING FILM

The Featherweight 76.

078.

FESTIVAL
KALEIDOSCOPE

Anatomy of a fall 70.
Close your Eyes 80.
Cobweb 81.
Concrete Utopia 82.
Elegies 83.
Essential Truths of the Lake 84.
Eureka 85.
How to Have Sex 86.
Lost in the Night 87.
Io Capitano 88.
Memory 89.
MMXX 90.
Moro 91.
Scrapper 92.
Snow Leopard 93.

The Zone of Interest 94.
 Upon Open Sky 95.
 Yannick 96.

097.

CINEMA OF THE WORLD

A Golden Life 98.
 A Ravaging Wind 99.
 A Real Job 100.
 A Strange Path 101.
 Adentro 102.
 Adiós Buenos Aires 103.
 Alemania 104.
 Ali Topan 105.
 All to Play For 106.
 All Will Be Revealed 107.
 Another Day of Hope 108.
 Antarctica Calling 109.
 Aziz 110.
 Bela America 111.
 Blind At Heart 112.
 Blockade1 113
 Brand Bollywood Downunder 114.
 Ceylin 115.
 Children of God 116.
 Chronicles of a Wandering Saint 117.
 Clap Your Hands 118.
 Comandante 119.
 Dancing on the Edge of a Volcano 120.
 Dauren's Wedding 121.
 Dignity 122.
 Endless Summer Syndrome 123.
 Extra Lesson 124.
 Family Album 125.

Fereshteh 126.
 Fez Summer '55 127.
 Fight like a Girl 128.
 Flaming Cloud 129.
 Fog 130.
 Fortune for All 131.
 Fragile Blood / Blue Blood 132.
 Franky Five Star 133.
 From the end of the World 134.
 Giants of Easter Island 135.
 God's Gift 136.
 Gol!Ath 137.
 Goliath 138.
 Good Autumn, Mommy 139.
 Homecoming 140.
 Hotel Pula 141.
 Hungry Ghost Diner 142.
 Iman 143.
 Insular 144.
 L'Anima in Pace 145.
 Latido 146.
 Life 147.
 Lonely Yurt 148.
 Lost Country 149.
 Lucette 150.
 Malqueridas 151.
 Mandoob 152.
 Melody 153.
 Mighty Afrin: In the time of floods 154.
 Mommy's Lambie 155.
 Montevideo Unit 156.
 Mountain Onion 157.
 My Aunt Gilma 158.
 Not a Word 159.
 Once upon a time in the Andes 160.
 Öte 161.

Palimpsest 162.
 Rain Town 163.
 Seagrass 164.
 Seneca 165.
 Seventh Heaven 166.
 Shame on Dry Land 167.
 Sharp Wounds 168.
 Sima's Unfinished Narration 169.
 Snowstorm 170.
 Sometimes I think about Dying 171.
 Stepne 172.
 Suffocated 173.
 Sunday 174.
 The Accident 175.
 The Beautiful Summer 176.
 The Bubble 177.
 The Chapel 178.
 The Drunk 179.
 The Fisherman's Daughter 180.
 The Gospel of the Beast 181.
 The invisible steps through Latin America 182.
 The Land Where Winds Stood Still 183.
 The Last Birthday 184.
 The Punishment 185.
 The Reeds 186.
 Thiiird 187.
 This Place 188.
 Three Sparks 189.
 Thunders 190.
 Toll 191.
 Toxic 192.
 Twenty20 193.
 Tzadik 194.
 Under the naked Sky 195.
 Wake Me 196.

Wheatfield 197.

When Fucking Spring is In
the Air 198.

Whispering Mountains 199.

Wild 200.

201.

DOCU-MONTAGE

AI: African Intelligence 202.

And The King Said, What a
Fantastic Machine 203.

Casablanca 204.

Luto 205.

Revenge: Our Dad the
Nazi Killer 206.

Room 999 207.

Samuel and the Light 208.

The Last Days of Humanity 209.

The Trial 210.

Vista Mare 211.

212.

ANIMATION

3 Little Kungpoo Goats 213.

Bim 214.

Four Souls of Coyote 215.

Sirocco and The Kingdom
Of The Winds 216.

The Other Shape 217.

The Peasants 218.

Toldi 219.

Dr. Minestein 220.

Little Singham Bahubali
Friends 221.

Prabho Shivaji Raja 222.

Return of The Jungle 223.

The Light 224.

226.

INTERGRADE

Divinity 227.

He thought he Died 228.

Knit's Island 229.

Omen 230.

Once Within a Time 231.

232.

MACABRE DREAMS

Lumberjack the Monster 233.

Sorcery 234.

The Cuckoo's Curse 235.

We Have Never Been Modern 236.

238.

RESTORED CLASSICS

Shadows of Forgotten
Ancestors 239.

The Exorcist (Extended
Director's Cut) 240.

Twilight 241.

Bees Saal Baad 242.

Bidyapati 243.

Chorus 244.

Guide 245.

Haqeeqat 246.

Pathala Bhairavi 247.

Shyamchi Aai 248.

250.

UNICEF @ IFFI

Delbar 251..

For the sake of Ava 252.

Peacock Lament 253.

Damu 254.

Gandhi & Co. 255.

Singo 256.

258.

INDIAN PANORAMA FEATURE JURY

INDIAN PANORAMA - FEATURE

Aattam (Opening Film) 267.

2018 – Everyone Is A Hero 268.

Aaraariraro 269.

Ardhangini 270.

Deep Fridge 271.

Dhai Aakhar 272.

Gulmohar 273.

Iratta 274.

Kaadhal Enbathu Pothu
Udamai 275.

Kaathal – The Core 276.

Kantara 277.

Malikappuram 278.

Mandali 279.

Mirbeen 280.

Neela Nira Sooriyan 281.

Nna Thaan Case Kodu 282.

Ponniyin Selvan Part – 2 283.

Pookkaalam 284.

Rabindra Kabya Rahasya 285.

Sanaa 286.

Sirf Ek Banda Kaafi Hai 287.

The Kerala Story 288

The Vaccine War 289.

Vadh 290.

Viduthalai Part 1 292.

292.

INDIAN PANORAMA NON-FEATURE JURY

INDIAN PANORAMA - NON-FEATURE

Andro Dreams (Opening Film) 299.

1947: Brexit India 300.

Baasan 301.

Back To The Future 302.

Baruar Xongxar 303.

Behrupiya – The Impersonator 304.

Bhangaar 305.

Changing Landscape 306.

Chupi Roh 307.

Giddh (the scavenger) 308.

Kathabor 309.

Lachit (The Warrior) 310.

Last Meet 311.

Life In Loom 312.

Mau: The Spirit Dreams
Of Cheraw 313.

Pradakshina 314.

Sadabahar 315.

Sri Rudram 316.

The Sea & Seven Villages 317.

Utsavmurti 318.

320.

BEST WEB SERIES (OTT) AWARD

322.

ACCESSIBLE INDIA - ACCESSIBLE FILMS

83 323

Bhaag Milkha Bhaag 324

Shershaah 325

Sirf Ek Bandaa Kaafi Hai 326

328.

GALA PREMIERES

332.

OPEN AIR SCREENINGS

334.

MASTERCLASSES & PANEL DISCUSSIONS

340.

FILM BAZAAR

352.

75 CMOT

356.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

54th IFFI AWARDS



SATYAJIT RAY LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN CINEMA

To commemorate 100 years of India's most celebrated filmmaker the late Satyajit Ray, IFFI's Lifetime Achievement Award is hitherto rechristened the Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award.

The prestigious award consisting a cash prize of INR ₹10,00,000/-,

Certificate, Shawl, Medal (Silver Peacock) and a Scroll is conferred upon a master filmmaker for his/her outstanding contribution to cinema

BEST FILM

The award carries a cash prize of ₹40,00,000/- to be shared equally between the Director and the Producer. The Director is to be given the Golden Peacock Award and a Certificate in addition to the cash component.

The producer is to be given a Certificate in addition to the cash component.

BEST DIRECTOR

The award carries a Silver Peacock, a Certificate and a cash prize of INR ₹15,00,000/-

BEST ACTOR (MALE)

The award carries a Silver Peacock, a Certificate and a cash prize of INR ₹10,00,000/-.

BEST ACTOR (FEMALE)

The award carries a Silver Peacock, a Certificate and a cash prize of INR ₹10,00,000/-.

SPECIAL JURY AWARD

The award carries a Silver Peacock, a Certificate and a cash prize of INR ₹15,00,000/- given to a film (for any aspect of the film which the jury wishes to award/acknowledge) or an individual (for his/her artistic contribution to a film). The award, if given, will be given to the Director of the film.

INDIAN FILM PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR OF IFFI

This prestigious award consisting of a cash prize of ₹10,00,000/- Certificate, Shawl and Medal (Silver Peacock) is conferred upon an Indian film personality for his/her outstanding contribution to Indian cinema.

BEST DEBUT FEATURE FILM OF A DIRECTOR

Silver Peacock, a Certificate and a cash prize of ₹10,00,000/-, (To be given to a director for his/her best first feature film to recognize and encourage the most promising new directorial talent in world cinema.)

BEST WEB SERIES (OTT) AWARD

Presented to one (1) web series for its artistic merit, storytelling, technical excellence, and overall Impact Certificate each to the Director(s) /Creator(s) or both, and the Producer(s)/ Production House \s(s)/OTT Platform (in case of original production or co-production); Cash Prize of Rs. 10 lakhs to be shared equally among the Director(s), Creator(s), and the Producer(s)/ Production house(s)/ OTT Platform (in case of an original production or co production); Certificate to the OTT Platform streaming the web-series

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD PAST RECIPIENTS



Bernardo Bertolucci
Filmmaker, Italy
1999



Dr. Lester James Peries
Filmmaker, Sri Lanka
2000



Liv Ullmann
Actor, Norway
2003



Bertrand Tavernier
Filmmaker, France
2011



Krzysztof Zanussi
Filmmaker, Poland
2012



Jirí Menzel
Filmmaker, Czechoslovakia
2013



Wong Kar Wai
Filmmaker, Hong Kong, China
2014



Nikita Mikhalkov
Filmmaker, Russia
2015



Im Kwon-taek
Filmmaker, South Korea
2016



Atom Egoyan
Filmmaker, Canada
2017



Dan Wolman
Filmmaker, Israel
2018



Isabelle Huppert
Actress, Paris, France
2019



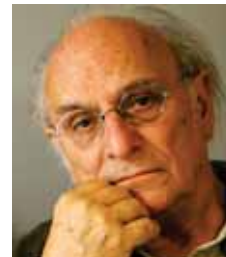
Vittorio Storaro
Cinematographer, Italy
2020



István Szabó
Filmmaker, Hungary
2021

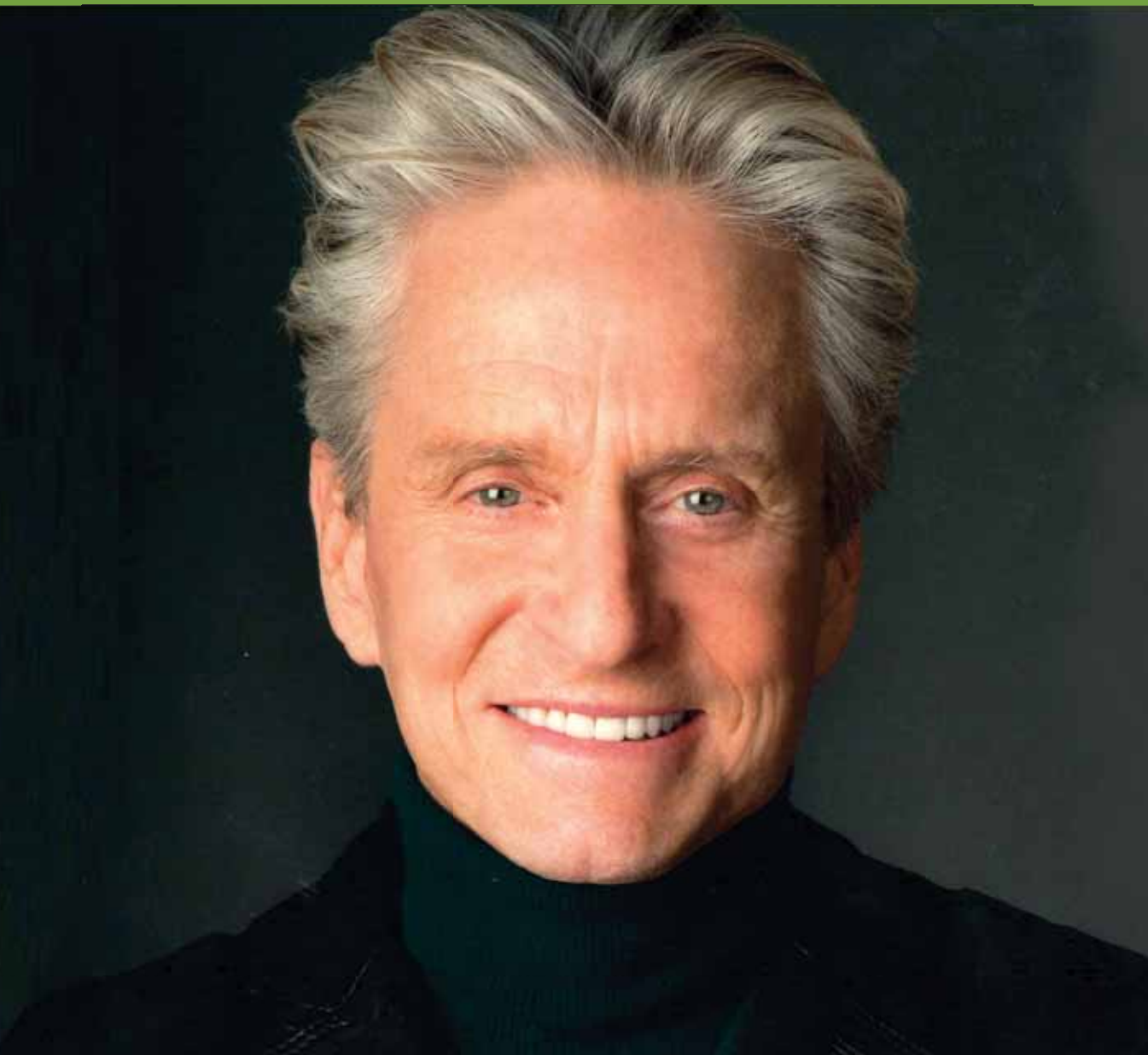


Martin Scorsese
Filmmaker, USA
2021



Carlos Saura
Filmmaker, Spain
2022

**SATYAJIT RAY LIFETIME
ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FOR
EXCELLENCE IN CINEMA**



MICHAEL DOUGLAS

A legendary actor with 50 celebrated years of film, television and producing experience, Michael Douglas is known for his era-defining roles, dedicated public service record and enduring cultural impact.

Since his earliest acting work on *Hail, Hero!* and *The Streets of San Francisco*, Michael has played some of the most memorable and enigmatic American anti-heroes of the last half century. He is most known for his iconic screen roles, like his Academy Award-winning turn as Gordon Gekko in *Wall Street* as well as critically and commercially acclaimed films such as *Fatal Attraction*, *The American President*, *Basic Instinct*, *Traffic* and *Romancing the Stone*. He is also a prolific producer, with credits on politically relevant and socially influential motion pictures like *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* and *The China Syndrome*, which presciently demonstrated the real-life risks of a nuclear meltdown and cemented his interest in disarmament issues. He will next appear as Benjamin Franklin in an upcoming limited series depicting the founding fathers craft for the art of diplomacy.

With a passion for complex protagonists and darkly humorous undercurrents, Michael has received numerous accolades for his work, including two Academy Awards, five Golden Globe Awards, a Primetime Emmy Award, AFI Life Achievement Award, two French Cesar Awards for Career Achievement is an Officer of Arts and Letters and most recently was awarded the *Palme d'or d'honneur* for lifetime achievement at the 76th Annual Festival de Cannes.

In addition to his career accomplishments, Douglas has remained a steadfast public servant, activist and philanthropist dedicated to peace and human welfare. In 1998, former United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan appointed Michael as a Messenger of Peace for his commitment on disarmament issues, including nuclear non-proliferation and halting the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons. In this capacity, his public stand on disarmament plays an important role in focusing public awareness on the United Nations' efforts to strengthen global peace and security. He also supports the work of several organizations dedicated to disarmament and non-proliferation, including the Ploughshares Fund and the Nuclear Threat Initiative.

INTERNATIONAL JURY

Jury Chairperson Mr Shekhar Kapur, the renowned Indian filmmaker will lead world's top notch cinema personalities to pick the awardees for Golden and Silver Peacocks



SHEKHAR KAPUR (*Jury Chairperson*)
Filmmaker

Acclaimed Filmmaker, Actor, Narrator and Producer, **Shekhar Kapur** is recipient of several accolades, including Padma Shri, National Film Award, BAFTA Award, National Board of Review Award, Filmfare Awards, and nominations for Golden Globe and Oscars. His Filmography includes *Masoom* (1983), *Mr India* (1987), *Bandit Queen* (1994), *Elizabeth* (1998), *The Four Feathers* (2002), *Elizabeth: The Golden Age* (2007), and *What's Love Got To Do With It* (2022). He has been Chairman, Film and Television Institute of India, 2020-2023; Member, Cannes International Jury 2010; Chairman, IFFI Jury 2015.



JOSÉ LUIS ALCAÍNE

Cinematographer

The first cinematographer to use a fluorescent tube as key lighting in 1970s, **Jose Luis Alcaíne** has worked on *Belle Époque* (Academy Award, Best Foreign Language Film, 1993), *Two Much* (1995), *Blast from the Past* (1999), and *The Skin I Live In* (2011). He is known for collaborations with Pedro Almodóvar in *La Mala Educación* (2004), *Dolor Y Gloria* (2019), and *Volver* (2006) which won the European Film Award for Best Cinematographer. The many honours to his credit include National Film Award 1989, Goya Award for Best Photography 1989, 1992, 1993, 2002, 2007. European Academy Award for Best Cinematography 2006, Gold Medal of Spanish Academy of Cinema Arts and Sciences 2011. Gold Medal for Merit in Fine Arts (2017, 2019). Visión Award, Lausanne; and Gold Medal, Valladolid Festival.



JEROME PAILLARD

Film Producer & Ex-head of Film Market

Beginning as an aircraft commercial pilot and flight instructor, **Jerome Paillard** worked as classical musician, artistic director and CFO of a classical record label. With Daniel Toscan du Plantier he coproduced feature films by Satyajit Ray, Mehdi Charef, Souleymane Cissé, Maurice Pialat, and Jean-Charles Tachella. He served the Cannes Festival from 1995 to 2022. As Executive Director, Marché du Film he developed what is now the world's leading film market. He is Co-Director, Ventana Sur, which specializes in marketing Latin-American films, since its creation in Buenos Aires 2010. He founded cinando.com, an online resource, communication and screening platform.



CATHERINE DUSSART

Film Producer

Producer/ co-producer of nearly 100 films in 15 countries, **Catherine Dussart** is renowned for *Huahua shijie linghun ke* (2017), and *Exil* (2016). Among her productions, Amos Gitai's *Laila in Haifa* competed at Venice 2020. Rithy Panh's *Les Irradiés (Irradiated)* was Best Documentary at Berlin 2020. Amos Gitai's *Tramway in Jerusalem* and Rithy Panh's *Graves Without a Name* were in Venice 2018; *Pippo Delbono's Gospel* was in Venice 2016. Gurvinder Singh's *Chauthi Koot (The Fourth Direction)* played in Cannes 2015. Min Bahadur Bham's (Nepal) *Kalo Pothi (The Black Hen)* won Critics Award at Venice 2015; Rithy Panh's *The Missing Picture* won Un Certain Regard prize at Cannes 2013. She is Member, European Producers Club; Consultant, Ateliers du Cinéma Européen (ACE).



HELEN LEAKE

Film Producer

One of Australia's respected creative producers, **Helen Leake's** feature credits include *Carnifex* (2022), *Swerve* (2018), *Wolf Creek 2* (2013), *Heaven's Burning* (1997), and *Black and White* (2002). Her films have been in 30+ festivals, including Venice, Toronto, London and Sitges (Catalonia). Since 2021 she is Director, Screen Australia Board. She is in the Council for Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences (HASS), Flinders University, Adelaide since 2022, when she was awarded as its Distinguished Alumni. She is honored with the Order of Australia (2020) for significant service to film.

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

A selection of 15 international and Indian fiction feature films that represent the emerging trends in the aesthetics and politics of film as envisioned by established masters and powerful young voices alike.



ANDRAGOGY

Original Title:	BUDI PEKERTI
Director:	WREGAS BHANUTEJA
Producer(s):	ADI EKATAMA, WILLAWATI, RIDLA AN-NUUR, NURITA ANANDIA
Screenplay:	WREGAS BHANUTEJA
DoP:	GUNNAR NIMPUNO
Editor:	AHMAD YUNIARDI
Cast:	SHA INE FEBRIYANTI, ANGGA ALDI YUNANDA, PRILLY MAHATEI LATUCONSINA, DWI SASONO, OMARA NAIDRA ESTEGHLAL, ARI LESMANA

Prani, a middle-aged school teacher, loses her temper after someone cuts her in line whilst in a queue of a famous traditional food vendor which is run by a beloved old lady. A video of her rant becomes viral on social media. She is persecuted online where everyone questions her manners and suitability for her job as a teacher.

FESTIVAL: Toronto International Film Festival, 2023

SALES: Rekata Studio

drama | social issues

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Jakartan born **Wregas Bhanuteja** made some short films including "Lembusura" (2015) that competed in Berlin International Film Festival 2015. In 2016 he won Best Short Film in Cannes Critics Weeks with his short film "Prenjak/In The Year of Monkey" (2016). His short film "No One is Crazy in This Town" (2019) competed in Sundance Film



ASOG

Director:	SEÁN DEVLIN
Producer(s):	AMANDA ERNST, SEÁN DEVLIN
Screenplay:	SEÁN DEVLIN
DoP:	ANNA MACDONALD
Editor:	YAP SEI-BEEN
Cast:	JAYA, ARNEL PABLO, RICKY GACHO JR.

FESTIVAL: Cannes-Marché du Film, 2023
Tribeca Film Festival, 2023
São Paulo International Film Festival, 2023
BFI London Film Festival, 2023
Vancouver International Film Festival, 2023

AWARD: Audience Award (Spectrum)
Best Canadian Documentary, Vancouver International Film Festival, 2023

SALES: Beb Bingo Entertainment

drama | LGBTQIA+ | road film | climate change

ASIA PREMIERE ★

This unique narrative incorporating documentary elements follows Rey, a 40-year-old non-binary teacher and typhoon survivor, on a roadtrip to fame. With surreal comedy and social portrait realism, filmmaker Seán Devlin explores climate change, LGBTQ+ issues.



Sean Devlin is a first generation Filipino-Chinese-Irish Canadian filmmaker and comedian. He was a consulting producer on the Oscar-nominated *Borat: Subsequent Movie* (2020); winner of the Golden Globe for Best Picture - Comedy or Musical. For his debut feature film *When The Storm Fades* (2018), the Director's Guild of Canada presented Seán with the Emerging Canadian Director prize at the 37th VIFF. The film earned Sean two international festival jury prizes for Best Director and won Best Canadian Film at the Gimli Film Festival as well as two Vancouver Film Critics' Awards.



BLAGA'S LESSONS

Original Title:	UROTCITE NA BLAGA
Director:	STEPHAN KOMANDAREV
Producer(s):	STEPHAN KOMANDAREV, KATYA TRICHKOVA
Screenplay:	SIMEON VENTSISLAVOV, STEPHAN KOMANDAREV
DoP:	VESELIN HRISTOV
Editor:	NINA ALTAPARMAKOVA
Cast:	ELI SKORCHEVA, GERASIM GEORGIEV, ROZALIA ABGARIAN, IVAN BARNEV, STEFAN DENOLYUBOV, IVAYLO HRISTOV

FESTIVAL: Karlovy Vary International Film Festival 2023
São Paulo International Film Festival, 2023
Busan International Film Festival, 2023
Oscars 2024 / Bulgarian Contender for the 96th
Academy Awards

AWARDS: Grand Prix, Best Actress, Prize of the
Ecumenical Jury, Karlovy Vary 2023

SALES: Heretic Outreach

drama | social issues

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Stephan Komandarev graduated in Film & TV directing at the New Bulgarian University (1999). His works include award-winning feature and documentary films. He is a lecturer at the Film Department of the New Bulgarian University, Sofia (since 2008). He is a 2011 EAVE graduate and a Member of the European Film Academy, Bulgarian Film Director's Association and Bulgarian Film Producers' Association.



BOSNIAN POT

Original Title:	BOSANSKI LONAC
Director:	PAVO MARINKOVIĆ
Producer(s):	STANISLAV BABIĆ
DoP:	PETER ROEHLER
Editor:	DUBRAVKO SLUNJSKI
Cast:	SENAD BAŠIĆ , ANDREAS KIENDL, BIRGIT STÖGER, BRUNA BEBIĆ , ADMIR GLAMOČAK , ZLATKO BURIĆ, JULIA FRANZ RICHTER, IGOR KOVAČ

Faruk Šego, 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. His last chance is an off-theatre group that can stage a play he once wrote as a young man. The ensuing adventure brought on by Faruk's reluctant return to the theatre could transform his life and force him to realise what is truly important.

FESTIVAL:

Sarajevo Film Festival 2023

SALES:

Antidote Sales

drama | migration | comedy

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Croatian filmmaker **Pavo Marinković** graduated in Dramaturgy at the Academy of Dramatic Arts in Zagreb. In 2006, together with Dražen Žarković, Pavo co-directed the film *Trešeta / Tresette – a Story of an Island*. Marinković 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.



DIE BEFORE DEATH

Original Title:	UMRI PRIJE SMRTI
Director:	AHMED IMAMOVIC
Producer:	SAMIR SMAJIC
Screenplay:	AHMED IMAMOVIC
DoP:	DRAGAN GAJANOVIC
Editor:	ANTONIO ILIC
Cast:	ADNAN HASKOVIC, RADE SERBEDZIJA, MONA MURATOVIC

FESTIVALS: Sarajevo Film Festival 2023

SALES: Comprex Sales

drama | social issues | dark comedy

ASIA PREMIERE ★



Ahmed Imamovich graduated in Directing from Sarajevo Academy of Performing Arts (2002). He directed plays and documentaries, including *Women* (1997). During the Bosnian war (1992–1995) he was with Sarajevo Group of Authors (SaGA) as DOP of documentaries on the siege of Sarajevo, and the 1st Sarajevo FF 1995. His graduation film *10 Minutes* was Best Short at European Film Academy Award 2002, and Sarajevo FF, gaining him worldwide recognition. Imamovich worked on Ademir Kenović's *The Perfect Circle* and Michael Winterbottom's *Welcome To Sarajevo* (1997). He collaborated on the screenplay of Pjer Žalica's *Fuse* (2003). He's currently Director, BHTI.



ENDLESS BORDERS

Original Title:	MARZHAYE BI PAYAN
Director:	ABBAS AMINI
Producer(s):	KAVEH FARNAM, FARZAD PAK
Screenplay:	ABBAS AMINI, HOSSEIN FAROKHZADEH
DoP:	SAMAN LOTFIAN
Editor:	HAYEDEH SAFIYARI
Cast:	POURIA RAHIMI SAM, MINO SHARIFI, HAMED ALIPOUR, BEHAFARID GHAEFFARIAN, NASER SAJJADI HOSSEINI, GHALEM SAKHI NAZARI, LATIFE ZOUSEFI, HOUTAK BALOUCH

FESTIVALS:

International Film Festival Rotterdam, 2023
Karlovy Vary International Film Festival 2023

AWARD:

UPRO Big Screen Award, Karlovy Vary 2023

SALES AGENT:

Europe Media Nest Distributor

drama | thriller | political

ASIA PREMIERE ★

The rise of the Taliban in Afghanistan has reignited the fire of ethnic and tribal wars. The Hazara Afghans, who are under immediate threat from the Taliban, enter Iran illegally. Ahmad is an exiled Iranian teacher in a poor village of Iran close to the Afghan border. When he gets acquainted with a Hazara family from Afghanistan, he sees the real face of prejudice and dogmatism in the region. A forbidden love makes him act and discover the lack of love and bravery in his own life.



Abbas Amini moved from Abadan to Tehran in 2001 to work as assistant director. His first short film and subsequent documentaries focused on the consequences of the Iraq-Iran war particularly on children. He is a volunteer for the Association for the Protection of Child Laborers (APCL) for the past ten years. His debut feature *Valderama* screened in Berlinale Generation 2016.



HOFFMAN'S FAIRY TALES

Original Title:	SKAZKI GOFMANA
Director:	TINA BARKALAYA
Producer:	KATIA FILIPPOVA
DoP:	KONSTANTIN ESADZE
Editor:	NATALIA KUCHERENKO
Cast:	EKATERINA VILKOVA, MAKSIM STOYANOV, ALEKSEY GUSKOV

Set in the early 2000s, as the Soviet era fades into a Westernised parody, the film follows Nadezhda, a timid woman trapped in a marriage with Vitaly, exploiting her for an apartment. Nadezhda, working two jobs, transforms when a coat's owner recognizes her beautiful, expressive hands. She emerges as a sought-after hand model, reshaping her life dramatically.

SALES: Pan Atlantic Studio

drama | political

INTERNATIONAL 
PREMIERE



Tina Barkalaya is a Russian director of Georgian origin. Her first short films 'Rubato' and 'Rules of Usage of Amusement Rides' won many international awards and toured the world. The Grand Prix for 'Rules of Usage of Amusement Rides' was awarded at the Artfilm festival in Slovakia. She has directed more than 300 commercials and music videos, many of which became iconic and were awarded prestigious prizes such as Cannes Lion, European Epic, Golden Lamb and Kinotavr FF award. 'Hoffmann's Fairy Tales' is her feature film debut.



LUBO

Director:	GIORGIO DIRITTI
Producer(s):	MARCO COHEN, FABRIZIO DONVITO, BENEDETTO HABIB, CHRISTOF NERACHER, DANIEL CAMPOS PAVONCELLI
Screenplay:	GIORGIO DIRITTI, FREDO VALLA
DoP:	BENJAMIN MAIER
Editor:	PAOLO COTTIGNOLA WITH GIORGIO DIRITTI
Cast:	FRANZ ROGOWSKI, CHRISTOPHE SERMET, VALENTINA BELLÈ, NOEMI BESEDES, CECILIA STEINER, JOEL BASMAN

Lubo, a nomadic busker, joins the Swiss army in 1939 amid the threat of a German invasion. Learning of his wife's death while defending their children's removal under a national reeducation program, he resolves to reunite with them and seek justice for outsiders like him.

FESTIVAL: *La Biennale Di Venezia, 2023*
BFI London Film Festival, 2023
Chicago International Film Festival, 2023
Zurich Film Festival, 2023

SALES: *True Colours*

adaptation | political | period drama

ASIA PREMIERE ★



Giorgio Diritti is a director, screenwriter and film editor born in Bologna. He made his film debut with *The Wind Blows round* (2005) and has participated in more than 60 national and international festivals, where he has won around 40 awards. The film also garnered a lot of 'national interest'. In 2013, his film *There will come a day*, in which Jasmine Trinca as the main character journeys into the Amazon to indigenous villages in search of the meaning of life. It was entered in the Sundance Film Festival.



MEASURES OF MEN

Original Title:	DER VERMESSENE MENSCH
Director:	LARS KRAUME
Producers:	THOMAS KUFUS
Screenplay:	LARS KRAUME
DoP:	JENS HARANT
Editor:	PETER R. ADAM
Cast:	LEONARD SCHEICHER, GIRLEY CHARLENE JAZAMA, PETER SIMONISCHEK, SVEN SCHELKER, MAX KOCH, LUDGER BÖKELMANN, LEO MEIER, ANTON PAULUS, TILO WERNER, CORINNA KIRCHHOFF

FESTIVAL: Berlinale, 2023
 Vancouver International Film Festival 2023
 BFI London Film Festival, 2023

SALES: Picture Tree International

history | political

ASIA PREMIERE ★



Lars Kraume graduated from the DFFB film school in 1997 and went on to work as a director, producer and screenwriter on more than 30 feature films and television productions. The Berlinale premiere of *NO SONGS OF LOVE* (*Keine Lieder über Liebe – 2005*) garnered him the attention of international audiences. His feature film *'The Silent Revolution'* (*Das Schweigende Klassenzimmer*) was premiered as a Berlinale Special Gala and achieved success beyond Germany.



PARTY OF FOOLS

Original Title:	LE BAL DES FOLLES
Director:	ARNAUD DES PALLIÈRES
Producer(s):	PHILIPPE ROUSSELET, JONATHAN BLUMENTAL
Screenplay:	ARNAUD DES PALLIÈRES, CHRISTELLE BERTHEVAS
DoP:	DAVID CHIZALLET
Editor:	ARNAUD DES PALLIÈRES
Cast:	MÉLANIE THIERRY, MARINA FOIS, CAROLE BOUQUET

FESTIVAL: Deauville Film Festival 2023

SALES: Elle Driver

history | thriller

INTERNATIONAL ★
PREMIERE



Arnaud DES PALLIÈRES (1961, France) studied literature and worked as a stage actor. In the 1980s, he started his career as a director. His film *Age of Uprising: The Legend of Michael Kohlhaas* (2013) won the Golden Iris at the Brussels Film Festival and was nominated for the Golden Palm at the Cannes Film Festival.



THE OTHER WIDOW

Original Title:	PILEGESH
Director:	MA'AYAN RYPP
Producer(s):	AYELET KAIT, AMIR HAREL, CHRISTOPHE AUDEGUIS
Screenplay:	MA'AYAN RYPP, ANAT GAFNI
DoP:	MOSHE MISHALI
Editor:	CLÉMENCE DIARD, YANN DEDET
Cast:	DANA IVGY, ANIA BUKSTEIN, ITAMAR ROTSCCHILD, IRIT GIDRON

A dark comedic drama about Ella, a 34-year theater dresser and mistress, who experiences the sudden death of her lover. She begins to frequent his Shivah (a Jewish mourning ritual) and observes the life that was once forbidden to her. The need to grieve attacks her in the least expected moments.

FESTIVALS: Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival (PÖFF), 2022
Santa Barbara International Film Festival, 2023

SALES: Amir Harel

dark comedy | women filmmaker

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Ma'ayan Rypp short films screened in the festivals at Cannes, Palm Springs, Raindance, and more. They won awards for Best Film, Most Promising Artist and Special Mentions. She developed her debut feature, *The Other Widow*, in the Cannes residency. Currently she is working on her second feature.



WOMAN OF

Original Title:	KOBIETA Z
Director:	MAŁGORZATA SZUMOWSKA, MICHAŁ ENGLERT
Producer(s):	GREGORY JAKILEVITSCH, KATARZYNA JORDAN-KULCZYK, MAŁGORZATA SZUMOWSKA, KLAUDIA ŚMIEJA- ROSTWOROWSKA, BOGNA SZEWCZYK- SKUPIEŃ, MICHAŁ ENGLERT
Screenplay:	MAŁGORZATA SZUMOWSKA, MICHAŁ ENGLERT
DoP:	MICHAŁ ENGLERT
Editor:	JAROSŁAW KAMIŃSKI
Cast:	MAŁGORZATA HAJEWSKA-KRZYSZTOFIK, JOANNA KULIG, BOGUMILA BAJOR, MATEUSZ WIECLAWEK

FESTIVAL: La Biennale Di Venezia, 2023
São Paulo International Film Festival, 2023
Busan International Film Festival, 2023

SALES: Memento Films

drama | women filmmaker | human rights | LGBTQIA+

INDIA PREMIERE ★

Set against the landscape of the Polish transformation from communism to capitalism, *Kobieta z...* spans 45 years of the life of Aniela Wesoly and her journey to find personal liberty as a trans woman. She faces hardships in family life and complicated attitudes in her environment. What choices will Aniela have to make to become who she truly is?



Małgorzata Szumowska,

After her two well-received short films, her first feature-length film, *Happy Man* (2000), was nominated for the European Film Award in the European Discovery category and won the Special Artistic Achievement Award at Thessaloniki.



Michał Englert,

Warsaw-born cinematographer, screenwriter and producer **Michał Englert** is a graduate of the Cinematography Department at the National Film and Theatre School in Lodz, which is where he met Małgorzata Szumowska. Their documentary short *'Silence'* (1997) won him an award for best cinematography at a film festival in Mexico.



KANTARA

Director:	RISHAB SHETTY
Producers:	HOMBALE FILMS LLP
Screenwriters:	RISHAB SHETTY
DoP:	ARAVIND KASHYAP
Editor:	K K PRAKASH, PRATEEK SHETTY
Cast:	RISHAB SHETTY , SAPTHAMI GOWDA , KISHOR , ACHUTH K

Set in the fictional village of Dakshina Kannada, the film explores the ideological conflict between humans and nature. The co-existence of a tribe living with the forest will be hampered by a forest officer who feels certain practices and rituals followed by the tribe pose a threat to mother nature. He questions the existence of their demigod which swirls a battle of ego along with traditions and culture associated with the land. Shiva the protagonist is a top racer at the Kambala Festival and poses a serious threat to the forest department as he continues hunting, illegal cutting and selling of precious forest trees. The forest department grills Shiva and his mates for vandalising the forest. The tribe believes that the forest was donated to them by a king aforetime. Will Shiva be able to reinstate peace and harmony in the village perceiving his existence forms the crux of the film.



Rishab Shetty is an actor and filmmaker in the Kannada film industry. Known for his critically acclaimed blockbuster, 'Kantara', he is recipient of several accolades, including the Best Children's Film at the 66th National Film Awards for 'Sarkari Hi. Pra. Shaale, Kasaragodu, Koduge: Ramanna Rai' his directorial debut and the entertainer 'Kirik Party'.



MIRBEEN

Director:	MRIDUL GUPTA
Producers:	WOJARU CINE ARTS
Screenwriters:	MANIMALA DAS
DoP:	PRADIP DAIMARY
Editor:	UTPAL BURAGOHAIN
Cast:	RAJIBEE KRO, MALINI TISSO

From time to time, the social, political and economic environment crushes everyone. Mirbeen is the central character of this story. In her childhood, her grandmother instills in her the dream of doing something with the fairy tales of Serdihun (God of textile in Karbi tribal beliefs), which sprouts the desire to make life meaningful in her mind. But fratricidal clashes and ethnic conflicts make the entire Karbi land bloody in 2005 where Mirbeen's small village is also not spared. Political instability disrupts their daily lives as Mirbeen's house and village is burnt to ashes. She loses her only close friend Kaban along with many relatives. Her life becomes dark, yet she doesn't want to give up and become a victim of circumstances as the story of Serdihun which her grandmother had instilled in her mind inspires her to make her dream come true.



Mridul Gupta is a national award-winning filmmaker of Assam and Northeast India. Self taught, he won the prestigious National Film Award for his documentary 'Tai Phakeys'. His other notable works are the serial 'Jibanar Batat', his first feature film 'Sutrapat (The Beginning)' and other films like 'Abhiman', 'Krishna Chura', 'TRP Aru...' and 'Mirbeen'.



SANAA

<i>Director:</i>	SUDHANSHU SARIA
<i>Producers:</i>	FOUR LINE ENTERTAINMENT PVT. LTD.
<i>Screenwriters:</i>	SUDHANSHU SARIA
<i>DoP:</i>	DEEPTI GUPTA
<i>Editor:</i>	PARAMITA GHOSH
<i>Cast:</i>	RADHIKA MADAN, SHIKHA TALSANIA, SOHUM SHAH, POOJA

The biggest weekend of her professional life only gets more complicated when Sanaa, a 28-year-old financial advisor working in Mumbai finds out she is pregnant. Absolutely clear on her decision to terminate the pregnancy, the actual process of getting the abortion will force Sanaa to re-evaluate her life and delve deep if the choices she has been making have been really her own.



Sudhanshu Saria is a national award winning filmmaker. He made his feature film debut with a queer road-trip romance titled 'Love' which was widely acclaimed at film festivals. 'Knock Knock Knock', a 40-minute psychological thriller won him India's highest honour for films, the National Award for Best Director in the non-feature section.

BEST DEBUT FEATURE FILM OF A DIRECTOR

A collection of 7 international and Indian fiction feature debuts that exemplify what the next generation of filmmakers are envisioning onscreen.



ALMOST ENTIRELY A SLIGHT DISASTER

Original Title:	SANKI HER ŞEY BIRAZ FELAKET
Director:	UMUT SUBAŞI
Producers:	CEMRE ERÜL
Screenplay:	UMUT SUBAŞI
DoP:	MERT ÖZERCAN
Editor:	UMUT SUBAŞI
Cast:	MELİS SEVINÇ, MELİSA BOSTANCIOĞLU, İBRAHİM ARICI, MERT CAN SEVİMLİ

Four twenty-somethings in contemporary Istanbul: Zeynep is a student who feels distressed from following daily news. Her housemate Ayşe tries to flee abroad because she cannot see a future for herself in Turkey. Mehmet is a married engineer who is never satisfied with his above-average life, while unemployed Ali feels stuck living with his parents. Coincidences bring them together in a playful manner. *Almost Entirely a Slight Disaster* explores the anxieties faced by the new generation with its humorous and intertwined ways.

FESTIVALS: International Film Festival Rotterdam 2023
Sao Paulo International Film Festival 2023

SALES: MPM Premium Sales

drama | youth | comedy

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Umut Subası was born in Ankara in 1990. He studied Film Design at the Faculty of Fine Arts of Dokuz Eylül University in İzmir. His award-winning short films include *I Don't Believe In You But Then There Is Gravity* (Best Short Film at Istanbul Film Festival and at the Siyad Turkish Film Critics Association Awards.) Umut's debut feature *Almost Entirely A Slight Disaster* had its world premiere at International Film Festival Rotterdam in 2023.



LET ME GO

Original Title:	LAISSEZ-MOI
Director:	MAXIME RAPPAZ
Producer(s):	GABRIELA BUSSMAN, YAN DECOPPET
DoP:	BENOÎT DERVAUX
Editor:	CAROLINE DETOURNAY
Cast:	JEANNE BALIBAR, THOMAS SARBACHER, PIERRE-ANTOINE DUBEY, VÉRONIQUE MERMOUD

Claudine – devoted mother, demanding lover. Every Tuesday, a neighbor 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.

FESTIVALS: Cannes Acid 2023 (World Premiere)
 Vancouver International Film Festival, 2023
 Stockholm International Film Festival, 2023

AWARDS: Audience Award (Vanguard), VIFF 2023

SALES: M-Appeal

drama | family

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Geneva born, **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’été* 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.



OCARINA

Original Title:	OKARINA
Director:	ALBAN ZOGJANI
Producer:	DREN ZHERKA
Screenplay:	ALBANA MUJA
DoP:	ALEX BLOOM
Editor:	JON SAQIPI
Cast:	JEHON GORANI, SHENGYL ISMAJLI, FLAKA LATIFI, KASTRIOT SHEHI, RINA KRASNIQI

This is a tale of family issues that emerge due to a shift in lifestyle. Driven by a strong aspiration to improve their circumstances, Shaqa and Selvia move to a new country. In pursuit of a brighter future they opt to challenge their sense of "morality". However, Giovanni's unintentional involvement steers their chosen path in an unforeseen direction, and, their journey does not culminate as anticipated.

SALES: Asha Graphics

drama | family | migration

ASIA PREMIERE ★



ALBAN ZOGJANI founded ASHA in 2005. The graphic services Company added video production (2007) and marketing agency (2014). He studied Graphic Design and Film Directing at the University of Prishtina. His first short film 'Dear Nita' was awarded at Barcelona IFF. 'EHO' won Dren Zherka in the debut film category at Montreal IFF.



SLEEP

Original Title:	JAM
Director:	JASON YU
Producer:	LEWIS TAEWAN KIM
Screenplay:	JASON YU
DoP:	KIM TAE-SOO
Editor:	HAN MEEYEON
Cast:	LEE SEON-GYUN, YU-MI JUNG

A pregnant wife who becomes worried about her husband's sleeping habits. What starts out as some light sleep-talking soon escalates to unexpectedly grotesque behaviour. They consult a sleep clinic without success and as his nightmarish behaviour escalates, they desperately seek help from a shaman.

FESTIVALS:

Cannes (Critics' Week), 2023
 Toronto International Film Festival, 2023
 Melbourne International Film Festival 2023

SALES:

Impact Films India

drama | mystery

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Jason Yu began cultivating an interest in storytelling when he stumbled upon a creative writing class at university. He consumed countless films during his years in the military, further solidifying his love for the craft. Upon discharge, he joined the university's filmmaking club, where he studied directors and created his own short films. After graduating, he worked on film sets and continued to direct his own films. His short film *The Favor* won awards at numerous film festivals in Korea.



WHEN THE SEEDLINGS GROW

Original Title: GAVA ŞİTİL MEZİN DIBİN

Director: RÊGER AZAD KAYA

Producer: DEMHAT SERBEST KUNO

Screenplay: RÊGER AZAD, DENİZ DERY,
M. EMİN ENGİZEK

DoP: M. EMİN ENGİZEK

Editor: ZERDEST NORSIWAN

Cast: MAZDEK ARARAT, REHMA EBBAS,
MEREWAN EBDÎ

Hüseyin and his family live in Kobanê and earn their living by selling yogurt. One day Hüseyin and his daughter Zelal miss market time and wander the streets to sell yogurt. While trying to sell yogurt, they meet a boy named Hemudê, which leads to many misfortunes. Their one-day journey witnesses the reshaping of social dynamics in the aftermath of the Kobanê war.

SALES: Rêger Azad Kaya

drama | social

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Turkey born **Rêger Azad Kaya** studied at Akdeniz University, Department of Radio-Television and Cinema in Antalya. He made traveling documentaries for various Kurdish TV channels. Then he moved to North East Syria and worked as a cinematographer and editor in short films. He acted in the film 'Ji Bo Azadiyê' and shot a behind the camera documentary. Then he shot his own feature film 'Gava Şitil Mezin Dibin' with a collective team. He still carries out cinema activities in North East Syria.



DHAI AAKHAR

Director:	PRAVEEN ARORA
Producers:	KABIR COMMUNICATIONS
Screenwriters:	PRAVEEN ARORA
DoP:	SANDEEP GN YADAV
Editor:	V.S. KANNAN, RAHUL JAISWAL
Cast:	MRINAL KULKARNI, HARISH KHANNA, ROHIT KOKATE

Based on the novel 'Teerthatan Ke Baad' by Amrik Singh Deep, the film set in the 1980s in the serene state of Uttarakhand tells the story of a woman who rebuilds herself after years of being in an abusive marriage when she starts talking to an empathetic writer through letters. Harshita gets a second chance after the death of her husband when she meets Sridhar, a writer, who treats her with kindness and respect. The film brings out the conflict surrounding such relationships and is an ode to love and the power it holds to transform someone's life. It explores how abuse is common, accepted and normalised within patriarchy, leaving a deep shattering impact on womanhood. It delves into how love holds the power to liberate anyone who is subjugated to abuse with a message to liberate and empower women.



Praveen Arora, a well-regarded figure in television and film, has earned acclaim for his work as a director, producer, and writer. His notable contributions encompass TV series such as 'Parsa,' 'Chekov Ki Duniya,' and 'Asmita,' along with impactful documentaries like 'Paas Jungle Door Jungle' and 'Kinnaur Ka Kaamru,' showcased at prestigious film festivals. He has also crafted more than 150 television commercials, short films, and corporate documentaries.



IRATTA

Director:	ROHIT M.G. KRISHNAN
Producers:	APP PATHU PRODUCTION HOUSE
Screenwriters:	ROHIT M.G. KRISHNAN
DoP:	VIJAY
Editor:	MANU ANTONY
Cast:	JOJU GEORGE, ANJALI, SRINDAA, SRIKANT MURALI

Vinod and Pramod are identical twins working in the police department. Their personalities are at extreme ends. ASI Vinod is shot dead inside a high-range police station with three gunshots in his chest just minutes before the arrival of a minister at the police station. Police Superintendent and Vinod's twin brother, DYSP Pramod reaches the station and pressure from the superiors urges him to quickly probe into the murder. Vinod's offending nature had earned him a bunch of enemies in and out of the department. At some point of the enquiry, Pramod also comes under suspicion. The prime suspects behind the death were three policemen but there is more to it. Will the mystery around Vinod's death unravel to catch the real culprit? Why was he shot dead?



Rohit M.G. Krishnan is a debutant director and scriptwriter. A self taught filmmaker, he made several short films during his college days gaining acclaim. Post his graduation, he used the income from his Postal Department job to make short films while working on the script of his feature film.

ICFT-UNESCO GANDHI MEDAL

The International Film Festival of India (IFFI) 2023 in collaboration with the International Council for Film, Television and Audiovisual Communication (ICFT), Paris, will present a special ICFT prize consisting of the UNESCO Gandhi Medal awarded to a film which reflects the ideals promoted by UNESCO - especially: Tolerance, Intercultural Dialogue & Culture of Peace

BROAD GUIDELINES FOR THE SELECTION OF THE FILMS

- Have a strong ethical component.
- High aesthetic value.
- Exhibit artistic excellence in screenplay, in film technique and music.
- Attract a wide audience, especially among youth, whose view of media is distorted by violent imagery and showy techniques which are devoid of intelligent and critical discernment.
- Additionally include an educational component to cope with the flood of inappropriate imagery commonly marketed.
- Awareness of the role of the filmmaker confronting a declining society; because it is recognized that cinematographic and video images are much more powerful than any other means of communication.



International Council for Film, Television and
Audiovisual Communication (ICFT)



ABOUT THE UNESCO GANDHI MEDAL

In 1994, UNESCO issued a commemorative medal marking the 125th anniversary of the birth of Mahatma Gandhi, India's "Father of the Nation" and the world's advocate of non-violence, peace and tolerance. The General Conference of one of the previous years had adopted a resolution calling for a series of activities around the "great world personality whose thought and creative modes of non-violent action have shaped socio-economic and political currents in the 20th century". The medal bears a portrait of Gandhi engraved by the French artist Pierre-Yves Tremois. Etched underneath is the Mahatma's message of hope: "In the midst of darkness light prevails". The reverse side carries the UNESCO Logo.

ICFT-UNESCO INTERNATIONAL JURY 2023



Ms Isabelle DANEL (France), Chairperson

Journalist, Writer
Honorary President of the International Federation of Film Critics (FIPRESCI)



Ms Agnès RAVOYARD (France)

Television Producer
SIGNIS Delegate to CICT-ICFT and UNESCO



Ms Ariane Gaudeaux (Argentina)

Media Professional, Professor in Film Studies, Writer



Mr Rizwan Ahmad (India)

Director of the Instructional Media Centre, India
Former Deputy Director of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI), Goa
Filmmaker



Mr Georges Dupont (Luxembourg)

Director-General of the International Council for Film, Television and Audiovisual Communication (CICT-ICFT)
Former senior international civil servant at UNESCO

Coordination:



Ms Xueyuan Hun (China)

Performing artist (Film, Theatre, Music)
Director of the Platform for Creativity & Innovation (PCI, CICT-ICFT Branch for Youth)

ICFT-UNESCO

IFFI's annual slate of international and Indian fiction feature films competing for the honour of the prestigious ICFT UNESCO GANDHI MEDAL.



A HOUSE IN JERUSALEM

Director:	MUAYAD ALAYAN
Producer(s):	MUAYAD ALAYAN, RAMI ALAYAN, ABEER SALMAN, RACHEL ROBEY, ALASTAIR CLARK, DOROTHE BEINEMEIER, HANNEKE NIENS, GIORGOS KARNAVAS, ISABELLE GEORGEAUX
Screenplay:	RAMI ALAYAN, MUAYAD ALAYAN
DoP:	SEBASTIAN BOCK
Editor:	RACHEL ERSKINE

Following the traumatizing death of her mother in an accident, Rebecca moves with her father, Michael, to her grandfather's home in Jerusalem. Although disconsolate himself, Michael wants his daughter to begin a new life in the new city. But, clinging to the memories of her mother, the young girl cannot bring herself to let go of the past. The tussle between father and daughter comes to a head when Rebecca discovers another girl of her age living in the house.

FESTIVAL: *International Film Festival Rotterdam 2023*

SALES: *Heretic*

drama | coming of age

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Muayad Alayan is based in Jerusalem. His second feature film, 2018's *The Reports On Sarah And Saleem*, premiered at the International Film Festival Rotterdam, where it won the Special Jury Prize of the Hivos Tiger Competition and the Hubert Bals Audience Award. His directorial feature debut *Love, Theft, And Other Entanglements* premiered at the Berlinale Panorama in 2015 and went on to win two Best Arab Narrative Film Awards, as well as being nominated for several First Feature Awards at the Berlinale, and others.



CITIZEN SAINT

Director:	TINATIN KAJRISHVILI
Producer(s):	LASHA KHALVASHI, TINATIN KAJRISHVILI
Screenplay:	TINATIN KAJRISHVILI, BASA JANIKASHVILI
DoP:	KRUM RODRIGUEZ
Editor:	DAVID APKHAIDZE
Cast:	LEVAN BERIKASHVILI, GEORGE BABLUANI, MARI KITIA, GIA BURJANADZE

Miners in the small town discover that centuries ago crucified Saint came back to life and lives among them. Shortly after celebrating his presence, they lose hope, ordinary man can't protect them from misfortunes. Hopeless and frightened crowd crucifies the Saint again, believing he will have more power on the cross.

FESTIVAL: Karlovy Vary International Film Festival, 2023
São Paulo International Film Festival, 2023

AWARD: Crystal Globe competition - Ecumenical Jury Award, Karlovy Vary 2023

SALES: Studio Artizm

drama | social | fantasy

INDIA PREMIERE ★



After graduating, Georgian born **Tinatin Kajrishvili** went on to shoot several short films and one feature film. In 2006, Tinatin established "Producing Center Gemini", through which she has produced two short films and two documentaries. She has also developed several other projects for feature films and documentaries, which were selected for a number of renowned international festivals including Cannes Producer's Network in 2010, B2B, Connecting Cottbus, Sofia meetings and Molodist.



DRIFT

Director:	ANTHONY CHEN
Producer(s):	PETER SPEARS, EMILIE GEORGES, NAIMA ABED, CYNTHIA ERIVO, SOLOME WILLIAMS
Screenplay:	SUSANNE FARRELL, ALEXANDER MAKSIK
DoP:	CRYSTEL FOURNIER
Editor:	HOPING CHEN
Cast:	ALIA SHAWKAT, AMANDA DREW, JAMES PAXTON, VINCENT VERMIGNON, IBRAHIMA BA

Jacqueline a young refugee, lands alone and penniless on a Greek island where she tries to survive, then to cope with her past. While gathering her strength, she begins a friendship with a rootless tour guide and together they find the resilience to forge ahead.

FESTIVAL: Sundance, 2023
São Paulo International Film Festival, 2023

SALES: Memento Films

drama | social | adaptation

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Singaporean filmmaker **Anthony Chen** is also a screenwriter and film producer. His debut feature film, *Illo*, won the Camera d'Or at the 2013 Cannes Film Festival, making him the first and only Singaporean to have been awarded at Cannes. In 2007 and 2008, Chen went on to direct *Ah Ma* and *Haze* respectively. *Ah Ma* was awarded a Special Mention in the short film competition at the prestigious Cannes Film Festival, making it the first Singaporean film to win an award at the festival.



IT'S SIRA

Director:	APOLLINE TRAORÉ
Producer(s):	APOLLINE TRAORÉ, DENIS COUGNAUD
Screenplay:	APOLLINE TRAORÉ
DoP:	NICOLAS BERTEYAC
Editor:	SYLVIE GADMER
Cast:	NAFISSATOU CISSÉ, MIKE DANON, LAZARE MINOUNGOU, NATHALIE VAIRAC, RUTH WERNER, ABDRAMANE BARRY, ILDEVERT MEDA, OUMOU BA, SEYDOU DIALLO, MOÏSE TIEMTORE

FESTIVAL: Berlinale, 2023

AWARD: Panorama Audience Award, Berlinale 2023

SALES: Wide Management

social | drama

INDIA PREMIERE ★

Sira, a resilient young Fulani nomad, eagerly embarks on a journey with her family to meet her groom. Despite the cultural and religious differences between Sira, a Muslim, and Jean, a Christian, her trusting father supports their union. Tragically, their joyous occasion takes a dark turn when Islamist terrorists attack, ruthlessly killing the men. Sira, cursing her assailants, becomes a victim of abduction and assault, left stranded in the unforgiving desert. Undeterred, she summons her inner strength, surviving against the odds. Evading detection, Sira locates the terrorists' camp, finding refuge in a concealed cave, where she stealthily plans her next moves for months. Her tenacity and will to live become her guiding lights in the face of adversity.



Apolline Traoré first short film, *The Price of Ignorance* won the Prix du Jury at the Pan African Film Festival in Ouagadougou (FESPACO). In 2003, she directed *Kounandi*, which was selected for the 2004 Toronto International Film Festival. She produced her own feature film, *Sous la clarté de la lune*, in 2004. Her film *Borders* won three prizes at FESPACO 2017, including the Paul Robeson Prize for the Best Film by a Director from the African Diaspora.



KALEV

Director:	OVE MUSTING
Producer(s):	MARIA AVDJUSHKO, PILLE RÜNK
Screenplay:	MARTIN ALGUS, OVE MUSTING, MEHIS PIHLA
DoP:	REIN KOTOV
Editor:	REIN KOTOV, JAAK OLLINO JR.
Cast:	MAIT MALMSTEN, REIMO SAGOR, PRIIT VÕIGEMAST, MIHKEL KUUSK, OTT KARTAU

It is the summer of 1990. The Soviet Union's basketball championship is set to begin. The Estonian national basketball team faces a momentous decision. As professional athletes, the team makes the unpopular choice.

FESTIVAL: Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival (PÖFF) 2022
Palm Springs International Film Festival 2023

AWARDS: Best International Feature Film, Palm Spring, 2023

SALES: Level K

drama | political | sports

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Having worked on a number of short-films, TVC-s, music videos, TV shows and multi camera shows, filmmaker **Ove Musting** has 20 years of work experience. Freshness and craziness are the keywords that characterize everything he does starting from his band Winny Puhh to working on movies and commercials. He is also a co-founder of Downtown Pictures.



THE PRIZE!

Original Title:	ONDE MANDE!
Director:	PAUL FAUZAN AGUSTA
Producer(s):	SURYO WIYOGO, CRISTIAN IMANUELL
Screenplay:	PAUL FAUZAN AGUSTA
DoP:	MANDELLA MAJID
Editor:	REYNALDI CHRISTANTO
Cast:	SHENINA CINNAMON, EMIR MAHIRA, JAJANG C. NOER, JOSE RIZAL MANUA, SHAHABI SAKRI, AJIL DITTO

In a lakeside fishing village in West Sumatra, Indonesia, there's an old man his a retired school principal and divorcee, he wins a large prize from a sweepstakes held by a soap company. Before he could claim it, he dies. Now the village leaders, organizes a conspiracy to convince the soap company that the old man is still alive and claim the prize for the village.

SALES: Uisinema Pictures

dark comedy | social

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Paul AGUSTA (1980, Indonesia) studied film in the USA before returning to his homeland in 2003. His short videos have been included in local and international film events and screenings. Prior to 2007, Agusta was mostly known as a film critic, festival manager and film curator, but nowadays he focuses on making films and videos.



THE SUGAR EXPERIMENT

Original Title:	SOCKEREXPERIMENTET
Director:	JOHN TORNLAD
Producer:	JOHN TORNLAD
Screenplay:	JOHAN FÅGELSTRÖM, HELENA JOHANSSON, ALEXANDER LARSSON
DoP:	CAITLIN RICAUD
Editor:	ROBIN BUKHAMSEEN
Cast:	MAGNUS AF SANDEBERG, WENDELA ANTEPOHL, EMANUEL BLOM

At an institution for disabled persons, year 1948, Johanna and Vilgot, two inpatients, meet and fall in love. Their everyday life is turned upside down when they become a part of a new, secret experiment, without them knowing. The goal of the experiment is to save the Swedish dental health care.

SALES: Affekt Film

drama | romance | history

ASIA PREMIERE ★



Director, Producer, Writer, **John Tornblad** is known for *Desertören* (2022), and *Lars and the Baron* (2016).



MALIKAPPURAM

Director: VISHNU SASI SHANKAR

Producers: AAN MEGA MEDIA

Screenwriters: ABHILASH PILLAI

DoP: VISHNU NARAYANAN

Editor: SHAMEER MUHAMMED

Cast: UNNI MUKUNDAN, SAIJU KURUP,
BABY DEVANANDHA JIBIN

Eight-year old Kallu has an intense desire to visit the Sabarimala Temple. Immensely attached to Lord Ayyappa, she has a dwindling window of time to make the pilgrimage given her age. Events in her life make it unlikely that she can make the journey, and the story is about how she and her cousin attempt to overcome many risks to make this pilgrimage, receiving help from unexpected quarters in their journey. In the lore of the Sabarimala Temple, the pilgrimage typically starts 41 days before the commencement of the actual journey to the remote temple located deep in the forest, when the pilgrims whether male (of all ages) or female (under ten or over fifty) commit themselves to the journey following a life of austerity and address each other as Swamy (for males) or Malikappuram (for females). In essence, pilgrims who have committed themselves to this journey become divinities themselves.



Vishnu Sasi Shankar is an Indian film director and editor. He made his debut as a director with the film 'Malikappuram' (2022) which went on to win popular acclaim for its craft and overall technical brilliance apart from becoming one of the biggest box office hits in South India.



MANDALI

Director:	RAKESH CHATURVEDI OM
Producers:	RELTIC PICTURES
Screenwriters:	PALLAV JAIN, VINAY AGRAHARI, RAKESH CHATURVEDI OM
DoP:	AYUSH JAIN
Editor:	CHANDRASHEKHAR PRAJAPATI
Cast:	ABHISHEK DUHAN, ANCHAL MUNJAL, RAJNIESH DUGGAL

Mandali mirrors the journey of a man and his struggle to uphold righteousness in times of diminishing social conscience and the downfall of cultural and traditional values through the protagonist. Purshottam Chaubey aka Puru is a peon in an intermediate college in Mathura in Uttar Pradesh. He plays the role of Lord Laxmana along with his cousin Sitaram Chaubey who plays the role of Lord Rama in the Ramleela Mandali, run by his uncle Ramsevak Chaubey. Their life takes a blow when during a performance they have to leave midway because of Sitaram's indulgence and addiction to drugs. Not being able to withstand the humiliation, and guilty of ruining God's name, Ramsevak leaves performing in the Ramleela forever. Puru confronts Ramsevak on his escapist approach and condemns his decision to withdraw while beginning a journey of struggle to bring back his family on stage with dignity.



Rakesh Chaturvedi Om is a theatre and film writer, director, actor and producer. A National School of Drama graduate, he is known for his noteworthy performances in acclaimed films like 'Kesari', 'PadMan', 'Mee Raqsam' amongst others, essaying pivotal roles and for directing compelling films like 'Bolo Raam', 'BHK Bhalla@Halla.Kom' and 'Mandali'.



RABINDRA KABYA RAHASYA

Director:	SAYANTAN GHOSAL
Producers:	ESKAY MOVIES
Screenwriters:	SOUGATA BASU
DoP:	DEBASIS DEY (TUBAN)
Editor:	SUBHAJIT SINGHA
Cast:	RITWICK CHAKRABORTY, SRABANTI CHATTERJEE, PRIYANSH

A century ago, the poet Ekalavya Sen fell victim to deception by his peers, who shamelessly plagiarised his poetic works. Seeking retribution, Ekalavya orchestrated their demise. In a race against time, poet and sleuth Abhik Bose teams up with Rabindra Sangeet singer Hiya Sen to decode a century-old mystery, triggered by a vengeful poet's message. As they delve into a web of murders echoing Rabindranath Tagore's life, they unearth hidden artifacts, a nefarious plot to undermine India's cultural heritage, and a truth that could reshape history.



Sayantan Ghosal is an Indian film and web series director and editor primarily in the Bengali film and OTT industry. He has directed several movies, including 'Jawker Dhan', 'Alinagarer Golokdhadha', 'Sagardwipey Jawker Dhan', and 'Satyanweshi Byomkesh' all of which were box office hits, along with the web series 'Byomkesh' and 'Lalbazaar.'

OPENING FILM

IFFI presents the gala International Premiere of debutant director Stuart Gatt's meticulously stylized slow burn thriller, **CATCHING DUST**. Starring Erin Moriarty (*The Boyz*) and Jai Courtney (*Suicide Squad*), away from the bustling cities and deep in the American south, the film unravels the frailties of the relationships between its protagonists and the dangerous liaisons they concede to when strangers arrive in their quiet lives.

CATCHING DUST

OPENING FILM

FESTIVALS: Tribeca Film Festival, 2023
Raindance Film Festival, 2023

SALES: *United Talent Agency*



Director:	STUART GATT
Producer(s):	MARK DAVID, JON KATZ, EDWARD R. PRESSMAN, STUART GATT
Screenplay:	STUART GATT
DoP:	AURÉLIEN MARRA
Editor:	NICOLAS GASTER
Cast:	ERIN MORIARTY, JAI COURTNEY, DINA SHIHABI, RYAN CORR

In the isolation of Texas' Big Bend, a lone trailer on an abandoned commune has become the reluctant hideout for Geena and her criminal husband, Clyde. Exhausted by his controlling ways, Geena decides to leave, when a trailer suddenly arrives carrying a couple from New York. Ignoring the risks their presence will bring, Geena convinces Clyde to let them stay, a decision that will have dangerous consequences for them all.

drama | slow-burn thriller

INTERNATIONAL ★
PREMIERE



Stuart Gatt is an award-winning British filmmaker of mixed Asian heritage whose stories are often influenced by topical social themes. *Catching Dust* is his debut feature film.



UNITED KINGDOM 2023 ENGLISH 96' COLOUR

OPENING FILM

MID FEST FILM

IFFI presents the gala India premiere of the renowned Turkish auteur Nuri Bilge Ceylan's *ABOUT DRY GRASSES*, a provocatively contemplative walk through the annals of the human condition in all its banalities, dilemmas and sullen complexities.

ABOUT DRY GRASSES

MID FEST FILM

FESTIVALS: Cannes, 2023

Toronto International Film Festival, 2023

Karlovy Vary International Film Festival, 2023

Busan International Film Festival, 2023

São Paulo International Film Festival, 2023

AWARDS: Best Actress, Cannes 2023

SALES: Impact Films India



Original Title:	KURU OTLAR ÜSTÜNE
Director:	NURI BILGE CEYLAN
Producer:	NURI BILGE CEYLAN
Screenplay:	AKIN AKSU, EBRU CEYLAN, NURI BILGE CEYLAN
DoP:	CEVAHIR SAHIN, KÜRSAT ÜRESİN
Editor:	OGUZ ATABAS, NURI BILGE CEYLAN
Cast:	MERVE DIZDAR, DENİZ CELİLOĞLU, MUSAB EKİCİ

drama | art house | social

INDIA PREMIERE ★



A young teacher hopes to be appointed to Istanbul after mandatory duty at a small village. After a long time waiting he loses all hope of escaping from this gloomy life. However, his colleague Nuray helps him to regain perspective.

After graduating from Bosphorus University, Nuri Bilge Ceylan studied filmmaking for two years at the Mimar Sinan University of Istanbul. In 1995 he directed the short film *Koza* which was in competition at the Festival de Cannes. His feature film debut, *Kasaba*, won the Caligari Prize at the Berlin Film Festival in 1998. He also directed *Mayis Sikintisi (Clouds of May)* which was shown in competition at the Berlin Film Festival in 2000. In 2003 his film *Uzak (Distant)* was awarded the Grand Prix and Best Actor prize at Cannes. His film *Winter Sleep (2014)* won the Palme d'Or at the 67th Cannes Film Festival, while six of his films have been selected as Turkey's submission for the Academy Award for Best International Feature Film. These also include *About Dry Grasses*.



FRANCE, TURKEY 2023 TURKISH 208' COLOUR

MID FEST FILM

073

CLOSING FILM

IFFI is set to close its 54th edition with the gala Asia Premiere of Robert Kolodny's **THE FEATHERWEIGHT**, an all American film that unravels the mythmaking and the fiction of modern stardom through the biopic of a star athlete, meticulously conceived in the cinema vérité aesthetic.

THE FEATHERWEIGHT

CLOSING FILM

FESTIVALS: *La Biennale Di Venezia, 2023*

SALES: *Golden Ratio Films*



Director:	ROBERT KOLODNY
Screenplay:	STEVE LOFF
DoP:	ADAM KOLODNY
Editor:	ROBERT GREENE
Cast:	JAMES MADIO, RUBY WOLF, KEIR GILCHRIST, RON LIVINGSTON, STEPHEN LANG, LAWRENCE GILLIARD JR., SHARI ALBERT, IMMA AIELLO

Set in the mid-1960s, *The Featherweight* presents a gripping chapter in the true-life story of Italian-American boxer Willie Pep—the winningest fighter of all time—who, down and out in his mid-40s and with his personal life in shambles, decides to make a return to the ring, at which point a documentary camera crew enters his life. Painstakingly researched and constructed, the film is a visceral portrait of the discontents of twentieth-century American masculinity, fame and self-perception.

Robert Kolodny is American director, writer and cinematographer. His feature film directorial debut, *The Featherweight* premiered at the 80th Venice International Film Festival. He served as Director of Photography for many films and has also directed various award-winning films and documentaries. He has created and publicly displayed site-specific fine art video installations in collaboration with Cecilia Vicuña, that have been shown on exhibition at The MoMA (NYC), and more. Robert is also a Professor at The School of Visual Arts in New York City.



biopic | sport drama

ASIA PREMIERE ★



UNITED STATES 2023 ENGLISH 99' COLOUR

CLOSING FILM

FESTIVAL KALEIDOSCOPE

Exceptional films from veteran filmmakers, emerging powerhouse talents, and the critically acclaimed hits from reputed international film festivals of the year assorted in the IFFI Kaleidoscope



ANATOMY OF A FALL

Original Title:	ANATOMIE D'UNE CHUTE
Director:	JUSTINE TRIET
Producer(s):	MARIE-ANGE LUCIANI, DAVID THION
DoP:	SIMON BEAUFILS
Editor:	LAURENT SÉNÉCHAL
Cast:	SANDRA HÜLLER, SAMUEL THEIS, SWANN ARLAUD, MILO MACHADO GRANER

Sandra, a German writer, and her family live quietly in the French Alps until her husband Samuel's death, which appears suspicious. Sandra becomes the prime suspect. The investigation reveals secrets and delves deep into their troubled relationship, turning the trial into a psychological journey of conflict and mystery.

FESTIVALS: Cannes 2023

Locarno International Film Festival, 2023
 Toronto International Film Festival, 2023
 Karlovy Vary International Film Festival, 2023
 Busan International Film Festival, 2023
 San Sebastián International Film Festival, 2023

AWARD: Palme D'Or, Cannes, 2023
 Piazza Grande, Locarno 2023

SALES: Pictureworks

drama | crime | family



Justine Triet, an Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-arts graduate, has a unique filmmaking journey. "Sur Place" (2007) captured student protests, while "Solférino" (2008) unfolded during presidential elections. "Des ombres dans la maison" emerged in Sao Paulo in 2009, and "Two Ships" (2010) received numerous awards at French and international festivals. Her debut feature, "Age of Panic," secured the Audience Award at Paris Cinema, Cannes' Acid showcase, and international festival screenings, earning a 2014 César nomination. "In Bed with Victoria" marked her second feature, showcasing her diverse talent and contribution to French cinema.



CLOSE YOUR EYES

Original Title:	CERRAR LOS OJOS
Director:	VÍCTOR ERICE
Producer(s):	CRISTINA ZUMÁRRAGA, PABLO E. BOSSI, VÍCTOR ERICE, JOSE ALBA, ODILE ANTONIO -BAEZ, AGUSTÍN BOSSI, POL BOSSI, MAXIMILIANO LASANSKY
Screenplay:	VÍCTOR ERICE, MICHEL GAZTAMBIDE
DoP:	VALENTÍN ÁLVAREZ (AEC)
Editor:	ASCEN MARCHENA (AMAE)
Cast:	MANOLO SOLO, JOSE CORONADO, ANA TORRENT, PETRA MARTÍNEZ, MARÍA LEÓN

FESTIVALS: Cannes, 2023
 Toronto International Film Festival, 2023
 BFI London Film Festival, 2023
 Busan International Film Festival, 2023
 San Sebastián International Film Festival, 2023
 São Paulo International Film Festival, 2023

SALES: Film Factory

drama | art | films about film

INDIA PREMIERE ★

Close Your Eyes turns on a famous Spanish actor, Julio Arenas, who disappears while filming a movie. Although his body is never found, the police conclude that he has suffered an accident at a cliff by the sea. Many years later, the mystery is brought up once more by a TV program that tries to evoke the actor, offering as a scoop images of the last scenes in which he participated, shot by his close friend, director Miguel Garay.



Víctor Erice initially started working as a scriptwriter; later, as a producer of advertisements and, in 1969, he made his debut as a professional director, shooting one of the three episodes of "The Challenges", which debuted to great acclaim at the San Sebastian Film Festival. His notable work are 'The Spirit of the Beehive', 'El Sur' (Cannes), Dream of Light (Cannes, 1992). In 2006 he wrote and directed the 'La Morte Rouge'. Currently he is working on a documentary series entitled Memory and Dream.



COBWEB

Original Title:	GEO-MI-JIP
Director:	KIM JEE-WOON
Producer:	CHOI JAE-WON
Screenplay:	SHIN YEON-SHICK
DoP:	KIM JI-YONG
Editor:	YANG JIN-MO
Cast:	SONG KANG-HO, LIM SOO-JUNG, OH JUNG-SE, JEON YEO-BEEN, JUNG SOO-JUNG, PARK JUNG-SOO, JANG YOUNG-NAM

FESTIVALS: Cannes, 2023
BFI London Film Festival, 2023
Sitges, 2023

SALES: Impact Films India

drama | dark comedy

INDIA PREMIERE ★

After his successful debut, Director KIM endures scathing attacks from critics who call him a specialist in trashy dramas. After finishing his latest feature Cobweb, he has vivid dreams over several days of an alternative ending to the film. Sensing that if he can just shoot those scenes as he envisioned them, a masterpiece will surely emerge, he tries to arrange just two days of additional shooting. However, the rewritten script fails to pass censorship, and his actors can't make sense of the new ending. Between the tangled schedule, the opposition of the producer, and the collision between these fantastic scenes dancing before his eyes and the harsh conditions of reality, Director KIM feels he is about to go insane, but he pushes on regardless.



KIM Jee-woon, a prominent Korean director known for his stylish visuals, made his debut with 'The Quiet Family' (1998), a dark comedy about a family running a remote hostel entangled in a series of deaths. He directed 'A Tale Of Two Sisters' (2003), later remade in Hollywood, and 'I Saw The Devil' (2010). His Hollywood debut, "The Last Stand" (2013), starred Arnold Schwarzenegger. KIM's return to Korean cinema with 'The Age of Shadows' (2016), a Warner Bros. collaboration, became a career highlight. He is currently working on the remake of the Japanese animation film 'Jin Roh: The Wolf Brigade'



CONCRETE UTOPIA

Director:	UM TAE-HWA
Producer:	BYUN SEUNG-MIN
Screenplay:	LEE SHIN-JI, UM TAE-HWA
DoP:	CHO HYOUNG-RAE
Editor:	HAN MEE-YEON
Cast:	LEE BYUNG-HUN, PARK BO-YOUNG, PARK SEO-JUN

In this intriguing disaster epic from director Um Tae-Hwa, a calamitous earthquake destroys Seoul, leaving it in ruins. As the survivors of the calamity shack up at Imperial Palace Apartments to find a way to restore order, they soon begin to realize that the real disaster has only just begun.

FESTIVALS: SITGES, 2023
Toronto International Film Festival, 2023

SALES: Impact Films India

action | drama

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Um Tae-hwa, an advertising design student at Hongik University, transitioned to filmmaking with short films, including 'Cactus' (2003), the award winning. He continued his education at the 'Korean Academy of Film Arts (KAFA)' and created 'Forest' (2012), winning a top prize at a notable short film festival. His debut feature, "INGtoogi: The Battle of Internet Trolls" (2012), exploring online conflicts, earned acclaim. UM also contributed to storyboarding for 'Manshin: Ten Thousand Spirits' (2013) and 'The Wicked' (2013). He wrote and directed 'Vanishing Time: A Boy Who Returned' (2016), receiving recognition from the Brussels International Fantastic Film Festival.



ELEGIES

Original Title:	SI
Director:	ANN HUI
Producers:	KEN HUI
Cast:	WAI-TONG LIU, CAN-RAN HUANG

FESTIVALS:

Busan International Film Festival, 2023
Hong Kong International Film Festival, 2023

SALES: Golden Scene Company Limited

documentary | art

INDIA PREMIERE ★

Elegies, a documentary on Ann Hui's personal encounters with some of Hong Kong's most notable poets, showing the topography of contemporary poetry on and of the city. The film is mainly divided into three parts. The first part records director Ann Hui's personal visit to many Hong Kong poet to discuss poetry; it also borrows archive images and photos to recall the past. The focus of the entire movie lies in the second part, the free-spirited poet Huang Canran who has moved to Shenzhen, and the third part, the poet Liao Weitang, who is busy lecturing and taking care of his family in Taiwan, and is actively involved in the world. Hong Kong poetry or Hong Kong poets are like grass on the edge, showing tenacious vitality while struggling with the oppression of life.



Ann Hui is a renowned filmmaker from Hong Kong. She completed her education from the University of Hong Kong and the London Film School. Hui made her directorial debut with "The Secret" (1970). Notable Grand Slams at the Hong Kong Film Awards include "Summer Snow" (1995) and "A Simple Life" (2011), in which she secured Best Film, Best Director, Best Actor, and Best Actress. She also presided over the Hong Kong Film Directors' Guild and received Lifetime Achievement Awards at the Asian Film Awards in 2012 and the Venice Film Festival in 2020.



ESSENTIAL TRUTHS OF THE LAKE

Director:	LAV DIAZ
Producer(s):	BIANCA BALBUENA, BRADLEY LIEW
Screenplay:	LAV DIAZ
DoP:	LAV DIAZ, LARRY MANDA
Editor:	LAV DIAZ
Cast:	JOHN LLOYD CRUZ, HAZEL ORENCIO, SHAINA MAGDAYAO, BART GUINGONA, AGOT ISIDRO

When asked what drives a man to search for the truth, Lieutenant Hermes Papauran says dejectedly that maybe he just wants to keep inflicting pain on himself. Faced with the oppressive state machinery, he continues his struggle to find resolution to a fifteen-year-old case around a volcanic ash laden landscape and an impenetrable lake. It has become a cross he can barely carry but keeps lugging anyway.

FESTIVALS:

Locarno International Film Festival, 2023
Busan International Film Festival, 2023

SALES: Films Boutique



Lavrente Indico Diaz aka **Lav Diaz** is a filmmaker from the Philippines born in 1958. He is especially notable for the length of his work, his films not being governed by time but by space and nature. His work mostly deals with the social and political struggles of his motherland. Since 1998 he has directed eighteen films, and won numerous international awards including the Locarno Golden Leopard for *From What Is Before*, (2014), the Berlinale Alfred Bauer Silver Bear for *A Lullaby To The Sorrowful Mystery* (2016) and the Venice Golden Lion for *The Woman Who Left* (2016).

human rights | political | social

INDIA PREMIERE ★



EUREKA

Director:	LISANDRO ALONSO
Producer(s):	MARIANNE SLOT, CARINE LEBLANC
Screenplay:	LISANDRO ALONSO, FABIAN CASAS, MARTIN CAMANO
DoP:	TIMO SALMINEN, MAURO HERCE MIRA
Editor:	GONZALO DEL VAL
Cast:	VIGGO MORTENSEN, CHIARA MASTROIANNI, ALAINA CLIFFORD, SADIE LAPOINTE, VILLBJØRK MALLING, ADANILO MARCIO MARANTE, LUISA CRUZ, RAFI PITTS

FESTIVALS: Cannes, 2023
 Busan International Film Festival, 2023
 Reykjavik International Film Festival, 2023
 Rio de Janeiro International Film Festival, 2023

SALES: Le Pacte

fantasy | spirituality

INDIA PREMIERE ★

Alaina is tired of being a police officer in the Pine Ridge Reservation, and decides to stop answering her radio. Her niece Sadie spends a long night waiting for her, to no avail. Hurt, she decides to begin her journey with the help of her grandfather: she will fly through time and space to South America, finally she will stop watching old black and white westerns that do not represent her in any way, and everything will feel different when she hears the dreams of other people, those who live in the forest. But there will be no definitive conclusions, birds don't talk to humans, yet if only we could understand them, they would surely have a few truths to tell us.



Lisandro Alonso honed his filmmaking skills at the Universidad del Cine. His debut feature, "La Libertad," exploring the life of a solitary lumberjack, premiered at Cannes' Un Certain Regard. Alonso later established his production company, 4L. In 2004, he returned to Cannes with "Los Muertos" in the Directors Fortnight. Shifting toward fiction in 2008, "Liverpool" traced a young sailor's quest in Tierra del Fuego. "Jauja" (2014), set in 19th-century Denmark and Argentina, featuring Viggo Mortensen, earned the FIPRESCI award in Un Certain Regard at Cannes, solidifying Alonso's status as a renowned filmmaker.



HOW TO HAVE SEX

Director:	MOLLY MANNING WALKER
Producer(s):	EMILY LEO, IVANA MACKINNON, KONSTANTINOS KONTOVRAKIS
DoP:	NICOLAS CANNICIONI
Editor:	FIN OATES
Cast:	MIA MCKENNA-BRUCE, LARA PEAKE, SAMUEL BOTTOMLEY, DAISY JELLEY

It's supposed to be the best summer ever. Tara, Skye and Em touch down on the Greek party resort of Malia for the vacation to end all vacations, the "girls trip" every British teenager ticks off at the cusp of adulthood. Tara, the last remaining virgin, is on a mission to change that and her best friends are causing chaos right alongside her. The 16-year-old drinks and dances her way through the strip – with all its messy bars and grimy nightclubs – until she meets a couple of boys on the neighbouring hotel balcony who she hopes might give her a summer to remember.

FESTIVALS: Cannes, 2023
 Toronto International Film Festival, 2023
 Busan International Film Festival, 2023
 BFI London Film Festival, 2023

AWARDS: *Un Certain Regard (Winner)*, Cannes, 2023

SALES: Pictureworks



Molly Manning Walker is a Cinematographer and writer/ director based in London. She graduated from the NFTS Cinematography course in 2019. Molly's first short film 'Good Thanks, You?' was produced by DMC and Try Hard Films. It was included in the Semaine De La Critique program at Cannes. Molly's second short, 'The Forgotten C' was also BIFA nominated. As a DP, she works across formats from documentary, fiction and advertising and recently shot Sundance World Cinema Grand Jury Prize winning 'Scrapper'. She is represented by Independent Talent as a writer/ director and for cinematography by Wizzo & Co and UTA.

drama | women filmmaker

INDIA PREMIERE ★



LOST IN THE NIGHT

Original Title:	PERDIDOS EN LA NOCHE
Director:	AMAT ESCALANTE
Screenplay:	AMAT ESCALANTE, MARTÍN ESCALANTE
DoP:	ADRIAN DURAZO
Editor:	FERNANDA DE LA PEZA
Cast:	JUAN DANIEL GARCÍA TREVIÑO, ESTER EXPÓSITO, BÁRBARA MORI

FESTIVALS: Cannes, 2023
 BFI Film Festival, 2023
 AFI Fest, 2023
 Rio de Janeiro International Film Festival, 2023

SALES: Match Factory

drama | thriller

INDIA PREMIERE ★

Emiliano lives in a small mining town in Mexico. Motivated by a deep sense of justice, he searches for those responsible for the disappearance of his activist mother who was standing up for local jobs against an international mining company. Receiving no help from the police or judicial system, he finds a clue that leads him to the wealthy Aldama Family, where he meets a famous artist, his celebrity wife and their beautiful daughter. It's not long before he has a job at their home and becomes determined to uncover the secrets beneath the surface.



Amat Escalante, a self-taught filmmaker born in 1979 in Guanajuato, began his career in cinema at 15. His debut feature, "Sangre," premiered in Cannes' "Un Certain Regard" in 2005, winning the FIPRESCI Prize. "Los Bastardos" followed in Cannes 2008. "Heli," his third feature, secured the Best Director award in Cannes' Official Competition in 2013. "The Untamed" premiered at the Venice Film Festival in 2016, earning him the Silver Lion for Best Director. From 2018 to 2021, Escalante directed episodes of Netflix's "Narcos: Mexico," showcasing his versatility in both film and television, highlighting his growing influence in the industry.



IO CAPITANO

English Title:	ME CAPTAIN
Director:	MATTEO GARRONE
Producer(s):	MATTEO GARRONE, PAOLO DEL BROCCO, ARDAVAN SAFAEE, JOSEPH ROUSCHOP
Screenplay:	MATTEO GARRONE, MASSIMO GAUDIOSO, MASSIMO CECCHERINI, ANDREA TAGLIAFERRI
DoP:	PAOLO CARNERA
Editor:	MARCO SPOLETINI
Cast:	SEYDOU SARR, MOUSTAPHA FALL, ISSAKA SAWAGODO, HICHEM YACOUBI, DOODOU SAGNA, KHADY SY, BAMAR KANE, CHEICK OUMAR DIA

Io Capitano tells the story of the adventurous journey of Seydou and Moussa, two young men who leave Dakar to make their way to Europe. A contemporary Odyssey through the dangers of the desert, the horrors of the detention centers in Libya and the perils of the sea.

AWARDS: Best Director - Venice Film Festival, Audience Award for Best European Film - San Sebastian Film Festival

SALES: Alliance Media

drama | human rights | political

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Matteo GARRONE (b. 1968, Italy) gained recognition in 1996 for his short film *Silhouette* that won a prize at the Sacher Festival. His feature debut *Terra di mezzo* (1997) won the prize for best film at the Turin festival Cinema Giovani. After *The Embalmer* (2002), which won a prize for just about every cinematographic aspect in Italy, his international art house hit *Gomorrah* received a Golden Globe nomination and the Grand Jury Prize in Cannes.



MEMORY

Director:	MICHEL FRANCO
Producer(s):	ERÉNDIRA NÚÑEZ LARIOS, MICHEL FRANCO, DUNCAN MONTGOMERY, ALEX ORLOVSKY
Screenplay:	MICHEL FRANCO
DoP:	YVES CAPE
Editor:	OSCAR FIGUEROA JARA, MICHEL FRANCO
Cast:	JESSICA CHASTAIN, PETER SARSGAARD, BROOKE TIMBER, MERRITT WEVER, ELSIE FISHER, JESSICA HARPER, JOSH CHARLES

FESTIVALS: *La Biennale Di Venezia*, 2023
Toronto International Film Festival, 2023
BFI London Film Festival, 2023
San Sebastián International Film Festival, 2023

SALES: *Match Factory*

drama | romance

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Born in 1979 in Mexico City, filmmaker **Michel Franco** has elevated Mexican cinema on the global stage. His credits include *New Order* (2020 Venice Silver Lion Grand Jury Prize), *CHRONIC* (2015 Cannes Best Screenplay Award), *April's Daughters* (2017 Cannes Un Certain Regard Jury Prize), and *After Lucia* (2012 Cannes Un Certain Regard Top Prize). He's also produced *600 Millas* (2015 Berlinale Best First Feature, directed by Gabriel Ripstein) and *From Afar* (2015 Venice Golden Lion, directed by Lorenzo Vigas).



MMXX

Director:	CRISTI PUIU
Producer(s):	ANCA PUIU, CRISTI PUIU
Screenplay:	CRISTI PUIU
DoP:	IVAN GRINCENCO, SILVIU STAVILA
Editor:	ECATERINA IASCHEVICI
Cast:	BIANCA CUCULICI, LAURENȚIU BONDARENCO, OTILIA PANAITÉ, FLORIN ȚIBRE, IGOR BABIAC, ROXANA OGRENDIL, ADELAIDA PERJOIU, DORIAN BOGUȚĂ, DRAGOȘ BUCUR, MARIN CUMATRENCO

FESTIVALS: *San Sebastián International Film Festival, 2023*
Warsaw International Film Festival, 2023

SALES: *Shellac Distributor France*

drama | comedy | arthouse | anthology

ASIA PREMIERE ★

Oana Pfifer, a young therapist, gradually slips into the net of the questionnaire she submits to her patient. Mihai, Oana's brother, worrying about his birthday, is stuck in a story far bigger than he can handle. Septimiu, Oana's husband, concerned about his health, vaguely listens to a strange story his colleague was caught up in a while ago. Narcis Patranescu, an organized crime detective, deals with an unsettling dark story while interrogating a young woman at a funeral.



Cristi Puiu, a Romanian screenwriter and director, is a pioneer of the Romanian New Wave. Notably, "The Death of Mr. Lăzărescu" (2005) won the Un Certain Regard award at Cannes and received two European Film Award nominations. "Aurora" (2010) secured three Gopo awards in 2012, while "Sieranevada" (2016) competed at Cannes. His latest feature, "Malmkrog" (The Manor House), premiered at the 70th Berlinale, opening the Encounters section and earning him the Best Director award in 2020, solidifying his reputation as a prominent figure in contemporary Romanian cinema.



MORO

Director:	BRILLANTE MENDOZA
Producer:	KRISMA MACLANG FAJARDO
Screenplay:	HONEYLYN JOY ALIPIO
DoP:	ODYSSEY FLORES
Editor:	YSABELLE DENOGA
Cast:	LAURICE GUILLEN, PIOLO PASCUAL, BARON GEISLER, CHRISTOPHER DE LEON

Set in the Maguindanao region of Western Mindanao, Philippines, the film follows two brothers, Jasim, the diligent elder brother, and Abdel, the irresponsible younger brother who has squandered his savings on gambling. After having an ominous dream involving her deceased husband, their mother attempts to reconcile the two brothers. With the assistance of the local community, the family finds a semblance of peace. However, unexpected government intervention soon plunges the entire region into a state of severe violence. Moro reveals that sometimes even those we think of as close friends may become the most destructive enemies. The director's exploration of the weak links within relationships is truly outstanding.

FESTIVALS: Busan International Film Festival, 2023

SALES: Center Stage Productions Philippines



Brillante Mendoza, Philippines celebrated director and producer, stands as a cinematic icon. He made history by winning the Best Director award at Cannes for "Kinatay" in 2009, the first Filipino to do so. Mendoza also received France's prestigious "Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Arts et Lettres" in 2014. His journey began with "Masahista" in 2005, which won Locarno's Golden Leopard. His recent works, including "Amo" on Netflix (2018) and "Gensan Punch" on HBO GO (2021), have maintained his international acclaim, and "Resbak" is currently available on Amazon Prime. Mendoza's influence extends far beyond the borders of Philippines

drama | political | crime

INDIA PREMIERE ★



SCRAPPER

Director:	CHARLOTTE REGAN
Producer:	THEO BARROWCLOUGH
Screenplay:	CHARLOTTE REGAN
DoP:	MOLLY MANNING WALKER
Editor:	MATTEO BINI, BILLY SNEDDON
Cast:	LOLA CAMPBELL, HARRIS DICKINSON, ALIN UZUN, AMBREEN RAZIA, OLIVIA BRADY, AYLIN TEZEL

Living alone in her flat, 12-year-old Georgie must confront reality when her estranged father, Jason, shows up out of nowhere. Uninterested in a new parental figure, she remains resistant to his efforts. As they both adjust, Georgie and Jason find that they have a lot of growing up to do.

FESTIVALS: *Sundance, 2023*

AWARDS: *World Cinema Grand Jury Prize: Dramatic, Sundance 2023*

SALES: *Pictureworks*



Charlotte Regan is a British film director. In 2023, her debut feature film *Scrapper* won the Grand Jury Prize for the World Cinema Dramatic Competition at the Sundance Film Festival, 2023. Her first short film, *Standby*, premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF). Set entirely in a police car, it went on to win a Sundance Ignite award and be nominated for a BAFTA. Her second short film *Fry-Up* was screened at the BFI London Film Festival, Sundance and Berlinale. Her third film, *Dodgy Dave*, played at Toronto (TIFF) and BFI London.

drama | coming of age | social

INDIA PREMIERE ★



SNOW LEOPARD

Original Title:	XUE BAO
Director:	PEMA TSEDEN
Producer(s):	WANG LEI, TSEMDO THAR
Screenplay:	PEMA TSEDEN
DoP:	MATTHIAS DELVAUX
Editor:	JIN DI
Cast:	JINPA, XIONG ZIQI, TSETEN TASHI, LOSANGCHOEPHEL, GENDEN PHUNTSOK, KUNDE, DANG HAOYU, JIKBA, GATU TASHI, DECHEN YANGDZOM, CHUNGCHEN

FESTIVALS: *La Biennale Di Venezia, 2023*
Toronto International Film Festival, 2023

SALES: *Rediance Films*

drama | family

INDIA PREMIERE ★

An exquisite and enigmatic beautiful tale of a majestic but deadly snow leopard and its complicated relationship with the communities of the Tibetan plateau, told through the eyes of a local television crew director and his former schoolmate, a monk passionate about photography. While the monk's brother, a herder who has suffered the loss of nine rams mauled by the leopard, wants to kill the beast, the religious man, who seems to subliminally communicate with the animal, wants to save it at all costs — and so do the local policemen.



Pema Tseden, was the first Tibetan filmmaker in China to craft films exclusively in the Tibetan language, achieved cinematic acclaim with "The Tibetan Trilogy": "The Silent Holy Stones" (2005), "The Search" (2009), and "Old Dog" (2012). These works offered an insider's perspective on contemporary Tibet, forging a unique aesthetic style. His later films, including "Tharlo" (2015), "Jinpa" (2018), and "Balloon" (2019), continued to explore the evolving Tibetan experience. Pema Tseden's artistry garnered accolades at both domestic and international film festivals, establishing him as a luminary in Tibetan New Wave cinema, adept at blending cultural richness with cinematic innovation.



THE ZONE OF INTEREST

Director:	JONATHAN GLAZER
Producer(s):	JIM WILSON, EWA PUSZCZYŃSKA
Screenplay:	JONATHAN GLAZER
DoP:	ŁUKASZ ŻAL
Editor:	PAUL WATTS
Cast:	CHRISTIAN FRIEDEL, SANDRA HÜLLER

FESTIVALS: Cannes, 2023
 Toronto International Film Festival, 2023
 BFI London Film Festival, 2023
 São Paulo International Film Festival, 2023
 San Sebastián International Film Festival, 2023
 Vancouver International Film Festival, 2023

AWARDS: Grand Prix 2023, Cst Award For Technical Artist, Cannes, 2023

SALES: Impact Films India

drama | war | adaptation | history

INDIA PREMIERE ★

An Auschwitz commandant and his wife strive to build a good life for their small family in a pavilion with a garden not far from the camp. When a mutation comes to threaten everything, they have built, his wife refuses to leave the house of their dreams.



Jonathan Glazer gained recognition for his pioneering music videos like Radiohead's 'Street Spirit' and Jamiroquai's 'Virtual Insanity.' He delved into filmmaking with 'Sexy Beast' (2000), a BAFTA-nominated British film, and 'Birth' (2004) featuring Nicole Kidman and Lauren Bacall. 'Under The Skin' (2014), an adaptation of Michel Faber's novel, earned critical acclaim and two BAFTA nominations. More recently, he directed 'The Fall' (2019), a BBC short film influenced by Goya's 'The Sleep of Reason Produces Monsters' and a photograph of Donald Trump's sons with a leopard, showcasing his versatile creative talent.



UPON OPEN SKY

Original Title:	A CIELO ABIERTO
Director:	MARIANA ARRIAGA, SANTIAGO ARRIAGA
Producer(s):	HUGO SIGMAN, GUILLERMO ARRIAGA, MATIAS MOSTEIRIN, LETICIA CRISTI
Screenplay:	GUILLERMO ARRIAGA
DoP:	JULIÁN APEZTEGUIA
Editor:	ANDRES PEPE ESTRADA
Cast:	THEO GOLDIN, MAXIMO HOLLANDER, FEDERICA GARCÍA, JULIO CÉSAR CEDILLO, SERGIO MAYER MORI, JULIO BRACHO, CECILIA SUÁREZ, MANOLO CARDONA

FESTIVALS:

Toronto International Film Festival, 2023

Busan International Film Festival, 2023

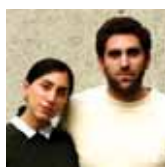
La Biennale Di Venezia, 2023

SALES: Film Factory

coming of Age | road film | family

INDIA PREMIERE ★

Two teenage brothers take a road trip to the border between Mexico and the US to track down the man responsible for the car accident that caused their father's death. Joined by their beautiful newly-met step-sister, the three siblings embark on a tense revenge journey which, ultimately, will have them come to terms with their father's death.



(Left) **Mariana Arriaga** is a film director, born and raised in Mexico City in a family of filmmakers. She studied communications and specialized in film. Her first work, a short film named *En Defensa Propia* was nominated to the Venice Horizon Award to premiere. *Upon Open Sky (23)*, co-directed with Santiago Arriaga, is her feature debut.

(Right) **Santiago Arriaga** is a Mexican director whose credits include the short films *Libre de culpa (17)*, *B-167-980-098 (18)*, and *La hora cero (19)*. *Upon Open Sky (23)*, co-directed with Mariana Arriaga, is his feature debut



YANNICK

Director:	QUENTIN DUPIEUX
Producer(s):	THOMAS VERHAEGHE, MATHIEU VERHAEGHE, HUGO SÉLIGNAC
Screenplay:	QUENTIN DUPIEUX
DoP:	QUENTIN DUPIEUX
Editor:	QUENTIN DUPIEUX
Cast:	RAPHAËL QUENARD, PIO MARMAÏ, BLANCHE GARDIN, SÉBASTIEN CHASSAGNE

In the middle of a performance of the play "Le Cocu", a very bad boulevard, Yannick gets up and interrupts the show to take the evening back in hand.

FESTIVALS: Locarno International Film Festival, 2023
São Paulo International Film Festival, 2023

SALES: Kinology

drama | surreal comedy

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Born in Paris in 1974, **Quentin Dupieux** discovered cinema at the age of 18. He went on to direct the horror film 'Rubber' (2010), 'Wrong Cops' (2012), 'Reality' (2014), 'Keep an Eye Out' (2018) with Benoît Poelvoorde and Grégoire Ludig, 'Deerskin' (2019) with Jean Dujardin and Adèle Haenel, 'Mandibles' (2020), with Grégoire Ludig and David Marsais. 'Incredible But True' was selected at Berlinale 2022, and 'Smoking Causes Coughing' was presented in the Midnight Screening section at Cannes Film Festival 2022.

CINEMA OF THE WORLD

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A GOLDEN LIFE

Original Title:	OR DE VIE
Director:	BOUBACAR SANGARÉ
Screenplay:	LEONEL D'AGOSTINO, PAULA HERNÁNDEZ
DoP:	ISSO EMMANUEL BATIONO
Editor:	GLADYS JOUJOU

Burkina Faso. In the gold-digging site of Bantara, 16-year-old Rasmané descends deeper than 100 meters in artisanal mines to extract gold. Anxious about accidents, Rasmané makes his way in this world of fierce adults in the hope of becoming emancipated one day.

FESTIVAL: Berlinale, 2023

SALES: Film Otor

drama | social

ASIA PREMIERE ★



Filmmaker, author and director from *Burkina Faso*, **Boubacar Sangaré** directed 4 short films and co-directed a feature documentary for TV. *A Golden Life* marks his debut in feature documentary for cinema. His current projects include the road movie documentary *Djéliya*, *Memory of Manding* (selected for La Fabrique des Cinémas du Monde, Cannes 2022) and two feature films, *Le nom qu'on te donne* and *Les dieux délinquants*.



A RAVAGING WIND

Original Title:	EL VIENTO QUE ARRASA
Director:	PAULA HERNÁNDEZ
Producer(s):	HERNÁN MUSALUPPI, SANTIAGO LÓPEZ RODRÍGUEZ, DIEGO ROBINO, LILIA SCENNA, NATACHA CERVI, SANDINO SARAVIA VINAY
DoP:	IVÁN GIERASINCHUK
Editor:	ROSARIO SUÁREZ
Cast:	ALFREDO CASTRO, SERGI LÓPEZ, ALMUDENA GONZÁLEZ, JOAQUIN ACEBO

FESTIVAL: Toronto International Film Festival, 2023
San Sebastián International Film Festival, 2023

SALES: Film Factory

drama | adaptation

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Argentine film director and screenwriter **Paula Hernández** studied at the Universidad del Cine de Buenos Aires, and was a fellow of the Berlinale Talent Campus. She has directed seven films. Of these, *Inheritance* (2001) won the Best First Feature award in the national competition of the Institute of Cinema and Audiovisual Arts, Argentina (INCAA) and was in Moscow FF.



A REAL JOB

Original Title:	UM METIER SERIEUX
Director:	THOMAS LILTI
Producer:	EMMANUEL BARRAUX
Screenplay:	THOMAS LILTI, AGNÈS VALLÉE
DoP:	ANTOINE HEBERLE
Editor:	GWEN MALLAURAN
Cast:	VINCENT LACOSTE, FRANÇOIS CLUZET, LOUISE BOURGOIN, ADÈLE EXARCHOPOULOS, WILLIAM LEBGHIL, LUCIE ZHANG, BOULI LANNERS

FESTIVAL: San Sebastián International Film Festival 2023

SALES: Le Pacte

drama | comedy

ASIA PREMIERE ★



French director–screenwriter **Thomas Lilti** is also a doctor. His work in film often explores themes related to medicine and healthcare. His debut feature *Hippocrate* (2014) won critical acclaim and several awards. His realistic approach and attention to medical detail have earned Lilti recognition for his ability to shed light on the issues and realities of the French healthcare system.

IFFI 2023



A STRANGE PATH

Original Title:	ESTRANHO CAMINHO
Director:	GUTO PARENTE
Producer:	TICIANA AUGUSTO LIMA
DoP:	LINGA ACÁCIO
Editor:	VICTOR COSTA LOPES, GUTO PARENTE, AUGUSTO LIMA SISTERS
Cast:	LUCAS LIMEIRA, CARLOS FRANCISCO, TARZIA FIRMINO, RITA CABAÇO, RENAN CAPIVARA, ANA MARLENE

FESTIVAL: Tribeca Film Festival, 2023
San Sebastián International Film Festival, 2023
São Paulo International Film Festival, 2023

AWARDS: Best International Feature, Performance,
Screenplay, Cinematography - Tribeca, 2023

SALES: Lights On Films

drama | mystery | family

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Independent filmmaker **Guto Parente** educated in Film at Escola Pública do Audiovisual de Fortaleza. A member of Alumbramento, an artists' collective and production company in Ceará till 2016, he is now part of Tardo Filmes in Fortaleza. In the past Parente directed in collaboration with Pedro Diógenes, Luiz Pretti and Ricardo Pretti, films mainly in Brazil. *Inferninho* (2018), co-directed with Pedro Diógenes, and the independently made *The Cannibal Club* (2018), both premiered in Rotterdam.



ADENTRO

Original Title:	INSIDE
Director:	JAVIER SOLÓRZANO CASARIN
Producer(s):	DANIELA LEYVA BECERRA ACOSTA, ANDREA TOCA
Screenplay:	JAVIER SOLÓRZANO CASARIN
DoP:	MIGUEL DE LA CRUZ
Editor:	ROQUE AZCUAGA
Cast:	ANA CLARA CASTAÑÓN, MIKAEL LACKO, MARIO CORONA, LUIS FERNANDO ZÁRATE, SANDRA ZELLWEGER, MARISOL DEL OLMO, DANIEL MARTÍNEZ

FESTIVAL: San Sebastián International Film Festival 2023

SALES: Javier Solórzano Casarin

drama | mystery

ASIA PREMIERE ★

After their mother's death, a young woman and her two brothers return to their childhood home. A place of pain and trauma. Estranged siblings for years, they must face each other and their past. As they attempt to sell the house, they realize that their parents' personal demons have come back to haunt them.



Javier Solórzano Casarin graduated in Film and Video at Columbia College, Chicago. His debut feature *Elvira* premiered at Morelia (Mexico) 2009. *Ti Muxe* (2013) was the Best Documentary Short at Toronto International Film and Video Awards, and played in Lucerne and Oaxaca IFFs. *Between Us*, a B&W short thriller written and directed by Javier, played in Austin 2017.



ADIÓS BUENOS AIRES

Director:	GERMAN KRAL
Producer(s):	NILS DÜNKER, DIETER HORRES, GERMAN KRAL, CAROLINA M. FERNÁNDEZ, JORGE LEANDRO COLÁS
Screenplay:	STEPHAN PUCHNER, FERNANDO CASTETS, GERMAN KRAL
DoP:	CHRISTIAN COTTET, DANIEL ORTEGA
Editor:	HANSJÖRG WEISSBRICH, PATRICIA ROMMEL
Cast:	DIEGO CREMONESI, MARINA BELLATI, CARLOS PORTALUPPI, MANUEL VICENTE, RAFAEL SPREGELBURD, MARIO ALARCÓN, LUIS ZIEMBROWSKI, DAVID MASAJNIK, REGINA LAMM, VIOLETA NARVAY, MATÍAS LUQUE BENANTE, ALEXIA MOYANO, MARIO MAHLER, ROBERTO MINONDI

FESTIVAL:
Beijing International Film Festival; MIAMI, 2023

SALES: Beta Cinema

drama | music

INDIA PREMIERE ★

At the end of 2001, Argentina is experiencing its worst ever economic crisis and Julio Färber (45) desperately wants to move to Germany with his mother and daughter, leaving behind his shoe shop, his tango band and his beloved Buenos Aires behind. But life definitely seems to be conspiring against him.



German Kral studied at Munich Film School. His diploma film *Images of the Absence*, was awarded the First Prize at the Yamagata Film Festival in Japan, as well as received the Young Bavarian Documentary Film Award. His film *Música Cubana* (2004) had its international premiere at the Venice Film Festival. His another film *The Last Applause* (2008), received the FFI Talent Award at the DOK.FEST Munich and the Starter Film Prize of the City of Munich.



ALEMANIA

Director:	MARÍA ZANETTI
Producer:	JUAN PABLO MILLER
DoP:	AGUSTÍN BARRUTIA
Editor:	SEBASTIÁN SCHJAER
Cast:	MAITE AGUILAR, MIRANDA DE LA SERNA, MARÍA UCEDO, WALTER JAKOB

Lola, a teenager, is living in an unstable family situation due to her elder sister's mental disorder. She has the opportunity to make a study trip to Germany. To escape these strenuous family dynamics, she will find a way to make this journey happen.

FESTIVAL: *San Sebastián International Film Festival*

SALES: *Meikincine Entertainment*

drama | coming of age

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Screenwriter-director **Maria Zanetti** began with music videos and commercials. She then directed numerous short films, including *Ping Pong Master* (2011), *Chivilcoy* (2013), and *Fury* (2020). *Alemania*, her debut feature, was in San Sebastian FF.



ALITOPAN

Director:	SIDHARTA TATA
Producer:	TERSI EVA RANTI
Screenplay:	IFAN ISMAIL, SIDHARTA TATA
DoP:	UJEL BAUSAD
Editor:	AKHMAD FESDI ANGGORO
Cast:	JEFRI NICHOL, LUTESHA, OMARA ESTEGHLAL, ARI SIHASALE, BEBETO LEUTUALY, REZA HILMAN

Ali, a street-smart youth and Anna, a wealthy property owner's daughter, meet at a music event. United by their disillusionment, they leave everything behind to explore Java together. Their journey introduces them to life-altering encounters while evading pursuer Boy, testing the endurance of their love.

FESTIVAL: Busan International Film Festival, 2023

SALES: Uiscinema Pictures

drama | adventure | satire

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Accomplished Indonesian director-screenwriter **Sidharta Tata** started in advertising and transitioned into cinema. He won international acclaim with the Netflix series *Tunnel* (2019) and his debut feature, *Waktu Maghrib* (2023), adapted from Teguh Esha's 1977 novel, testifies to Tata's commitment to storytelling through the cinematic lens.



ALL TO PLAY FOR

Original Title:	RIEN À PERDRE
Director:	DELPHINE DELOGET
Producer:	OLIVIER DELBOSC
Screenplay:	DELPHINE DELOGET
DoP:	GUILLAUME SCHIFFMAN
Editor:	EMELINE ALDEGUER, BÉATRICE HERMINIE
Cast:	VIRGINIE EFIRA, FÉLIX LEFEBVRE, ARIEH WORTHALTER, INDIA HAIR, MATHIEU DEMY, ALEXIS TONETTI, ANDRÉA BRUSQUE, OUSSAMA KHEDDAM, AUDREY MIKONDO, JEAN-LUC VINCENT, CAROLINE GAY, ANNE STEFFENS, CEDRIC VIEIRA, MARTIN BOULIGAND, GAETAN PEAU

FESTIVAL: Cannes, 2023 (*Un Certain Regard*)

SALES: France TV Distribution

drama | family

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Delphine Deloget directed documentaries that have been selected and awarded in festivals across France and abroad. Her documentary feature *Under the Skin* won the Albert Londres Prize and *Work of the Year* (2015) awarded by Scam. Her Shorts *Le Père Noël et le cowboy* (2012) and *Tigre* (2019) won the CNC Quality Prize. Her debut feature *All to Play For* featured in *Un Certain Regard* at Cannes 2023.



ALL WILL BE REVEALED

Original Title:	AM ENDE WIRD ALLES SICHTBAR
Director:	PETER KEGLEVIC
Producer:	WOLFGANG REST
Screenplay:	PETER KEGLEVIC & KLAUS POHL
DoP:	PETER ZEITLINGER
Editor:	MOUNE BARIUS
Cast:	ERIKA MAROZSÁN, HARALD SCHROTT, HANNS ZISCHLER, ROBERT STADLOBER

After decades away Josef returns to his hometown to look for his childhood love. Is she still alive? Will she recognize him? Can everything become like it used to be? The poetry of a life love clouded by poisonous political mood which is fueled by a mystery murder series. And the perpetrators are always the same – from generation to generation.

FESTIVAL: São Paulo International Film Festival, 2023

SALES: Media Luna

drama | history

ASIA PREMIERE ★



Writer-director **Peter Keglevic** has directed 30 films since 1976. He is known for *Der Tanz mit dem Teufel - Die Entführung des Richard Oetker* (2001), *Kill Cruise* (1990) and *Magic Sticks* (1987). His debut feature *Bella Donna* was screened at Cannes 1983.



ANOTHER DAY OF HOPE

Director:	TAIFENG LIU
Producer:	TONG ZHU, LI LI
Screenplay:	TAIFENG LIU, ZHILING CAI
DoP:	DAIYAO YAN
Editor:	BOWEI YUE
Cast:	NINGFENG SONG, XINYI ZHANG, KEYU GUO, ZHIHONG SUN

Wei Li is the product manager of an Internet delivery company. His mundane life is carved up by excessive overtime and all-nighters. His wife runs a dance studio, and his adolescent daughter is busy preparing for her high school entrance exam. This seemingly peaceful life is shattered by a sudden accident

SALES: Parallax Films

drama | social

ASIA PREMIERE ★



Taifeng Liu pursued Media and Communications at Zhejiang University. He honed his skills in Film Production at the School of Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC) and Cinematography at the American Film Institute (AFI). His was involved in the art department of numerous TV series and feature films. Since 2018, Taifeng Liu has authored five feature film scripts. *Another Day of Hope* marks his debut in this realm.



ANTARCTICA CALLING

Original Title:	VOYAGE AU PÔLE SUD
Director:	LUC JACQUET
Producer(s):	LAURENT BAUJARD, PIERRE-EMMANUEL FLEURANTIN
DoP:	CHRISTOPHE GRAILLOT, JÉRÔME BOUVIER, SARAH DEL BEN
Editor:	STÉPHANE MAZALAIGUE

In this visually captivating adventure, Luc Jacquet, the director of "The March of the Penguins," explores the magnetic allure of the Antarctic over three decades. This final journey unveils the enchanting beauty of a vanishing continent and its remarkable inhabitants.

FESTIVAL: Locarno, 2023
Rio de Janeiro International Film Festival 2023

AWARDS: Piazza Grande, Locarno 2023

SALES: Playtime

documentary

INDIA PREMIERE ★



French film director and screenwriter **Luc Jacquet** is renowned for *March of the Penguins* which won the Oscar for Best Documentary Feature 2005 and was nominated for the Writers Guild of America Award for Best Documentary Screenplay. *The Fox And the Child* (2007) had released in Britain and Ireland with an English-language narration by Kate Winslet. *Ice and the Sky* was the closing film of Cannes 2015.



AZIZ

Director:	MAJID TAVAKOLI
Producer(s):	MAJID TAVAKOLI, ALI AHMADI
Screenplay:	JAMILEH DAROLSHAFIAIE, MAJID TAVAKOLI
DoP:	MOHSEN HOSSEINI
Editor:	MAYSAM MOLAIE
Cast:	ROUZBEH HESARI, AZADEH SAMADI, BAHMAN SADEGH HASSANI, REZA ABBASI, SHIRIN MOHSENI, AGHIGH BOLOURI, FATEMEH MOHAMMADI

Iran, 2022. A family grapples with financial hardships. Aziz, the elderly mother with dementia, develops a surprising affection for her youngest son, Anoush, who is about to marry. This revelation strains Anoush's relationship with his fiancée as he reluctantly becomes his mother's companion during her declining health.

FESTIVAL: São Paulo International Film Festival 2023

SALES: Iranian Independents Sales

drama | family | social

ASIA PREMIERE ★

Majid Tavakoli is a director, writer, story, producer, and script consultant from Iran known for films such as *Zigzag* (2009) *Born in 1987* (2016), *Homeless* (2020) and *People's Wedding* (2023).



BELA AMERICA

Original Title:	A BELA AMÉRICA
Director:	ANTÓNIO FERREIRA
Producer(s):	TATHIANI SACILOTTO & ANTÓNIO FERREIRA
Screenplay:	CÉSAR DOS SANTOS SILVA & ANTÓNIO FERREIRA
DoP:	PAULO CASTILHO
Editor:	ANTÓNIO FERREIRA
Cast:	ESTÊVÃO ANTUNES, SÃO JOSÉ CORREIA, CUSTÓDIA GALLEGO, JOÃO CASTRO GOMES, DANIELA CLARO, CARLOS AREIA

Talented cook Lucas falls in love with America, a television star and presidential candidate. He decides to conquer her with his culinary talent. Despite his humble origins and the harsh reality of living in one of the city's most rundown neighbourhoods, Lucas decides to enter the exuberant celebrity world. Clandestinely, he enters America's home while she's out running for president and cooks for her the most eclectic dishes. In a dark and suspenseful environment, punctuated with irony and unusual situations, *Bela America* explores the themes of social inequality, the rise of populism, and family relationships.

SALES: PNG Pictures

drama | comedy | social

WORLD PREMIERE ★



António Ferreira debuted in Cannes 2000 at the Cinefondation official selection with his mid-length film *Breathing Under Water*. He has directed four shorts and four feature films, winning prizes worldwide. His movies captivate common moviegoers as well as travel internationally. All his movies were co-productions with countries such as Germany, France, Spain and Brazil.



BLIND AT HEART

Director:	BARBARA ALBERT
Producer(s):	BORIS AUSSERER, KATARZYNA OZGA, OLIVER SCHÜNDLER, NICOLAS STEIL, ANNE WALSER
Screenplay:	MEIKE HAUCK, BARBARA ALBERT
DoP:	FILIP ZUMBRUNN
Editor:	MARTIN ARPAGAUSS
Cast:	MALA EMDE, MAX VON DER GROEBEN, THOMAS PRENN, LILIANE AMUAT, LOUISA GARDE, FABIENNE ELAINE HOLLWEGE, STEVE KARIER, ELISABETH WASSERSCHIED

FESTIVAL: Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival (POFF), 2023
Tokyo International Film Festivals 2023

SALES: Match Factory

drama | history | romance

INDIA PREMIERE ★

After WWII, Helene is ready to do anything to start a new life. As a young woman, she came to the exciting Berlin of the roaring 20s, wanting to become a doctor, and soon fell in love with a man named Karl. However the course of her life took a drastic, irreversible turn when the Nazis came into power.



Barbara Albert studied directing and screenwriting at the Vienna Film School. Her student film *Nachtschwalben* (1993) was the Best Short at the Max Ophüls-Preis Saarbrücken 1994. Since then she has directed, written and produced many award-winning feature films that premiered at A-festivals worldwide, making her one of the most acclaimed German-language filmmakers of her generation.



BLOCKADE

Original Title:	BLOKÁD
Director:	ÁDÁM TŐSÉR
Producer:	TAMAS LAJOS
Screenplay:	NORBERT KOBLI
DoP:	ANDRÁS NAGY
Editor:	LILI MAKK
Cast:	ZOLTÁN SERESS, ATTILA IFJ. VIDNYÁNSZKY, TIBOR GÁSPÁR, ILDIKÓ TÓTH, LUCA MÁRKUS, ZSOLT VÉGH, FERENC IVÁN SZABÓ

A true story of the first democratically elected Prime Minister of Hungary, József Antall, from his freedom fighter days in 1956 to the infamous 1990 taxi-blockade that shook the nation.

FESTIVAL: Belgrade International Film Festival 2023
Tansilvania International Film Festival 2023

SALES: National Film Institute, Hungary

drama | social

ASIA PREMIERE ★



Hungarian **Ádám Tősér** has worked in films as editor, producer and director for more than 20 years. His last film *Kittenberger – The Last Hunt* (2021) presented the adventurous life of Africanist Kálmán Kittenberger in an original way. His 2020 film *Roads Fifty-six* recounted stories of 1956's refugees from beyond the Iron Curtain. He produced *Strong* (2011), the documentary on the heroic struggle of Alpinist Zsolt Eröss from his leg amputation to his return to the mountains.



BRAND BOLLYWOOD DOWNUNDER

Director:	ANUPAM SHARMA
Producer(s):	CLAIRE HAYWOOD, DEEPTI SACHDEVA, ANUPAM SHARMA
Screenplay:	KARIN STEININGER, ANUPAM SHARMA
DoP:	CASIMIR DICKSON, JENN KARO
Editor:	KARIN STEININGER
Cast:	A.K. TAREEN, AKARSH KHURANA, AMIT KHANNA, ANUPAM KHER, ANUPAM SHARMA, APOORVA LAKHIA, ASEEM BAJAJ, ASEEM CHHABRA, ASHUTOSH GOWARIKER, DANIEL LUCAS, DAVID REDMAN, DEEPTI SACHDEVA

SALES: Films & Casting Temple

documentary

**INTERNATIONAL ★
PREMIERE**



Based out of Fox Studios - Sydney, **Anupam Sharma** has led a team of diverse film professionals on more than 300 screen projects in the last 23 years, and is commended for pioneering Australian film links with India. As an award winning director/producer, specializing in diverse Australian films for a global audience, Anupam has a rich slate of features in various stages of development and production, most with investment from film agencies and international investors.

Spanning from 1897 to 2023 this feature documentary is an informative, funny, musical, and entertaining look at Bollywoodisation and globalisation of popular Hindi Cinema through its love affair with Australia and the world. Featuring interviews with icons of Hindi cinema along with rare behind the scenes of bollywood stars filming at picturesque locations in Australia and the west, Brand Bollywood pays homage to the popular film industry and subculture of Bollywood in form and in content.



CEYLIN

Director:	TUFAN SIMSEKCAN
Producer(s):	MENDERES DEMIR, MEHMET SARICA, NURCIHAN TEMUR
Screenplay:	TUFAN SIMSEKCAN
DoP:	OZAN SIHAY
Editor:	HAMDI DENIZ, TUFAN SIMSEKCAN
Cast:	DENIZ BÜYÜK, NIHAN AKER, MEHMET AVCI

Ceylin, a 14-year-old living in a tent city for seasonal agricultural workers, dreams of attending school, but her family faces numerous challenges. When a documentary filmmaker arrives, the struggles and issues of the tent city residents come to light, leading to a transformative incident that affects Ceylin and the entire community.

SALES: Atom Films

drama | coming of age | social

WORLD PREMIERE ★



Tufan Simsekcan is a filmmaker & Graphic Designer. He is the co-founder of Atom Film and President of the Mediterranean Cinema Amateurs Association. He has had success in many national and international festivals with his short films. He worked as a director's assistant in domestic and foreign feature films.



CHILDREN OF GOD

Director: **JOAN GIRBAU XALABARDER**

Producer(s): **ADESCI, EAEA, ARTECHNET**

Editor: **JOAN GIRBAU XALABARDER**

Narrator: **MAPENDO MUNTHALI**

Heart of Uganda. Mulajje, a town surrounded by jungle, receives the visit of some foreigners from European and Asian countries. The town community is exposed to the dangers of AIDS, malaria and poverty. The documentary explores the brotherhood between human beings, among any race, gender or social class differences.

SALES: *Joan Girbau Xalabarder*

documentary

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Joan Girbau Xalabarder, from an early age, Joan showed a deep interest in arts. Joan has worked as director and cinematographer in a wide variety of projects, from corporate videos and commercials for Mango, Massimo Dutti or local businesses to independent documentaries and short films. He has worked in international projects that have been shot in Spain, Uganda, Greece, France and USA. .



CHRONICLES OF A WANDERING SAINT

Original Title:	CRÓNICAS DE UNA SANTA ERRANTE
Director:	TOMÁS GÓMEZ BUSTILLO
Producer(s):	GEWAN BROWN, AMANDA FREEDMAN
Screenplay:	TOMÁS GÓMEZ BUSTILLO
DoP:	PABLO LOZANO
Editor:	BENJAMIN TOLENTINO
Cast:	MONICA VILLA, HORACIO ANIBAL MARASSI, PABLO MOSEINCO, IAIR SAID, DAHYANA RUTH TURKIE, ANA SILVIA MACKENZIE, NOEMI SUSANA RON, SILVIA PORRO, HERNAN BUSTAMENTE, MARIANO MAXIMOVICS, NAHIEL CORREA DORNELL, MAURICIO MINETTI

FESTIVAL: SXSW Film Festival Austin, Texas 2023

AWARDS: Premiere Winner - Adam Yauch Hornblower, SXSW

SALES: Plenty Good

drama | comedy | fantasy

ASIA PREMIERE ★



Tomás Gómez Bustillo studied Political Science in Buenos Aires and began his career directing commercials and music videos. He Mastered in Directing from the AFI Conservatory, Los Angeles. His award winning shorts have screened at Tribeca, Slamdance, Raindance, and Mar del Plata, among others. His debut feature *Chronicles of a Wandering Saint* premiered at South By South West where it received the Adam Yauch Hörnblower Award.



CLAP YOUR HANDS

Original Title:	XING FU ZHI LU
Director:	ZHU JIE
Producer(s):	ZHANG JIAN, LI LI
Screenplay:	ZHANG CHI, ZHU JIE
DoP:	FU BO
Editor:	LIU XINZHU
Cast:	KARAKA, LIANG JI, WU YULINGLONG, WU YUKUN, QIAO KE, DANG JIAN

A decade ago, Qiaoqiao and her cousin worked in a southern Chinese factory, nurturing dreams of their future. Today Qiaoqiao, with her husband Tiandong and children Ziling and Fuling, faces challenges due to Fuling's brittle bone disease. As they return to their hometown for the Spring Festival, an unexpected event separates the family. Qiaoqiao's rural memories blend with the present, reminding her of life's circular nature.

FESTIVAL: Hainan International Film Festival, 2023

SALES: Parallax Films

drama | family

**INTERNATIONAL ★
PREMIERE**



Zhu Jie is a writer and director from Beijing. He graduated in Beijing Film Academy. His first short film "Color of Paradise" won the Best Film Award at Short Film Festival in 2007. From 2007 to 2017, he has written and directed numerous award winning documentary films and series. "Happy life" is his first feature film.



COMANDANTE

Director:	EDOARDO DE ANGELIS
Screenplay:	SANDRO VERONESI, EDOARDO DE ANGELIS
DoP:	FERRAN PAREDES RUBIO
Editor:	LORENZO PELUSO
Cast:	PIERFRANCESCO FAVINO, MASSIMILIANO ROSSI, JOHAN HELDENBERGH, SILVIA D'AMICO, ARTURO MUSELLI, GIUSEPPE BRUNETTI, GIANLUCA DI GENNARO, JOHANNES WIRIX, PIETRO ANGELINI, MARIO RUSSO, CECILIA BERTOZZI, PAOLO BONACELLI

FESTIVAL: La Biennale Di Venezia, 2023
São Paulo International Film Festival, 2023

SALES: True Colours

war | biopic | history

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Edoardo De Angelis is an Italian film director and screenwriter. His second feature film *Perez* (2014) competed at 71st Venice IFF. He wrote and directed *Indivisible* (2016) which played at Venice 2016; won 6 David di Donatello Awards, and 5 Silver Ribbons. *The Vice of Hope* (2018) was presented at Rome IFF and won the People's Choice Award.



DANCING ON THE EDGE OF A VOLCANO

Director:	CYRIL ARIS
Screenplay:	CYRIL ARIS
DoP:	JOE SAADE
Editor:	NADIA BEN RACHID, CYRIL ARIS
Cast:	JOE SAADE, MOUNIA AKL

In the aftermath of the catastrophic explosion from August 4, 2020 in Beirut, a film crew faces a serious dilemma: should they defy the chaos and move forward with the shooting of their film or surrender to the multiple crises that are spreading all over the country? *Dancing on the Edge...* captures their relentless battle to keep making cinema in a shattered city.

FESTIVAL: *BFI London Film Festival, 2023*
Karlovy Vary International Film Festival, 2023

AWARDS: *Crystal Globe Competition, Karlovy Vary 2023*

SALES: *Salud Morisset*

documentary

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Lebanese director, screenwriter and editor **Cyril Aris** is based in Beirut. A member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, he was editor of the American-Filipino film *Death Of Nintendo* (2020) which premiered at the 70th Berlinale, and Costa Brava, Lebanon (2021) which premiered at the 78th Venice FF, won the NETPAC award at Toronto, Audience Award at BFI London FF, and FIPRESCI award at El-Gouna, Cairo.



DAUREN'S WEDDING

Director: LIM CHAN-IK

Producer: RUSLAN PAK

Screenplay: LIM CHANIK

DoP: KIM HYUNGJUN

Editor: SUH SEUNGHYUN

Cast: LEE JU-SEUNG, BAZHAN ADINA

Aspiring documentary director Seung-joo heads to Kazakhstan to film a traditional Korean-Kazakhstan wedding but faces challenges when the local director is injured. To salvage the project, he stages a fake wedding in Saty Village, leading to unexpected complications and personal reflections on marriage in Kazakhstan.

SALES: M-Line Distribution

drama | comedy

INTERNATIONAL ★
PREMIERE



Lim Chan-ik graduated from the Korea National University of Arts in 2001. He won the Baeksang Arts Award for Best New Director with *Officer of the Year* (2011). *DGK Band* (2018) was his first documentary.



DIGNITY

Original Title:	ME AXIOPREPEIA
Director:	DIMITRIS KATSIMIRIS
Producer:	VASILIS STAVROPOULOS
Screenplay:	DIMITRIS KATSIMIRIS
DoP:	VASILIS STAVROPOULOS
Editor:	VASILIS STAVROPOULOS
Cast:	VAGGELIO ANDREADAKI, THANASSIS CHALKIAS, ILEKTRA GENNATA, GIORGOS GERONIMAKIS, GIANNIS KOTSIFAS, MAROUSKA PANAGIOTOPOULOU, CHARIS TSITSAKIS, AGGELIKI STEFANI

FESTIVAL: Thessaloniki, 2022

AWARDS: World Best Film Audience Award, Thessaloniki, Greece

SALES: Dimitris Katsimiris

drama | family

ASIA PREMIERE ★



Dimitris Katsimiris was born and raised in Rhodes. He has studied and worked as a social worker. In recent years he lives and works in Athens as an actor, writer and director in theater. He has written two theatrical plays and directed the award-winning short film, **Birthday** (2016).



ENDLESS SUMMER SYNDROME

Original Title:	LE SYNDROME DE L'ÉTÉ SANS FIN
Director:	KAVEH DANESHMAND
Producer(s):	GEM DEGER, KAVEH DANESHMAND, CÉDRIC LARVOIRE, EVA LARVOIRE, JORDI NIUBÓ
Screenplay:	LAURINE BAUBY, KAVEH DANESHMAND
DoP:	CÉDRIC LARVOIRE
Editor:	FRANÇOIS DEL RAY, PIERRÈ DEL RAY
Cast:	SOPHIE COLON, MATHEO CAPELLI, GEM DEGER, FRÉDÉRIKA MILANO, ROLAND PLANTIN

When the mother of two adoptees is tipped off about the possible affair her husband may be having with one of their children, her sense of duty takes a macabre turn.

FESTIVAL: Karlovy Vary International Film Festival (Works in Progress Competition)

AWARDS: Winner of the KUIFF Works in Progress Award, 2022

SALES: Libra Rising

drama | social

ASIA PREMIERE ★



Kaveh Daneshmand is a writer, director and producer based in Prague, Czech Republic. He is the artistic director of ÍRÁN:CI FF which he founded in Prague. He teaches film directing at Prague Film School and Iranian Cinema at Charles University. His debut short, **Occasional Showers** (2016) was the Best Short Film at the Writers and Critics' Awards, Iran. Next, **Alula** (2019) premiered at 65th Oberhausen Short FF.



EXTRA LESSON

Original Title:	DOPOLNITELNYY UROK
Director:	ANNA KURBATOVA
Producer(s):	ANNA KURBATOVA, SERGEY ORLOV, MIKHAIL KURBATOV, GRIGORIY PODZEMELNIY, RENAT DAVLETYAROV
Screenplay:	ANNA KURBATOVA, NIKOLAI GOLIKOV
DoP:	SERGEY CHISTYAKOV
Editor:	RODION NIKOLAICHUK, IGOR MEDVEDEV
Cast:	JULIA ALEKSANDROVA, KIRILL KYARO, VLADISLAV KONOPLEV, ALEXANDRA DROZDOVA, MATVEY ASTRAKHANTSEV, VALERIA BOGDANOVA, NIKOLAI BALOBA, DANIIL SLUTSKIY, OLEG VASILKOV

FESTIVAL: *Russia Amur Autumn 2022*

AWARDS: *Audience Award*

SALES: *Antidote Sales*

detective | coming of age | drama

**INTERNATIONAL★
PREMIERE**



Anna Kurbatova is a producer and writer, known for *Vne zony dostupa/ Out Of Range* (2021), *Dopolnitelnyy Urok* (2022) and *The Soul Conductor* (2018).



FAMILY ALBUM

Original Title:	TEMAS PROPIOS
Director:	GUILLERMO ROCAMORA
Producer(s):	HERNÁN MUSALUPPI, SANTIAGO LÓPEZ, DIEGO ROBINO
Screenplay:	GUILLERMO ROCAMORA
DoP:	JULIÁN APEZTEGUIA
Editor:	ELIANE KATZ
Cast:	DIEGO CREMONESI, FRANCO RIZZARO, VALERIA LOIS, ÁNGELA TORRES, ALFONSO TORT, VICENTE PIERI, ROBERTO SUÁREZ

SALES: Marina Scardaccione

coming of age family

INTERNATIONAL ★
PREMIERE



Guillermo Rocamora is a feature film and advertising producer, director and screenwriter. His short film *Buen Viaje* (2008) competed at Cannes FF. His debut feature *Solo* (2013) premiered at Miami to win the Best First Film Award. He wrote and directed the documentary *La Esencia de Carolina Herrera de Báez* (2013) for Discovery Channel. *La Libertad es una Palabra Grande* (2018), a documentary about former Guantánamo prisoner Muhammad's life in Uruguay, premiered at IDFF Amsterdam



FERESHTEH

Director:	MORTEZA ATASHZAMZAM
Producer(s):	MOHSANA TASHZAMZAM, MORTEZAA TASHZAMZAM
Screenplay:	MORTEZA ATASHZAMZAM, MUMIT AL RASHID
Cast:	JAYA AHSAN, SUMAN FARUQUE

Fereshteh and his husband Amjad keep trying hard to achieve their wishes.

SALES: *Imaje Cinema*

drama | family

WORLD PREMIERE ★



Morteza Atashzamzam graduated from university in Computer Sciences. Since 2002, he has directed and produced more than forty independent films, documentaries, and television series. He was the director of Bam Film Festival (2008 & 2010). The 2016 film *Melancholy* was his first feature film as a director.



FEZ SUMMER '55

Director:	ABDELHAÏ LARAKI
Producer:	CAROLINE LOCARDI
Screenplay:	ABDELHAÏ LARAKI
DoP:	AYOUB LAMRANI
Editor:	WALID AYOUB
Cast:	OUMAÏMA BARID, AYMAN DRIWI, MOHAMED ATEF , MOUNIA LAMKIMEL, MAJIDA BENKIRANE, MOHAMED NAÏMAN, NABIL ATIF, TARIK BAKHARI, LALLA HACHOUM AND CHAÏBIA ADRAOUI

Summer 1955. Kamal, an 11-year-old boy of the Medina of Fez, is experiencing the last months before Morocco's independence. In contact with Aïcha and her fellow students of the Qaraouiyyine university, he discovers and takes part in the fight for freedom.

FESTIVAL: Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival(PÖFF), 2023

SALES: A2L Productions

drama | social | political

ASIA PREMIERE ★



Abdelhaï Laraki is known for tackling sensitive themes in works that have been hailed by critics and acclaimed by audiences. He belongs to the new wave of Moroccan filmmakers of the 1990s. His cinema deals with political repression, *Mona Saber* (2002), the power of money *Parfum De Mer* (2006) or sexual frustration *Love In The Medina* (2011). At the core of Love... is the debate on 'Art Propre/Art sale' that raged during the Arab Spring. The common thread running through his films is a reflection on human's relationship with history, power and religion.



FIGHT LIKE A GIRL

Director:	MATTHEW LEUTWYLER
Producer(s):	ANTON LAINES, YVETTE GAYLE
Screenplay:	MATTHEW LEUTWYLER
DoP:	RICHARD HENKELS
Editor:	MATTHEW LEUTWYLER
Cast:	AMA QAMATA, HAKEEM KAE-KAZIM, MALAIKA UWAMAHORO, CLARCK NTAMBWE, ARTHUR NKUSI, BAHALI RUTH, KENNEDY MAZIMPAKA

A young Congolese woman forced to work in an illegal mineral mine, escapes her captors. She finds a new life for herself when she joins an all-women boxing club in the border city of Goma.

SALES: Accelerated Water

drama | sport

WORLD PREMIERE ★



Matthew Leutwyler studied Film at The San Francisco Art Institute. His debut feature, the dark comedy *Road Kill* premiered at Santa Barbara 1999 and won the Audience Award for Best Film. It went on to win over a dozen Audiences and Best film awards around the world and was nominated for a Saturn Award. He produced the award-winning food documentary *Spinning Plates* (2014).



FLAMING CLOUD

Original Title:	SAN GUI QING SHI
Director:	LIU SIYI
Producer(s):	JIA FU, MAGGIE MA
Cast:	CHARLES HU, CHEN YAO, YE ZHOU, YIRAN ZHOU, YUNLONG ZHENG

After a bet about the existence of true love in a casino in the Kingdom of Heaven, a strange curse was cast upon a boy named Wang Sangui: Anything he kissed would immediately fall into a deep sleep. In order to break the curse, Sangui embarked on a journey to seek true love.

FESTIVAL: Fantasia Film Festival, 2023

SALES: Parallax Films

drama | romance | fantasy

ASIA PREMIERE ★



Liu Siyi studied Media and Visual Arts at Tong Ji University and Film Production at the Vancouver Film School. Her short film *Cadence* (2015) played in the China Independent FF. *Flaming Cloud*, her debut feature as writer-director, was among the Top 5 projects in the 4th CFDG China Youth Film Director Support Program. It won the Most Promising Director, Genre Selection and Producers prizes in the China Golden Rooster Film Project Market.



FOG

Original Title:	TUMAN
Director:	NATALIA GUGUEVA
Screenplay:	NATALIA GUGUEVA
DoP:	SHANDOR BERKESHI RGC
Editor:	TATYANA MATYUKHINA, NATALIA GUGUEVA, VINCENT DEVEAU
Cast:	VALERIYA REPINA, DENIS BONDARENKO, OLGA KRASKO, EVGENIY KHARITONOV, OLEG KASSIN, OLEG BOYKO, KIRILL KROSHMAN-KLIMOV

Camera operator Nastya goes to an inaccessible weather station with meteorologist Andrei in order to investigate the disappearance of a couple of meteorologists. Subsequently, she understands that Andrei was involved in the disappearance of this couple. However, Andrei suddenly discovers Nastya's connection with the missing people.

FESTIVAL: Ariano International Film Festival, 2023

AWARDS: Grand Prix, KSTOKCNO 2023

SALES: Antidote Sales

drama | thriller

**INTERNATIONAL★
PREMIERE**



Director, screenwriter, producer **Natalia Gugueva** founded her own film company, Vstrecha, in 2003. Multiple winner of Russian national prizes such as TEFI, Laurel Branch, Nika, Golden Eagle, and White Elephant, she has won the Grand Prix at international festivals too. Since 2009 she is heads the Documentary Film Directorate of the Russian TV major Channel One.



FORTUNE FOR ALL

Director:	YAO RAMESAR
Producer:	YAO RAMESAR
Screenplay:	YAO RAMESAR
Cast:	MICHAEL CHERRIE, NICKOLAI SALCEDO, KYLE HERNANDEZ, SAMARA LALLO, REBECCA NEDD, SIMON LEE

Three Caribbean siblings are reunited by the death of their eldest brother. Marooned on the family's coastal estate in a period of isolation, they begin talking after years of silence. A tender ode to the radio plays of the director's childhood in the Caribbean of the 1970s.

SALES: Caribbeing Inc Limited

drama | family

ASIA PREMIERE ★



Hana-born Caribbean filmmaker **Yao Ramesar** has created over 140 films. These include *Haiti Bride* (2014) which screened at FESPACO 2015 in Burkina Faso to become the first African diaspora film in competition at Africa's premier FF. His debut film *Sistagod* (2006) was the first Trinidad and Tobago feature to gain official selection at a major festival like Toronto 2006, and win the Grand Prix at Arto Docs in St Petersburg, Russia.



FRAGILE BLOOD / BLUE BLOOD

Original Title:	ZILĀS ASINIS
Director:	UNA CELMA
Producer(s):	DACE SIATKOVSKA, UNA CELMA
Screenplay:	UNA CELMA
Cast:	ILZE KUZULE, EGONS DOMBROVSKIS, ANDA REINE

In a society where reality blurs with myth, Diana struggles to conform to societal norms. Trapped in a codependent marriage with Igor, she risks traumatising her daughter, Astra. A pivotal choice looms: daughter or husband. As illusions merge with reality, Diana must decide if it's not too late.

SALES: Fenix Film

drama | family

INTERNATIONAL★
PREMIERE



One of the most experienced female filmmakers in the Baltics, **Una Celma** has produced and directed more than 10 documentaries and 5 feature films. Many of these have won awards at some of the most renowned FFs. She is the CEO of Fenix Film, a film production company based in Riga, Latvia. Many of the works she chooses to direct and produce include prominent female characters and deal with women's issues both in the Eastern European and global context.



FRANKY FIVE STAR

Director:	BIRGIT MÖLLER
Producer(s):	JAMILA WENSKE, KNUT MIERSWE
Screenplay:	BIRGIT MÖLLER
DoP:	JP PASSI
Editor:	ANNA KAPPELMANN
Cast:	LENA URZENDOWSKY, CINO C.JAVID, MERYEM EBRU ÖZ, PAUL POTSCH, CECILIO ANDRESEN, GERTI DRASSI, SVEN HONIG, SOPHIE KILLER, MILENA DREISSIG, JARKKO LANTI, SARAH HANNEMANN, CHRISTIAN NEUHOF

FESTIVAL: *Film Festival Max Ophüls Preis, 2023*
Filmfest Bremen, 2023

SALES: *Patra Spanou Film*

drama | fantasy

INDIA PREMIERE ★

Franky, consumed by inner turmoil, avoids love. Only her friend Katja knows her mood swings. Secretly, Franky's mind hosts a quirky hotel with four characters who can possess her. When she falls for Katja's boyfriend, chaos ensues. This love-comedy explores self-discovery and identity through eccentric characters.



Brigit Moller studied at the DFFB Berlin. She worked as cinematographer in many shorts and feature films, a.o "Die Boxerin" (About a Girl) and Tangerine. Since 2004 she directs commercials for TV and cinema . In 2006 she graduated with the feature fiction film "Valerie". She is an alumna of Villa Aurora, L.A (2008) and Binger's Director's Lab (2011). "Franky Five Star" is her second feature film



FROM THE END OF THE WORLD

Original Title:	SEKAI NO OWARIKARA
Director:	KAZUAKI KIRIYA
Producer(s):	KAZUAKI KIRIYA MOTOO KAWABATA CHIKAKO NAKABAYASHI HARUE MIYAKE
Screenplay:	KAZUAKI KIRIYA
DoP:	CHIGI KANBE
Cast:	AOI ITO, KATSUYA MAIGUMA, AYA ASAHINA, SHUNJI IWAJ, YUI ICHIKAWA, MIO MASUDA, NAOKI MATAYOSHI, AI TOMINAGA, KATSUNORI TAKAHASHI, KAZUKI KITAMURA, MARI NATSUKI, YASUSHI AMI, FUGA SHIBAZAKI

SALES: Free Stone Productions

Hana's ordinary life takes a surreal twist when she befriends a girl from the Sengoku Era in a dream. Government agents scrutinise her as mankind's future destiny vanishes. The key lies with the girl from her dream.



Kazuaki Kiriya graduated from the Cambridge School of Weston in Massachusetts. His career in New York as a photographer commenced in 1994, working on CD jackets, music videos, and commercials. He debuted in films with *Casshan* (2004) followed by *Goemon* (2009). Kiriya has authored the novel, *Dreams of the Tiger, the Crow, and Ayako*. His music video for Sandaime J Soul Brothers' *Unfair World* (2015) gained significant attention. *Last Knights* (2015) was his first Hollywood movie.

drama | sci fi

INDIA PREMIERE ★



GIANTS OF EASTER ISLAND

Director:	DOVER KOSASHVILI
Producer:	MAREK ROZENBAUM
Screenplay:	DOVER KOSASHVILI
DoP:	DANIEL ROZENBAUM
Cast:	GAVRI BANAI, AMIT BARZILAY, EDEN CYMBALISTA, OREL DERI

Two love stories develop in a world that follows traditional norms: young Zaza loves Zehava, as they bond in a magical world. The beautiful and independent Madea is in love with the charming neighbourhood thug. Watching over is the patriarch grandfather, fighting to bind everyone to the old rules.

FESTIVAL: Jerusalem Film Festival Jerusalem 2023

SALES: Marek Rozenbaum

drama | romance

INTERNATIONAL ★
PREMIERE



Dover Kosashvili is a director-screenwriter of Georgian-Jewish descent. He has directed five films since 1998. *Late Marriage* had featured in the Un Certain Regard section at Cannes 2001.



GOD'S GIFT

Director:	ASEL ZHURAEVA
Producer(s):	EMIR SARPASHEV, MUKHABAT AKHMETOVA
Screenplay:	TEMIR BIRNAZAROV & ASEL ZHURAEVA
DoP:	KARASH ZHANYSHOV
Editor:	TOLOMUSH ZHANYBEKOV
Cast:	TOKTOSUN ARZYGULOV, GULAYUM KANIMETOVA

At the house of an elderly childless couple, about seventy years old, with poor health, living in a small village, unknown people leave a six-month-old baby. An old man and an old woman are going to hand over the child to the authorities. But having heard that young children are being sold for organs, they decide to leave the child to themselves. Caring for a baby turns the lives of older people in a completely different direction. They have an interest in life.

FESTIVALS: Sao Paulo International Film Festival 2023
Asian Film Festival Barcelona, 2023

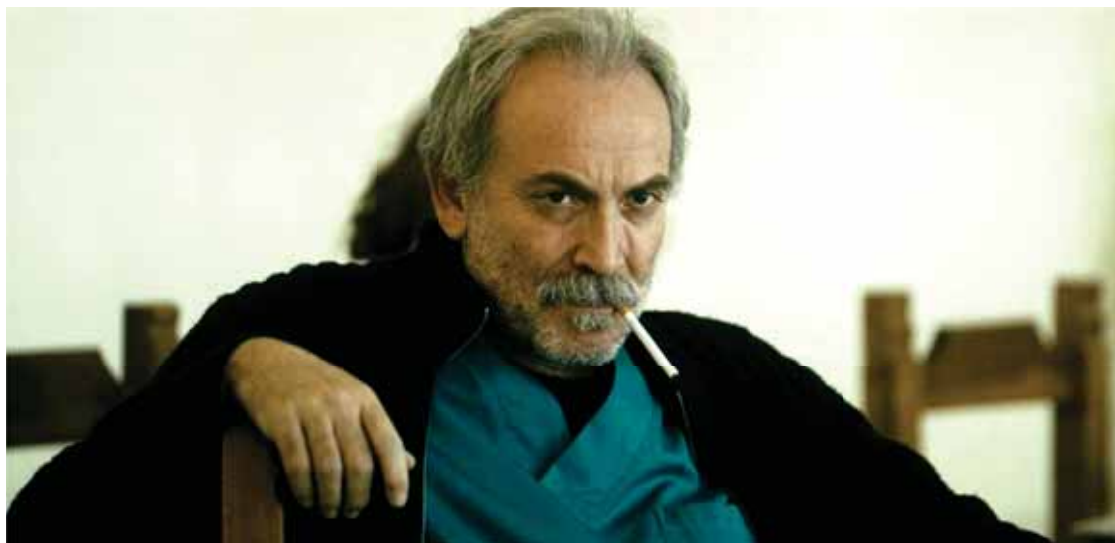
SALES: *Yulia Travnikova*

drama | family | Social

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Hailing from Kyrgyzstan, **Asel Zhuraeva** has worked as a Director with Kyrgyzfilm, an historical film production studio originating in the Soviet period, as well as with Tazar, a relatively young film studio. Asel is currently the director of the Fund for Art Females of Asia.



GOLIATH

Original Title:	GOLIA
Director:	ROBERTO MARRA, STEFANO SALVATORI
DoP:	LEONARDO BROCATO
Editor:	STEFANO SALVATORI
Cast:	MIRKO FREZZA, GIORGIO COLANGELI, PIETRO DE SILVA, ROBERTA ANNA, CLIVE ANTHONY RICHE, LUCIA BATASSA, FRANCESCO BISCIONE, GIORGIO CASADESUS, GIOBBE COVATTA, IVAN DALIA, SILVIA GRASSO, VALERIO MAMMOLOTTI

In 1990, Goliath, a dementia-afflicted former rugby champion, awakens daily believing he's with his team, only to find himself in a nursing home, disconnected from family. Alessandro, a paraplegic ex-professor, aims to free Goliath, challenging societal notions of worthiness despite their ailments, in a bid to reunite him with his family.

FESTIVAL: *Moscow International Film Festival, 2023*

SALES: *Alessia Buracci*

drama | adventure

ASIA PREMIERE ★



(Left) **Roberto Marra**, trained as a dancer and choreographer, he approached the seventh art in 2012 after the publication of the novel *Biglie* (2012, Eracle Editions), with the creative development of audiovisual concepts for the b2b market and some documentary products.



(Below) **Stefano Salvatori** has been Author and director of several docu-fictions and programs produced by Cinecittà Entertainment for satellite programming. As director, he made 4 short films in the horror genre for GA & A aired on Sky Max.



GOLIATH

Original Title: **GOLIAF**

Director: **ADILKHAN YERZHANOV**

Producer(s): **OLGA KHLASHEVA, SERIK ABISHEV, ALEXANDRE KOCHNEV, NURASSYL JARBASSOV, GIBRAT SARSENOV, GEORGIY SHABANOV, NATALIA DROZD, ABLAYKHAN ASHIMOV**

Screenplay: **ADILKHAN YERZHANOV**

DoP: **AYDAR SHARIPOV**

Editor: **AZAAT UTIANOV**

Cast: **BERIK AYTZHANOV, DANIYAR ALSHINOV, DMITRIJ CHEBOTAREV, ALEXANDRA REVENKO, RABIYA ABISH, YERKEN GUBASHEV**

FESTIVAL: *La Biennale Di Venezia, 2022*
Hong Kong Asian Film Festival, 2022
Singapore International Film Festival, 2022

SALES: *Olga Khlashaeva*

drama | crime | surreal

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Adilkhan Yerzhanov, is a writer-director is known for *The Owners* (2014), *A Dark, Dark Man* (2019) and *The Gentle Indifference of the World* (2018).



GOOD AUTUMN, MOMMY

Director: SHIZHONG CHEN

Producer: DUN HE

Screenplay: SHIZHONG CHEN

Cast: SHU QI, WHITE-K, ZHANG BENYU, LANG YUETING JORDAN LEE

During a rainstorm, the sugarcane farmer Fong-tai's newborn daughter disappears without a trace. She embarks on a journey to find her.

FESTIVAL: Shanghai International Film Festival, 2023

AWARDS: Outstanding Artistic Achievement, Shanghai International Film Festival 2023

SALES: Parallax

drama | Family | Comedy

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Chen Shizhong is a director, screenwriter, cinematographer, and a Guangdong native. He graduated from Shenzhen University in 2017. He obtained a full scholarship to attend Shanghai Vancouver Film School, majoring in cinematography. He was selected as one of the top five directors of CFDG Young Director Support Program in 2020. *Good Autumn, Mommy* is his first feature film.



HOMECOMING

Original Title:	LE RETOUR
Director:	CATHERINE CORSINI
Producer:	ELISABETH PEREZ
Screenplay:	CATHERINE CORSINI, NAÏLA GUIGUET
DoP:	JEANNE LAPOIRIE
Editor:	FRÉDÉRIC BAILLEHAICHE
Cast:	AÏSSATOU DIALLO SAGNA, SUZY BEMBA, ESTHER GOHOUROU, LOMANE DE DIETRICH, CÉDRIC APPIETTO, HAROLD ORSONI, MARIE-ANGE GERONIMI, VIRGINIE LEDOYEN, DENIS PODALYDÈS

FESTIVAL: Cannes, 2023

SALES: Playtime

Khédidja takes a summer job minding a wealthy Parisian family's children in Corsica, where she once lived. Her teenage daughters, Jessica and Farah, grapple with memories of the island and uncover family secrets that prompt them to question their mother's account of their past.



Catherine Corsini began filmmaking with *Poker* (1988) and gained recognition with *The New Eve* (1999). *Replay* competed at Cannes 2001; *The Very Merry Widows* in 2003. Her collaboration with Karin Viard continued with *Les Ambitieux* (2007). *Leaving* (2009) achieved international success. *Three Worlds* (2013), presented in Un Certain Regard at Cannes, received the Bayard d'Or for Best Screenplay. Her last film, *Summertime* (2015) earned acclaim, in Locarno.

drama | family

INDIA PREMIERE ★



HOTEL PULA

Director:	ANDREJ KOROVLJEV
Producer:	DIJANA CETINA MLAĐENOVIĆ
Screenplay:	IVAN TURKOVIĆ KRNJAK
DoP:	STANKO HERCEG
Editor:	IVANA FUMIĆ
Cast:	NIKA GRBELJA, ERMIN BRAVO, PETRA B. BLAŠKOVIĆ, NIKA IVANČIĆ, MAJA IZETBEGOVIĆ, ROMINA VITASOVIĆ LUČIĆ, JASMIN TELALOVIĆ, DADO ĆOSIĆ, LAV NOVOSEL, PAVAO NOVAK, ROK JURJIĆIĆ, LUKA JURJIĆIĆ, ZORAN ĐORĐEVIĆ

FESTIVAL: Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival(PÖFF), 2022
Sarajevo Film Festival, 2023

SALES: Wide Management

drama | romance | history

ASIA PREMIERE ★



Andrej Korovljević studied mechanical engineering in Zagreb and film directing at Westminster University, London. After his studies, he returned to Croatia and began his work in directing, mainly commercials, commission films and video. He directed hundreds of Croatian commercials as well as for international clients. His artistic work includes short films, music videos, and documentary films. He is a member of the Croatian Film Directors' Guild.



HUNGRY GHOST DINER

Director:	WE JUN CHO
Producer:	SEE YOO CHO
Screenplay:	WE JUN CHO, SEBASTIAN NG, JACKY YEAP
DoP:	TECK ZEE TAN
Editor:	ROU NING THE
Cast:	KEAT YOKE CHEN, ERIC CHEN, SAM CHONG, FABIAN LOO

Forced to take refuge in her family's coffeeshop in rural Behrang Stesen when stranded during the Covid-19 Lockdown, Bonnie is surprised to discover that it is haunted by ghosts of her deceased relatives returning for the Hungry Ghost Festival.

FESTIVAL: *Bucheon International Fantastic Film Festival*

AWARDS: *Netpac Award for Best Asian Film Korea, Republic of Bucheon International Fantastic Film Festival*

SALES: *Kino Visuals*

thriller | drama

INDIA PREMIERE ★



John We Jun Cho is a writer-director and production designer, having undertaken the Art Direction Course at Pinewood Studios Malaysia. We Jun has written and directed numerous short films, which have been selected at different film festivals. In 2015, he was selected to direct *Coaster*, a short film presented by Tiger Beer. *Taiping Adagio*, made with a modest budget over a period spanning more than 5 years, was We Jun's debut feature film.



IMAN

Director:	KYRIACOS TOFARIDES, CORINNA AVRAAMIDOU
Producer:	ANDROS ACHILLEOS
Screenplay:	CORINNA AVRAAMIDOU, KYRIACOS TOFARIDES
DoP:	SOFRONIS SOFRONIOU
Editor:	ELINA ANTONIOU
Cast:	STEPHANIE ATALA, ANDREAS TSELEPOS, RITA HAYEK, MARGARITA ZACHARIOU, PAMBINA GEORGIOU, PROKOPIS AGATHOKLEOUS, VARNAVAS KYRIAZIS

FESTIVAL: Thessaloniki International Film Festival, 2022
Beirut International Women Film Festival, 2023

SALES: Cyprus Broadcasting Corp.

comedy | fantasy

ASIA PREMIERE ★

Abdallah, a Muslim engineer married to Irene, confronts his responsibility for a building collapse in an Arab settlement. Iman and Leila, radicalized Europeans, have a secret mission in Cyprus. Michelle, a lonely teenager, falls for Angelos. Their intertwined stories explore redemption, guilt, and loneliness in the quest for a fresh start.



Corinna Avraamidou has been working at the Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation as a director of entertainment programs. She directed the short film *The Secret of The First Day* (2001) and *The Last Homecoming* (2008), her first feature film. Both films have won several awards.



Kyriacos Tofarides, has worked as an actor and director in many theatre performances. He has also worked as a television director. He is the producer of the award winning feature film *The Last Homecoming*. In 2013, Kyriacos made his first feature film *Block 12*.



INSULAR

Director:	HÉCTOR MANUEL VALDEZ
Producer:	JOSÉ RAMÓN ALAMÁ
Screenplay:	JOSÉ RAMÓN ALAMÁ & HÉCTOR MANUEL VALDEZ
DoP:	SEBASTIAN CABRERA CHELIN
Editor:	NACHO RUÍZ CAPILLAS
Cast:	ALEXIS DÍAZ DE VILLEGAS, PALOMA PALACIOS, JAMES SAINTIL, PERLA VÁSQUEZ, SAMUEL RETILUS MACHETE, ALEXI MOREL FLARE

SALES: *Hector Valdez*

drama | mystery

WORLD PREMIERE★



Hector M. Valdez directed the feature-length documentary, *República del Color* (2015). *Melocotones* (2017) was nominated for Yellow Robin at the IFFR Curaçao. *Malpaso* (2019) premiered at Tallinn Black Nights FF and went on to win Best Feature at New York Latino FF. It represented the Dominican Republic at the Spanish Academy Awards (Premios Goya) and opened Slamdance Miami 2021.



L'ANIMA IN PACE

Director:	CIRO FORMISANO
Producer(s):	SALVATORE PAGANO, CIRO FORMISANO, LUCA ROSSI
Screenplay:	CIRO FORMISANO
DoP:	DAVIDE CURATOLO
Editor:	GIACOMO VILLA
Composer:	MASSIMILIANO LAZZARETTI
Cast:	LIVIA ANTONELLI, DONATELLA FINOCCHIARO, LORENZO ADORNI, DANIELA POGGI

Dora, a tough 25-year-old, juggles her job and a drug business to rebuild her life and regain custody of her twin brothers from foster care. A potential turning point comes with Andrea, a medical resident trying to help her: until Yuri, her associate, discovers their relationship.

SALES: Farocinema Produzione

drama | romance

INTERNATIONAL ★
PREMIERE



Ciro Formisano, a versatile filmmaker, is renowned for his roles as a director, editor, and writer in notable projects like "Lesodo" (2017) and "Lost & Found" (2019).



LATIDO

Director:	KATINA MEDINA MORA
Producer(s):	INNA PAYÁN, KATINA MEDINA MORA, LUIS SALINAS
Screenplay:	KATINA MEDINA MORA NIETO
DoP:	NUR RUBIO SHERWELL
Editor:	MARIANA RODRÍGUEZ
Cast:	MARINA DE TAVIRA, CAMILA CALÓNICO, CLEMENTINA GUADARRAMA, TERESITA SÁNCHEZ, DANIELA SHMIDT, ARMANDO ESPITIA

FESTIVAL: Mill Valley Film Festival, 2023

SALES: Ida Agency

Leonor, a 45-year-old woman who has struggled to conceive, and Emilia, a 16-year-old ballet dancer with a promising career, face unexpected pregnancy news. In an unlikely arrangement, the two women come together to share their pregnancy journeys. As they navigate the ups and downs of pregnancy, they develop an unexpected bond and find strength in each other.



Katina Medina Mora lives in México City. Her first film, *LuTo*, was selected for the prestigious Los Cabos Film Festival. She directed three short plays by Tennessee Williams that were presented at Foro Luces de Bohemia. Next, her retelling of *La Acera de Enfrente* was presented at the Tamaulipas Theatre Festival. Katina's love for the indie music world inspires her direction of meaningful and highly artistic music videos. One example is the gritty, emotional video for Safety Bricks by acclaimed band, Broken Social Scene.

drama | social

ASIA PREMIERE ★



LIFE

Director:	EMIR BAIGAZIN
Producer:	EMIR BAIGAZIN
Screenplay:	EMIR BAIGAZIN, DAMIR TANATOV
DoP:	EMIR BAIGAZIN
Editor:	DAUREN ZHUMABAY, EMIR BAIGAZIN
Cast:	YERKEBULAN TASYNOV, KARINA HURAMSHINA, YERZHAN BURKUTBAYEV, TAMERLAN TULEGENOV, BULAT SADYKOV

FESTIVAL: Toronto International Film Festival, 2022
São Paulo International Film Festival, 2023

SALES: Antidote Sales

drama

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Emir Baigazin studied at T.Akhtanov Aktobe Drama Theatre and the Kazakh National Academy of Arts. After specializing in film direction and cinema directed the shorts *Steppe* (2007) and *Virgins* (2007). His features include *Harmony Lessons* (2013), *The Wounded Angel* (2016), *The River* (2018) and *Would You Like to Stargaze* (2018). *Life* (2022) is his latest film.



LONELY YURT

Original Title:	AKBOZUI
Director:	BEGARS YELUBAEV
Producer:	AIGERIM YELUBAEVA
Screenplay:	SMAGUL YELUBAEV

The Pakhraddin village, driven by the oppressive Goloshchekin government's cattle confiscations, embarked on a southward migration that plunged them into turmoil within the Turkmenistan deserts. The family's patriarch resolved to lead his people back to the Karakalpak city of Kungrad, a desperate bid for salvation. Abandoning their yurts amidst the vast sands, the villagers undertook an arduous journey on foot, returning to the alien city, where an uncertain destiny lay in store for them.

SALES: Assel Yrys



Begars Yelubayev pursued his education at the Kazakh State University and expanded his horizons at the Moscow Institute of Entrepreneurship and Law in Prague. Before his transition to filmmaking, Begars dabbled in episodic acting. In 2012, his directorial journey began with "The Hunter Boy," a drama-comedy based on a true story that secured various awards. Subsequently, he crafted compelling films like "Oasis" (2016), "Child Love" (2018), and "Lonely Yurt" (2021), which earned critical acclaim. Notably, "Lonely Yurt" was adapted from a prize-winning novel, adding to its success.

drama | adventure

WORLD PREMIERE★



LOST COUNTRY

Director:	VLADIMIR PERIŠIĆ
Screenplay:	VLADIMIR PERIŠIĆ, ALICE WINOCOUR
DoP:	SARAH BLUM, LOUISE BOTKAY
Editor:	MARTIAL SALOMON
Cast:	JOVAN GINIC, JASNA DURIČIĆ, MIODRAG JOVANOVIĆ, LAZAR KOVIĆ, PAVLE ČEMERIKIĆ

Serbia, 1996. During the student demonstrations against the Milosevic regime, 15-year-old Stefan has to go through the hardest revolution of all. He has to confront his beloved mother, a spokesperson and accomplice of the corrupt government that his friends are rising against.

FESTIVAL: *Semaine De La Critique*, 2023
São Paulo International Film Festival, 2023
Chicago International Film Festival, 2023
Melbourne International Film Festival, 2023

SALES: Memento Films

drama | coming of age | political

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Vladimir's Perišić graduation film, *Dremano* was part of the Cinéfondation selection at Cannes 2003. His debut feature, *Ordinary People* (2019) premiered in the Critics' Week at Cannes. *Our Shadow Will* was his contribution to the collective film *Bridges of Sarajevo*, an official selection at Cannes 2014. He is co-Director of the Belgrade Auteur FF since 2011. He was a filmmaker-programmer at *ACID* (2018-2019). *Lost Country* is his second feature.



LUCETTE

Director:	MBURUCUYA VICTORIA FLEITAS, OSCAR JAVIER AYALA
Producer:	MBURUCUYA VICTORIA FLEITAS
Screenplay:	MBURUCUYA VICTORIA FLEITA & NESTOR AMARILLA OJEDA
Cast:	RODRIGO REICHARDT, AMAMBAY NARVÁEZ, BORJA GARCÍA ENRÍQUEZ

The death of a member of the Da Motta family, in the middle of the field, destabilizes the quiet border town of Itaporá. As a result of the fact, Sebastián Da Motta, and Leonardo, former Interpol, begin a parallel investigation of the police, to find the culprit. While they advance in their search, the deaths continue, doubts grow, and everyone could be guilty.

SALES: *Sui Motion Films*



(Left) **Oscar Ayala Paciello**, studied cinematography and colorimetry at the prestigious (EICTV) school of San Antonio de Los Baños, Cuba, and at the Argentine Film Industry Union (sica). He worked as a professor at the Columbia University of Paraguay and at the Universidad del Pacífico. (Right) **Mburucuya Fleitas**, studied advertising at the autonomous University Of Asuncion and currently studying psychology. She won a scholarship for the 2021 Ibermedia and Mexico film academy intensive distribution workshop through his Victorias project.

drama | mystery

INDIA PREMIERE ★



MALQUERIDAS

Director:	TANA GILBERT
Producer(s):	PAOLA CASTILLO, DIRK MANTHEY
Screenplay:	TANA GILBERT, PAOLA CASTILLO VILLAGRÁN, JAVIERA VELOZO, KARINA SÁNCHEZ
DoP:	WOMEN SERVING PRISON SENTENCES
Editor:	JAVIERA VELOZO, TANA GILBERT

Women in prison reconstruct their experience of motherhood through videos and photographs captured with their forbidden cell phones while serving their sentences. *Malqueridas* offers a reflection on the severity of motherhood when faced with confinement and the loss of affections.

FESTIVAL: *La Biennale Di Venezia*, 2023
Marché Du Film, Cannes Docs 2023
São Paulo International Film Festival, 2023

SALES: *Square Eyes Films*

documentary

ASIA PREMIERE ★



Tana Gilbert's first short film, *Rest, Zulema* (2013) won awards in several festivals including the Best Documentary Short at Femcines. *I'm Still Here* released at Hot Docs 2017, toured through 25 Festivals, and received Best Short Film at *Cine Las Americas* (USA), Jury Award at *Miradas Doc* (Spain), among others.



MANDOOB

English Title:	NIGHT COURIER
Director:	ALI KALTHAMI
Producer:	MBURUCUYA VICTORIA FLEITAS
Screenplay:	ALI KALTHAMI, MOHAMMED ALGARAWI
DoP:	AHMED TAHOUN
Editor:	FAKHREDDINE AMRI
Cast:	MOHAMMED ALDOKHI, HAJAR ALSHAMMARI, MOHAMMED ALTTOWAYAN, SARAH TAIBAH

An overworked delivery app driver in Riyadh tries to branch out into bootlegging, in this dark comedic feature set in the rarely seen, ultra-modern world of Saudi nightlife.

FESTIVAL: Toronto International Film Festival, 2023
Zurich Film Festival, 2023

SALES: MPM Premium

drama | comedy

ASIA PREMIERE ★



Ali Kalthami is a Saudi director, producer, content writer, and co-founder of C3Films and Telfaz11. His career spans over nine years of experience. *Mandoob* marks his feature debut.



MELODY

Director:	BEHROUZ SEBT RASOUL
Producer:	BEHROUZ SEBT RASOUL
Screenplay:	BEHROUZ SEBT RASOUL
DoP:	ALI-MOHAMMAD GHASEMI
Editor:	BEHROUZ SEBT RASOUL
Cast:	DIMAN ZANDI, ALIREZA OSTADI, MEGHDAD ESLAMI, SAFAR HAQDODOV, ZULFIYA SADIKOVA

Melody, a music teacher at a center for cancer-stricken children, embarks on a quest to compose a piece using the sounds of thirty different birds for the kids' party. With the help of a mute caretaker named Mango, she searches for the missing birds and an old village singer forced out by bird hunters.

FESTIVAL: Academy Awards, 2024 (Tajikistan Submission after 18 years)

SALES: DreamLab Films Sales Agent

drama|music

WORLD PREMIERE ★



Iranian **Behrouz Sebt Rasoul** is an independent filmmaker, screenwriter, editor, photographer, musician and author of two novels. He graduated from the Karaj University of Industrial Engineering, but has been his passion. He founded Nama Film company in 2013. He has made three music documentaries, one wildlife documentary and 28 documentary episodes about nature, all internationally acclaimed by professionals and the public.



MIGHTY AFRIN: IN THE TIME OF FLOODS

Director:	ANGELOS RALLIS
Producer(s):	MARIA DEL MAR RODRIGUEZ, ANGELOS RALLIS
Screenplay:	ANGELOS RALLIS
DoP:	ANGELOS RALLIS
Editor:	NADIA BEN RACHID, ANGELOS RALLIS

In the disappearing islands along the Brahmaputra river, orphan Afrin faces the ravages of floods in a coming-of-age tale. The film captures her resilience as she seeks her estranged father amidst the climate crisis, joining the ranks of new refugees, merging dreams with reality.

FESTIVAL: *Thessaloniki Documentary Film Festival 2023*
Uancouver International Film Festival, 2023

AWARDS: *WFF Award for Best Environmental Film,*
Thessaloniki Documentary Film Festival

SALES: *Cargo Films*



Angelos Rallis started his career in TV and theatre in Greece before moving to Sweden and the UK to complete his graduate and post-graduate studies in Film, Anthropology and Photography. In 2006 he became an elected member of the International Federation of Journalists (UK). His early work in video and photography was published in newspapers such as *Ethnos* and *The Guardian* and has been used by press agencies and NGOs around the world. Angelos has also worked as a director for the Greek National Television (ERT).

documentary

ASIA PREMIERE ★



MOMMY'S LAMBIE

Original Title:	ANNESININ KUZUSU
Director:	UMUT EVIRGEN
Producer(s):	FATİH AKSOY, UMUT EVIRGEN
Screenplay:	FERİDE ÇİÇEKOĞLU, UMUT EVIRGEN
Cast:	SELİN ŞEKERCI, NECİP MEMİLİ, KUBILAY AKA, MARTA BLANC, HATİCE ASLAN

In prison, 30-year-old Murat faces perplexing nightmares and an enigmatic trial. Recollections of a tumultuous childhood with demanding parents and a traumatic circumcision ceremony haunt him. The courtroom evolves into a battlefield as he seizes a pistol, seeking to resolve past scars and mysteries.

FESTIVAL: Thessaloniki International Film Festival, 2022
Beirut International Women Film Festival, 2023
Sofia International Film Festival, 2023

SALES: Med Yapım Sales

drama | courtroom

**INTERNATIONAL ★
PREMIERE**



Umut Evirgen first short **Fine Dying** (2019) was selected to the 33rd Edmonton FF. It won the Special Jury Award at Malatya FF. He wrote and directed his debut feature **I Am the Sea** (2020) which played in Rhode Island FF. It premiered at 31st Cottbus FF in Youth Film Competition. His second feature **Meeting Point** (2021) premiered at Warsaw FF.



MONTEVIDEO UNIT

Director:	TATYANA LYUTAeva
Producer(s):	SERGEY BOBZA, IGOR MISHIN
Screenplay:	ILYA TILKIN
Cast:	ALEXEY SEREBRYAKOV, AGNIYA DITKOVSKITE, KSENIYA RAPPOPORT

Wrongfully convicted surgeon Alexander Lunin, now released from prison, faces estranged daughter Luna who is battling drug addiction. Luna, pregnant and abandoned by her boyfriend, attempts suicide, landing her in a coma. Determined to save her and her unborn child, Lunin creates a makeshift home hospital to revive them both.

FESTIVAL: *Moscow International Film Festival, 2023*

SALES: *Travnikova Yulia Konstantinovna*



Tatyana Borisovna Lyutaeva is a Soviet Lithuanian, and Russian theatre actress. In 1986 she graduated in Acting from the Gerasimov Institute of Cinematography. She worked in the Russian Drama Theatre of Lithuania, organized festivals of Russian Cinema, and continued to appear in films. In 2004, with her two children, she returned to Moscow and began to actively participate in film and television. She was awarded the title of Honoured Artist of the Russian Federation.

drama

ASIA PREMIERE ★



MOUNTAIN ONION

Original Title:	GORNYI LUK
Director:	ELDAR SHIBANOV
Screenplay:	ELDAR SHIBANOV, YULIYA LEVITSKAYA
DoP:	DIAS SHIBANOV
Editor:	ARSENIY ABDRAKHMANOV
Cast:	ESIL AMANTAY, AMINA GAZIYEVA, ZHAZIRA KASKEY, KUANTAY ABDIMADI, LAURA TURSUNKANOVA, SANJAR MADI

Jabai, 11-year-old, sells mountain onions alongside the highway. One day he catches his idol trucker having sex with his mom. Jabai and his sister, Saniya, embark on a journey from their small village in Kazakhstan to China, to obtain the only thing that will save their father and help him become a strong man – the ‘Golden Viagra’.

FESTIVAL: *La Biennale Di Venezia, 2023*
Moscow International Film Festival, 2023
Raindance Film Festival, 2023

SALES: *Lights On Film*

drama | comedy | road film

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Eldar Shibnov graduated from Kazakh Academy of Architecture in 2010 and from School of Fine Arts. He completed a program in the Filmmaking School of Almaty. Eldar worked as assistant production designer on *Harmony Lessons* (2013). He wrote and directed two shorts and two mid-length films. He is currently co-producing a short film with students from NY Film Academy (LA).



MY AUNT GILMA

Original Title:	MI TIA GILMA
Director:	ALEXANDRA HENAO
Producer:	BETO BENITES
Cast:	MARYALE BENITES, DIANA PEÑALVER, LUIS DOMINGO GONZALEZ, CAROLINA TORRES

Isabel, 13, takes care of her aunt Gilma, who was admitted to a hospital in Caracas after being beaten by her partner. In the midst of the chaos that surrounds them, Isabel will do anything to save her aunt and keep a promise.

SALES: Habanero

drama | family

ASIA PREMIERE ★



Alexandra Henao graduated from the National Film and TV School NFTS (UK). Her feature-length documentary *Poisoning Kuyuhani* has been recognized as Best Andean Documentary in the Franco-Andean contest Documenta 2017. Her short film *La Uva* is among the Top Ten of the AXN FF and participated in the 34th Mostra de São Paulo. She won recognition for Best Cinematography 2019 and 2021, at Venezuela's National FF, with *Opposite Direction* and *The Night of the Two Moons*.



NOT A WORD

Original Title:	KEIN WORT
Director:	HANNA SLAK
Producer:	MICHEL BALAGUÉ
Screenplay:	HANNA SLAK
DoP:	CLAIRE MATHON
Editor:	BETTINA BÖHLER
Cast:	MAREN EGGERT, JONA LEVIN NICOLAI, MARYAM ZAREE, MEHDI NEBBOU

Nina leads a structured life, pursuing an ambitious artistic career. When her teenage son Lars has a strange accident at school, she decides to take a break from city life and together they head to their vacation home on the rugged Atlantic coast. Bound in silence, their already brittle relationship is pushed to the edge.

FESTIVAL: Toronto International Film Festival, 2023
Warsaw International Film Festival, 2023

SALES: Beta Cinema

drama | coming of age | family

ASIA PREMIERE ★



Hanna Slak is a film director and script writer who moves between several narrative languages. She has written and directed feature films for the big screen (*Blind Spot*, 2002; *Teah*, 2007; *The Miner*, 2017) but also documentaries and experimental shorts. Her films were screened at festivals such as Berlinale, Rotterdam, Locarno, Warsaw, and others. *The Miner* was the Slovenian entry for the Best International Film at the Academy Awards 2018. *Not a Word* is Slak's fourth cinema feature and her first German language film. Slak lives in Berlin with her partner and her children aged 6 and 16.



ONCE UPON A TIME IN THE ANDES

Original Title:	ÉRASE UNA VEZ EN LOS ANDES
Director:	RÓMULO SULCA
Screenplay:	RÓMULO SULCA
DoP:	SARA BRUSCIANO
Editor:	MARICET SANCRISTÓBAL
Cast:	MARIBEL BALDEON, JUAN CANO, AGUSTINA ALARCON, FELIX POMA, BETO POMACANCHARI, MOISES QUICHUA

In the Peruvian Andes, Margarita, an Andean shepherdess, finds Lautaro, a dying Chilean soldier and takes him home to nurse him. Her father finds this out, and decides to hide him, putting his family at risk. His only condition is that Lautaro must leave when he recovers. Over time and despite the linguistic differences, the shepherdess and the soldier establish an intimate relationship. When discovered, the Chilean is taken prisoner, but they spare his life when it is revealed that Margarita is expecting his child.

SALES: U&R FILMS Distributor

romance | war

WORLD PREMIERE★



Indigenous Quechua filmmaker **Rómulo Sulca** developed his film activity in the central Andes of Peru. He directed the shorts *Osmany* (2017), *Rimas de Carreo* (2018), and *Sara* (2019). Winners of the DAFO short film award, they were in festivals worldwide. The documentary *Teloneras* (2020) was the Best Peruvian Film at Transcinema IFF. His debut feature *Once Upon a Time in the Andes* (2023) was made with financing from DAFO and the IBERMEDIA.



Öte

Director:	MALIK ISASIS, ESRA SAYDAM
Producer(s):	EDA ÇARIKÇI, ESRA SAYDAM, MALIK ISASIS
Screenplay:	MALIK ISASIS, ESRA SAYDAM
DoP:	JUNIOR GUNG
Editor:	MALIK ISASIS
Cast:	IMAN ARTWELL-FREEMAN, EREN ALICI, GÜLSÜM ÖLGEN, ZIYA SUDANÇIKMAZ

Lela, a NYC teacher en route to Armenia, embarks on a Turkey road trip. In the East, she forges connections and bonds, particularly with Yusuf, a guesthouse manager. With limited time, they explore Rainbow Hills and visit Yusuf's uncle, emphasising the impending goodbye.

FESTIVAL: Tribeca Film Festival, 2022

SALES: Art Hood Entertainment GmbH S

drama | art | family

ASIA PREMIERE ★



A native of Turkey, **Esra Saydam** received her Masters from Columbia University's Graduate Film Program. Her first feature, *Across the Sea* (2014), won a Special Mention at the Slamdance Film Festival. *Öte* is her second feature.



Malik Isasis is a Brooklyn-based filmmaker who focuses on social realism and whose work includes *New York Decalogue* (2011), *The Elegant Clockwork of the Universe* (2013), *The Metamorphosis of Ismaila Ba* (2020), and *Bitter Sugar* (2021).



PALIMPSEST

Director:	HANNA VÄSTINSALO
Producer:	CYRIL JACOB ABRAHAM
Screenplay:	HANNA VÄSTINSALO
DoP:	HENRY DHUY
Editor:	TAREK KARKOUTLY
Cast:	RIITTA HAVUKAINEN, KRISTA KOSONEN, KAISU MÄKELÄ, EMMA KILPIMAA, ANTTI VIRMAVIRTA, LEO SJÖMAN

Two elderly roommates are selected for a medical trial that makes them younger. Given a second chance at life, with the memories of their past life intact, they realize that growing young is not just fun.

FESTIVAL: Venice International Film Festival, 2022

SALES: Thinkseed Films

drama | fantasy

ASIA PREMIERE ★



Hanna Västinsalo studied directing at the American Film Institute Conservatory in Los Angeles, CA, for which she received a Sloan Foundation Fellowship after receiving a PhD in molecular genetics at the University of Helsinki. At TEDx Helsinki University 2018, where she spoke about the relationship between storytelling and scientific discovery. Her virtual reality experience, *Man Under Bridge* (2019) premiered at 77th Venice IFF. *Palimpsest* (2022) is Hanna's debut feature.



RAIN TOWN

Director:	TUNKU MONA RIZA TUNKU KHALID
Producer:	HARIS SULONG
Screenplay:	AZRIL HAMZAH, SKY KHOR
DoP:	ERIC YEONG
Cast:	KIN WAH CHEW, SUSAN LANKESTER, WILSON LEE"

In pursuit of his own desires and pride, Choo, head of the household, unrelentingly wields control over his grown children Isaac, Alex and Ruby, disregarding their dreams and happiness. When his wife Aileen is struck by a tragedy, the family embroiled in a heartbreaking conflict drifts further apart, This poignant tale explores the delicate balance of a parent's ambition against his children's dreams.

FESTIVAL: 27th Vancouver Asian Film Festival 2023

SALES: Current Pictures

drama | family

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Tunku Mona Riza's works are based on detailed research materials and insights of true stories. This is seen in her debut feature *Redha* (2016), the most awarded Malay-language film, with a total of 16 awards. It was Malaysia's contender at the 89th Academy Awards and 74th Golden Globes.



SEAGRASS

Director:	MEREDITH HAMA-BROWN
Producer(s):	TYLER HAGAN, SARA BLAKE
Screenplay:	MEREDITH HAMA-BROWN
DoP:	NORM LI
Editor:	KANE STEWART, SHUN ANDO
Cast:	ALLY MAKI, LUKE ROBERTS, SARAH GADON, HILARY HART

FESTIVAL: Toronto International Film Festival, 2023
São Paulo International Film Festival, 2023
Festival du Nouveau Cinéma, 2023
Vancouver International Film Festival, 2023

AWARDS: FIPRESCI Prize, TIFF 2023
Most Promising Feature (National), Festival du Nouveau Cinéma, 2023

SALES: Game Theory Films

coming of age | drama

ASIA PREMIERE ★



Meredith Hama-Brown began as a director with *Broken Bunny* (2018). The short film won the Telus Sea to Sky Award at Vancouver, the Best Narrative Film at Las Cruces IFF and Best Film at the Future of Film Show. After *Cosmic* (2020) she was selected for the TIFF Filmmaker Lab and was awarded the Canada Goose Fellowship for her feature film, *Seagrass* (2023).

Desperate to find a deeper connection in her marriage after the death of her mother, Judith, a Japanese Canadian woman, brings her family to a self-development retreat on a remote island. But when they befriend another interracial couple who seem to have the perfect marriage, Judith begins to recognize how irreparably fractured her relationship is. Meanwhile, their two daughters are plunged into a destabilizing world under the constant stress of their parents' crumbling relationship. In the end, the family must collectively face their most unnerving insecurities before they become permanently broken.



SENECA

Director:	ROBERT SCHWENTKE
Producer(S):	FRIEDER SCHLAICH, IRENE VON ALBERTI
Screenplay:	ROBERT SCHWENTKE, MATTHEW WILDER
DoP:	BENOÎT DEBIE
Editor:	MICHAŁ CZARNECKI
Cast:	KATE RINGSELL, ANJA DIHRBERG, SALAH BENCHEGRA

Rome, 65 AD. Emperor Nero accuses his mentor Seneca of a foiled assassination plot. Seneca, resigned to his death sentence, hosts a final, philosophical gathering before facing execution, questioning his true character: opportunist or morally upright sage.

FESTIVAL: Rio De Janeiro International Film Festival, 2023
Berlinale, 2023

SALES: Picture Tree International

biopic | history

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Writer-Filmmaker **Robert Schwentke** is known for *Flightplan* (2005), *Red* (2010) and two films in the *Divergent series*: *Insurgent* (2015) and *Allegiant* (2016). Graduating from the Los Angeles film school Columbia College Hollywood (1992) he made *Tattoo* (2002) and *The Family Jewels* (2003) in Germany, before turning to larger Hollywood productions. In 2017 he returned to Germany, and made *The Captain*.



SEVENTH HEAVEN

Original Title:	SEDMO NEBO
Director:	JASNA NANUT
Producer:	HRVOJE OSVADIĆ
Screenplay:	JASNA NANUT & HRVOJE OSVADIĆ
DoP:	TOMISLAV SUTLAR
Editor:	TOMISLAV STOJANOVIĆ
Cast:	KREŠIMIR MIKIĆ , IVA JERKOVIĆ, IVA MIHALIĆ, NIKŠA BUTIJER, DEJAN AĆIMOVIĆ, PETAR ČIRITOVIĆ

FESTIVAL: Pula Film Festival, 2023

SALES: Petnaesta Unjetnost

drama | family

ASIA PREMIERE ★

A man teeters on a nervous breakdown over a seemingly simple problem: Confessing his infidelity to his wife. His failed attempts lead to a cascade of lies, paranoia, and fear of discovery, turning him into a ticking time bomb of deception.



Jasna Nanut directed six shorts that participated in Festival Premiers Plans d'Angers, Short Shorts FF & Asia, Sleepwalkers Tallinn, Poitiers FFs, Early Bird Bulgaria, Zagreb FF, Sarajevo FF among others. She is two-time winner of the Oktavijan Award, the Croatian Film Critics' Award for Best Short, for her graduation film *Playing the Tiger* and her first short *Tanya*. After her debut feature *Seventh Heaven* she is developing a perverse comedy *Birdie*.



SHAME ON DRY LAND

Director: AXEL PETERSÉN

Producer: SIGRID HELLEDAY

Screenplay: AXEL PETERSÉN

DoP: JOSUA ENBLOM

Editor: ROBERT KRANTZ

Cast: JOEL SPIRA, CHRISTOPHER WAGELIN,
JULIA SPORRE, JACQUELINE RAMEL,
MICHAL AXEL PIOTROWSKI, TOMMY
NILSSON, ERICA MUSCAT, OWEN SCIRIHA

In the shade of Malta's scorching sun, around the edges of the Swedish online-gambling community, exiled con man Dimman shows up for a lavish wedding, kicking off a desperate and decadent pursuit of redemption.

FESTIVAL: BFI London Film Festival, 2023
Toronto International Film Festival, 2023

SALES: Level K

thriller | mystery

ASIA PREMIERE ★



Axel Petersén studied at the Academy of Performing Arts, Prague; the Royal Institute of Art, Stockholm; and the Mountain School of Arts, Los Angeles. His film *Avalon* (2011) was screened at festivals and won the International Critics Prize in the Discovery programme. His other films include *Under the Pyramid* (2016) and *The Real Estate* (2018).



SHARP WOUNDS

Original Title:	ARMAS BLANCAS
Director:	MARIANA MUSALEM RAMOS
Producer:	GABRIELA GAVICA
DoP:	OSWALDO TOLEDANO
Editor:	LENZ CLAURE
Cast:	MÓNICA BEJARANO, SONIA FRANCO, SOFÍA Q. AMARO, ANDREW LELAND ROGERS, ANTONIO VIÑA

At ten, Valeria begins an inevitable journey towards the loss of innocence and childhood that we all face – but still hurts.

SALES: *Habanero*

drama | coming of age

ASIA PREMIERE ★



Graduating in Hispanic Literature, **Mariana Musalem Ramos** specialized in filmmaking from Centro de Capacitación Cinematográfica. She Mastered in Screenwriting at ESCAC, Barcelona, 2011. With extensive experience as script supervisor, she has written and directed a number of short films. Awarded in different festivals, they prove her sensibility as a fresh director.



SIMA'S UNFINISHED NARRATION

Original Title: REVAYATE NATAMAN -E SIMA

Director: ALIREZA SAMADI

Producer: MAJID REZA-BALA

Screenplay: ALIREZA SAMADI

Cast: GHAZAL SHAKERI HAMED KAMILI
MEHRAN AHMADI

Dr Arash Samin, one of the prominent professors in the field of sociology, lives a calm and peaceful life with his doctor wife and young daughter. But the publication of a picture of him in cyberspace puts his personal and family life on a new path..

FESTIVAL: Fajr Film Festival

SALES: Farabi Cinema Foundation

drama | social

INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE ★



Alireza Samadi is an Iranian film screenwriter and director. He debuted with the feature, *Anonymity* (2018). His second feature *Staging* (2021) stamped his name in his nation's best Film directors and claimed the Crystal Simorgh Award. *Staging* featured in over 12 IFFs.



SNOWSTORM

Original Title:	BORAN
Director:	SABIT KURMANBEKOV
Producer:	YERBOLBORANSHY
Screenplay:	SABIT KURMANBEKOV, YERBOLBORANSHY
DoP:	ZHENISEKPYN, YESSEN AITMUKHAMET
Cast:	MAGZHAN TURYS, KATAI DAULI, ORNBASSARTAZABEKOV, WANG PENG

The end of the 80s of the last century, Kazakhstan. A young guy urgently leaves for a neighboring village during a snowstorm. Lost on the road, he finds a house. During the conversation with the owners of the house, he realizes that he crossed the border of China.

SALES: Diana Ashimova

drama | history | political

INTERNATIONAL ★
PREMIERE



Sabit Kurmanbekov graduated from VGIK (State University of Cinema in Moscow). He worked as a production designer for many film and TV productions. In 2000, he directed the documentary, *The Last Stop of Nomads*. He also made the short film *The Highway* in 2006. *Turmoil* is his feature film debut as a director.



SOMETIMES I THINK ABOUT DYING

Director:	RACHEL LAMBERT
Producer(s):	ALEX SAKS, DAISY RIDLEY, DORI RATH, LAUREN BEVERIDGE, BRETT BEVERIDGE
Screenplay:	KEVIN ARMENTO, STEFANIE ABEL HOROWITZ, KATY WRIGHT-MEAD
DoP:	DUSTIN LANE
Editor:	RYAN KENDRICK
Cast:	DAISY RIDLEY, DAVE MERHEJE, PARVESH CHEENA, MARCIA DEBONIS, MEG STALTER

Fran likes to think about dying. It brings sensation to her quiet life. When she makes the new guy at work laugh, it leads to more: a date, a slice of pie, a conversation, a spark. The only thing standing in their way is Fran herself.

FESTIVAL: Sundance, 2023

SALES: New Europa Films Sales

dark comedy

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Writer-director **Rachel Lambert's** debut feature, *In the Radiant City* premiered to rave reviews at Toronto 2016. She graduated from Boston University with further study at London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art.

IFFI 2023



STEPNE

Director:	MARYNA VRODA
Producer:	MARYNA VRODA
Screenplay:	MARYNA VRODA, KIRILL SCHUVALOV
DoP:	ANDRII LYSETSKYI
Editor:	FRANZISKA WENZEL, MARYNA VRODA, MAREK Šulík
Cast:	OLEKSANDR MAKSIAKOV, NINA ANTONOVA, OLEG PRIMOGENOV, RADMILA SHCHOGOLIEVA

The stunning landscape of Ukrainian winter counterpoises the emerging feelings of alienation between people in a post-Soviet society. In this landscape Anatoliy comes back home to take care of his dying mother. A meeting with his brother and a woman he loves make him reflect on the choices he made along the way. And just before her death, the mother tells Anatoliy about a treasure...

FESTIVAL: *Locarno International Film Festival, 2023*
São Paulo International Film Festival, 2023

AWARDS: *Golden Leopard - Best Film, Locarno 2023*
Best Director, Locarno 2023
Special Mention-FIPRESCI Prize, Locarno 2023

SALES: *New Europa Films Sales*

drama | arthouse

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Maryna Vroda entered her student short films for international festivals in 2008. Her short film *Cross Country* (2011), nominated for the Golden Starfish Award at Hamptons IFF, won the Palme d'Or for Best Short at Cannes. She participated in the Berlinale Talent Campus 2010 and used the Residence Cité Internationale des Arts in Paris 2013 to write the script for *Stepne*.



SUFFOCATED

Original Title:	ASFIXIADOS
Director:	LUCIANO PODCAMINSKY
Producer(s):	GABRIEL HOCHBAUM
DoP:	NICOLAS TROVATO
Editor:	PATRICIO PENA
Cast:	LEONARDO SBARAGLIA, JULIETA DÍAZ, MARCO ANTONIO CAPONI, ZOE HOCHBAUM, NATALIA OREIRO, SOFÍA ZAGA-MASRI, FLORENCIA SALVETTO, LUIS PAZOS

Lucia and Nacho set sail on a fabulous sailboat to celebrate their 20 years of marriage. The journey promises to be perfect, until a storm leaves them adrift. Alone and with no escape on the high seas, they will be forced to wonder why they are still together.

SALES: Meikincine Entertainment

drama | romance

ASIA PREMIERE ★



Luciano Podcaminsky was ranked fourth by the Gunn Report on its list of directors with the most awards in the world. Luciano's first film *The Third Pint* was selected for the BAFICI festival 2007 and Edinburgh (EIFF) 2008. He has been in the jury at festivals like CLIO 2008, London 2009-2010 and The Eye of Latin America 2009. In 2017-18 his short film *The Back of my Mind* was played in many festivals.

IFFI 2023



SUNDAY

Director:	SHOKIR KHOLIKOV
Producer:	FIRDAVS ABDUKHOLIKOV
Screenplay:	SHOKIR KHOLIKOV
Cast:	ABDURAKHMOM YUSUFALIYEV, ROZA PIYAZOVA

In a quiet Uzbek village, an elderly couple faces conflict when their sons plan to demolish their cherished old home to build a new one for the youngest son. The clash between tradition and progress escalates, straining family bonds.

FESTIVAL: Shanghai International Film Festival, 2023

AWARDS: Best Film, Shanghai 2023

SALES: A Films Sales

drama | family

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Shokir Kholikov studies at the Uzbekistan State Institute of Arts and Culture in 2014. Graduated in Film, TV and Radio Directing in 2018, before enrolling in a Master's course at the same Institute in 2021. Presently works for the Uzbekkino National Agency and the National TV and Radio Company of Uzbekistan. His first feature film, *SUNDAY* (2023), won best film at the 25TH Shanghai IFF Asian New Talent Award.



THE ACCIDENT

Original Title:	O ACIDENTE
Director:	BRUNO CARBONI
Producer(s):	JÉSSICA LUZ, PAOLA WINK
Screenplay:	MARCELA BORDIN & BRUNO CARBONI
DoP:	GLAUCO FIRPO
Editor:	BRUNO CARBONI & GERMANO DE OLIVEIRA
Cast:	MARCELLO CRAWSHAW, GABRIELA GRECO, CAROL MARTINS, CARINA SEHN, LUIS FELIPE XAVIER

FESTIVAL: Rio de Janeiro International Film Festival, 2022
Queer Lisboa, 2023
Tallinn Black Night Film Festival (PÖFF), 2023

SALES: Patra Spanou Film

drama | thriller

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Bruno Carboni with *The Roof Above Us*, his very first short as a director, competed at Locarno - Pardi di Domani 2015. He was selected for the Berlinale Talents 2016 and Locarno Filmmakers Academy 2015. He developed *The Accident*, his debut feature, in Torino Film Lab 2018.

IFFI 2023



THE BEAUTIFUL SUMMER

Original Title:	LA BELLA ESTATE
Director:	LAURA LUCHETTI
Producer(s):	LUCA LEGNANI, GIOVANNI POMPILI
Screenplay:	LAURA LUCHETTI
Novel by:	CESARE PAVESE
DoP:	DIEGO ROMERO, SUAREZ LLANDS
Editor:	SIMONA PAGGI
Cast:	YILE YARA VIANELLO, DEVA CASSEL, NICOLAS MAUPAS, ALESSANDRO PIAVANI, ADRIEN DEWITTE, ANNA BELLATO, COSIMA, CENTURIONI, ANDREA BOSCA, GABRIELE GRAHAM GASCO, FEDERICO CALISTRI, CHIARA TURETTA

FESTIVAL: Locarno 2023
Chicago International Film Festival, 2023
Rio De Janeiro International Film Festival, 2023

AWARDS: Piazza Grande, Locarno 2023

SALES: True Colours

drama | adaptation

ASIA PREMIERE ★

The 18-year-old Cassell models regularly for Dolce and Gabbana, as the uninhibited Amelia. She introduces her younger friend Ginia to a world of bohemian artists, and she will fall in love for the first time.



Laura Luchetti has directed feature films, shorts, music videos, commercials, documentaries and theatre productions. Her debut feature *Febbre da Fieno* (2010) was awarded by many IFFs. Her second feature, *Twin Flower* (2018) was at the Cannes Atelier 2015; the Sundance Screenwriters Lab 2015; at TIFF, and won the FIPRESCI mention. In 2020, Luchetti directed the popular TV series *Nudes* (2021). She is currently involved with the production of *The Leopard* for Netflix.



THE BUBBLE

Original Title:	LA BURBUJA
Director:	MIGUEL ANGEL ROCCA
Screenplay:	ÁNGEL RUEDA Jr.
DoP:	ÁNGEL RUEDA JR.
Editor:	JUAN GABRIEL GARCÍA, ÁNGEL RUEDA JR.
Cast:	MARÍA FUENTES, FERNANDO LABORDETA

Daniela travels with her husband and children to help her sick father who lives isolated in a ranch. An energy crisis breaks out and the whole country falls into a ferocious anarchy. Fleeing abroad seems to be the only way out, and Daniela is determined to escape – without imagining that an unsuspected deceit is hidden behind.

SALES: Meikincine Entertainment

thriller | mystery

ASIA PREMIERE ★



Miguel Ángel Rocca is the director and screenwriter of *La Burbuja* (2023), *Maracaibo* (2017), *La Mala Verdad* (2011), *Arizona Sur* (2007), which won him awards at many IFFs. He is also credited with the historical fiction series *Martina Chapanay: Mujer De Cinco Mil Batallas* (2023). In 2001, with Daniel Pensa, he founded Pensa & Rocca Cine. The production company has, since then, been the executive producer of more than 35 audio visuals including feature films, documentaries and TV series.



THE CHAPEL

Director:	DOMINIQUE DERUDDERE
Producer:	BART VAN LANGENDONCK
DoP:	SANDER VANDENBROUCKE
Editing :	LOUIS DERUDDERE.
Cast:	KEVIN JANSSENS, RUTH BECQUART, ANNE COESENS, PIERRE BOKMA, LYDIA INDJOVA, ABIGAIL ABRAHAM, TAEKE NICOLAÏ, ZACHARY SHADRIN, JOSSE DE PAUW, TESS BRYANT, THOMAS SILBERSTEIN, PHILIPPE STELLA, ESZTER POPP, RENÉ VANDERJEUGD

Jennifer Rogiers, a twenty-three-year-old virtuoso pianist, has lived most of her life with a terrible secret. When she is given the chance to compete in the Final of the world-famous Queen Elisabeth competition, the memory of a traumatic childhood experience resurfaces.

FESTIVAL: Ostend Film Festival Belgium , 2023

SALES: Picture Tree International

drama | thriller

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Oscar nominated director **Dominique Deruddere** is one of the great names in Belgian cinema. His 1987 film *Crazy Love* (better known as *Love is a Dog from Hell*) drew the attention of Francis Ford Coppola: Zoetrope – Coppola’s production company – helped Deruddere set up his next project. *And Everybody’s Famous!* (2000) was nominated for the Best Foreign Film Academy Award.



THE DRUNK

Original Title:	O BÉBADO
Director:	ANDRÉ MARQUES
Producer:	ALEXANDRE OLIVEIRA
Screenplay:	ANDRÉ MARQUES
DoP:	MANUEL PINHO BRAGA
Editor:	ANDRÉ MARQUES, PEDRO AUGUSTO ALMEIDA
Cast:	VÍTOR RORIZ, INA ESANU, TERESA MADRUGA, JOÃO PEDRO VAZ, DAMIAN VICTOR OANCEA, GONÇALO NORTON, JORGE VAZ GOMES, SOFIA DINGER, ANTÓNIO MELO, DAVID PEREIRA BASTOS, FLÁVIA GUSMÃO, ANA LÚCIA PALMINHA, JORGE DIAS.

FESTIVAL: *Molodist, Kyiv International Film Festival, 2023*

SALES: *André Marques*

drama| thriller | social

ASIA PREMIERE ★

Contemplating the failure of his life, Rogério drinks until losing control of his actions and involves himself in a bar brawl. His alcoholic drift takes him to the city port, where he falls asleep while watching passing ships. When a young woman appears in the night, seemingly running from something, Rogério offers to help and enters a nightmare he never imagined could become his.



André Marques studied cinema at Escola Superior de Teatro e Cinema and he is an awarded Portuguese writer/director. His work has developed through various genres – fiction, experimental, documentary – with films and projects selected in several internationally renowned festivals such as Berlin Film Festival, Venice Film Festival, Palm Springs, Leeds, among others. Marques has been the subject of six retrospectives: Bucharest Cinematheque (Romania) in 2015, by the TV channels TVCINE (Portugal) and FicBueu Film Festival (Spain) in 2016, Burgas Film Festival (Bulgaria), Ymotion Festival (Portugal) and Fundação Gulbenkian (Portugal) in 2017. He was one of the selected filmmakers for the Berlinale Talents 2016. *The Drunk* is his first feature film.



THE FISHERMAN'S DAUGHTER

Original Title:	LA ESTRATEGIA DEL MERO
Director:	EDGAR DE LUQUE JÁCOME
Producer (s):	JORGE ANDRÉS BOTERO, ANNABELLE MULLEN PACHECO, RODRIGO LETIER, TATIANA LEITE, ELSA TURULL DE ALMA
Screenplay:	EDGAR DE LUQUE JÁCOME
DoP:	RAFAEL GONZÁLEZ
Editor:	KAREN AKERMAN, RICARDO PRETTI
Cast:	NATHALIA RINCÓN, ROAMIR PINEDA, HENRY BARRIOS, JESÚS ROMERO, MODESTO LACÉN, ROOSEVELT GONZÁLEZ, CARLOS HERNÁNDEZ

A fisherman father and his estranged trans daughter meet again on an isolated island where they are forced to face their past and present.

FESTIVAL: Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival(PÖFF), 2023

SALES: Belle Films

drama | family | arthouse

ASIA PREMIERE ★



Edgar de Luque Jácome's short film *Sin Regreso* (2007) was in the festivals at Biarritz and Santiago. He Mastered in Communications at the Universidad del Norte and was assistant director in *Ruido Rosa* (2014) by Roberto Flores Prieto and *Ella* (2015) by Libia Stella Gómez. He has won the FDC's screenwriting stimulus with three of his screenplays. He was a professor at Universidad del Magdalena for several years. *The Fisherman's Daughter* is his debut feature.



THE GOSPEL OF THE BEAST

Director:	SHERON DAYOC
Producer(s):	SONNY CALVENTO, WEIJIE LAI
Screenplay:	SHERON DAYOC
Cast:	JANSEN MAGPUSAO, RONNIE LAZARO

When 15-year-old Mateo accidentally kills a classmate, he runs away with a man he barely knows. With Berto, he creates a unique father-son relationship – where Mateo learns the harrowing realities about life, death, and beasthood.

FESTIVALS: Tokyo International Film Festival, 2023

SALES: Southern Latern Studios

drama | crime | coming of age

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Sheron Dayoc, an alumnus of Sundance Institute, Asian Film Academy, and Next Masters Tokyo, honed his craft by directing documentaries including The Asian Pitch winner, *A Weaver's Tale* (2009). His debut narrative feature *Halaw* (Ways of the Sea, 2009) won awards at Berlinale and Asia Pacific Screen Awards, and *The Crescent Rising* won the Best Documentary at Busan. *Women of the Weeping River* (2016) won the Best Picture, Best Actress, and Best Supporting Actor at QCinema and won the Best Picture, Best Direction, Best Supporting Actress, Best Screenplay, Best Cinematography, and Best Editing at Gaward Urian Awards.



THE INVISIBLE STEPS THROUGH LATIN AMERICA

Original Title:	LOS PASOS INVISIBLES POR LATINOAMERICA
Director:	JOHNNY MAURICIO GONZÁLEZ ZUÑIGA
Producer(s):	REBECA BABB VALVERDE, JOHNNY MAURICIO GONZÁLEZ ZUÑIGA
Screenplay:	JOHNNY MAURICIO GONZÁLEZ ZUÑIGA
Cast:	IRENE OLAZO MARINE, MARVINIA JIMENEZ MARQUEZ, ANCHELO CHERINE, CARELIA DIAZ MONTILLA, YANIRA MENDEZ RIVERA, JORGE FELIX MOREJON SANCHEZ, ASAEL GUEVARA RIVERA, BLASS LOPEZ

SALES: CineArt Filmoteca

documentary

WORLD PREMIERE ★

The documentary explores the issue of migration, through the stories of eight immigrant characters from Latin America and the Caribbean, who narrate their experiences and the reasons that prompted them to leave their countries of origin, whether for reasons of social risk, employment, education, freedom and even persecution, kidnapping and political torture, and settle in Costa Rica to seek better opportunities.



Johnny Mauricio González Zuñiga graduate in communication, is audiovisual producer, publicist, researcher and historian of European and Latin American cinema. Among many things he has been Director, curator and historian of the Filmoteca Cine Arte Costa Rica; Founder-Director of Cine para Todos Program; Director of the historical short film *Costarricense 65 años de Elvira*; Director, Filmoteca Short FF; Curator, BOWO Short FF. He collaborated with Peace Corps, International Bureau of Counternarcotics (INL), Universities of Costa Rica (UCR and UNA), Veritas University, Inter-American University (UIA), European Union, United Nations, and Arias Foundation for Peace and Human Progress.



THE LAND WHERE WINDS STOOD STILL

Original Title:	ZHEL TOQTAGHAN ZHER
Director:	ARDAK AMIRKULOV
Producer(s):	ARDAK AMIRKULOV, DIANA ASHIMOVA
Screenplay:	ARDAK AMIRKULOV, DAUR DOSSYBIYEV, BAGLAN KUDAIBERLIYEV
DoP:	ALEXANDR RUBANOV
Editor:	ALLAN AMIRKULOV
Cast:	ZHANAR SHOKPANOVA, SALIKH BEISENBAL, MEIRZHANMUSAKOZHA, SAGIZBAIKARABALIN, ERSIN KALYBAEVA

In the early 30s of the XX century, the mother of two small children, Hadisha, sets out for her husband, who was sent to Siberia on false charges. In her journey across the country, a woman experiences inhuman difficulties and trials, meeting on the way the same destitute people fighting for their lives in the endless Kazakh steppes.

FESTIVAL: Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival(PÖFF), 2023

SALES: Diana Ashimova

drama | history

ASIA PREMIERE ★



Ardak Amirkulov studied philology at the University of Alma Ata, where he graduated in 1977. He then studied film directing in Moscow with Sergei Solovyov. Since 1996 he has been professor at the Alma Ata Film Institute. 1997 is his third feature.



THE LAST BIRTHDAY

Director:	NAVID MAHMOUDI
Producer(s):	NAVID MAHMOUDI, JOHNNY MAURICIO GONZÁLEZ ZUÑIGA & REBECA BABB VALVERDE
Screenplay:	NAVID MAHMOUDI
Cast:	ELNAZ SHAKERDOUST, PEDRAM SHARIFI, SHEYDA KHALIGH

Soraya, a female journalist, has been trying to spread news about the difficult situation of Afghan women to the world for years. This issue exposes her career. Taliban forces surprise Soraya and her friends once they arrest her at home on her birthday.

SALES: Elaheh Godarzi

drama | political

INTERNATIONAL ★
PREMIERE



Afghan filmmaker **Navid Mahmoudi** is known for *Drowning in Holy Water* (2020), *The Lion Skin* (2022) and *A Few Cubic Meters of Love* (2014).



THE PUNISHMENT

Original Title: **EL CASTIGO**

Director: **MATÍAS BIZE**

Producer: **ADRIÁN SOLAR**

Screenplay: **CORAL CRUZ**

Cast: **NÉSTOR CANTILLANA, CATALINA SAAVEDRA**

Ana is driving, her face serious and angry. Mateo, her husband, asks her to turn around, returning to the place in the forest where they have left their seven-year-old son. It's only been two minutes, but he's gone.

FESTIVAL: Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival(PÓFF), 2023

SALES: Bendita Film Sales

drama | family | mystery

INDIA PREMIERE ★



At age 23, **Matías Bize** directed *Saturday* (2003) and won the Fassbinder Award at Mannheim-Heidelberg Festival. *In the bed* (2005) received more than 40 awards worldwide after it premiered at Locarno. *About Crying* (2006) also premiered in Locarno while *Life of the Fish* (2010) and *The Memory of War* (2015), both premiered at Venice. During the lockdown he directed *Private Messages* (2022). *The Punishment* (2022) premiered in the Official Competition at Tallinn Black Nights FF.



THE REEDS

Original Title:	SON HASAT
Director:	CEMIL AĞACIKOĞLU
Producer(s):	SEZGI ÜSTÜN SAN, ÖZLEM ÖZÇELİK, VESELKA KIRYAKOVA, CEMIL AĞACIKOĞLU, ARZU AGACIKOGLU
Screenplay:	CEMIL AĞACIKOĞLU & ARZU AGACIKOGLU
DoP:	EMRE PEKÇAKIR
Editor:	SELDA TASKIN
Cast:	HILMI AHISKA, SEVGI TEMEL, GÖKHAN YIKILKAN, BERKAY SANVEREN, ERDEM SENOCAK, ERCAN KESAL

FESTIVAL: Toronto International Film Festival, 2023

SALES: Wide Management

Set in a village at the foothills of the mountains in Anatolia, this is the story of the resistance of a young man, Ali. Fighting the domination of landlords and local gangs, he strives to win back his wife's love and affection.

drama | crime

ASIA PREMIERE ★



The short films of **Cemil Ağacıkoğlu** (b: Istanbul) include *I Am Ivan* (2005), *Ip* (2006), *It Was White* (2007), and *Polis* (2008). His features include *September* (2011), *Forgive Me* (2013), *The Field* (2016), and *The Cage* (2021). *The Reeds* (2023) is his latest film.



THIIIRD

Director:	KARIM KASSEM
Producer:	KARIM KASSEM
Screenplay:	KARIM KASSEM, NADIA HASSAN
DoP:	TALAL KHOURY
Editor:	ALEX BAKRI
Cast:	FOUAD MAHOULY

In a village outside Beirut, a mechanic receives many visitors who need to repair their cars. He soon realizes that he not only has to fix their cars, but has to fix them as well.

FESTIVAL: *International Film Festival Rotterdam, 2023*

AWARDS: *Best Film in Beldocs, 2023*

SALES: *Karim Kassem*

drama

ASIA PREMIERE ★



Karim Kassem is an award winning filmmaker mainly working between New York and Lebanon on films, music videos, and commercials. Since moving to New York in 2012, he has studied metaphysics and completed his first feature "Only the Winds" (2020) which was selected for the 50th International Film Festival Rotterdam and Visions Du Reel 2021 in Switzerland. His second feature film "Octopus" (2021), inspired by Beirut massive explosion went to win the best film at IDFA 2021 and a jury special mention award at ZagrebDox 2022; followed by his third feature film titled "Thiird" (2022) closing a trilogy.



THIS PLACE

Director:	V. T. NAYANI
Producer:	STEPHANIE SONNY HOOKER
Screenplay:	KAWENNÁHERE DEVERY JACOBS, GOLSHAN ABDMOULAIE, V. T. NAYANI
DoP:	CONOR FISHER
Editor:	MAUREEN GRANT
Cast:	KAWENNÁHERE DEVERY JACOBS, PRIYA GUNS

This Place follows the love story of Kawenniióhstha, half-Iranian, half-Mohawk, and Tamil Malai in Toronto. Kawenniióhstha seeks her estranged father, while Malai reconciles with her alcoholic Dad battling cancer. At its heart the film is about cultural displacement, love, and loss within two families.

FESTIVAL: Toronto International Film Festival, 2022

SALES: Picture Tree International

coming of age | identity | LGBTQIA+

ASIA PREMIERE ★



VT Nayani is a Tamil director, producer, actor and screenwriter from Toronto. Her work intimately explores how we continuously come of age. VT is widely known for the mid-length documentary *Shadeism: Digging Deeper* (2015). Her highly-anticipated debut feature, *This Place* premiered at Toronto 2022 (Discovery Programme).



THREE SPARKS

Director:	NAOMI UMAN
Producer:	NAOMI UMAN
Screenplay:	NAOMI UMAN
DoP:	NAOMI UMAN
Editor:	NAOMI UMAN
Cast:	FOUAD MAHOULY

This film in three parts explores traditions in rural Albania and the role of women in society. The project begins by describing the filmmaker's relationship to the country and an unwanted personal sacrifice which solidifies this connection. The film moves into a poetic portrayal of village life and the roles of women in society and concludes with a video piece, revealing the villagers active participation in their own depiction.

FESTIVAL: *International Film Festival Rotterdam, 2023*

SALES: *Kino Rebelde*

documentary

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Naomi Uman currently resides in Mexico City. Her work is composed of intimate portraits of others and her own participation and influence on these representations. Many of her homemade, analogical films focus on the role of women and handiwork. She works mainly in 16 millimeter film. Naomi has made twenty films which have shown in festivals and museums worldwide. She is the recipient of fellowships from the Guggenheim, Fulbright and Rockefeller Foundations.



THUNDERS

Original Title:	TUNETE
Director:	IOANE BOBEICA
Producer:	MARIN MADAN, SERGIU CUMATRENCO, ANATOL MIRZENCO, MARIN CUMATRENCO, IOANE BOBEICA
Screenplay:	IOANE BOBEICA
DoP:	IOANE BOBEICA
Editor:	SERGIU BARAJIN, IOANE
Cast:	ANATOL MIRZENCO, TINCUTA JOSANKEY

A poor village near the Transnistrian border. After the war of 1992, a mined field is still active. Zinca and Victor, two Moldavian children, suddenly lose the cows on the mined territory and try to get them back by entering the restricted area.

SALES: UJUBESC Creative Institute

drama | thriller

INTERNATIONAL ★
PREMIERE



Director-writer-cinematographer **Ioane Bobeica** is known for *Carbon* (2022), and Moldova's official Oscar entry of the year *Thunder* (2023).



TOLL

Original Title:	PEDÁGIO
Director:	CAROLINA MARKOWICZ
Producer(s):	KAREN CASTANHO VEGA, LUÍS URBANO, BIANCA VILLAR, FERNANDO FRAIHA, SANDRO AGUILAR, CAROLINA MARKOWICZ
Screenplay:	CAROLINA MARKOWICZ
DoP:	LUIS ARMANDO ARTEAGA
Editor(s):	LAUTARO COLACE & RICARDO SARAIVA
Cast:	MAEVE JINKINGS, KAUAN ALVARENGA, THOMÁS AQUINO, ALINE MARTA MAIA, ISAC GRAÇA

FESTIVAL: Toronto International Film Festival, 2023
San Sebastián International Film Festival, 2023
São Paulo International Film Festival, 2023

AWARDS: : Best Actor, Best Actress, Best Supporting Actress, Best Art Direction - Rio de Janeiro, 2023

SALES: Luxbox

crime | LGBTQIA+ | diaspora

INDIA PREMIERE ★

Suellen, a toll booth attendant, realizes she can use her job to help a gang of thieves steal watches from the wealthy people driving between São Paulo and the coast. But this is only for a noble cause: to send her son to an expensive gay conversion workshop led by a renowned foreign priest.



Carolina Markowicz has written and directed 6 short films. These toured more than 300 festivals and received many awards. *The Orphan* premiered in Cannes Director's Fortnight 2018 and won the Queer Palm. Her debut feature, *Charcoal*, competed at Toronto and had its European Premiere at San Sebastian 2022. Carolina is a member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences since 2021.



TOXIC

Director:	STEFAN VORZACEK
Producer(s):	LUDVÍK NEMEC & STEFAN VORZACEK
Screenplay:	STEFAN VORZACEK
DoP:	JAN CHAJEWSKI
Cast:	ROD GROVER, TADEÁŠ HUBÁLEK, JURAJ HALAS

Tomas, a successful but chronically lonely young man in his thirties, meets Ester, an attractive, alluring and enticing girl at the public pool where he is working out. Her non-conforming and seemingly free approach to life fascinates Tomas and captivates and absorbs him almost immediately. He thinks that she feels the same way about him. But everything changes at the moment that Maty, a mysterious guy from Esther's past, enters the story. All of a sudden, Tomas finds himself in the middle of an apparent love triangle.

SALES: Bioscop AQS Distributor

drama | romance

WORLD PREMIERE ★



Graduate of Economics University in Prague, **Stefan Vorzacek** started his film industry career in French-based production house Kares and non-overnmental body Czech Film Promotion before he met his now long-term producer colleague, Ludvík Némec. Both producers formed their producing tandem in 1993 and have been working together since. Up to now, they have produced five feature films: *Which Side Eden* (1999), *Hell On Earth* (2001), *Labyrinth* (2012), *My Naked Diary* (2012). *Toxic* is Vorzacek's directing debut.



TWENTY20

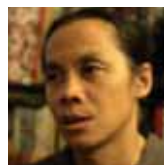
Director:	WONG KWANG HAN
Producer(s):	CHONG TEN YEE & WONG KWANG HAN
Screenplay:	WONG KWANG HAN
DoP:	CHONG TEN YEE
Editor:	WONG KWANG HAN
Cast:	LEE CHI WAN, BRIAN LIM, THAM SIEW PING, NICKSON CHENG, ANDREW SIM

Jenny is a teenager who has to live up to the “perfect life”. Taking care of her brother becomes the lens in which her inner world is projected upon, the dilemma of meeting expectations and the realistic failings of everyday life. Unbeknownst to Jenny, the people around her are also going through their own journeys. Everything converge in a family crisis where all of them are forced to look at each other’s vision of what is the perfect life. Like the year 2020, the film marks the turning point. As events change, viewpoints have to be adjusted. Only with new vision can the future be possible.

SALES: Kwang Han Wong

drama | social | family

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Filmmaker, theatre director, writer, and actor. Co-founder of multi-disciplinary group Aporia Society and 2020 Productions. **Wong Kwang Han**'s feature *Flights Through Darkness* 'has been shown at the Jogja NETPAC Asian Film Festival and the ASEAN International Film Festival. He has been nominated for and won awards for directing, acting and writing. A believer in good old fashioned storytelling, he is a self-taught and independent filmmaker.



TZADIK

Original Title:	PRAVEDNIK
Director:	SERGEY URSULYAK
Producer(s):	ANTON ZLATOPOLSKIY, LEONID VERESHCHAGIN, MARIYA USHAKOVA, TIMUR WEINSTEIN, YULIYA SUMACHYOVA
Screenplay:	GENNADIY OSTROVSKIY
DoP:	MIKHAIL MILASHIN
Editor:	MARGARITA SMIRNOVA
Cast:	ALEKSANDR YATSENKO, SERGEI MAKOVETSKY, FYODOR DOBRONRAVOV, EVGENIY TKACHUK, YULIYA VITRUK, LYUBOV KONSTANTINOVA, MARK EYDELSTEIN, MARIYA ZOLOTUKHINA, KONSTANTIN KHABENSKIY, CHULPANKHAMATOVA, DIETMAR KÖNIG, DARYA KONYZHEVA

SALES: Central Partnership International Distributor

drama | war

ASIA PREMIERE ★



Filmmaker, **Sergei Ursuliak** is known for his work on films such as *Letnielyudi* (1995), *Russkiyregtaym* (1993) and TV shows like *Life and Fate* (2012), *Liquidation* (2007).



UNDER THE NAKED SKY

Original Title: ONDER DE BLOTE HEMEL

Director: LILIAN SIJBESMA

Screenplay: LILIAN SIJBESMA

DoP: ARJAN DE WIT

Editor: TESSEL FLORA DE VRIES

Cast: RIFKA LODEIZEN, JOHAN LEYSEN,
CHRISTIAN PAULUSSEN

The story follows Elvie, an inquisitive and headstrong young girl who lives in a wooded area in a camper van with her intellectually disabled mother – a loving but naive woman who has difficulty understanding others. The film takes place during one long summer in which Elvie's life is about to change forever. As she matures, she starts to see and understand the world in a way her mother is incapable of. A deeply emotional story of trust, love, frustration, and loneliness.

FESTIVAL: Ghent Film Festival, 2023

SALES: Gusto Entertainment Distributor Netherlands

drama | coming of age | psychological

ASIA PREMIERE ★



Lilian Sijbesma graduated in directing and screenwriting at the Utrecht School of the Arts. Since then she worked as a writer and director on several film projects and series. She wrote the children's series '*Kabam!*' (director Elisabeth Hesemans) that recently won an International Emmy Award and Cinekid Lion. Lilian also wrote and directed episodes of the children's series '*Doopie*' and wrote the screenplay for '*Okthanksbye*', a feature film directed by Nicole van Kilsdonk. '*Under the Naked Sky*' is Lilian's debut feature film as a writer and director.



WAKE ME

Original Title: **ZBUDI ME**

Director: **MARKO ŠANTIĆ**

Producer(s): **DANIJEL HOČEVAR ZALA OPARA, JURE BUŠIĆ, DIMČE STOJANOVSKI STEFAN ORLANDI, A VERTIGO LJUBLJANA**

Screenplay: **MARKO SANTIĆ, GORAN VOJNOVIĆ, SARA HRIBAR**

DoP: **IVAN ZADRO**

Editor: **VLADIMIR GOJUN**

Cast: **JURE HENIGMAN, ŽIVA SELAN, TIMON STURBEJ, NATASA BARBARA GRACNER, JURIJ DREVENŠEK, TAMARA AVGUŠTIN, ANDREJ MURENC, BLAZ SETNIKAR, BENJAMIN KRNETIC, NEBOJŠA POP-TASIĆ**

FESTIVAL: Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival(PÖFF), 2023 (Critics Pick Competition)

SALES: Zala Opara

drama | family

ASIA PREMIERE ★

After an accident, Rok loses his memory and returns to his hometown. He faces a cold reception from his family and friends. As he uncovers his troubled past, he decides to take responsibility and prevent history from repeating itself, particularly for his younger brother.



Marko Šantić's short feature student films *Good Luck Nedim* and *The Hole* received many international awards. His first feature-length TV movie, *Seduce Me* premiered at the 29th Warsaw FF. It was also Slovenia's submission for the 87th Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film in 2014. With Sara Hribar, Šantić co-directed *Lada Kamenski*, which premiered at Montreal YR. *Wake Me* is Šantić's first solo cinema feature and it premiered at Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival.



WHEATFIELD

Original Title:	TRIGAL
Director:	ANABEL CASO
Producer(s):	PAULA ASTORGA RIESTRA, ALFREDO GARZ, LORENA ORRACAWOLLENSTEIN
Screenplay:	ANABEL CASO
DoP:	JULIO LLORENTE
Editor:	MIGUEL SCHVERDFINGER
Cast:	EMILIA BERJÓN, ABRIL MICHEL, ALBERTO GUERRA, ÚRSULA PRUNEDA, NICOLASA ORTÍZ, MONASTERIO

FESTIVAL: Moscow International Film Festival, 2023
Festival de Málaga, 2023

SALES: Soul Pictures SL Sales

coming of age | mystery

ASIA PREMIERE ★



Anabel Caso is an Argentinian scriptwriter and filmmaker who live in Ciudad de México since 2003. She filmed her first feature film *Trigal* through IMCINE support. She won several programme internships along her career (Sundance Institute, Ibermedia, Fundación Carolina) and she was one of the Talents Guadalajara 2015. As Content Creator, she was Head of Content for Landía (México) and Head Writer of *Aparición Forzada*, a fiction developed for HBO. She also participated in multiple cinema, TV and streaming platforms content projects for Mexican and International production studios.



WHEN FUCKING SPRING IS IN THE AIR

Director:	DANYAEL SUGAWARA
Screenplay:	DANYAEL SUGAWARA · HELEEN SUËR
DoP:	ADAM PALENTA
Editor:	MACIEJ PAWLINSKI
Cast:	ADA SZCZEPANIAK, NADINE IGNAS, CEZARY LUKASZEWICZ, JULI KIJOWSKA, STANISLAW LINOWSKI, GUIDO POLLEMANS

When Fucking Spring is in the Air is a punky feel-good roadmovie about the 17 year old, rude, Polish teen, Kasia and her worthless family. When her grandmother dies and Kasia appears to be totally broke, it's time to find the true story and the money of her emigrated parents. She goes on the inevitable 'coming-of-age' journey and discovers that her family is not like she expected.

SALES: *Wide Management*

coming of age | road film

WORLD PREMIERE ★



Danyael Sugawara studied at the New York University before coming to the Film Academy in Amsterdam where he was accepted for the department direction in Fiction. Danyael has worked on may different NFTA productions together with well-known actors as Nelly Frijda, Liesbeth Kamerling and Sijtze van der Meer. At the moment, Danyael is working as 'young talent' in the ad agency Artcore and has won the VCP-Kodak Student Award together with *Sinister - the Package*.



WHISPERING MOUNTAINS

Original Title:	RAHAS KIYANA KANDU
Director:	JAGATH MANUWARNA
Producer(s):	SUNIL T. FERNANDO, NIRMANA BANDARA, CHANNA DESHAPRIYA, RASITHA JINASENA
Screenplay:	JAGATH MANUWARNA, NAMAL JAYASINGHE
DoP:	VISHWAJITH KARUNARATHNE
Editor:	SANKHA MALWATHTHA
Cast:	SARATH KOTHALAWALA, DHARMAPRIYA DIAS, PRIYANTHA SIRIKUMARA, SAMPATH CHAMINDA JAYaweera, ANANDA KUMARA UNNAHE, ALOKA GAYATHRIE EKANAYAKE, LAKMAL DHARMARATHNE

FESTIVAL: International Film Festival Rotterdam, 2023

AWARDS: NETPAC Award (Best Asian Feature Film), IFFR 2023

SALES: Jagath Manuwarna

social | political | human rights

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Jagath Manuwarna carries over two decades of experience as an Actor, Scriptwriter and Independent Film Director in the fields of Theatre, Film and Television. His journey as a film director started in 2006 with the release of his first short film, *Speck of Fire*, which won the award for the Best Short Film at the Guerilla Short Film Festival (Colombo, Sri Lanka) of the same year. *Whispering Mountains* in his feature length directorial debut.



WILD

Original Title:	VAHSHI
Director:	SHAHRAREH SOROOSH
Producer:	AMIR-HOSSEIN SAGHAFI
Screenplay:	SHAHRAREH SOROOSH
DoP:	GELAREH KIAZAND
Editor:	ASHKAN MEHRI
Cast:	ELHAM KORDA, ROYA NONAHALI, PAYAM AHMADI, BAHRAM EBRAHIMI, MOHAMMAD-HOSSEIN HOSSEINI

A woman goes back to her birthplace after a long time, however, she's just like a stranger in the family, especially her son. She's fighting to prove her motherhood, however, she's always considered as a shrew and rebellious woman!

SALES: Iranian Independents Sales Agent

drama | family

WORLD PREMIERE ★



Shahrareh Soroosh graduated in Set & Costume Design from Azar University's Faculty of Art & Architecture. She's been the set & costume designer of 5 feature films and has won several awards in her career. *Wild* is her debut feature film.

DOCU-MONTAGE

A mosaic of compelling documentaries & docu-drama delineating the complex structures of life as it is through the politics of economics, history, society and aesthetics.



AI: AFRICAN INTELLIGENCE

Director:	MANTHIA DIAWARA
Producer:	JÜRGEN BOCK
Screenplay:	MANTHIA DIAWARA
DoP:	JAMES NEWITT
Editor:	MOHAMED AL MUBARAK
Cast:	MÈRE-BI (MARYMATA SECK), DIYÉ DIA, RAOUL FRESE, MAKHOULEBOUGUI, JEAN-PAUL COLLEYN, HADJA DRAMÉ, MARIEME SECK, OULIMATA NDOYE, AWA DIOP, MAMADOU DIOUF

Manthia Diawara's latest essay film, *AI: African Intelligence*, explores the contact zones between African rituals of possession among traditional fishing villages of the Atlantic coast of Senegal and the emergence of new technology frontiers known as Artificial Intelligence. Considering the confluence of tradition and modernity, Diawara questions how we could move from disembodied machines towards a more humane and spiritual control of algorithms. Could Africa be the context of emergence of such improbable algorithms?

FESTIVALS: *Berlinale, 2023*

SALES: *Lumiar Cité/Maumaus Sales*

ritual | AI | social issues

INDIA PREMIERE ★



A native of Mali, Professor **Manthia Diawara** received his education in France. He is the author of *We Won't Budge: An African Exile in the World* (Basic Civitas Books, 2003), *Black-American Cinema: Aesthetics and Spectatorship* (ed. Routledge, 1993), *African Cinema: Politics and Culture* (Indiana University Press, 1992), and *In Search of Africa* (Harvard University Press, 1998). Professor Diawara also collaborated with Ngūgīwa Thiong'o in making the documentary *Sembene Ousmane: The Making of the African Cinema*, and directed the German-produced documentary *Rouch in Reverse*.



AND THE KING SAID, WHAT A FANTASTIC MACHINE

Director(s):	AXEL DANIELSON, MAXIMILIEN VAN AERTRYCK
Producer(s):	AXEL DANIELSON, MAXIMILIEN VAN AERTRYCK
Screenplay:	AXEL DANIELSON, MAXIMILIEN VAN AERTRYCK
DoP:	AXEL DANIELSON, MAXIMILIEN VAN AERTRYCK
Editor:	MIKEL CEE KARLSON, AXEL DANIELSON, MAXIMILIEN VAN AERTRYCK

From the first camera to 45 billion cameras worldwide today, the visual sociologist filmmakers widened their lens to expose both humanity's unique obsession with the camera's image and the social consequences that lay ahead.

FESTIVAL: *Berlinale, 2023*
Sundance, 2023
São Paulo International Film Festival, 2023

SALES: Heretic

history | art

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Axel Danielson studied film at the Valand Academy in Gothenburg. In 2013, he joined Plattform Produktion, collaborating closely with Maximilien Van Aertryck. Their debut feature, "And the King Said, What a Fantastic Machine," followed their short film "Hopptornet," screened at Berlinale Shorts in 2016.



Maximilien Van Aertryck, born in Paris and has collaborated with Axel Danielson as part of the Swedish production company. Their film "Hopptornet" was shortlisted for an Oscar in 2017 and was nominated for an Emmy Award. Danielson and Van Aertryck work closely with the audience design strategist Kathleen McInnis.



CASABLANCA

Director:	ADRIANO VALERIO
Producer(s):	LIONEL MASSOL, GIULIA ACHILLI, MARCO ALESSI, PAULINE SEIGLAND, ADAM SELO, OLGA TORRICO, AVANTIKA SINGH, JEAN-LOUIS LIVI
Screenplay:	ADRIANO VALERIO
DoP:	DIEGO ROMERO SUAREZ-LLANOS, JONATHAN RICQUEBOURG
Editor:	ANDREA MAGUOLO, ALICE ROFFINENGO
Cast:	FOUAD MIFTAH, DANIELA BRANDI

Fouad, an Imam's son from Casablanca, and Daniela, a former addict from Italy, meet unexpectedly in Umbria. Their love heals them, but Fouad's visa wait and feeling of not belonging lead to a tough choice: return to Casablanca or lose Italy forever?

FESTIVALS: *La Biennale Di Venezia, 2023*

SALES: *Salud Morisset*

romance | social

ASIA PREMIERE ★



Adriano Valerio currently imparts his knowledge in film direction and analysis at EICAR and collaborates with several other institutions. His short film "37°4S" earned multiple prestigious awards, including the David di Donatello and Nastro d'Argento Special Prize. His debut feature, "Banat - the Journey," premiered at Venice Critics' Week and received a David di Donatello nomination. Additionally, his short "Agosto" received a Special Mention at the Venice Film Festival.



LUTO

Director:	ANDRES AROCHI TINAJERO
Producer(s):	SANTIAGO TRON & ANDRES AROCHI TINAJERO
Screenplay:	ANDRES AROCHI TINAJERO & GONZALO ROMERO
DoP:	ANDRÉS AROCHI TINAJERO & GALO OLIVARES
Editor:	DIDAC PALOU, SERGIO BELTRÁN-GARCÍA & ANDRES AROCHI TINAJERO
Cast:	RODRIGO AZUELA, DANIELLA VALDEZ

In a desperate attempt to overcome the grief caused by his girlfriend's passing, Damian sets off on a journey across Mexico. Haunted by memories and regrets, he finds solace through conversations with strangers, witnessing the rituals they participate in to cope with death.

SALES: *Ida Agency*

docu-fiction | experimental | anthropology

WORLD PREMIERE ★



Born in Mexico City, **Andres Arochi Tinajero** debut feature film, *Luto* represents the artistic culmination of this remarkable journey, characterised by his signature pace and perspectives, resulting in a powerful audiovisual language. Arochi's career has encompassed a wide range of projects and collaborations, including music videos for renowned artists such as Harry Styles, Lykke Li, FKJ, Major Lazer, DJ Shadow, RYX, Alessandro Cortini and J Balvin among others.



REVENGE: OUR DAD THE NAZI KILLER

Director: **DANNY BEN-MOSHE**

Producer(s): **DANNY BEN-MOSHE, LIZZETTE ATKINS**

Screenplay: **DANNY BEN-MOSHE**

DoP: **CALUM STEWART**

Editor: **HUGH WILLIAMS**

Cast: **JON GREEN, JACK GREEN, SAM GREEN, JOHN GARVEY**

Revenge: Our Dad the Nazi Killer is a documentary following three Jewish brothers who uncover their father's secret mission in 1950s Sydney: seeking revenge on a Nazi. Their investigation unveils Nazi networks, Jewish vigilantes, and mysterious Nazi deaths in post-WWII Australia, set against a backdrop of Cold War intrigue and government-level anti-Semitism.

SALES: *Cargo Films*



Danny Ben-Moshe, a British-born filmmaker is also academician, and author. His documentaries, including 'Shalom Bollywood,' have aired on BBC, ABC, and Yes (Israel) and been sold to networks like PBS and NHK. His films have received significant screenings at venues such as the Tate Modern and the Israeli Knesset. His BBC Storyville documentary, 'My Mother's Lost Children,' became the Audible podcast 'My Lost Family' and a drama optioned by Wall to Wall/Warner Brothers. His latest work, 'Revenge,' will be fictionalised in a novel for HarperCollins.

history | investigation

ASIA PREMIERE ★



ROOM 999

Original Title:	CHAMBRE 999
Director:	LUBNA PLAYOUST
Producer(s):	NATHANAËL KARMITZ, ELISHA KARMITZ, ROSALIE VARDA
DoP:	MARINE ATLAN
Editor:	NICOLÀS LONGINOTT
Cast:	WIM WENDERS, AUDREY DIWAN, DAVID CRONENBERG, JOACHIM TRIER, SHANNON MURPHY, JAMES GRAY, ARNAUD DESPLECHIN, LYNNE RAMSEY, ASGHAR FARHADI, NADAV LAPID, CLAIRE DENIS, DAVY CHOU, BUZ LUHRMANN, ALICE WINOCOUR, AYO AKINGBADE, OLIVIER ASSAYAS, PAOLO SORRENTINO, AGNÈS JAQUI, KIRILL SEREBRENNIKOV, CHRISTIAN MUNGIU

FESTIVAL: Cannes, 2023

SALES: MK2 Films

film history | art

INDIA PREMIERE ★

In 1982, Wim Wenders asked 16 of his fellow directors to speak on the future of cinema, resulting in the film *Room 666*. Now, 40 years later, in Cannes, director Lubna Playoust asks a new generation of filmmakers the same question: is cinema a language about to get lost, an art about to die?



Born in Italy, raised in Paris, **Lubna Playoust** is a French director and actress. In the initial days of her career she garnered a wide range of professional experience in the fields of art, fashion and marketing. Between 2016 and 2019 she trained in the art of filmmaking with Abbas Kiarostami in Cuba, and Lucrecia Martel in Barcelona. Both these experiences have contributed immensely to the creation of her short films, including her notable debut film – *Waltz For Three*. She has had a series of videos commissioned by Radio France, and actively involved in the process of curating and anchoring an AVOD streaming platform recently launched by mini major Mk2.



SAMUEL AND THE LIGHT

Original Title:	SAMUEL E A LUZ
Director:	VINÍCIUS GIRNYS
Producer(s):	FERNANDO PEREIRA, PHILIPPE AUSSEL
Screenplay:	VINÍCIUS GIRNYS
Cinematography:	VINÍCIUS GIRNYS
DoP:	PEDRO CORTESE, CHICO BAHIA, OLÍVIA PEDROSO, VINÍCIUS GIRNYS, EMILIA MELLO
Editor:	TOM LATERZA, VINÍCIUS GIRNYS, GABRIELA BARAÚNA
Cast:	SUELI RAMOS, ELISEU DOS REMÉDIOS, SAMUEL RAMOS DOS REMÉDIOS, MARISSOL RAMOS ALMEIDA, CHARLES RAMOS NASCIMENTO, JULIA RAMOS, DANIELA RAMOS

FESTIVALS: *São Paulo International Film Festival 2023*
Visions Du Réel, 2023

SALES: *Unícius Girnys*

coming of age | social

INDIA PREMIERE ★

Samuel lives in Ponta Negra, a small town on the coast of Paraty, Brazil. At first, the idyllic daily life following the rhythm of nature and the development of the boy's identity set the tone of the film. We follow the boy and his family for six years. Little by little, a more complex reality and its contradictions emerge, between modernity and tradition, nature and technology, drawing a portrait of contemporary Brazil. The arrival of electricity and tourism to the town crystallizes the deconstruction of an idealized paradise.

Vinícius Girnys graduated in History from the Universidade de São Paulo and completed his Master's degree in Cinematography at ENSAV. His first fiction short film, *Le T-Shirt*, received the Special Jury Prize at the Imouzzar Kandar Festival (Morocco). *Benêze* is his graduation short film and was selected at the San Sebastián International Film Festival. *Samuel and the Light* is his first feature film.





THE LAST DAYS OF HUMANITY

Original Title:	GLI ULTIMI GIORNI DELL'UMANITÀ
Director:	ENRICO GHEZZI, ALESSANDRO GAGLIARDO
Producer:	GABRIELE MONACO
Screenplay:	ENRICO GHEZZI, ALESSANDRO GAGLIARDO
DoP:	RENATO BERTA
Editor:	ENRICO GHEZZI, ALESSANDRO GAGLIARDO
Cast:	AURA GHEZZI, MASSIMO DE FRANCOVICH

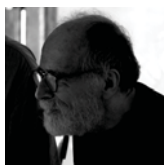
FESTIVAL: La Biennale Di Venezia, 2022
 Karlovy Vary Film Festival, 2023

SALES: Matango TV

avant garde | art | film history

ASIA PREMIERE ★

In a time span of almost forty years, from the end of 1970 to the beginning of 2000 a considerable number of events unfold. For the man with the camera, however, it is different. That man in this film is Enrico Ghezzi, one of the most brilliant and influential authors of Italian television. This film is an autobiographical mosaic, which consists of encounters with the directors who matter to him, the films he loves, and private home-videos of being a father. How to find life in cinema and to discover cinema in life? Humanity may be living its last days, but it needs such a film in order not to forget how to recognize beauty.



Enrico Ghezzi, a film critic and television author who has played a vital role in promoting rare films and reinterpreting classic cinema moments. He's created TV programs and collaborated with newspapers, directed festivals, and published monographs. Ghezzi's work includes short films and music videos for notable Italian artists.



Alessandro Gagliardo is part of Malastrada Film, a collective working at the intersection of film and art, exploring power dynamics through various cinematic techniques and materials. They have a strong focus on archives and have created films like "Mémepèremémemère" (2007) and "Anthropologia" (2015).



THE TRIAL

Original Title:	EL JUICO
Director:	ULISES DE LA ORDEN
Producer:	ULISES DE LA ORDEN – POLO SUR CINE
Screenplay:	ULISES DE LA ORDEN
DoP:	PABLO PARRA
Editor:	ALBERTO PONCE

1985, Buenos Aires – Accused of heinous crimes against humanity, the Military Juntas of Argentina's last dictatorship (1976/83) stands on trial. As in Nuremberg after World War II, the trial is entirely recorded in U-matic tapes. The testimonies of the horror were heard for 90 days and the final verdict: Never Again. The defenders; political and ideological positions pro-dictatorship facing tortured victims voicing stories of pain. Life and death in the same room. An archive of the past and a film that emerges as a starting point.

FESTIVALS: Berlinale, 2023

SALES: Impronta Films Sales

political | trial | history

ASIA PREMIERE ★



Ulises de la Orden started his career in film in 1991, as an occasional actor in short films , and running cables for slightly larger productions, music videos and ads. After starting his production company, Polo Sur Cine, in 1998, he has been focusing on his own projects, seeking to tell stories about the environment, indigenous peoples and pressing social and political issues; stories that touch his heart.



VISTA MARE

Director:	JULIA GUTWENIGER, FLORIAN KOFLER
Producer(s):	BERNHARD HOLZHAMMER, VICTOR KÖSSL
Screenplay:	FLORIAN KOFLER, JULIA GUTWENIGER
DoP:	JULIA GUTWENIGER
Editor:	JULIA GUTWENIGER, FLORIAN KOFLER

FESTIVAL: Locarno 2023

SALES: Filmotor Sales

social | experimental

ASIA PREMIERE ★

Vista Mare is a poetic and surrealist documentary revealing the hidden labour behind 'a holiday in the sun' on Italy's Northern Adriatic Coastal resorts. Shot over an entire working season (Feb to Oct), it takes viewers on a journey through an artificial landscape built to amuse vacationers. The documentary follows a multinational group of seasonal laborers as they work diligently from dawn to dark to ensure their patrons have a jolly good time. As thousands of guests paddle in the waves and enjoy carefully curated fun, the demanding jobs drive the workers to chant "Slaves? Never!" in a carefully monitored protest. In an absurdist loop, Vista Mare watches the workers, who watch other workers play, until the sky turns cloudy, the beaches empty, and the last umbrella closes.



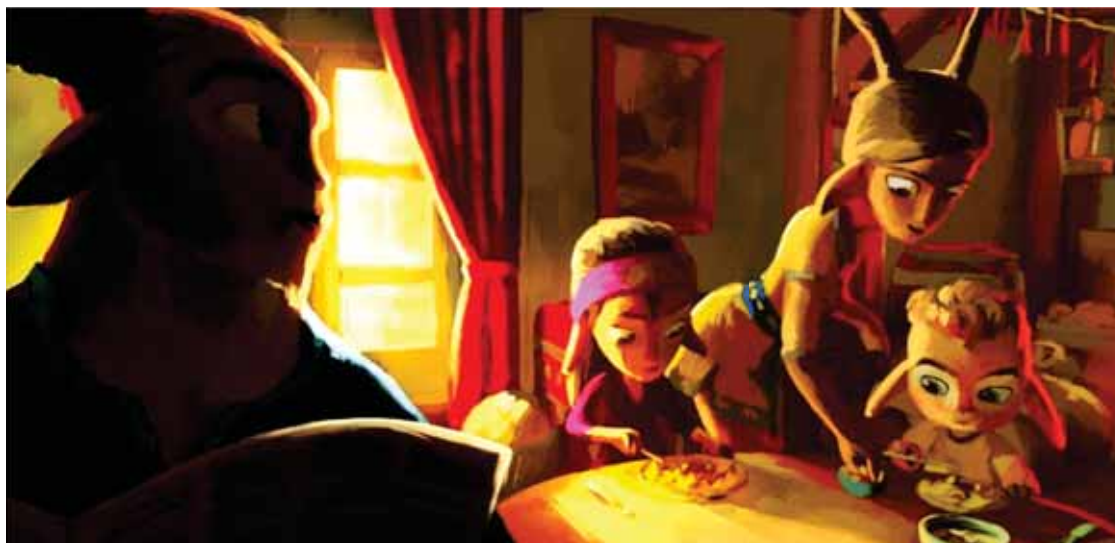
(Left) **Julia Gutweniger**, born 1988 in Merano, Italy. She studied Fine Arts at the University of Art and Design Linz, Austria.



(Below) **Florian Kofler**, born 1986 in Merano. Studied Time Based Media at the University of Art and Design Linz. Since 2011 they have been making films and documentaries together in the artists collective Villa Mondeo as a directing duo. Their first documentary feature "Safety123" won the Golden Dove in the Next Masters Competition at DOK Leipzig Film Festival. They live and work in Linz, Austria.

ANIMATION

A curation of aesthetically ingenious and narratively subversive animated films from around the world; along with indigenous animated films to foster and promote the growth of the Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming, and Comics (AVGC) sector.



3 LITTLE KUNGPOO GOATS

Director: KIANOUSH DALVAND, FARZAD DALVAND

Producer: DARIUSH DALVAND

Screenplay: KIANOUSH DALVAND, BAHRAM HEIDARI, ELIZA IP

Editor: HAMID NAJAFIRAD

Casting & Voice Over Director: MEHRDAD RAISSI

There is a fragile ceasefire between Predators and preys which has been protected by the anonymous Ninja Warrior named "RED SHADOW." One day the wolf who is exhausted by vegetarian recipes decided to find a legal detour to hunt some little goats without breaking the truce and the red shadow reaction. But he doesn't know that these little goats are the students of the Martial school that trains self-defense to little animals by flourishing in the inner Talent.

FESTIVALS: 14th Cairo International Animation Forum- Egypt 2023

SALES: Douzhenko Centre, Film Archive.

adventure | fantasy

ASIA PREMIERE ★



Iranian director **Kianoosh Dalvand** (b:1969; Khorramabad), launched his career in 1997. He is known for *Battle of the Kings: Rostam & Sohrab* (2012), *The Gools* (2022), and *The Last Messenger* (2007).



Cinematographer & Art Director, **Farzad Dalvand** is known for *The Gools* (2022) and *Battle of the Kings: Rostam & Sohrab* (2012).



BIM

Director:	TOM VAN GESTEL
Producer(s):	TOM VAN GESTEL
Screenplay:	MARIANNE OP DE BEECK, AN DE GRUYTER

A family adventure wrapped in elements of magical realism, *Bim* follows the extraordinary story of three innocent Easter Bells, Bim, Bumblebee and Pi, who set off on a perilous journey to collect the magical elixir that is indispensable to end the winter season.

FESTIVALS: *Shanghai International Film Festival, 2023*
Talinn Black Nights Film Festival 2023

SALES: *Pulsar Content*

adventure | family

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Till 2013, **Tom Van Gestel** worked as an animator, director and art director for different animation studios. Since 2014 he has been the manager of his own production house and animation studio *Fabrique Fantastique*, where he remains creatively involved in each of his projects. He worked as an Animator for the feature films *Brendan and the Secret of Kells* and *Jack et la Mécanique du Couer* and directed three series- *Picnic with cake*, *Fox and Hare* and *Sir Mouse*.



FOUR SOULS OF COYOTE

Original Title:	KOJOT NÉGY LELKE
Director:	ÁRON GAUDER
Producer:	RÉKA TEMPLE
Scriptwriter:	GÉZA BEREMÉNYI, ÁRON GAUDER
DoP:	HANNA CARLSON
Editor:	ÁRON GAUDER
Voice:	FRED TATASCIORE, BILL FARMER, LORNE CARDINAL, CLÉ BENNETT

Native American teenagers confront an oil pipeline project, down the hill from their ancestral land. The grandfather evokes the tale of Creation, reminding all of us that we need to find our place in the great circle of creatures.

FESTIVALS: *Annecy, 2023*

AWARDS: *Jury Award, Annecy 2023*

SALES: *Goodfellas*

adventure | drama

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Áron Gauder graduated from Moholy-Nagy University, Budapest and the Universität der Künste, Berlin. He is a director and scriptwriter, has won numerous awards including the Cristal Award of Annecy International Animated Film Festival with his feature length animated film *The District!*. He also directs documentaries and is an Associate Professor at Metropolitan University. Some of his best-known works include *Nyócker!* (2004) and *Coyote and the Rock* (2015).



SIROCCO AND THE KINGDOM OF THE WINDS

Original Title:	SIROCCO ET LE ROYAUME DES COURANTS D'AIR
Director:	BENOÎT CHIEUX
Producer(s):	RON DYENS, GREGORY ZALCMAN
Scriptwriter:	BENOÎT CHIEUX, ALAIN GAGNOL
Cast:	AURÉLIE KONATÉ, MARYNE BERTIEAUX, PIERRE LOGNAY

Juliette and Carmen, two audacious sisters discovering a passage to the universe of their favourite book: "The Kingdom of the Winds" where they will be transformed and trapped.

FESTIVALS: *Annecy, 2023*

AWARDS: *Audience Award (Best Feature), Annecy 2023*

SALES: *Kinology*

adventure | fantasy

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Benoît Chieux is the author of the graphic creation of *My Little Planet* (1995), graphic designer and screenwriter of *L'Enfant au grelot* (Stuttgart Award 1997, Cartoon d'or 1998). In 2004, he became the author of the Mica series (Ricochets Productions). He is known for *Mia and the Migoo* (2008), *Aunt Hilda!* (2013) and *Le Jardin de Minuit* (2016). In 2014 he made his first short film *Tigres à la queue leu leu*, (Jury Prize and Audience Award of the children's film SICAF 2015). His last short film, *Midnight's garden*, was nominated to the Cesar awards 2016.



THE OTHER SHAPE

Original Title:	LA OTRA FORMA
Director:	DIEGO FELIPE GUZMÁN
Producer:	CARLOS SMITH
Scriptwriter:	DIEGO FELIPE GUZMAN
Editor:	DIANA ERASO

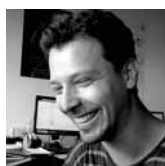
In the near future, humankind has built a paradise on the surface of the moon. In order to enter this place, you literally have to have a square head. A man obsessed with fitting into this geometric world will face the dilemma of becoming a square or unleashing the true shape that resides within him.

FESTIVALS: Annecy, 2022
International Film Festival Rotterdam, 2023

SALES: La Alucinante Fábrica Distributor

sci fi | dystopia

ASIA PREMIERE ★



Colombian animator and filmmaker **Diego Felipe GUZMAN** has worked in the arts department of films like *Banished* (2014) and as lead animator on several episodes of the TV series *Cuentos de Viejos* (2013). His debut directorial feature, *La otra forma* (2022), selected for IFFR 2023, won Best Animated Feature at the Sitges International Film Festival.



THE PEASANTS

Original Title:	CHŁOPI
Director:	DK WELCHMAN, HUGH WELCHMAN
Producer(s):	SEAN BOBBITT, HUGH WELCHMAN
Screenplay:	DK WELCHMAN, HUGH WELCHMAN
DoP:	RADOSŁAW ŁADCZUK, KAMIL POLAK, SZYMON KURIATA
Editor(s):	DOROTA WELCHMAN, PATRYCJA PIRÓG, MICHAŁ WĘCEL
Cast:	KAMILA URZĘDOWSKA, ROBERT GULACZYK, MIROŚLAW BAKA, SONIA MIETIELICA, EWA KASPRZYK, CEZARY ŁUKASZEWICZ, MAŁGORZATA KOŻUCHOWSKA, SONIA BOHOSIEWICZ, DOROTA STALIŃSKA, ANDRZEJ KONOPKA, MATEUSZ RUSIN, AND MACIEJ MUSIAŁ

FESTIVALS: Toronto International Film Festival, 2023
Busan International Film Festival, 2023

SALES: New Europa Films Sales

women | adaptation | romance

INDIA PREMIERE ★

Jagna, a young woman, is determined to forge her own path within the confines of a late 19th century Polish village. A hotbed of gossip and on-going feuds, the rich and poor of the village are held together by pride in their land, adherence to colourful traditions, and deep-rooted patriarchy. When Jagna finds herself caught between the conflicting desires of the village's richest farmer, his eldest son, and other leading men around her, her resistance puts her on a tragic collision course with the community.



DK Welchman graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts, Warsaw with scholarships for Special Achievement in painting and graphics. After graduation she took to film and animation. She directed 5 shorts before her first feature film, the Oscar-nominated *Loving Vincent*.



Hugh Welchman co-wrote and directed *Loving Vincent* with his wife DK Welchman. It grossed \$43 million at the BO internationally and was nominated for BAFTA, Golden Globes, and Academy Awards. Previously Hugh won an Oscar for producing the Best Animated Short, *Peter and the Wolf* (2006).



TOLDI

Director:	MARCELL JANKOVICS
Producer:	FERENC MIKULÁS
Screenplay:	MARCELL JANKOVICS
DoP:	LÁSZLÓ WIMMER
Editor:	MARIANNA JÓNÁS
Cast:	TAMÁS SZÉLES – NARRATOR

Miklós Toldi is forced to go into hiding when the impulsive stripling commits a careless murder. He sets out for Buda to dazzle the king with his courage. And his daring earns both, the ruler's mercy and a knighthood. The film follows him on a journey full of adventure and intrigue between brothers, until young Toldi faces the great test before the king, to win the recognition he has so long craved.

FESTIVALS: *Annecy, 2023*

SALES: *National Film Archive, Hungary*

adaptation | drama

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Marcell Jankovics (1941–2021) worked at Hungary's largest animation studio, Pannonia in Budapest (1960–2007). He directed Hungary's first animated feature, *Johnny Corncob* (1973). A writer, art historian, illustrator, and university professor, he co-founded Duna Television. He received the Balázs Béla Prize 1974, Kossuth Prize 1978, Artist of Merit 1984, and Prima Primissima award 2007.

Sisyphus was nominated for the Academy Award 1975. *Fight* was the Best Short Film at Cannes 1977. *Son of the White Mare* was declared One of the Best Animation Ever Made at Los Angeles Animation Olympiad 1984. He was President, National Cultural Fund (1998–2000; 2010–2011).



Dr. MINESTEIN

Director:	SONALI JAWALE
Producer:	YAGNESH FILMS
Screenwriter:	AMEESHI SHETH
Editor:	VARAPRASAD. V

Dr. Minestein, the most renowned scientist of the animal kingdom who lived a hundred years ago created the famous water making machine to create artificial water during a drought. Till today this machine feeds the rivers of the forest making the jungle full, green and lush, much to the disgust of the Scorpion King who wishes to see this beautiful forest become lifeless and rugged as his own underground ghetto. But unknowingly, Dr. Minestein made one mistake in the formula where the chemical in the water would catch fire on contact with sunlight which could make the entire jungle burn. Dinku, the donkey, a student at Dr. Minestein's Academy discovers the impending danger but since his IQ is way above his teachers and being a donkey, nobody believes him, so to save the forest he must escape from school, travel deep into the forest, find Dr. Minestein's machine and undo the error in the formula.



Sonali Jawale is an animator for films and television content. She and her husband, Sunil Jawale started their own production house Yagnesh Films with the purpose to create content to educate children about the environment. The animated feature film 'Dr. Minestein' was created as part of content for environmental awareness.

WORLD PREMIERE ★



LITTLE SINGHAM BAHUBALI FRIENDS

Director:	Ankur Chauhan
Producer:	Reliance Animation
Screenwriter:	Anurag Bakhshi
Editor:	Ankur Chauhan

When Mirchi Nagar faces elemental demon attacks, the Bahubali Friends rally to protect it. Amid battles, Little Krishna, Little Hanuman, and Little Shakti lose their precious belongings. Little Singham intervenes heroically to save Mooshak Raj from being seized. As celebrations pause, the friends reveal a greater danger: Aparshatru. Centuries ago, Asurs threatened Devlok, until warrior Aparshatru emerged. Empowered by the Pralay Astra created by Bahubali Friends, he defeated the Asurs, but its might corrupted him. The Bahubali Friends took the weapon and hid it, needing their elemental possessions as the keys. Mooshak Raj alone can guide them to the location. In a final showdown, Little Singham confronts Aparshatru, racing to seize the Pralay Astra. Little Singham and the Bahubali Friends unite to outsmart Aparshatru, leveraging his greed to overcome him. Returning the Pralay Astra, they recognize its danger and destroy it.



Ankur is an innovative animation director, visual storyteller and a filmmaker. Having experience with renowned studios like Reliance Animation, India Today Group, Tavrohi Animation, Morph Technologies, Maya Digital, and AIS World, his notable works are 'Little Singham 3D', 'The Bhoot Bandhus', 'OMG!' and 'So Sorry' which won him the prestigious FICCI BAF Award.

WORLD PREMIERE ★



PRABHO SHIVAJI RAJA

Director:	NILESH MULEY
Producer:	GANRAJ ASSOCIATES
Screenwriter:	SAMEER MULEY
Editor:	DIPAK WIRKUD, VILAS RANADE

Prabho Shivaji Raja is an animated historical drama based on the life and times of the legendary Maratha warrior, Shivaji Raja. The film is an ode to the king who through his military genius took on the might of the Mughals and freed his land from their tyrannical rule of more than 350 years. And yet, history remembers him as much for his heroism as it does for his sense of justice and equality for his subjects, irrespective of class or religion.

WORLD PREMIERE ★



Nilesh Muley is a Film Director with years of experience specializing in videography, cinematography, script writing, doctoring and narrative storytelling. He has a proven track record of directing thought-provoking independent films, corporate films, music videos and ad films.



RETURN OF THE JUNGLE

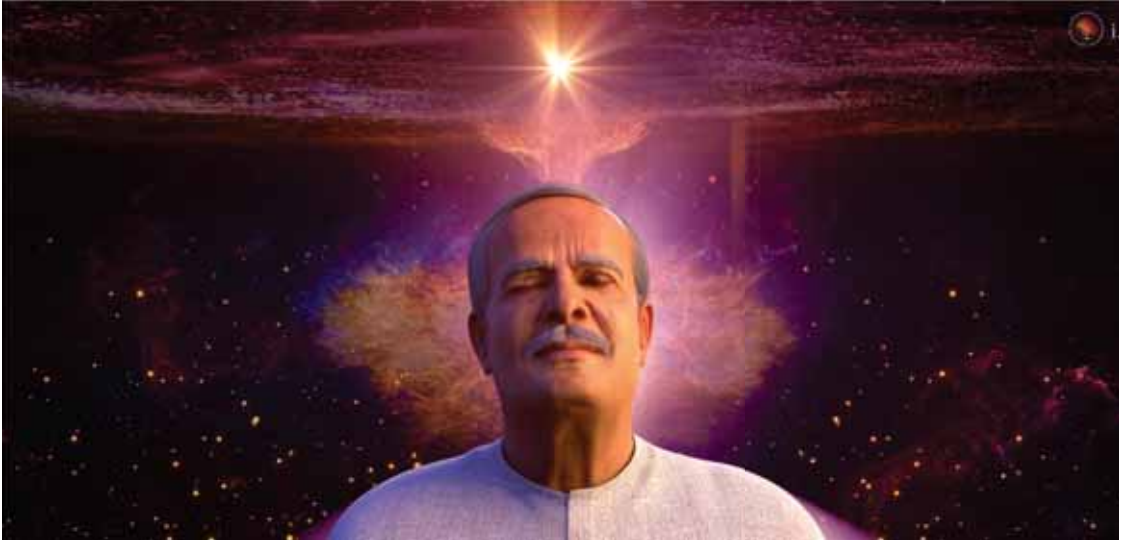
Director:	VAIBHAV KUMARESH
Producers:	VAIBHAV STUDIOS
Screenwriter:	VAIBHAV KUMARESH, PROSENJIT GANGULY
Editor:	SAIKAT RAY

Nine year old Mihir and his friends are faced with the daunting task of outwitting the biggest, meanest bully in school, Rahul Malhotra. To help them ride through this impossible journey, they turn to Thatha and his fantastic tales of inspiration from the ancient Jungles of India. Together, they must build a ruthless dinosaur, fight a nerve-racking game of cricket and travel all the way to Rajasthan, to rediscover the power of friendship, compassion and determination.

WORLD PREMIERE ★



Vaibhav Kumaresh is an International Emmy nominated animation filmmaker. A National Institute of Design alumni, he is the Honorary Secretary of The Animation Society of India (TASI). In 2003, he founded Vaibhav Studios which has been creating animated content for TV commercials, episodic series and channel promos. 'Return of the Jungle' is his debut feature film.



THE LIGHT

Director:	TEAM OF GODLYWOOD STUDIO
Producer:	BK HARILAL BHANUSHALI
Screenwriter:	BK SHUSHIL, BK APARNA, BK AJAY, BK ANJALI, BK YASHWARDHAN
Editor:	SHEKHAR PRAJAPATI

Based on the real life events of founder of Brahmakumaris (A Spiritual Organisation) – Pitashri Brahma, from the book " Ek Adhbhut Jeevan Kahani" is a story of a wealthy and affluent diamond merchant who gave away all his wealth and property to a trust aiming to empower women, as well as spread awareness of human values and bring peace and harmony in the world through spirituality. He had sacrificed a life of luxury and become a Rajyogi. In this new path of spirituality, he faced many challenges and obstacles with bravery and courage and throughout the journey they were all constantly guided and empowered by the almighty supreme soul "The Light". Even after he had left his mortal coil, the journey still continues to spread the spiritual knowledge throughout the world.



Godlywood Studio is an initiative by the Brahma Kumaris. Founded in 2012, it is situated within the Brahma Kumaris headquarters at Abu Road, Rajasthan. It has produced more than 19,000 episodes, 3,500 songs and 4,500 short videos in a decade for satellite channels and OTT Platforms. 'The Light' is their feature film production.

WORLD PREMIERE ★

INTERGRADE

A carefully curated selection of experimental films that have dared to speak in original idiosyncratic voices to push the boundaries of what we may call Cinema.



DIVINITY

Director:	EDDIE ALCAZAR
Producer(s):	EDDIE ALCAZAR, JAVIER LOVATO, RAPHAEL GINDRE, JOHNNY STARKE
Screenplay:	EDDIE ALCAZAR
DoP:	DANNY HIELE
Editor:	STEVE FORNER
Cast:	STEPHEN DORFF, MOISES ARIAS, JASON GENAO, KARRUECHE TRAN, BELLA THORNE, KARRUECHE TRAN

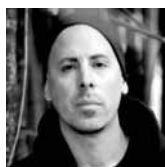
Set in an otherworldly human existence, scientist Sterling Pierce dedicated his life to the quest for immortality, slowly creating the building blocks of a groundbreaking serum named "Divinity." Jaxxon Pierce, his son, now controls and manufactures his father's once-benevolent dream.

FESTIVALS: Sundance, 2023
São Paulo International Film Festival, 2023
SITGES Film Festival, 2023

SALES: Utopia Sales

thriller | sci fi | drama

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Eddie Alcazar is an American director, writer, producer, and game developer. He coined the term "Meta-Scope" to describe a visionary technique that blends live action and stop-motion. He was named one of the 25 New Faces of Film by Filmmaker Magazine and one of the best new directors in America by Shoot Magazine. Alcazar's recent credits include: the feature length sci-fi thriller *PERFECT* (SXSW 2018); producer for *KUSO* (Sundance 2016), and directed, *THE VANDAL* (Cannes 2021)



HE THOUGHT HE DIED

Director:	ISIAH MEDINA
Producer(s):	KELLEY DONG, ISIAH MEDINA, ANDREI PORA
Screenplay:	ISIAH MEDINA
DoP:	KELLEY DONG, ISIAH MEDINA
Editor:	ISIAH MEDINA
Cast:	KELLEY DONG, ALEXANDRE GALMARD, ANDILIB KHAN, ISIAH MEDINA, MYLES TAYLOR

FESTIVALS: *Toronto International Film Festival, 2023*
Sao Paulo International Film Festival, 2023

SALES: *Quantity Cinema*

experimental | avant garde | crime

ASIA PREMIERE ★

Isiah Medina's sly, perspicacious fourth feature, *He Thought He Died* is a fragmentary fiction starring co-producer and co-cinematographer Kelley Dong as a filmmaker conducting research in a museum vault, while an unnamed painter (Medina) plots a heist to steal back his work from the same space. Throughout, the narrative is interwoven with sequences probing the central questions of art, aesthetics, ideological structures, and commerce, here given form in philosophical exchanges, observational passages of artistic creation, exuberant bursts of music, and more.



Isiah Medina makes films with his company Quantity Cinema. He started filmmaking at the age of 11. His most recent features, *Night is Limpid* and *He Thought He Died*, continue his interrogation of Canada's relation to Europe and America, cinema's relation to other artistic mediums such as painting and music, and the question of what it means to be an artist in the 21st century. Isiah Medina has been described by Jeonju IFF lead programmer *Sung Moon* as "Canada's most secretive and astonishing director." His films have played at various leading International Film Festivals.



KNIT'S ISLAND

Director: EKIEM BARBIER, GUILHEM CAUSSE, QUENTIN L'HELGOUALC'H

Producer: BORIS GARAVIN

Screenplay: EKIEM BARBIER, GUILHEM CAUSSE, QUENTIN L'HELGOUALC'H

DoP: EKIEM BARBIER, GUILHEM CAUSSE, QUENTIN L'HELGOUALC'H

Editor: NICOLAS BANCILHON

Somewhere on the internet is a land where communities pretend to live out a survivalist fiction. The “players” reveal their fears and fantasies, in an at times unsettling blurring of the real and the virtual. In the guise of avatars, directors of Knit’s Island entered an online video game and spent 963 hours there. They come into contact with a community of players and meet their stories, fears, and aspirations.

FESTIVALS: São Paulo International Film Festival, 2023
 Visions du Réel, Documenta Madrid International Film Festival, 2023
 Dokufest, Kosovo, 2023

AWARDS: Jury Prize - FIPRESCI Award 2023 Visions du Réel

SALES: Square Eyes Films

virtual world | survival

INDIA PREMIERE ★



(Left) Ekiem Barbier, (Middle) Guilhem Causse, (Right) Quentin L'Helgoualc'h at the School of Fine Arts of Montpellier. In 2017 they tried their hand at a first documentary exploration in the game GTA V Online, and directed the medium-length film Marlowe Drive. In 2018 they began writing a feature-length documentary, also shot entirely in an online game. This time, they each chose to play an avatar in the survival simulation video game DayZ. For several years they immerse themselves in the game within a community of players willing to take part in the project.



OMEN

Original Title:	AUGURE
Director:	BALOJI
Producer:	BENOIT ROLAND
Screenplay:	BALOJI
DoP:	JOAQUIM PHILIPPE
Editor:	BRUNO TRACQ, BERTRAND CONARD
Cast:	MARC ZINGA, LUCIE DEBAY, ELIANE UMUHIRE, YVES-MARINA GNAHOUA, MARCEL OTETE KABEYA

Following Koffi's return to his birthplace after he has been ostracized by his family, *Omen* explore the weight of beliefs on one's destiny through four characters accused of being witches and sorcerers, all of them intertwined and guiding each other into the phantasmagoria of Africa.

FESTIVALS: Cannes, 2023 (*Un Certain Regard*)

AWARD: Prix De La Nouvelle Voix, Cannes 2023

SALES: Memento

fantasy | thriller | social

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Baloji is an award-winning musician, filmmaker, a polymath artist, he's working as art director, costume designer for fashion and other visual art forms. As a musician, Baloji has released two critically acclaimed albums and two EPs/ the latest Avenue Kaniama on Bella Union Records (Father John Mistry, Fleet Foxes).



ONCE WITHIN A TIME

Director:	GODFREY REGGIO, JON KANE
Producer(s):	MARA CAMPIONE, GODFREY REGGIO
DoP:	TRISH GOVONI
Editor:	JON KANE
Cast:	APOLLO GARCIA, MIKE TYSON, TARA KHOZEIN, JOHN FLAX

A bardic fairy tale about the end of the world and the beginning of a new one, tinged with apocalyptic comedy, rapturous cinematography, unforgettable vistas, and the innocence and hopes of a new generation.

SALES: Oscilloscope

fantasy | dystopia | sci fi

INDIA PREMIERE ★



(Left) **Godfrey Reggio** is renowned for inventing a film style that crafts emotionally resonant and poetic images. His "QATSI" trilogy delves into the destructive impact of modernity on the environment. In 1991, he directed "ANIMA MUNDI" for Bulgari, used by the World Wide Fund for Nature's Biological Diversity Program. Reggio recently completed "Naqoyqatsi," concluding the trilogy. He is a frequent lecturer on philosophy, technology, and film.

(Right) **Jon Kane**, a Pennsylvania native, contributed to MTV promos and founded Mass Media in Manhattan. Today, he owns and leads Opticnerve, Inc. in Brooklyn, New York, excelling in direction and editing.

MACABRE DREAMS

A shuddering collection of films that would immerse you in realms of suspense, terror, and the uncanny when night descends upon IFFI.



LUMBERJACK THE MONSTER

Original Title: **KAIBUTSU NO KIKORI**

Director: **TAKASHI MIIKE**

Producer(s): **SHIGEJIMAEDA, MISAKO SAKA**

Screenplay: **HIROYOSHI KOIWAI**

DoP: **NOBUYASU KITA**

Editor: **NAOICHIRO SAGARA**

Cast: **KAZUYA KAMENASHI, NANA O,
RIHO YOSHIOKA**

Akira Ninomiya is a remorseless lawyer who doesn't hesitate to eliminate anyone who stands in his way. One night he is brutally attacked by an unknown assailant wearing a "monster mask." Although he miraculously survives the assault, he becomes fixated on finding the attacker and getting revenge.

FESTIVAL: *SITGES Film Festival, 2023*

SALES: *Warner Bros., Japan*

crime | revenge

ASIA PREMIERE ★



Takashi Miike is a highly prolific and controversial Japanese filmmaker. He has directed over 100 theatrical, video and television productions since his debut in 1991. At the age of 18 he went to study at the film school in Yokohama founded by renowned director Shohei Imamura. Awarded the FIPRESCI Prize at Rotterdam in 2000, and has been nominated for the Palme d'Or twice at Cannes in 2011 and in 2013. In 2010 he won the Future Film Festival Digital Award at the Venice International Film Festival and was also nominated for the Golden Lion in 2007 and 2010



SORCERY

Original Title:	BRUJERÍA
Director:	CHRISTOPHER MURRAY
Producer(s):	JUAN DE DIOS LARRAÍN, PABLO LARRAÍN, ROCÍO JADUE, NICOLÁS CELIS
Screenplay:	CHRISTOPHER MURRAY, PABLO PAREDES
DoP:	MARÍA SECCO
Editor:	PALOMA LÓPEZ
Cast:	DANIEL ANTILO, DANIEL MUÑOZ, SEBASTIAN HÜLK, VALENTINA VÉLIZCAILEO

FESTIVAL: Sundance, 2023

SALES: Match Factory

thriller | revenge | fantasy

INDIA PREMIERE ★

On the remote island of Chiloé in the late 19th century, an Indigenous girl named Rosa lives and works with her father on a farm. When the foreman brutally turns on Rosa's father, she sets out for justice, seeking help from the king of a powerful organization of sorcerers.



Christopher Murray holds a degree in Social Communication from the Catholic University of Chile. Right out of college, he co-directed with Pablo Carrera his first feature film: *Manuel de Ribera*, which premiered in Rotterdam 2010 kick-starting a tour around several film festivals including Viennale, BAFICI, Munich, Toulouse, Calgary and Gothenburg. His cross-media documentary project *Filmic Map of a Country* (www.mafi.tv) has achieved the national fund and Official Selection at IDFA 2012, gaining international attention.



THE CUCKOO'S CURSE

Original Title:	EL CUCO
Director:	MAR TARGARONA
Producer(s):	MAR TARGARONA, JOAQUIN PADRO & WOLFGANG MUELLER
Screenplay:	ALFRED PÉREZ-FARGAS & ROGER DANÈS
DoP:	RAFA LLUCH
Editor:	JOSE LUIS ROMEO
Cast:	BELÉN CUESTA, HILDEGARD SCHROEDTER, JORGE SUQUET & RAINER REINERS

FESTIVAL: Festival de Málaga, 2023

SALES: Film Factory

thriller | drama

INDIA PREMIERE ★

This year, Marc and Ana are going to take a different kind of vacation. They've decided to swap houses with Hans and Olga, an older German couple who they met via a website. At first, things seem to go smoothly. But the house swap gradually turns into a veritable nightmare for Sebas and Ana when they discover that Hans and Olga not only want to swap houses, but also their lives.



Mar Targarona, born in Barcelona is a prominent figure in Spanish film and television. She co-founded the production company Rodar y Rodar in 1990, which initially focused on commercial production and achieved international recognition. Over the years, she has produced and directed numerous successful projects, including "The Orphanage" in 2007, a major hit. Targarona has also directed TV series and mini-series, displaying her versatility. Her career has been marked by collaborations with emerging talent and the production of acclaimed works. Her contributions have left a lasting impact on the Spanish entertainment industry.



WE HAVE NEVER BEEN MODERN

Original Title:	ÚSVIT
Director:	MATĚJ CHLUPÁČEK
Producer(s):	MAJA HAMPLOVÁ, MATĚJ CHLUPÁČEK
Screenplay:	MIRO ŠIFRA
DoP:	MARTIN DOUBA
Cast:	ELIŠKA KŘENKOVÁ, MILOSLAV KÖNIG, MILAN ONDRÍK, RICHARD LANGDON, MARTHA ISSOVÁ, LUBOŠ VESELÝ, LADISLAV HAMPL, MARIÁN MITAŠ

Together with her husband she came to build a utopian world in the middle of pure nature. Helena, the pregnant wife of the factory manager, is about to give birth and her family is facing a rosy future in a modern city. But all her illusions will soon perish. All it takes is the dead body of a newborn hermaphrodite to be found in the middle of their factory. Helena needs to find out what happened here for the safety of her own child, but she runs into her own prejudices... The story is inspired by the true story of intersex people in the 1930s, shortly before the war destroyed everything.

FESTIVAL: *Karlovy Vary International Film Festival 2023*

AWARDS: *Crystal Globe Competition, Karlovy Vary 2023*

SALES: *Level K*



Matěj Chlupáček debuted as a director with "Touchless" (2013). He has since helmed various TV series and earned a 2021 Czech Film & Television Academy Award for "Rats," an original perspective on a young drug dealer and police informant. His second feature film, "We Have Never Been Modern," inspired by intersex history in the 1930s, is slated for a fall 2023 release. Matej also wears the hats of a commercial director and producer. He manages Barletta, a global production company collaborating with industry giants like HBO Max, Canal+, AMC US, Wild Bunch, TV Nova, Czech Television, ZDF, and more.

history | mystery | detective

ASIA PREMIERE ★

RESTORED CLASSICS

Revisiting and canonizing the history of cinema through a showcase of cinematic milestones in collaboration with NFA of Hungary, Warner Bros., Dovzhenka National Film Archive Ukraine and National Film Archive of India.



SHADOWS OF FORGOTTEN ANCESTORS

Original Title:	ZABUTYKH PREDKIV
Director:	SERGEI PARAJANOV
Screenplay:	SERGEI PARAJANOV, IVAN CHENDEJ
DoP:	YURI ILYENKO
Editor:	MARFA PONOMARENKO
Cast:	IVAN MYKOLAICHUK, LARYSA KADOCHNIKOVA, TATIANA BESTAYEVA, SPARTAK BAGASHVILI, MYKOLA HRYNKO, LEONID YENGIBAROV, NINA ALISOVA, OLEKSANDR HAI, NEONILA HNEPOVSKA, OLEKSANDR RAIDANOV, IHOR DZIURA, VALENTYNA HLYNKO, ALEKSEI BORZUNOV, HUTSUL PEOPLE OF VERKHOVYNA

FESTIVALS: La Biennale Di Venezia, 2023
Locarno, 1966
São Paulo International Film Festival, 2011
BFI London Film Festival, 1966

SALES: Dovzhenko Centre, Film Archive.

crime | adaptation | drama

INDIA PREMIERE ★

The two Hutsul clans have been at war for many years. In an atmosphere of bitterness and revenge, the pure, bright love of Ivan and Marichka, who belong to warring families, is born. Ivan is forced to go to work, Marichka at this time dies in the river abyss. Ivan finds his happiness only in his near-death delirium. Tini zabutykh predkiv became a turning point for the development of Ukrainian culture in the second half of the 20th century. Starting with the dissident scandal at the premiere of the movie at the Ukraine cinemas, continuing with the long confrontation of directors-followers of the "poetic" school with Soviet censorship, ending with the transformation of Parajanov's film into a style icon for the young cinema of independent Ukraine.



Before 1963 **Sergei Parajanov** directed four feature and three short documentary films. In 1964 his *Shadows of Forgotten Ancestors* and *Wild Horses of Fire* brought him world fame. In 1965 he began his work over an anti-war film *Kiev Frescos*, which was soon banned. In 1966 Parajanov was invited to Armenia where he started his work on *Sayat-Nova*. With great difficulties, this film was released on a screen in 1969 under the title *The Colour of Pomegranates*. It is considered to be his best work after which he was deprived of the possibility of making movies for 15 long years.



THE EXORCIST (EXTENDED DIRECTOR'S CUT)

Director:	WILLIAM FRIEDKIN
Screenplay:	WILLIAM PETER BLATTY
DoP:	OWEN ROIZMAN
Editor:	JORDAN LEONDOPOULOS
Cast:	ELLEN BURSTYN, MAX VON SYDOW LEE J. COBB, KITTY WINN, JACK MACGOWRAN, JASON MILLER, LINDA BLAIR, FATHER WILLIAM O'MALLEY

FESTIVALS: *La Biennale Di Venezia*, 2023; *Berlinale*, 1985; *São Paulo International Film Festival*, 2016

AWARDS: *Best Writing, Screenplay (Winner)*, Academy Awards 1974
Best Cinematography, Academy Awards 1974
Best Motion Picture - Drama, Golden Globes (USA) 1974; *Best Director, Golden Globes (USA) 1974*; *Best Supporting Actress, Golden Globes (USA) 1974*; *Best Screenplay, Golden Globes (USA) 1974*

SALES: Warner Bros

thriller | horror | adaptation

ASIA PREMIERE ★

When a charming 12-year-old girl takes on the characteristics and voices of others, doctors say there is nothing they can do. As people begin to die, the girl's mother realizes her daughter has been possessed by the devil—and that her daughter's only possible hope lies with exorcism. The director's cut of *The Exorcist* incorporates an additional 10 minutes of footage, updated CGI effects, and a subtly different ending that impacts the overall narrative. These changes were made under the supervision of director the late William Friedkin. They were implemented, in part, to reconcile the differing interpretations of writer and director. William Peter Blatty viewed *The Exorcist* as a tale of faith triumphing over evil. In contrast, Friedkin was a skeptic and saw film as an allegory for the inescapable evils of society's past ugliness. The disparities between the two cuts reflect this divide between the writer and director.



William Friedkin, American film director who was best known for *The French Connection* (1971) won Oscar, 1972 and *The Exorcist* (1973). Friedkin's subsequent credits included the television movies *C.A.T. Squad* (1986) and *C.A.T. Squad: Python Wolf* (1988). After the supernatural *The Guardian* (1990), Friedkin found modest success with the basketball drama *Blue Chips* (1994), which starred Nick Nolte and NBA star Shaquille O'Neal. He later returned to the subject of exorcism with the documentary *The Devil and Father Amorth* (2017), about the chief exorcist in Rome and one of his last cases.



TWILIGHT

Original Title:	SZÜRKÜLET
Director:	GYÖRGY FEHÉR
Screenplay:	GYÖRGY FEHÉR
DoP:	MIKLÓS GURBÁN, PETER BENYA, JÁNOS KENDE
Editor:	MÁRIA CZEILIK
Cast:	PÉTER HAUMANN, JÁNOS DERZSI, JUDIT POGÁNY, KATI LÁZÁR, ISTVÁN LÉNÁRT, GYULA PAUER, MIKLÓS B. SZÉKELY, LÁSZLÓ NÉMETH, ISTVÁN FOGARASI, PÁL HETÉNYI

FESTIVALS: *Berlinale Classics*, 2023

AWARDS: *Bronze Leopard*, *Locarno 1990*

SALES: *National Film Institute, Hungary*

crime | drama | adaptation

INDIA PREMIERE ★

A young girl is sexually assaulted and murdered in a remote mountain forest. A peddler with a criminal record is suspected of the crime, but the investigating detective doesn't believe he did it. He finds a drawing done by the dead girl showing a black "giant" and his car that he thinks is a picture of the perpetrator. Hoping to draw in the criminal, he sets up a mother and her young daughter as "bait" in an abandoned petrol station. This film adaptation of oft-used motifs by Friedrich Dürrenmatt is as austere as the natural world where it is set.



György Fehér was a Hungarian film director and screenwriter. His film *Szenvedély* was screened in the 'Un Certain Regard' at Cannes, 1998. He was artistic director of the Mórícz Zsigmond Theatre in Nyíregyháza. His first feature film, *Szürkület* (*Twilight*) (1990), won various awards at international festivals such as Locarno and Strasbourg. His other credits include television adaptation of Attila József's poems and his life: *The József Attila Poems* (1981), a nineteen-part documentary about József, *Be Foolish – An Evening with Attila József with Hobo* (1981–83), and *Attila József: A List of Free Ideas in Two Sitzings with Tamás Jordán* (1992).



BEES SAAL BAAD

Director:	BIREN NAG
Producer:	HEMANTA MUKHERJEE (HEMANT KUMAR)
Story:	DHRUVA CHATTERJEE
DoP:	MARSHALL BRAGANZA
Editor:	KESHAV NANDA
Cast:	WAHEEDA REHMAN, BISWAJEET CHATERJEE, MANMOHAN KRISHNA, SAJJAN, ASIT SEN, MADAN PURI, DEVKISHEN, LATA SINHA, DEV KISHAN, MIRA MUKHERJEE, RANU, MANOHAR GIR, MAQBOOL, SINGH, PRAKASH, PREM KUMAR, DEOCHAND, SHIVPRASAD, HAZARILAL, PATHAK, RANU MUKHERJEE

AWARDS: Best Female Playback Singer, Best Lyricist, Best Editor, Best Sound Recordist - Filmfare Award 1963

Restoration: NFAI

mystery | adaptation

WORLD PREMIERE ★
OF 4K RESTORATION

Featuring an inimitable lead performance by Waheeda Rehman and a widely loved soundtrack by Hemant Kumar, the supernatural mystery is set in a zamindari household where a young man, Kumar, who returns to his ancestral land, is haunted by the sounds of a woman in distress. When he falls in love with Radha, an inhabitant of the village, worlds of reality and imagination collide as suspicions fall on her being a ghost.



Biren Nag (1922 – 1964) began his career in cinema as an award-winning art director on a number of important film productions of the 1950s and 1960s including '42 (1951), CID (1956), Pyaasa (1957), Nau Do Gyarah (1957), Chaudhvin ka Chand (1960), Hum Dono (1961), Sahib Bibi Aur Ghulam and Tere Ghar Ke Samne (1963). His filmography as a director includes two films, *Bees Saal Baad* (1962) and *Kohraa* (1964), which were both produced by the music composer Hemant Kumar.



BIDYAPATI

Director:	DEBAKI BOSE
Story:	KAZI NAZRUL ISLAM
DoP:	YUSUF MULJI
Editor:	SUBODH MITRA
Cast:	PAHARI SANYAL, DURGADAS BANNERJEE, CHHAYA DEVI, KANAN DEVI, K. C. DEY, LEELA DESAI, PRITHVIRAJ KAPOOR, AMAR MULICK, K. N. SINGH, DEVBALA, NEMO, AHI SANYAL, KIDAR SHARMA, SAILEN PAL, RAMPIARY, MOHAMMAD ISAQ

RESTORATION: NFAI

Mystery | Adaptation

WORLD PREMIERE ★
OF 4K RESTORATION



Debaki Bose (1898 -1971) made his entry in cinema as an actor, writer and director in the silent film era before establishing himself as one of the most important filmmakers of Indian cinema. His filmmaking career spanned four decades and films in multiple languages including Bengali, Hindi, Marathi and Tamil. He joined the New Theatres studio at the beginning of the talkie era where he wrote and directed films that were highly successful and influential. His Filmography includes *Chandidas* (1932), *Puran Bhakt* (1933), *Seeta* (1934), *Nartaki* (1940), *Sagar Sangamey* (1959) and *Arghya* (1961) among others.



CHORUS

Director:	MRINAL SEN
Producer:	MRINAL SEN
Story:	MRINAL SEN, MOHIT CHATTOPADHYAY
DoP:	K.K. MAHAJAN
Editor:	GANGADHAR NASKAR
Cast:	UTPAL DUTT, SUBHENDU CHATTERJEE, ASIT BANNERJEE, SHEKHAR CHATTERJEE, RABI GHOSH, HARADHAN BANNERJEE, SATYA BANNERJEE, SNIGHDA MAJUMDAR, RASARAJ CHAKRABORTY, GEETA SEN, DILIP ROY, MOON MOON SEN, NIRMAL GHOSH

FESTIVALS: 9th Moscow International Film Festival
 Berlinale Retrospective, 1990
AWARDS: Silver Prize, 9th Moscow International Film Festival, Best Feature Film, Best Cinematography, Best Music Direction - National Film Award 1974
 FIPRESCI Award, Berlinale 1990

RESTORATION: NFAI

satire | social

WORLD PREMIERE ★
OF 4K RESTORATION

A *Sutradhar* appears at the beginning of the film to set the tone for a fairy tale that takes a terrifying turn as the film proceeds. Chaos ensues as a company announces a hundred job openings for which tens of thousands of candidates gather to apply. Using a range of storytelling and filmmaking elements including handheld shots, newsreel footage, direct audience address and the framework of the fable and satire with scathing political honesty, the film emerges as one of Mrinal Sen's most inventive works. .



Mrinal Sen (1923 – 2018) inaugurated his pioneering legacy as a writer and filmmaker with the Indian People's Theatre Association before directing his first film, *Raat Bhare*, in 1955. Spanning over six decades, Sen's films, made in Bengali, Hindi, Odia and Telugu, explored a variety of genres while remaining continually engaged with the social and political happenings of the Indian subcontinent. His prolific filmography includes *Neel Akasher Neechey* (1959), *Baishey Shraavan* (1960), *Matira Manisha* (1966), *Mrigaya* (1976), *Oka Oorie Katha* (1978), *Akaler Sandhaney* (1980), *Genesis* (1986), *Antareen* (1993) and *Amaar Bhuvan* (2002) among others.



GUIDE

Director:	VIJAY ANAND
Producer:	VIJAY ANAND
Story:	RK NARAYAN, VIJAY ANAND
DoP:	FALI MISTRY
Editor:	BABU SHAIKH, VIJAY ANAND
Cast:	DEV ANAND, WAHEEDA REHMAN, LEELA CHITNIS, KISHORE SAHU, ANWAR HUSSAIN, ULHAS, GAJANAN JAGIRDAR, RASHID KHAN

Widely considered to be one of the most enduring classics of Indian cinema, the film stars Waheeda Rehman as Rosie, a woman whose marriage to an archaeologist has stifled her dreams of becoming a dancer. Following a liberating encounter with a charismatic and smooth-talking guide Raju, a transformation of great magnitude occurs in both these characters. With music by S. D. Burman, a longtime collaborator of Navketan, and lyrics by Shailendra, the film reaches the heights of an epic odyssey as Raju becomes both witness and catalyst to a series of epochal events.

AWARDS: Best Film, Best Actor, Best Actress, Best Dialogue - Filmfare Award 1967

RESTORATION: NFAI

drama | adaptation

Festival PREMIERE ★
OF 4K RESTORATION



Vijay Anand (1935 – 2004) was an actor, writer, editor, producer and director whose long and prolific association with Navketan Films led to a critically acclaimed and widely loved filmography. Before making his debut as a director at the age of twenty two with *Nau Do Gyarah* (1957), he wrote the film *Taxi Driver* (1954) directed by his brother Chetan Anand. With films such as *Kala Bazar* (1960), *Tere Ghar Ke Saamne* (1963), *Jewel Thief* (1967) and *Johny Mera Naam* (1970) among several others, he demonstrated his pioneering and accomplished command over screenwriting, editing and song picturisations.



HAQEEQAT

Director:	CHETAN ANAND
Producer:	CHETAN ANAND
Story:	CHETAN ANAND
DoP:	SADANAND SENGUPTA
Editor:	M. D. JADHAV RAO
Cast:	BALRAJ SAHNI, DHARMENDRA, VIJAY ANAND, PRIYA RAJVANSH, JAYANT, INDRANI MUKHERJEE, LEVY AARON, SULOCHANA, CHAND USMANI, ACHALA SACHDEV, NASREEN, SHAUKAT AZMI, GULAB, SUDHIR JAGDEV, WASI KHAN, SANJAY KHAN, RANVIR RAJ, MAC MOHAN, GEORGE MEHTA, HAKIM, J. B. THAPA, RATAN GAURANG

AWARDS: Best Art Direction, Filmfare Award 1966
Second Best Feature Film, National Film Award 1965

RESTORATION: NFAI

drama | war

WORLD PREMIERE ★
OF 4K RESTORATION

Set against the backdrop of the Sino-Indian war of 1962, this sprawling war drama plays out in the austere landscape of Ladakh where a platoon of Indian soldiers led by a towering commander, Major Ranjit Singh (Balraj Sahni), are presumed dead. They are, then, rescued by Captain Bahadur Singh (Dharmendra) and his lover (Priya Rajvansh), a Ladakhi local. Exploring themes of patriotism and soldier's duty in wartime through a stellar cast of actors and a rousing soundtrack composed by Madan Mohan with lyrics by Kaifi Azmi, the film also shines a light on the harsh and inescapable realities of war.



Chetan Anand (1915–97) began his artistic career as an actor at the Indian People's Theatre Association before writing and directing his first film *Neecha Nagar* (1946), which received multiple honours at the Cannes Film Festival of 1946. As an actor, he appeared in several films including *Humsafar* (1957), *Kala Bazar* (1960) and *Hindustan Ki Kasam* (1973). With the release of *Afsar* in 1950, he launched the legendary film studio Navketan with his brother Dev Anand. With a Filmography that also includes *Aandhiyan* (1952), *Taxi Driver* (1954), *Funtoosh* (1956) and *Akhri Khat* (1966), his style of filmmaking was deeply influential on several filmmakers of the period and after.



PATHALA BHAIRAVI

Director:	K. V. REDDY
Producer:	B. NAGIREDDI, CHAKRAPANI
Story:	PINGALA NARENDRA RAO
DoP:	MARCUS BARTLEY
Editor:	C. P. JAMBULINGAM, M. S. MANI
Cast:	NANDAMURI TARAKA RAMA RAO, S. V. RANGARAO, C.S.R. ANJANEYULU, RELANGI VENKATARAMAIAH, BALAKRISHNA, B. PADMANABAM, MALATHI, T. G. KAMALA DEVI, LAKSHMIKANTHAMMA, GIRIJA, SURABI KAMALABAI, HEMALATHA, CHITTI, SAVITRI

RESTORATION: NFAI

drama | family

WORLD PREMIERE ★
OF 4K RESTORATION

In this swashbuckling adventure fantasy, the star, N. T. Rama Rao, plays the role of a poor gardener, Ramudu, who falls in love with a princess (Malati). His efforts are thwarted by a crazed sorcerer, unforgettably played by S. V. Ranga Rao, who intends to offer Ramudu as a sacrifice to the goddess, Pathala Bhairavi. Through various escapades including fighting a cursed crocodile, the hero eventually outwits the sorcerer. With widely loved music composed by Ghantasala Venkateswara Rao, the film, which was simultaneously made in Telugu and Tamil, created new records of commercial success during the period.



K. V. Reddy (1912 – 1972) began his career in cinema as an assistant to the pioneering filmmaker H. M. Reddi. During his long association with the legendary Vauhini Studios in the 1940s, he directed the saint films, *Bhakta Potana* (1943) and *Yogi Vemana* (1947), starring Chittor Nagaiah. Reddy's masterful command over epic-scaled spectacles in films such as *Gundamma Katha* (1949), *Pathala Bhairavi* (1951) and *Mayabazar* (1957) established his continuing influence on generations of filmmakers. His Filmography also includes *Pedda Manushulu* (1954) and *Donga Ramudu* (1955) among others.



SHYAMCHI AAI

Director:	P. K. Atre
Story:	P. K. Atre, Sane Guruji
DoP:	R. M. Rele
Cast:	Vanamala, Madhav Vaze, Shankar Kulkarni, Umesh, Baburao Pendharkar, Sumati Gupte, Saraswati Bodas, Vasant Bapat, Prabodhankar Thakre, Damuanna Joshi, Nagesh Joshi, Bapurao Mane, Pandurang Joshi, Vimal Ghaisas, Vasundhara Paudwal, Balwant Parchure, Sadanand Joshi, Patankar, Baba Phatak, Arvind Rele, Ashok Bhat

AWARDS: Best Indian Feature Film - President's Gold Medal, National Film Awards 1954

RESTORATION: NFAI

drama | biopic

WORLD PREMIERE ★
OF 4K RESTORATION

Inspired by the childhood memoirs of Sane Guruji, this moving melodrama explores the influential relationship between a young boy (Madhav Vaze) and his mother (Vanamala) belonging to an impoverished household located in the Konkan stretch during the years of India's freedom movement against British rule. Through flashbacks narrated by Sane Guruji (Damuanna Joshi), the film explores the profound influence of the mother's lived experiences and idealist philosophies on Shyam's childhood and, eventually, their lasting impact on his life as a young man. The film won the President's Gold Medal for the Best Indian Feature Film at the first edition of the National Film Awards in 1954.



P. K. Atre (1898 – 1969), popularly known as Acharya Atre, was an influential writer, playwright, journalist, scenarist, filmmaker and producer whose influence extended across literary, political and film circles in the country. A prolific writer of short stories, plays, poems and essays that traversed genres from comedy and thrillers to social reform and political satire, his works was adapted into films such as Brahmachari (1938) and Brandichi Batli (1939). As a founder of the film studio Atre Pictures, he produced and directed several films in Hindi and Marathi including Parinde (1945), Hi Majhi Lakshmi (1951) and Mahatma Phule (1954).

UNICEF @ IFFI



A collection of films presented in collaboration with UNICEF, IFFI's Cause Partner that reflect on the dynamic forces which shape childhood and its socio-economic contexts.



DELBAR

Director:	PARNIA KAZEMIPOUR
Producer:	MOHAMMAD ATHARI
Screenplay:	PARNIA KAZEMIPOUR
DoP:	MOHSEN HOSEYNI
Editor:	VAHID KORDLOU
Cast:	HAMED VAKILI, MOJAN KORDI

In an impoverished Iranian village, young Tila marries a much older man, bearing a daughter named Delbar. Their strained marriage takes a tragic turn when five-year-old Delbar goes missing, while Tila's childhood friend Omid arrives to rescue her from the abusive husband. Tragedy strikes as Delbar's lifeless body is discovered by the police.

SALES: Nadia Kordlou

drama | family | crime

WORLD PREMIERE ★



Iranian born **Parnia Kazemipour** has a bachelor's degree in Persian literature and has been the first assistant director in movies for 20 years and has been a writer and director in several short films. *Delbar* movie is the second feature film of this director. She also completed a two-year course and a six-month course in filmmaking in 1990 and has written and directed plays for 10 theaters.



FOR THE SAKE OF AVA

Director:	MOHSEN SERAJI
Producer:	FARANAK FOROUTAN
Screenplay:	FARANAK FOROUTAN & MOHSEN SERAJI
Cast:	HEDIYE ZAMAN, MAHDI ZAMINPARDAZ, FARANAK FOROUTAN

An Iranian theater group faces a passport issue when their lead actress, Ava, lacks proper documentation due to her mixed heritage. Determined to help Ava, the group resorts to a series of unconventional and risky actions, including bribery and human trafficking, to secure her passport and participate in a prestigious festival abroad.

SALES: Farnak Foroutan

drama | social | theatre

ASIA PREMIERE ★



A writer, director, university lecturer and researcher of Iranian traditional theater, **Mohsen Seraji** is known for *For The Sake Of Ava* (2023). This is his debut feature.



PEACOCK LAMENT

Director:	SANJEEWA PUSHPAKUMARA
Producer(s):	SANJEEWA PUSHPAKUMARA, AMIL ABEYSUNDARA, ANDREA MAGNANI, CHIARA BARBO, SURANGA HANDAPANGODA, YUGANTHI YASHODHARA, WATHUHENA SANGEETHA, NILNADEE GODAGAMA
Screenplay:	SANJEEWA PUSHPAKUMARA
DoP:	SISIKIRANA PARANAVITHANA
Editor:	GIUSEPPE LEONETT
Cast:	AKALANKA PRABASHWARA, SABEETHA PERERA, DINARA PUNCHIHEWA

Amila, a young man from Sri Lanka, faces the daunting task of raising \$15,000 for his sister Inoka's life-saving heart surgery. Desperate, he becomes involved in a child trafficking operation. As tensions rise, Amila must make difficult choices to secure his sister's future and escape the criminal world.

FESTIVALS: Tokyo International Film Festival, 2022

AWARDS: Best Artistic Contribution Award, Tokyo IFF 2022

SALES: ANTIPODE Sales

drama | social

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Sanjeeva Pushpakumara (born 1977) is a Sri Lankan filmmaker and writer. Pushpakumara worked as a Television Radio presenter and freelance newspaper in his early career. Pushpakumara's first feature film, *Flying Fish* (Ilgilena Maluwo), received a grant from the Hubert Bals Fund of the International Film Festival Rotterdam (Huub Bals) to support its post-production costs. The film was subsequently honored with a nomination for the festival's Tiger Award for new directors.



DAMU

Director:	RAJA SEN
Producer(s):	RAJA SEN, ASHOK BOSE, S.K. MUJAFFAR, TAPAS GHOS
Screenplay:	MOHIT CHATTERJEE
DoP:	SHANTI BANERJEE
Editor:	SNEHASISH GANGULY
Cast:	RAGHUVIR YADAV, SATYA BANERJEE, MANOJ MITRA, SABYASACHI CHAKRABORTY, TARUN KUMAR, RIMI SEN

Damu, an orphan boy, is sheltered and raised by a kind man. He develops a friendship with the man's grand daughter Runku and once carelessly promises her an elephant ride through the village. When that does not materialize, Runku is disappointed. Ashamed at failing his promise, Damu sets out in search of an elephant. He finally comes across a circus but the manager refuses to see him. Damu's dejection turns to alarm when he stumbles upon a plot to rob the circus. Can little Damu save the circus and fulfill his promise to Runku in this National Award winning film?

SALES: CFSI-NFDC



Raja Sen (born 1955) is an Indian film and television director and the winner of three National Film Awards. Raja Sen first received recognition with *Subarnalata* (1997), a teleserial, he followed it up with *Adarsha Hindu Hotel*, *Arogyo Niketan*, few episodes of *Desh Amaar Desh* are some of the notables of the Bengali television arena. He has also documented the real life paradigm of the living legends of Bengal's World of Art & Culture, namely, Suchitra Mitra, Tapan Sinha, Sombhu Mitra, Subhas Mukhopadhyay.

drama | coming of age | animal rights



GANDHI & CO.

Director:	MANISH SAINI
Producer:	MAHESH DANANNAVAR
Screenplay:	MANISH SAINI
DoP:	SWATHY DEEPAK
Editor:	MANISH SAINI
Cast:	DHYANI JANI, DARSHAN JARIWALA, DRUMA MEHTA, KRISHIL RAJPAL, PRALAY RAWAL, SHAH REYAAN

Two mischievous boys look up to an elder who embodies Gandhi's teachings. One of the boys decides to imitate Gandhi but still hangs on to his mischievous ways.

FESTIVALS: Bangalore International Film Festival

AWARDS: Golden Lotus Award - Best Children's Film,
National Film Awards, 2023

SALES: MD Media Corp

coming of age | drama | history



Manish Saini studied at National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad. He works in Gujarati language films. His directorial debut, *Dhh* (2017) received the National Film Award for Best Feature Film in Gujarati. The film is a story of three school children who come to believe that a magician, who just came to city, can magically get them out of their troubles. The film that starred Naseeruddin Shah was also a part of the Toronto International Film Festival Kids.



SINGO

Director:	ALIREZA MOHAMMADI ROUZBAHANY
Screenplay:	MOHSEN FARAJOLLAHI, LEYLA NIKZAD
DoP:	MOJTABA SHADROU
Editor:	MANOUCHEHR SANEI
Cast:	HADIS ABOLSEGDHI, TAHA BEHROUZOUR, ZOHREH ESLAMI, BEHSHAD SHARIFIAN, OMID ZEINALZADEH

Islanders are going to sell four horseshoe crabs that a fisherman caught that have very precious value, but a girl decides to save the animals from being sold. This makes her family the target of people's anger. The Islanders decide to expel them from the island, and now Shafa must choose between the welfare of her family or the lives of the crabs.

SALES: *Filmchi*

family | drama | animal rights

INDIA PREMIERE ★



Tehran born Ali Reza Mohammadi Rouzbahani has a degree in the field of Directing from the University of Art & Culture. He started his career with television series in the assistant director position and continued on as production director. He has started film making as a writer and director of the short film "Rotten" in 2019, and then directed the "Zugzwang" in 2020.

INDIAN PANORAMA FEATURE JURY

The Feature Film Jury, consisting of eminent film personalities as the Jury Chairman and twelve jury members, selects 25 films made in any Indian language, shot on digital/video format as a feature film above 70 minutes duration for Indian Panorama.



Dr. T. S. NAGABHARANA

(Chairperson)

Dr. T. S. Nagabharana is a renowned award-winning film director, actor and producer in Kannada cinema. Credited with making 36 films, he is a recipient of 10 National Awards, 18 State Awards, and nine films participating at Indian Panorama. He is the Founder, Chairman and Festival Director of the Bengaluru International Film Festival. Honoured with a gold medal for his achievement in theater by the Government of India, and the Government of Karnataka. He is founder of the theater organization 'Benaka', Tumkur University conferred him with an honorary doctorate. He was Chairman, Kannada Development Authority, in the rank of a Cabinet Minister and has chaired several prestigious institutions.



A. KARTHIK RAAJA

A. Karthik Raaaja is an Indian cinematographer. A 1977–80 graduate of the Adyar Film Institute, Chennai, he has been the Director of Photography (DoP) for several critically acclaimed and commercially successful films. Some of his well-known films include 'Chinna Gounder' (1991), 'Ejamaan' (1993), 'Vanaja Girija' (1994), 'Rettai Jadai Vayasu' (1997), 'Oru Oolaa Oru Rajakumari' (1995), 'Edhirum Pudhirum' (1999), 'Vaanavil' (2000), 'Raajijyam' (2002), 'I Love You Do' (2002), 'Thunai Mudhalvar' (2015), and 'Inayathalam' (2017). He has worked with many reputed directors in the Tamil and Telugu film industry like K. Bhagyaraj, R.V. Udhaya Kumar, Dharani, Manoj Kumar, Rathnakumar, and Sankar-Suresh, amongst others.



ANJAN BOSE

Anjan Bose is an award winning well-known filmmaker, producer and distributor, and a third-generation custodian of the legendary Aurora Film Corporation, recognised as the oldest functioning cinema production, distribution and exhibition organisation in India since 1906. A recipient of the prestigious National Film Awards thrice, his 'Aurora Bioscope' was awarded The Van Gogh Award at the Amsterdam Film Festival (2018). He has served as jury at the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) and the Kolkata International Film Festival.



Dr. ITIRANI SAMANTA

Dr. Itirani Samanta is an award-winning Indian columnist, author, journalist, publisher, and television and film producer predominantly in Odia language. She is the editor of the monthly magazines Kadambini and Kunikatha, and the founder of Kadambini Media Pvt Ltd, a production house. She won the Best Story Writer and the Best Film Award at the Odisha State Film Awards (2014) for her film 'Krantidhara', and 'Kathantara' won the 53rd National Film Award for Best Film Production.



K.P. VYASAN

K. P. Vyasana also known as Vyasana Edavanakad is a renowned screenwriter, film director, producer and distributor in the Malayalam film industry. He started as a scriptwriter for the film 'Indreeyam' (2000) and since then has written the screenplay for five films, directed two films across various genres, as well as distributed over 30 movies in different languages. A regular at film festivals, he is also a member of FEFKA Writers Union and the Kerala Film Producers Association.

**KAMLESH MISHRA**

Kamlesh Mishra is an award-winning scriptwriter and director in the film and television industry. He earned critical acclaim for his film 'Madhubani: The Station of Colours', which won in the non-feature category at the 66th National Film Awards. His other notable works are his debut feature film, 'Azamgarh', 'Masoom Sawal', the short film 'Kitaab', 'Delhi Riots: A Tale of Burn and Blame' and the nationwide famous slogan, 'Beti Bachao'. He has served as jury at several prestigious film festivals.

**KIRAN GANTI**

Kiran Ganti left a successful career in the financial sector to study and pursue filmmaking. His thesis on editing at the Film and Television Institute of India was praised by the multiple Oscar award winning Editor and Sound Designer, Walter Murch. A film editor and director in the Telugu, Tamil, Hindi and English film and web-series industry, his documentary, 'We The People' garnered appreciation and The American Cinema Editors featured him in their magazine Cinema Editor.



MILIND LELE

A law graduate, **Milind Lele** is a popular director and producer in Marathi cinema. He has directed many successful films including 'AB Aani CD' featuring Amitabh Bachchan, 'Bandhishala', 'Kurukshehra' & 'Manya Sajjna'. He also has produced films like 'Karayla Gelo Ek' and 'Diwasendiwas' which have been nominated for the Maharashtra State Government Awards.



PRADIP KURBAH

Pradip Kurbah, is a self-taught award winning filmmaker from Shillong, Meghalaya. His body of work includes award-winning films and music videos in various languages. Known for his ability to push creative boundaries and showcase the rich cultural heritage of the Khasi community, his films like 'Lewduh – Market' and 'Path' have won several national and international awards; with both 'Ri-Homeland of Uncertainty' and 'Onaatah' winning the Best Khasi Film at the 61st and 63rd National Films Awards respectively.



RAMA VIJ

Rama Vij, a celebrated Hindi and Punjabi film actress, gained prominence through her remarkable roles in National Award-winning movies like 'Chann Pardesee' and 'Kachehari', alongside a notable TV appearance in the renowned series 'Nukkad'. Her contribution to the silver jubilee film 'Prem Quadi' led to a Filmfare nomination. Additionally, she has produced and co-directed three TV serials. She also served on the governing council of FTII. Her works has garnered her several other prestigious awards and lifetime achievement awards from the Punjab State Government and many other prestigious institutions. Beyond cinema, she has excelled in car rallies and hockey at the national level, showcasing her diverse talents.



ROMI MEITEI

Romi Meitei is an award winning filmmaker; a director and a lyricist in the Manipuri film industry. He has given several box-office hits and is a recipient of many accolades at various national and international film festivals, including the prestigious National Film Awards, FIPRESCI and NETPAC award, along with several Manipur State Film Awards. He serves as the Chairman of Mami Thawan Foundation that aims to work for the welfare of Manipur.



SANJAY JADHAV

Sanjay Jadhav is a renowned Indian cinematographer, film director and producer in the Marathi and Hindi film industry. Having directed a dozen films, he is best known for his box office hit films 'Duniyadari' (2013) and 'Pyaar Vali Love Story' (2014), a romantic drama. He has also been the cinematographer for over 24 films in Marathi, Hindi and even Tamil and also produced the famous Marathi sitcom 'Dil Dosti Duniyadari' being aired on Zee Marathi.



VIJAY PANDE

Vijay Pande is a renowned film and television director and editor for more than four decades. A recipient of multiple awards, some of his notable works are the popular television series, 'Saat Phere....Saloni Ka Safar' and 'Des Mein Niklla Hoga Chand'. He has conducted several workshops on direction and editing for students, has served on the jury of several film festivals and was a member of the advisory committee of the Central Board of Film Certification.

INDIAN PANORAMA FEATURE

Films made in any Indian language shot on digital/video format and as a feature film or fiction above 70 min duration, are eligible for the Feature Film Section.



AATTAM

Director:	ANAND EKARSHI
Producer:	JOY MOVIE PRODUCTIONS LLP
Screenwriter:	ANAND EKARSHI
DoP:	ANURUDH ANEESH
Editor:	MAHESH BHUVANEND
Cast:	VINAY FORRT, ZARIN SHIHAB

This drama film revolves around a one woman and twelve men play by a theatre group called Arangu. They get a chance to be recognized internationally when they are given an offer by Chris and Emily, friends of Hari, an actor who was replaced from the lead role previously played by Vinay. Anjaly, the only female artist of the play, is in love with Vinay and informs him that she was mistreated by Hari at a party which was hosted by Chris and Emily. Vinay tries to bring out Hari's true colors by sharing this information with Madan, who agrees to discuss this with the rest of the team and eventually expels Hari. Friendships are at stake but monetary benefits and success is used as a tool to reward and bribe people's moral fiber. As the events proceed, reality seems weirder when truths unravel.



Anand Ekarshi is a filmmaker from Kerala, India. His interest in theatre and acting began at the age of 10, and grew into a passion for filmmaking. He credits his roots in storytelling to Lokadharmi, a Kochi-based theatre group and has made several short films and music videos in Malayalam.



Joy Movie Productions is one of the multiple business firms ventured by Dr. Ajith Joy, a nuclear medicine physician and a businessman. Affiliated with Studio Iris, Joy Music and Iris Pixels, it has ventured into the filmmaking business and has produced films like 'Vichithram', 'Charles Enterprises', 'Mukundan Unni Associates' and 'Aattam'.

OPENING FILM ★



2018 - EVERYONE IS A HERO

Director:	JUDE ANTHONY JOSEPH
Producer:	KAVYA FILM COMPANY
Screenwriter(s):	JUDE ANTHONY JOSEPH, AKHIL P DHARMAJAN
DoP:	AKHIL GEORGE
Editor:	CHAMAN CHAKKO
Cast:	TOVINO THOMAS, ASIF ALI, KUNCHAKO BOBAN, VINEETH S

A survival thriller set against the backdrop of the tragic 2018 Kerala Floods. It is a story of hope set in a fictional village called Aruvikulam, narrating the lives of nine residents during the calamity and their collective effort to tackle the catastrophic deluge. The tale of an army man Anoop who is a military runaway, of Shaji a government officer stuck in office during the floods, of Noora a media person, of Sethupathi a Tamil lorry driver forced to come with a load of explosives, of Koshi a taxi driver taking a foreign couple for sightseeing, of Ramesh an NRI who happens to travel from Dubai to Cochin during the floods, of Mathachan a fisherman who comes to the rescue, of Nikson an aspiring model trying to get his love and career, and of Winston another fisherman who is Nikson's brother and Mathachan's son coming to the rescue.



Jude Anthony Joseph is an award-winning film director, screenwriter and actor in the Malayalam film industry. His directorial debut, 'Ohm Shanathi Oshaana' (2014), a blockbuster won him awards and accolades including the 45th Kerala State Film Award. His other notable films are 'Sara', 'Oru Muthassi Gadha' and '2018: Everyone is a Hero'.



Kavya Film Company is a film production company founded by Venu Kunnappilly, an entrepreneur, author, film producer and a philanthropist based in the United Arab Emirates, hailing from Kerala. After 'Midnight' (2019) was its debut production followed by 'Mamangam' (2019), 'Night Drive' (2022), 'Malikappuram' (2022) and '2018: Everyone is a Hero' (2023).



AARAARIRAARO

Director:	SANDEEP KUMAR V
Producer:	TMT PRODUCTIONS
Screenwriter:	DEVIPRASAD RAI
DoP:	MAYUR SHETTY
Editor:	KARTHICK K M
Cast:	PRASANNA SHETTY, JEEVA, NIREEKSHA SHETTY

A classic case of serendipity is the crux of this film as it unfolds when a thief accidentally finds a bedridden old lady in an old mansion where he sneaks in to steal. A prolonged interaction ensues and he realizes that she is unable to speak and is left at the mercy of an irresponsible nurse. He then decides to carry out the burglary in installments over three months. An impossible journey of two unlikely individuals brought together by fate and an unavoidable emotional tangle forms the essence of this beautifully woven story. Firmly rooted in human emotions with outstanding performances, quality cinematography, impactful music and the symphony of situational comic.



Sandeep Kumar is a film director, storyteller and a visual creator primarily in the Kannada film industry. His debut movie was 'Nandanavanado!' (2019) followed by 'Aaraariraaro' (2023). He has also directed a couple of short movies.



TMT Productions is a social business production company that aims to produce high quality visual projects for people in the creative and educational field. 'Aaraariraaro' is their first production.



ARDHANGINI

Director:	KAUSHIK GANGULY
Producer:	SURINDER FILMS PRIVATE LTD.
Screenwriter:	KAUSHIK GANGULY
DoP:	GOPI BHAGAT
Editor:	SUBHAJIT SINGHA
Cast:	CHURNI GANGULY, JAYA AHSAN, KAUSHIK SEN, LILY CHAK

After Suman suffers an accident, his wife Meghna and his ex-wife Subhra are compelled to meet each other. The relationship-drama story revolves around the awkward emotional duel between the two wives and the past and present, in a time of personal crisis.



Kaushik Ganguly is an acclaimed national award-winning film director, screenwriter and actor in Bengali cinema. Known for his realism, simplicity and sensitive films like 'Bishorjon', 'Chotoder Chobi', 'Nagarkirtan' and 'Cinemawala', he has won the prestigious National Film Award several times, the Filmfare Award nine times along with various international awards and accolades.



Surinder Films a leading film and television production house in Kolkata since 1970. It has produced blockbuster films like 'Sagardwipayee Jawker Dhan', 'Jyeshthoputro', 'Drishtikone', 'Ghare & Baire', 'Chhaya O Chhobi', 'Paglu 2', 'Paglu', 'Bolo Na Tumi Amar', 'Mon Mane Na', 'Besh Korechi Prem Korechi', 'Deva', 'Arundhuti', amongst others, along with over 20 television shows.



DEEP FRIDGE

Director:	ARJUN DUTTA
Producer:	COLORS OF DREAM ENTERTAINMENT
Screenwriter(s):	ARJUN DUTTA, ASHIRBAD MAITRA
DoP:	SUPRATIM BHOL
Editor:	SUJAY DUTTA RAY
Cast:	ABIR CHATTERJEE, TANUSREE CHAKRABORTY, ANURADHA M

The narrative starts five years after Swarnava and Mili's divorce, one evening, bringing them together under one roof for the whole night. A night of remembrance, introspect, realization and closure. An unplanned stay at Mili's place helps them address their pain, seek for closure and see things with more clarity in an effort to build a guilt free future for both of them separately, and put their current relationships into perspective. Deep Fridge or the freezer plays the third lead to Swarnava and Mili as by the end of the night, the freezer is defrosted to the very last drop, serving as a perfect metaphor for both their current state of mind, which is now free to wander off in a make-believe world of surrealism, where they remain a family and pursue their life together with chemistry, passion, love and loyalty.



Arjun Dutta is a filmmaker in the Bengali film industry. His debut feature film 'Abyakto', travelled to various film festivals internationally, including the prestigious International Film Festival of India, amongst others. His other notable films that have garnered awards and accolades are 'Guldasta', 'Shrimati', and now 'Deep Fridge'.



Colors of Dream Entertainment is a production house founded by Krishna Kyal. It is dedicated to producing a diverse range of quality cinema by delving into socially relevant and pioneering subjects. 'Deep Fridge' is its third venture exploring modern day intricacies and the prejudiced idea of a perfectly happy marriage.



DHAI AAKHAR

Director:	PRAVEEN ARORA
Producer:	KABIR COMMUNICATIONS
Screenwriter:	PRAVEEN ARORA
DoP:	SANDEEP GN YADAV
Editor:	V.S. KANNAN, RAHUL JAISWAL
Cast:	MRINAL KULKARNI, HARISH KHANNA, ROHIT KOKATE

Based on the novel 'Teerthatan Ke Baad' by Amrik Singh Deep, the film set in the 1980s in the serene state of Uttarakhand tells the story of a woman who rebuilds herself after years of being in an abusive marriage when she starts talking to an empathetic writer through letters. Harshita gets a second chance after the death of her husband when she meets Sridhar, a writer, who treats her with kindness and respect. The film brings out the conflict surrounding such relationships and is an ode to love and the power it holds to transform someone's life. It explores how abuse is common, accepted and normalised within patriarchy, leaving a deep shattering impact on womanhood. It delves into how love holds the power to liberate anyone who is subjugated to abuse with a message to liberate and empower women.



Praveen Arora, a well-regarded figure in television and film, has earned acclaim for his work as a director, producer, and writer. His notable contributions encompass TV series such as 'Parsa,' 'Chekov Ki Duniya,' and 'Asmita,' along with impactful documentaries like 'Paas Jungle Door Jungle' and 'Kinnaur Ka Kaamru,' showcased at prestigious film festivals. He has also crafted more than 150 television commercials, short films, and corporate documentaries.



Kabir Communications, a renowned production house for over two decades, excels in crafting diverse media content such as films, web series, TV shows, and more. Their portfolio includes 9 TV serials, 100+ advertisements, 80 documentaries, and 20 corporate films. Focused on socially relevant narratives, they aim to educate and entertain audiences with their thought-provoking work.



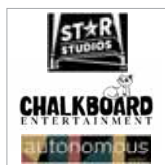
GULMOHAR

Director:	RAHUL V CHITTELLA
Producer(s):	STAR STUDIOS, CHALKBOARD LLP, AUTONOMOUS LLP
Screenwriter(s):	ARPITA MUKHERJEE, RAHUL V CHITTELLA
DoP:	EESHIT NARAIN
Editor:	TANUPRIYA SHARMA
Cast:	SHARMILA TAGORE, MANOJ BAJPAYEE

Set in present day New Delhi, Gulmohar tracks the final four days, leading up to the festival of Holi, of the Batra family as they pack their belongings to move out of their thirty-four year old family home. Amid the chaos of packing up the house, the film interweaves individual storylines of various members of this house, portraying their interpersonal relationships as secrets from the past unfold amidst tensions in the present and uncertainties of the future. The film serves as a love song to the times that we are living in today and creating for tomorrow, exploring the meaning of family and home — the only two things that have always mattered, more so now than ever.



Rahul V. Chittella is an independent film director, writer and producer. He was the creative and producing partner with filmmaker Mira Nair for films like 'The Reluctant Fundamentalist', 'Words with God', 'Nafas', 'Queen of Katwe', 'A Suitable Boy' and one of producers for 'Monsoon Wedding Musical' (2022). His film 'Azaad' won several accolades and awards.



Star Studios is a leading India-based movie production and distribution company and a division of STAR India Pvt. Ltd., a subsidiary of the Disney Group. Established in 2019, **Chalkboard Entertainment**, led by Vikesh Bhutani and Shujaat Saudagar, produces engaging films and series. **Autonomous Works** is an independent creative studio founded by Rahul V. Chittella and Gitika Aggarwal. The independent studio produces film, tv and audio narratives.



IRATTA

Director:	ROHIT M.G. KRISHNAN
Producer:	APP PATHU PRODUCTION HOUSE
Screenwriter:	ROHIT M.G. KRISHNAN
DoP:	VIJAY
Editor:	MANU ANTONY
Cast:	JOJU GEORGE, ANJALI, SRINDAA, SRIKANT MURALI

Vinod and Pramod are identical twins working in the police department. Their personalities are at extreme ends. ASI Vinod is shot dead inside a high-range police station with three gunshots in his chest just minutes before the arrival of a minister at the police station. Police Superintendent and Vinod's twin brother, DYSP Pramod reaches the station and pressure from the superiors urges him to quickly probe into the murder. Vinod's offending nature had earned him a bunch of enemies in and out of the department. At some point of the enquiry, Pramod also comes under suspicion. The prime suspects behind the death were three policemen but there is more to it. Will the mystery around Vinod's death unravel to catch the real culprit? Why was he shot dead?



Rohit M.G. Krishnan is a debutant director and scriptwriter. A self taught filmmaker, he made several short films during his college days gaining acclaim. Post his graduation, he used the income from his Postal Department job to make short films while working on the script of his feature film.



App Pathu Production House stands as a notable force in the Malayalam film sector, credited for its successful contributions such as 'Joseph,' 'Porinju Mariyam Jose,' and 'Chola'. These films have not only garnered critical acclaim but have also captivated audiences, elevating the company's stature in the regional cinema sphere.



KAADHAL ENBATHU POTHU UDAMAI

Director: JAYAPRAKASH RADHAKRISHNAN

Producer: MANKIND CINEMAS LLP

Screenwriter: JAYAPRAKASH RADHAKRISHNAN

DoP: SREE SARAVANAN

Editor: DANI CHARLES

Cast: LIJOMOL JOSE, ANUSHA PRABHU,
ROHINI MOLETTI

Samyuktha decides to reveal her love for a same sex partner to her mother with the help of a male friend. Lakshmi, Samyuktha's mother is a popular blogger who has many listeners for her poetic and philosophical takes on love and life. Samyuktha's father lives with his second wife in the same city. Initially, Lakshmi mistakes the male friend as her future son-in-law but over lunch it is revealed that it is Nandini whom Samyuktha wants to marry. All philosophical and contemporary approaches to life are tested for all those who are involved, along with schisms, prejudices and old grudges that come out unexpectedly and rather uglily.



Jayaprakash Radhakrishnan is an actor and a director primarily in the Tamil film industry. He is known for his films like 'Lens' (2016), 'The Mosquito Philosophy' (2019) and 'Kaadhal Enbadhu Podhu Udama' (2023).



Mankind Cinemas is a prominent film production house in the Malayalam film industry contributing to meaningful and socially relevant cinema. It is recognized for its exploration of gender dynamics and societal norms within Indian households with notable films like, 'The Great Indian Kitchen', 'Freedom Fight', 'Sreedhanya Catering Service' and 'Purusha Pretham'.



KAATHAL - THE CORE

Director:	JEO BABY
Producer:	MAMMOOTTYKAMPANY FILMS PVT LTD
Screenwriter:	ADARSH SUKUMARAN, PAULSON SCARIA
DoP:	ADARSH SUKUMARAN, PAULSON SCARIA
Editor:	SALU K THOMAS
Cast:	MAMMOOTTY, JYOTHIKA

In Theekoi village, Kottayam district, George Devassy is a decorated official who recently has retired from a Co-operative Bank and lives with his wife Omana, his daughter Femi and George's father, Devassi. On a Sunday morning, after church rituals, George decides to contest for the upcoming Panchayat Elections and gives his nomination. But to everyone's shock, two days later his wife Omana files for a divorce in the family court stating that George is in a homosexual relationship for the last few years with Thankan, his friend who runs a driving school in the same village. The news spreads like wildfire across the village and the allegation becomes an grave issue with George's candidateship becoming doubtful. Omana's does not see George's sexual orientation as a crime, only wanting a divorce but George's strongly opposes these allegations. The film explores the politics of society's mindset towards homosexuals.



Jeo Baby is an award-winning film director, scriptwriter and actor in the Malayalam film industry. His movies like '2 Penkuttikal', 'Kunju Daivam', 'Kilometers and Kilometer's', 'The Great Indian Kitchen', 'Freedom Fight' and 'Sree Dhanya Catering Service' have garnered several awards and accolades including National Film Awards, State Film Awards and several international awards.

Mammoottykampany Films Pvt Ltd led by Mammootty is a film production house based in Ernakulum, Kerala. It has produced four movies notably, 'Nanpakal Nerathu Mayakam', 'Rorschach', 'Kaathal - The Core' and 'Kannur Squad'.





KANTARA

Director:	RISHAB SHETTY
Producer:	HOMBAL FILMS LLP
Screenwriter:	RISHAB SHETTY
DoP:	ARAVIND KASHYAP
Editor:	K K PRAKASH, PRATEEK SHETTY
Cast:	RISHAB SHETTY , SAPTHAMI GOWDA , KISHOR , ACHUTH K

Set in the fictional village of Dakshina Kannada, the film explores the ideological conflict between humans and nature. The co-existence of a tribe living with the forest will be hampered by a forest officer who feels certain practices and rituals followed by the tribe pose a threat to mother nature. He questions the existence of their demigod which swirls a battle of ego along with traditions and culture associated with the land. Shiva the protagonist is a top racer at the Kambala Festival and poses a serious threat to the forest department as he continues hunting, illegal cutting and selling of precious forest trees. The forest department grills Shiva and his mates for vandalising the forest. The tribe believes that the forest was donated to them by a king aforesite. Will Shiva be able to reinstate peace and harmony in the village perceiving his existence forms the crux of the film.



Rishab Shetty is an actor and filmmaker in the Kannada film industry. Known for his critically acclaimed blockbuster, 'Kantara', he is recipient of several accolades, including the Best Children's Film at the 66th National Film Awards for 'Sarkari Hi. Pra. Shaale, Kasaragodu, Koduge: Ramanna Rai' his directorial debut and the entertainer 'Kirik Party'.



Hombale Films is a film production company founded visionary movie maker, Vijay Kiragandur. With a passion for promoting Indian culture globally, he has produced notable blockbuster films like 'KGF Chapter 1,' 'KGF Chapter 2' and 'Kantara' which have redefined the entertainment industry earning him awards and accolades in the film industry.



MALIKAPPURAM

Director:	VISHNU SASI SHANKAR
Producer:	AAN MEGA MEDIA
Screenwriter:	ABHILASH PILLAI
DoP:	VISHNU NARAYANAN
Editor:	SHAMEER MUHAMMED
Cast:	UNNI MUKUNDAN, SAIJU KURUP, BABY DEVANANDHA JIBIN

Eight-year old Kallu has an intense desire to visit the Sabarimala Temple. Immensely attached to Lord Ayyappa, she has a dwindling window of time to make the pilgrimage given her age. Events in her life make it unlikely that she can make the journey, and the story is about how she and her cousin attempt to overcome many risks to make this pilgrimage, receiving help from unexpected quarters in their journey. In the lore of the Sabarimala Temple, the pilgrimage typically starts 41 days before the commencement of the actual journey to the remote temple located deep in the forest, when the pilgrims whether male (of all ages) or female (under ten or over fifty) commit themselves to the journey following a life of austerity and address each other as Swamy (for males) or Malikappuram (for females). In essence, pilgrims who have committed themselves to this journey become divinities themselves.



Vishnu Sasi Sankar is an Indian film director and editor. He made his debut as a director with the film 'Malikappuram' (2022) which went on to win popular acclaim for its craft and overall technical brilliance apart from becoming one of the biggest box office hits in South India.



Aan Mega Media, an Indian film production house specializing in Malayalam films, showcased '19(1)(a)' at the Moscow International Film Festival and the International Film Festival of Kerala in 2023, along with regional screenings. Their past successes include 'Night Drive,' 'Mallu Singh,' and 'Karyasthan,' both in cinemas and on OTT. 'Malikappuram,' their latest release, became one of the top-grossing films of 2023.



MANDALI

Director:	RAKESH CHATURVEDI OM
Producer:	RELTIC PICTURES
Screenwriter(s):	PALLAV JAIN, VINAY AGRAHARI, RAKESH CHATURVEDI OM
DoP:	AYUSH JAIN
Editor:	CHANDRASHEKHAR PRAJAPATI
Cast:	ABHISHEK DUHAN, AANCHAL MUNJAL, RAJNIESH DUGGAL

Mandali mirrors the journey of a man and his struggle to uphold righteousness in times of diminishing social conscience and the downfall of cultural and traditional values through the protagonist. Purshottam Chaubey aka Puru is a peon in an intermediate college in Mathura in Uttar Pradesh. He plays the role of Lord Laxmana along with his cousin Sitaram Chaubey who plays the role of Lord Rama in the Ramleela Mandali, run by his uncle Ramsevak Chaubey. Their life takes a blow when during a performance they have to leave midway because of Sitaram's indulgence and addiction to drugs. Not being able to withstand the humiliation, and guilty of ruining God's name, Ramsevak leaves performing in the Ramleela forever. Puru confronts Ramsevak on his escapist approach and condemns his decision to withdraw while beginning a journey of struggle to bring back his family on stage with dignity.



Rakesh Chaturvedi Om is a theatre and film writer, director, actor and producer. A National School of Drama graduate, he is known for his noteworthy performances in acclaimed films like 'Kesari', 'PadMan', 'Mee Raqsam' amongst others, essaying pivotal roles and for directing compelling films like 'Bolo Raam', 'BHK Bhalla@Halla.Kom' and 'Mandali'.



Reltic Pictures is founded by Prashant Kumar Gupta, Geetika Gupta and Dr. Neetu Sabarwal with a vision to produce content driven films appealing to audiences worldwide and collaborate with filmmakers who are original having the courage to tread unexplored paths. 'Mandali' is its first production.



MIRBEEN

Director:	MRIDUL GUPTA
Producer:	WOJARU CINE ARTS
Screenwriter:	MANIMALA DAS
DoP:	PRADIP DAIMARY
Editor:	UTPAL BURAGOHAIN
Cast:	RAJIBEE KRO, MALINI TISSO

From time to time, the social, political and economic environment crushes everyone. Mirbeen is the central character of this story. In her childhood, her grandmother instills in her the dream of doing something with the fairy tales of Serdihun (God of textile in Karbi tribal beliefs), which sprouts the desire to make life meaningful in her mind. But fratricidal clashes and ethnic conflicts make the entire Karbi land bloody in 2005 where Mirbeen's small village is also not spared. Political instability disrupts their daily lives as Mirbeen's house and village is burnt to ashes. She loses her only close friend Kaban along with many relatives. Her life becomes dark, yet she doesn't want to give up and become a victim of circumstances as the story of Serdihun which her grandmother had instilled in her mind inspires her to make her dream come true.



Mridul Gupta is a national award-winning filmmaker of Assam and Northeast India. Self taught, he won the prestigious National Film Award for his documentary 'Tai Phakeys'. His other notable works are the serial 'Jibanar Batat', his first feature film 'Sutrapat (The Beginning)' and other films like 'Abhiman', 'Krishna Chura', 'TRP Aru...' and 'Mirbeen'.



Wojaru Cine Arts by Dhaniram Tisso is an award winning film and television production house known for its productions like 'Wosobipo', the first film in Karbi language, along with television serials and films like 'Thong Nokbe', 'Ananya', 'Rongmilir Hahi', 'Asin Diganta', 'Banphoringar Geet', 'Kanghon Killingchongkret', a blockbuster Karbi feature film and 'Didimulori'.



NEELA NIRA SOORIYAN

Director:	SAMYUKTHA VIJAYAN
Producer:	SAMYUKTHA VIJAYAN
Screenwriter:	SAMYUKTHA VIJAYAN
DoP:	STEEV BENJAMIN
Editor:	STEEV BENJAMIN
Cast:	SAMYUKTHA VIJAYAN, KITTY, GAJARAJ, GEETHA KAILASAM

Aravind, a high school physics teacher in Pollachi is on Hormone Replacement Therapy (HRT) to transition from being a male to a female. Only his close friend Haritha knows about it. Arvind's father is going through a financial crisis and wants to mortgage the family home to restart his hotel business that was affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. Being an influential person in the community, a financier agrees to help him if he married his daughter to Aravind. As arrangements for his engagement are made, feeling helpless he consults his HRT doctor and a psychiatrist who suggest to go public with the transitioning and start living life as a woman with the name Bhanu. But this is not taken well by the school principal or the students nor his father who wants to throw him out of the house. What follows is Aravind's struggle for acceptance as Bhanu facing humiliation and bullying.



Samyuktha Vijayan is a dancer and a techie. A transgender woman based in San Francisco, USA, she grew up as a boy in a small town in Tamil Nadu. While working for a multinational company in the USA, Samyuktha transitioned from male to female. Since then, she is actively working with the transgender community to highlight their struggles and helps them secure mainstream jobs. She founded Toutestudio, a made-to-rent wedding couture boutique where she trained and employed transwomen. She was conferred with the Top Ten Youth Award of Tamil Nadu (2019) by Ananda Vikatan.



NNA THAAN CASE KODU

Director: **RATHEESH BALAKRISHNA PODUVAL**

Producer: **STK FRAMES**

Screenwriter: **RATHEESH BALAKRISHNA PODUVAL**

DoP: **RAKESH HARIDAS**

Editor: **MANOJ KANNOTH**

Cast: **KUNCHACKO BOBAN, GAYATHRI SHANKAR, P P KUNHIKRISHNA**

When an ex-robber gets falsely accused of theft by a Minister of the Legislative Assembly (MLA), he decides to retaliate against him in court. However, on his journey to seek justice he must face numerous hurdles.



Ratheesh Balakrishnan Poduval is an actor, production designer, director and writer in Malayalam cinema. His notable films include 'Android Kunjappan' and 'Nna Thaan Case Kodu'.



STK Frames is a production house founded by Santhosh T. Kuruvilla, its Managing Director and also a well-known film producer who has made films in the Malayalam and Tamil film industries. He also owns a chain of business enterprises based in India and the UAE.



PONNIYIN SELVAN PART - 2

Director:	MANI RATNAM
Producer(s):	MADRAS TALKIES, LYCA PRODUCTIONS
Screenwriter(s):	MANI RATNAM, JEYAMOHAN & KUMARAVEL
DoP:	RAVI VARMAN
Editor:	SREEKAR PRASAD
Cast:	VIKRAM, JEYAM RAVI, KARTHI, AISHWARYA RAI, TRISHA

Based on the novel of the same name by Kalki Krishnamurthy, the story starts with the tragic love story of Aditha Karikalan and Nandini. The young Prince of the Chola dynasty and a poor orphaned temple girl. A childhood romance that was torn apart by the royals. As young Nandini was banished from the lands to keep her away from Karikalan, Prince Karikalan has been a mad man ever since. It is the year 978 AD, and Nandini plots against the royal princes and Emperor Sundara Chozhar to exact revenge for the slaying of the Pandya King Veerapandian. She infiltrates the Cholas by marrying the Chola treasurer Periya Pazhuvettarayar and creates a machiavellian scheme. What follows is a historical-royal-political pot boiler of succession, power struggle, revenge, vengeance, love and the survival of the Chola Dynasty.



Mani Ratnam is an iconic and award-winning film director, producer and screenwriter across Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam and Hindi cinema. He is one of India's most acclaimed and commercially successful filmmakers, having made over 30 films and has garnered multiple prestigious accolades for his films, including the Padma Shri (2002) by the Government of India.



Madras Talkies is a leading Indian film and television production company set up in 1995 by Mani Ratnam and Suhasini Maniratnam, actively involved in the production of films and their worldwide distribution. **Lyca Productions**, founded in 2014 by Subaskaran Allirajah, emphasizes innovative Tamil storytelling, winning accolades for movies like Kaththi and Chekka Chivantha Vaanam, pioneering advanced screening formats.



POOKKAALAM

Director:	GANESH RAJ
Producer:	CNC CINEMAAS
Screenwriter:	GANESH RAJ
DoP:	ANEND C CHANDRAN
Editor:	MIDHUN MURALI
Cast:	VIJAYARAGHAVAN, KPAC LEELA

Ittoop and Kochuteriseyamma, a couple in their late 90's from an old Christian family in a small town in Kerala, have been married for more than 80 years. On the morning of the engagement of their youngest daughter's youngest daughter, Elsi, chaos ensues as the certificate from the church approving their union goes missing. During the frantic search, Ittoop chances upon a love letter addressed to his wife Kochuteriseyamma written nearly 60 years ago. It hints at a raging affair between his wife and an unknown man only identified by his signature as Kochuousep. A livid Ittoop announces that he wants a divorce. The family soon realises that Ittoop will go to any extent to get his way, even at this age. The film explores themes of old age, trust, memory, patriarchy, the meaning of marriage and the butterfly effect of small decisions by the old across multiple generations.



Ganesh Raj is a film director and screenwriter in the Malayalam film industry based in Kerala, India. He is known for his two critically acclaimed and commercially successful films 'Aanandam' (2016) and 'Pookkalam' (2023).



CNC Cinemas is a Kerala based movie production company. 'Pookkalam' is their first film production.



RABINDRA KABYA RAHASYA

Director:	SAYANTAN GHOSAL
Producer:	ESKAY VIDEO PVT. LTD.
Screenwriter:	SOUGATA BASU
DoP:	DEBASIS DEY (TUBAN)
Editor:	SUBHAJIT SINGHA
Cast:	RITWICK CHAKRABORTY, SRABANTI CHATTERJEE, PRIYANSH

A century ago, the poet Ekalavya Sen fell victim to deception by his peers, who shamelessly plagiarised his poetic works. Seeking retribution, Ekalavya orchestrated their demise. In a race against time, poet and sleuth Abhik Bose teams up with Rabindra Sangeet singer Hiya Sen to decode a century-old mystery, triggered by a vengeful poet's message. As they delve into a web of murders echoing Rabindranath Tagore's life, they unearth hidden artifacts, a nefarious plot to undermine India's cultural heritage, and a truth that could reshape history.



Sayantan Ghosal is an Indian film and web series director and editor primarily in the Bengali film and OTT industry. He has directed several movies, including 'Jawker Dhan', 'Alinagarer Golokdhadha', 'Sagardwipay Jawker Dhan', and 'Satyanweshi Byomkesh' all of which were box office hits, along with the web series 'Byomkesh' and 'Lalbazaar.'



Eskay Video Pvt. Ltd., one of the largest film production houses with distribution all over West Bengal was founded by film producer, Ashok Dhanuka. It has produced over 50 films and has acquired another 200. It has also set up a subsidiary in the UK named as High Five Productions Limited.



SANAA

Director:	SUDHANSHU SARIA
Producer:	FOUR LINE ENTERTAINMENT PVT. LTD.
Screenwriter:	SUDHANSHU SARIA
DoP:	DEEPTI GUPTA
Editor:	PARAMITA GHOSH
Cast:	RADHIKA MADAN, SHIKHA TALSANIA, SOHUM SHAH, POOJA

The biggest weekend of her professional life only gets more complicated when Sanaa, a 28-year-old financial advisor working in Mumbai finds out she is pregnant. Absolutely clear on her decision to terminate the pregnancy, the actual process of getting the abortion will force Sanaa to re-evaluate her life and delve deep if the choices she has been making have been really her own.



Sudhanshu Saria is a national award winning filmmaker. He made his feature film debut with a queer road-trip romance titled 'Loev' which was widely acclaimed at film festivals. 'Knock Knock Knock', a 40-minute psychological thriller won him India's highest honour for films, the National Award for Best Director in the non-feature section.



Four Line Entertainment is a full-service entertainment company with the ability to develop, finance and distribute film and television content throughout the world. Its two productions, 'Loev' (2015) and 'Knock Knock Knock' (2019), both garnered international acclaim and accolades.



SIRF EK BANDAA KAAFI HAI

Director:	APOORV SINGH KARKI
Producer(s):	BHANUSHALI STUDIOS LIMITED, ZEE STUDIOS
Screenwriter:	DEEPAK KINGRANI
DoP:	ARJUN KUKRETI
Editor:	SUMEET KOTIAN
Cast:	MANOJ BAJPAYEE, ADRIJA SINHA, SURYAMOHAN KULSHRESH

Inspired by true events, the film is the story of a five-year-long standalone fight of a regular and small time sessions court lawyer, P.C. Solanki who stood for truth against an influential and powerful godman with political clout who assaulted a minor girl. The film takes one through the brutal long struggle to bring justice to this particular minor girl and all the others who were wronged by the fraud godman over the years, proving that no man is above the law. Based on the philosophy of India's national emblem, 'Satyameva Jayate' (Truth Alone Prevails), the courtroom drama emphasises on Satya (truth) as one says it as "Truth is God."



Apoorv Singh Karki is an acclaimed web series and film director. Known for the popular OTT series 'Aspirants' (2021) and 'Flames' (2019), with his stories connecting well with young audiences. Before donning the director's hat for 'Sirf Ek Bandaa Kaafi Hai', his OTT release 'Saas Bahu Achaar Pvt Ltd' (2022) received rave reviews.



The production house, **Bhanushali Studios Limited**, along with the music label Hitz Music has been associated with an impressive portfolio of over 1100 films for expertise in various aspects of the entertainment industry, including music, marketing, distribution, licensing, and production.

Based in Mumbai, India, **Zee Studios**, established in 2012 as the content powerhouse for Zee Entertainment Enterprises Limited, specializes in the development, production, and distribution of film, streaming, and television content.



THE KERALA STORY

Director:	SUDIPTO SEN
Producer:	SUNSHINE PICTURES
Screenwriter(s):	SURYAPAL SINGH, SUDIPTO SEN, VIPUL AMRUTLAL SHAH
DoP:	PRASANTANU MOHAPATRA
Editor:	SANJAY SHARMA
Cast:	ADAH SHARMA, YOGITA BIHANI, SONIA BALANI

Shalini, Geetanjali, Nimah and Asifa are four young girls from different parts of Kerala who meet in their hostel room on the first day of their Nursing College in Kasaragod, Kerala. Asifa is an active sleeper cell member of the terrorist group, ISIS, in Kerala. With her vicious deceits she manages to convince Shalini and Geetanjali to convert to Islam, disowning their families, terming them as kafirs. They are uprooted from all their social ties. A cautious Nimah understands the impending danger hovering and tries to persuade them to see the truth but their blind conviction, trust on Asifa and their love-life with Ramiz and Abdul puts their life on the edge. In her worst reality, Shalini is detected pregnant and Ramiz disappears. Then starts a spine-chilling thriller with a web of unimaginable events where only hope and courage can make a brutally trapped woman find her way back home.



Sudipto Sen is a well-known documentary and feature film director. Some of his notable works are 'The Last Monk', 'Gurujana', 'Aasma', 'Lucknow Times' and the critically acclaimed and commercially successful 'The Kerala Story', amongst others. His film 'The Last Monk' (2023) was premiered at the International Cannes Film Festival.



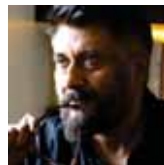
Sunshine Pictures Private Limited is a venture founded and promoted by Vipul Amrutlal Shah, a well-known producer and director of films, television and webseries, and a leading member of the entertainment industry in India. Sunshine Pictures is known for its blockbuster productions like 'Namaste London' and 'Singh is King'.



THE VACCINE WAR

Director:	VIVEK RANJAN AGNIHOTRI
Producer(s):	IAMBUDHA ENTERTAINMENT AND MEDIA LLP
Screenwriter:	VIVEK RANJAN AGNIHOTRI
DoP:	UDAY SINGH MOHITE
Editor:	SHANKH RAJYADHYAKSHA
Cast:	NANA PATEKAR, ANUPAM KHER, PALLAVI JOSHI

Doctor Balram Bhargava, a result oriented man is the Director General of the Indian Council of Medical Research. His life is shaken when a new pneumonia-like virus is said to be doing the rounds in China. He assembles a team of the most capable scientists of India and sets out to fight the virus, Covid-19. Dr. Nivedita Gupta works under Dr. Bhargava in the Delhi office of ICMR. Dr. Priya Abraham, the Director of the National Institute of Virology and her best scientist Dr. Pragya Yadav lead the research in Pune's BSL4 lab. A plan is laid down and ICMR and NIV manage to successfully vaccinate the nation and put an end to the virus against foreign lobbying and immense scrutiny. The world believed India would lose half its people as it was the perfect breeding ground for such a virus. This film narrates how these scientists prevailed and made India proud.



Vivek Ranjan Agnihotri is a national award winning filmmaker, director, best-selling author, editor, social worker and a public intellectual with critically acclaimed and commercially successful films like 'Buddha in a Traffic Jam' (2014), 'The Tashkent Files' (2019) and 'The Kashmir Files' (2022).



IaMBuddha Entertainment and Media LLP is a visionary film production company committed to bringing impactful stories to the forefront. Driven by a passion for storytelling that reflects the essence of Bharat. Founded by industry veterans, 3-time National Award-winning actor and producer Pallavi Joshi, and 2-time National Award-winning writer-director Vivek Ranjan Agnihotri.



VADH

Director:	JASPAL SINGH SANDHU, RAJEEV BARNWAL
Producer:	LUV FILMS LLP, J STUDIO
Screenwriter(s):	RAJEEV BARNWAL, JASPAL SINGH SANDHU
DoP:	SAPAN NARULA
Editor:	BHARAT S. RAWAT
Cast:	SANJAY MISHRA, NEENA GUPTA

Shambhunath Mishra, a retired middle school teacher is living a mundane middle-class life with his wife Manju Mishra in a dilapidated house in Gwalior. They are barely able to make ends meet with his pension and as a tutor to the local kids. The couple's son is settled in America with his family and is least concerned about his parents. Life takes a complete turn for the Mishra family when a situation gets out of hand and it leads to a killing rather a murder at the hands of Shambhunath Mishra. Now Mishra ji is left with very little time to cautiously plan and turn this into a "perfect murder" leaving no trace behind.



Jaspal Singh Sandhu is an Indian film director, writer and producer. His films include 'Angrej' (2015), 'Afsar' (2018), and 'Vadh' (2022).



Rajeev Barnwal is a television and film writer and director. He wrote the popular television series 'Savdhaan India' and was writer-director for the web series 'Jehanabad – Love or War' and 'Vadh'.



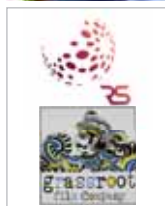
Luv Films is a leading Mumbai-based film production house founded by Luv Ranjan and Ankur Garg producing and distributing commercial as well as feature films. **J Studio** is a film production house known for producing blockbuster and critically acclaimed Punjabi and Hindi films like Angrej, Love Punjab, Lahoriye.



VIDUTHALAI PART - 1

Director:	VETRI MAARAN
Producer(s):	RS INFOTAINMENT PVT LTD GRASSROOT FILM COMPANY
Screenwriter(s):	VETRI MAARAN, MANIMARAN
DoP:	R. AMAR
Editor:	LONGJAM MEENA DEVI
Cast:	SOORI, VIJAY SETHUPATHI, BHAVANI SRE

Set in 1987 in Tamil Nadu following a dastardly act of bombing at a railway bridge which results in 25 civilian deaths, The People's Army, an armed anti-government outfit poses a big threat to the stability of the government and peace in the region. A special police battalion is tasked with capturing the leader of the People's Army, Perumal, either dead or alive. Kumaresan, a new police recruit arrives at the camp but his police journey is unlike what he had imagined as he is made to perform menial jobs and mundane day-to-day activities involved in running a battalion stationed in wilderness. He forms a bond with a local girl Thamizharasi and through her, learns more about her people and their politics. His empathy for her people earns him the wrath of his superiors. To save Thamizharasi and her villagers from further harassment by the police, Kumaresan devises a plan.



Vetrimaaran is an national award-winning Indian film director, producer and screenwriter in the Tamil film industry. His films have garnered several prestigious awards, including five National Film Awards, eight Ananda Vikatan Cinema Awards and two Filmfare South Awards. His film 'Visaranai' (2016) was selected as India's official entry to the Academy Awards.

R.S Infotainment is a production house founded by film producer and businessman, Elred Kumar Santhanam. Its notable productions are 'Muppozhudhum Un Karpanaigal', 'Vinnaitaandi Varuvaayaa', 'Ko' and 'Yaamirukka Bayamey'. **Grass Root Film Company**, established by director Vetrimaaran in 2012, debuted with 'Udhayam Nh4', collaborating with Meeka Entertainment and later Wunderbar Films, producing significant Tamil language films.

INDIAN PANORAMA NON-FEATURE JURY

The Non-Feature Films Jury, consisting of eminent film personalities as the Jury Chairman and six Jury Members, select films made in any Indian language shot on digital/video format and as a documentary / newsreel / non-fiction / short fiction for Indian Panorama.



ARVIND SINHA

(Chairperson)

Arvind Sinha is a leading and award winning documentary filmmaker in India. He has won some of the most prestigious awards for his films like, 'The Recluse', 'Journeying's and Conversations', 'Ajit: The Unconquerable' and 'King of India', amongst others. A recipient of eight national awards, his documentaries have been broadcasted all over the world, including the renowned European culture channel, ARTE. He has also served as jury for several international and national film festivals.



ARVIND PANDEY

Arvind Pandey is a writer and director in the film, television, advertising, media and theatre industry. He is credited with more than 40 short films, 125 documentaries, 60 ad films, six animation films, over 20 corporate films, 27 music videos, four theatre plays and more than 100 radio and television productions. His short films like, 'Ke Se Kitaab', 'Wings of Fire', the animation film 'Tillu', and his debut feature film 'Ishq Pashmina' (2022) received many accolades.



BOBBY WAHENGBAM

Bobby Wahengbam is an award winning filmmaker, producer, author, critic and director in Manipuri cinema. He won the national award twice; for Best Book on Cinema 'Matangi Manipur: The First Manipuri Feature Film' and for Best Regional Feature Film 'Eigi Kona' at the 65th and 67th National Film Awards. Several of his films like 'Joseph's Son', 'Roshni', 'The Fenced People', 'Soft Target', 'Apaiba Leichil' and 'Padma Shri Wareppa Naba' have been screened at prestigious film festivals.



DIP BHUYAN

Dip Bhuyan is an award winning documentary filmmaker in Assamese cinema. He has made over 40 documentaries, fiction films and videos for various organisations. Some of his notable works that garnered accolades and awards at film festivals are, 'Sesh Asha- The Last Hope', 'Resonance of Mother's Melody', and 'Manas and People' for which he won the Best Environment Film Award at the 68th National Film Awards. He has served on the selection committee of several film festivals.



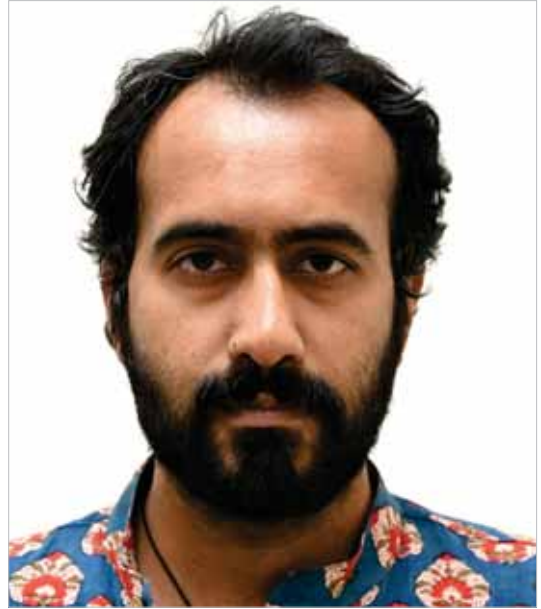
KAMLESH UDASI

Kamlesh Udasi is an award winning television and documentary film director and producer. He was with the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) for 21 years for Edusat Network's documentary, television and educational content generation and production. He has directed and produced close to 300 documentary films and television programs across various genres like social development, human rights, women empowerment, science and technology, etc with 'I Burnt My Fingers' and 'Shifting Shelters' winning awards at various film festivals.



PAUSHALI GANGULI

Paushali Ganguli is a critically acclaimed animator, author, and screenwriter. She won the 49th National Film Award for Best Non-Feature Animation Film for her animated short film 'The Pink Camel' (2001). She has directed several short films and has been screenwriting across various genres. She has also authored several children's books, including the award winning book: 'Tales of Bengal' which is a retelling of Upendrakishore Roy Choudhury's 'Tuntuni-r Boi'.



VARUN KURTKOTI

Varun Kurtkoti is an interdisciplinary artist from Dharwad, Karnataka. Apart from filmmaking, he also focuses on designing and facilitating film and theatre based pedagogies and cooperative filmmaking. His animated film 'Appa And His Invisible Mundu' (2020) was screened across film festivals in the Asia-Pacific. His latest is a community film 'Kathi Kathi Kaarana' (2022), commissioned by the Wellcome Trust, United Kingdom. He is a recipient of fellowships from EngageMedia-Tech Tales, National Geographic and P.S.B.T. Doordarshan.

INDIAN PANORAMA NON-FEATURE

Films made in any Indian language shot on digital/video format and as a documentary/newsreel/non-fiction/short fiction are eligible for the Non- Feature Film Section.



ANDRO DREAMS

Director:	DR. LONGJAM MEENA DEVI
Producer:	AIRAMEEN MEDIA
Screenwriter(s):	LONGJAM MEENA DEVI, SANKHA
DoP:	SANKHA
Editor:	LONGJAM MEENA DEVI
Cast:	LAIBI, NIRMALA, PLAYERS OF AMMA FC

Andro Dreams is the love story of Laibi, an old woman with a spirited soul, and her three decade old, an all girls' football club that is battling economic challenges, a patriarchal system and orthodoxy in an ancient village of northeast India. The film captures the challenges faced by Laibi, the manager of Andro Mahila Mandal Association Football Club (AMMA-FC) in her sixties and Nirmala, their most promising young football player.



Dr. Longjam Meena Devi is an award-winning independent filmmaker and the first woman filmmaker from Manipur to bag a national award for her debut documentary film 'Autodriver'. In 2015, she launched Airameen Media to produce films related to social and gender issues and publish books related to media and the arts.



Airameen Media is a production house founded by Dr. Meena Longjam Devi. Its productions like 'Achoubi in Love', 'Andro Dreams' and other short films have garnered awards and accolades at various international film festivals. Airameen Media aims to produce films related to social and gender issues and publish books.

OPENING FILM ★



1947: BREXIT INDIA

Director:	SANJIVAN LAL
Producer(s):	ECLECTIC FILMS, DR. SWARNJIT SINGH
Screenwriter:	SHAMA ZAIDI
DoP:	JOGENDRA PANDA, DEB BURMAN
Editor:	PRASHANT NAIK, NAVNITA SEN
Cast:	DR. SHASHI THAROOR, WILLIAM DALRYMPLE, COMMODORE UDAY BHASKAR

The documentary examines how the British ruled India for 200 years with a minimal population, yet becoming the world's superpower. Subsequently, Lord Mountbatten's abrupt decision to split India into two parts in 1947 led to catastrophic consequences, with one million deaths and 20 million displaced. In the film, experts from Britain, West Indies, Pakistan, and India discuss the influence of United States and Canada on Britain's decolonization and India's path to independence along with its emergence as a new global superpower.



Sanjivan Lal, an FTII, Pune alumnus specializing in Film Direction (1993), gained critical acclaim with his diploma film 'The Second Page' which was screened at Indian Panorama (1994). His debut film 'Bubble Gum' (2011) garnered rave reviews and the documentary 'Is God Deaf' was screened at multiple festivals, including IFFI (2004).



Eclectic Films Private Limited is an Indian production company established by Sanjivan Lal in June 2017. Based in Mumbai, it mainly produces films and documentaries.

Dr. Swarnjit Singh is a USA based doctor by profession. A big history buff, it was his subject of interest and research for a decade on which this documentary has been made.



BAASAN

Director:	JITANK SINGH GURJAR
Producer:	FILMKATHA STUDIOS
Screenwriter:	JITANK SINGH GURJAR
DoP:	JITANK SINGH GURJAR
Editor:	JITANK SINGH GURJAR
Cast:	VIVEK NAMDEV, RAGHAVENDRA BHADORIA, JYOTI ATROLIYA

The film is inspired by a rural folklore from central India, centred around a concept known as "Maya" or "the buried treasure." According to folklore, this treasure possesses its own consciousness and has the ability to select its rightful bearer. When the treasure is acquired by the person it is destined for, no trouble arises. However, if someone other than the chosen or destined individual claims the buried treasure, it brings forth bad omens. The film explores the lives of two cousins and the choices they make, highlighting the conflict between greed and need, as well as the themes of prophecy and destiny.



Jitank Singh Gurjar is a theatre and film director, editor, cinematographer, scriptwriter and producer based in Mumbai. He started his career with theatre in Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh and went to Delhi in the hub of theatre where he directed many plays. 'Basaan' is his first feature film as a director and producer, a regional art cinema based on rural folklore.



Filmkatha Studios, founded by Jitank Singh, is a film production company based in Gwalior. Since 2018, they have been actively involved in creating advertising films, short films, and documentary films, with numerous upcoming projects. Their mission is to boost cinema awareness and explore innovative concepts. Their inaugural feature film was 'Basaan'.



BACK TO THE FUTURE

Director:	M.S. BISHT
Producer(s):	NATIONAL FILM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED (NFDC)
Screenwriter:	M.S. BISHT
Editor:	N.A. BHOSALE

A critical essay to fathom the momentous journey of cinema, from analogue to digital. The film is peppered with questions and answers, sighs and pauses, and contemplates is it good or bad, or both? It takes viewers on a journey through time, exploring India's past and future.



M. S. Bisht is an Indian filmmaker for more than three decades. An FTII alumnus, his notable films are 'Light Shadow and Me', 'In Search of Fading Canvas', 'Sir K. Balachandran', 'Elephant Do Remember' and 'Back to the Future' that have won many awards and accolades, including the prestigious National Film Award thrice.



The **National Film Development Corporation Limited (NFDC)** was set up by the Government of India in 1975. Its vision is to create domestic and global appreciation and celebration of Indian cinema, foster excellence and promote the diversity of India's culture by supporting and encouraging films in various Indian languages. It has produced over 300 films in 21 Indian languages, which have won several International accolades including the Academy Awards (Gandhi), National and State Awards.



BARURAR XONGXAR

Director:	UTPAL BORPUJARI
Producer(s):	SURJYA, JEMINI PHUKAN PRODUCTIONS
Screenwriter:	UTPAL BORPUJARI
DoP:	RITURAJ SHIVAM
Editor:	JHULAN KRISHNA MAHANTA

In Guwahati stands an iconic Assamese house that completes a century of existence in 2023. Constructed by engineer Chandranath Barua, it has been home to some of Assam's most famous icons, such as filmmaker-actor-musician Brajen Barua, filmmaker-footballer-flautist-painter Nip Barua, singer-turned-composer Ramen Barua, filmmaker Dibon Barua, cricketer-turned-singer Dwipen Barua, cricketer-pilot-entrepreneur-politician Girin Barua and radio broadcaster Niren Barua. The Baruas are perhaps the only family in Assam and India to have produced so many noted personalities. This is the story of 'The House of Baruas' reconstructed through memories, archival film clips and photographs.



Utpal Borpujari is an award-winning journalist and film critic-turned-filmmaker. He is known for his award-winning films that have travelled to prestigious film festivals like his feature film 'Ishu', short fiction film 'Xogun' and documentaries like 'Mask Art of Majuli', 'Memories of a Forgotten War', 'Songs of the Blue Hills' and 'Mayong: Myth/Reality'.



JEMINI PHUKAN PRODUCTIONS

Surjya is a prominent theatre group of Assam which has produced a number of acclaimed plays. Jemini Phukan Production is a film production house dedicated to creating good cinema. It has produced the film, 'Boroxun'. **Jemini Phukan Production** is a Guwahati-based production house dedicated to good cinema, led by young producer and entrepreneur Jemini Phukan.



BEHRUPIYA - THE IMPERSONATOR

Director:	BHASKER VISHWANATHAN
Producer:	MYRAH FILMS (I) PVT. LTD.
Screenwriter(s):	BHASKER VISHWANATHAN, DIGVIJAY SINGH
DoP:	JOGENDRA PANDA
Editor:	HIMANSHU DWIVEDI, DIPANKAR SARKAR
Cast:	DEVESH RANJAN

An impersonator also known as 'Behrupiya' amuses the locals by impersonating well-known movie characters. One day, while performing one of his acts, Behrupiya meets with an accident that brings his life to a complete halt. Despite this setback, the young kids in the village who looked up to him as an idol refuse to give up on him and offer their support. The story explores the themes of resilience, determination, and the importance of community support. The accident that Behrupiya faces has a symbolic significance, representing the challenges and obstacles that can arise in life. However, the fact that the village's young children rally around him and offer their support shows that even in the face of adversity, hope and encouragement can come from unexpected places. The story is a poignant exploration of the power of human connection and the resilience of the human spirit.



Bhasker Vishwanathan is a film director and screenwriter. He has worked on films like 'Bhor', 'Article 35A' and 'Love All'. His debut short film, 'Freedom Fighter,' was screened at various film festivals and his debut feature film was 'Attempt One'. Passionate about poetry, he also writes songs of his shorts and feature films.



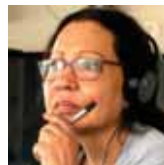
Myrah Films (I) Pvt. Ltd. is a film production company, based in Patna and Mumbai. The company is owned by Manish Kumar and Nilesh Kumar. They have produced three short films and a feature till date. The first production of the company 'Main Azad Hoon' (Short film) was selected for 2nd Season of CMOT, the 2nd production 'Freedom Fighter' (Short film) opened in 28th KIFF, Kolkata as Official selection.



BHANGAAR

Director:	SUMIRA ROY
Producer(s):	SUMIRA ROY, MONISHA ADVANI
Screenwriter:	SUMIRA ROY
DoP:	ISHANI ROY
Editor:	ENIS SARACHI

In the bustling city of Mumbai where life never stops, a couple decide to end their life, becoming India's first couple to appeal for Euthanasia. Living together for over 53 years in a tiny space, in a 100-year-old Chawl, they are ordinary citizens seeking to get their voice heard in a world that doesn't see them. We delve into their inner and emotional worlds to explore what lies beneath this profound choice, one that challenges societal beliefs in karma, afterlife. The film intimately follows their daily life as they await official response. Framed within immediate spaces, inside their room and the vibrant community outside their door, with its non-stop motions of life makes them feel trapped. This ethnic microcosm, reveals universal themes of love, loss, freedom, dignity, ageing. An unexpected crisis brings the couple to a crucial crossroad. Will they succeed in their quest?



Sumira Roy is an award-winning Indie filmmaker, published poet, advertising professional, an entrepreneur and a lecturer. Experienced in different formats of storytelling, her passion is in documentaries that hold a mirror to our social constructs, have a philosophical inquiry and a visual language. Her ad films and short films have won several awards and accolades. Her debut feature film 'Bhangaar' in Marathi and English is ready for release.



Monisha Advani is one of the founding partners of Emmay Entertainment. Since its inception in 2011, Emmay Entertainment has grown to be amongst India's top 5 production houses.



CHANGING LANDSCAPE

Director: PRAVIN SELVAM

Producer: ARJUN GOPALRATNAM

Screenwriter: PRAVIN SELVAM

DoP: PRAVIN SELVAM

Editor: CHANDAN CM

The documentary film focuses on the plight of the wetlands near Tamil Nadu's Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary, a 30-acre state bird sanctuary which is getting ruined by stone quarrying. People have been protesting against the stone quarrying stating it is harming the ecology and how it is affecting them and the wetlands for more than 18 years. But regardless of that, their farmlands are getting seized gradually by power and violence raising ecological fears that are deteriorating conditions as a result.



Pravin Selvam is an independent filmmaker based on Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu. He has worked as an Assistant Director in a Tamil independent feature 'Nasir'. 'Changing Landscape' is his first documentary film.



Arjun Gopalratnam is a retired major from the Indian Army, who has been practicing organic farming for the last 20 years. Before taking up farming, he was working at the International Headquarters of The Theosophical Society of Adyar, Chennai for eight years in various appointments.



CHUPI ROH

Director:	DISHA BAHRDWAJ
Producer:	EIYA FILMS PRIVATE LIMITED
Screenwriter:	DISHA BAHRDWAJ
DoP:	SALU K THOMAS
Editor:	DIVYASHREE SAMANTARAY
Cast:	VAIBHAV SHARMA, PALVI JASWAL, NAVENDU

Chupi Roh is about a family of three – Leela, Raju and their son, Abbu. They live in a small beautiful village deep in the Himalayas. Abbu is struggling with his gender identity while at the same time Raju is stricken by loss and failure. Amidst these issues, Leela is trying to find a way to deal with everything in the best possible way she knows.



Disha Bhardwaj is an independent filmmaker and photographer in the film and television industry hailing from Nirmand, a village in Kullu, Himachal Pradesh, India. She is the Founder and a Board of Director of Eiya Films Pvt Ltd.

Eiya Films Pvt. Ltd. is a production house founded by Disha Bhardwaj, an independent filmmaker and photographer in the film and television industry hailing from Nirmand, Kullu, Himachal Pradesh, India. It aims to promote talent from Himachal Pradesh.



GIDDH (THE SCAVENGER)

Director:	MANISH SAINI
Producer:	M/S ELLANAR FILMS
Screenwriter:	MANISH SAINI
DoP:	SWATHY DEEPAK
Editor:	MANISH SAINI
Cast:	SANJAY MISHRA, VAIBHAV BINIWALE, RAJ VITHHAPURA

The old man found himself tossing his son's clothes away after watching his pyre burn all evening. He died young, succumbing to an illness and perhaps also because of hunger. The son was gone, the old man still lived as did his hunger. He walked back to the crematorium, pulled out his son's shirt from a Banyan tree and sold it. He ate a whole meal that day. The rituals and beliefs in certain parts of India follow the custom of disposing off the clothes of any deceased person soon after their death. Passing on these clothes or selling them without disclosing the truth of their source is considered a sin and a crime. An internal tussle ensues and soon hunger collides with guilt. With the food on his plate at stake, what will weigh heavier, his hunger or his guilt?



Manish Saini is an award-winning Indian film director, writer and editor. His directorial debut film 'DHH' (2015) won the prestigious National Film Award (2018) and travelled to several international film festivals. His second film, the Gujarati film 'Gandhi and Co.' (2020) won the Best Children's Film Award at 69th National Film Awards.



Ellanar Films, a new-age production house. Primarily in the OTT space, it is known for its projects such as 'Gods of Dharmapuri' on Zee5 Telugu, 'Unheard' on Disney + Hotstar along with making a range of content including documentaries, short films, ad films, and corporate reels.



KATHABOR

Director:	KESHAR JYOTI DAS
Producer(s):	DR. BHUPEN HAZARIKA REGIONAL GOVERNMENT FILM AND TELEVISION INSTITUTE
Screenwriter:	KESHAR JYOTI DAS
DoP:	SHYAMAL GOGOI, RAVI SANKAR DAS
Editor:	KESHAR JYOTI DAS
Cast:	PRATIBHA CHOUDHURY, ANTARA GG CHOUDHURY, ABHISEK N

It is a story about inner pain, feelings, emotions, memories, longing and loneliness.



Keshar Jyoti Das is a young and upcoming director, editor and screenplay writer from Barpeta district, Assam, India. He has worked on three short films and three non-fiction films during his diploma course in filmmaking and video editing.



Dr. Bhupen Hazarika Regional Government Film And Television Institute DBHRGFTI (erstwhile Jyoti Chitran Film and Television Institute) established in 1999 is the only institute in the north-east of India providing courses on cinematography, audiography, editing and acting. It collaborates with the Films Division to organise the Guwahati International Documentary Film Festival, the Guwahati International Film Festival and the State Film Awards.



LACHIT (THE WARRIOR)

Director:	PARTHASARATHI MAHANTA
Producer:	PI MEDIA
Screenwriter:	PARTHASARATHI MAHANTA
Editor:	RAHUL DUTTA, HRISHIKESH BORA

Lachit (The Warrior), is an audio-visual documentary on Lachit Barphukan, the greatest Assamese General of the Ahom dynasty. It traces the genesis of the military commander's ancestry, his charismatic personality, physical prowess, resolute valor, his dexterous skills in diplomacy, his incredible formulations of strategies for naval warfare, and most importantly, his unwavering sense of patriotism. The documentary chronologically narrates the unfolding of events, starting from Lachit's launching of a series of onslaughts against the invading Mughals, which starts with the battle of Alaboi and decisively ends in the battle of Saraighat, where the Mughals were vanquished.



Parthasarathi Mahanta is a senior Indian Police Service (IPS) Officer serving as DIG, Police Headquarters, Assam. A recipient of several awards and medals, including the President's Police Medal for Meritorious Service, USA Department of State Medal, All India 1st position in Weapons and Tactics, he is also a reputed writer, a cultural activist and a social worker.



Pi Media is an innovative and dynamic multimedia production company that specializes in creating compelling and captivating content across various genres, including movies, short films, documentaries, music albums, and more. Founded on the principles of creativity, passion, and the art of storytelling, its mission is to craft and curate exceptional content.



LAST MEET

Director:	WARIBAM DORENDRA SINGH
Producer:	M/S COW DUNG MOVIES
Screenwriter:	WARIBAM DORENDRA SINGH
DoP:	DEVA LAISHRAM
Editor:	DORENDRA
Cast:	NAODAM DWIJAMANI, RENUKA DEVI

The film revolves around an old and aged Dwijamani who is bed ridden in his family home in a village near Dalu river. His younger sister from Guwahati, who is aged herself, visits him with her son. The story is about the filmmaker visiting his maternal village home in the year 2016 with his mother. In their last few days of togetherness, they all bond well as they laugh, eat and talk about the village and its people. After staying for few days, Dwijamani's sister and her son leave Dwijamani and his village abode. The film is about their last meeting.



Waribam Dorendra Singh is an independent film and documentary director, editor and producer from Guwahati, India. He has made several short and long videos along with documentaries. He co-directed the feature film 'Antardhan' (2015) and the short film 'I Don't Want to be Born Again for Poem' that was screened across several film festivals, including Rencontres Internationales Paris/Berlin (2020).



Cow Dung Movies is a Guwahati based film production house engaged in producing various independent and experimental films. It looks for new ways of making cinema by exploring different media formats and has produced short films, documentaries and feature films which have been shown at several film festivals since 2014.



LIFE IN LOOM

Director:	EDMOND RANSON
Producer:	MARK STUDIO
Screenwriter:	EDMOND RANSON
DoP:	EDMOND RANSON
Editor:	SUPRAJA SURESH
Cast:	ASHOK KURMAR, NIRA

Weavers from seven different states of India share their experiences about weaving on the looms, from the royal silk weavers of 'Patan Patola' to the indigenous primitive tribal weavers of 'Ringa', along with other diverse cultural authentic weaves practiced by Indian weavers that are now striving hard to survive amidst the globalised modern world. As the unorganized handloom sector employs rural, semi-rural and tribal people of India, the current socio-economic, political and climatic changes are influencing weaver's livelihoods relentlessly and rapidly today. The film documents the weavers and their weaves as they share their day-to-day struggles to continue these sustainable traditional weaving methods that have been passed on from one generation to another for thousands of years.



Edmond Ranson is a documentary and film director, cinematographer and editor. With several documentaries and short films to his credit as a cinematographer and editor, 'Life in Loom' is his debut feature documentary as a director. Passionate about the environment, he wants to tell stories of people practicing sustainable and eco-friendly methods.



Mark Studio India Pvt Ltd is an Indian production house and distribution company set up by Francis Bastiyan and Francis Markus. In 2016, it produced its first film and has been involved in producing quality adverts, documentaries and short films. It is affiliated with specialised post production suites and cine industry professionals.



MAU: THE SPIRIT DREAMS OF CHERAW

Director: **SHILPIKA BORDOLOI**

Producer: **SHILPIKA BORDOLOI**

Screenwriter: **SHILPIKA BORDOLOI**

DoP: **SUMEDHA BHATTACHARYYA**

Editor: **SAGRIKA DEBNATH**

Cast: **SHILPIKA BORDOLOI**

Mau: The Spirit Dreams of Cheraw is a documentary film from Mizoram, through Cheraw (Bamboo Dance) and ritual folklore, revealing the forgotten memory of the story of the mother who dies at childbirth. The film shows a re-imagined dance of the mother spirit with the bamboo dance performed as a way to pacify the soul of the mother who dies in childbirth. Bamboo is part of the geo-political history of Mizoram and the many other states in the north-east of India. Hence the loss of this intergenerational maternal memory is the crisis of culture, the climate of a place. This film is part of a four chapter series that will be looking at human and non-human relationships by inquiring the hidden stories, indigenous knowledge systems, memories, ancestral wisdom and displacement of this relationship.



Shilpika Bordoloi is a filmmaker, performing artist, educator and curator. She is the founder and artistic director of Brahmaputra Cultural Foundation (BCF), a visiting faculty at the National School of Drama, National Institute of Design and at the State University of Film and Television, Haryana. She has been awarded the Sangeet Natak Akademi Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar for Experimental Dance in India. Currently, she is exploring the broad umbrella of Body Wisdom where healing modalities, stage work, screen work and community work intersect in a multi-dimensional way.



PRADAKSHINA

Director:	PRATHAMESH MAHALE
Producer(s):	MIT ADT UNIVERSITY, MIT INSTITUTE OF DESIGN
Screenwriter:	PRATHAMESH MAHALE
DoP:	RITAM CHATTERGEE
Editor:	PRATHAMESH MAHALE
Cast:	DILIP ANGRE, ISHA JOGLEKAR

Suma, a recently widowed young woman, and her father-in-law find themselves stranded at a bus station. They've missed their bus and face a day-long wait. The conductor suggests an alternative, to catch the bus from another station at night. A sense of sadness lingers between them. Over tea, the vendor advises them to explore the city. Suma helps her father-in-law negotiate a rickshaw ride. They visit a Peshwa monument, reminiscing about Suma's school days. Her father-in-law once wished for her to join their family, abandoning her dream of a history degree for an early marriage. He delicately broaches the subject of remarriage. Suma walks away, gazing over the city with mixed emotions. Night falls, they are on the bus. The father-in-law talks with her family, mentioning the untouched topic of remarriage. He hints at another pending conversation. It ends with a book Suma was interested seen in her father-in-law's bag.



Prathamesh Mahale is a fourth-year student of Film and Video Design at MIT Institute of Design. During his stint at MIT, he directed two short films, a music video, an advertisement film, a promotional film and assisted on other projects. His cinematic inclination leans towards the aesthetics of minimalism and subtlety.



Mit Adt University, Mit Institute Of Design has been at the forefront of design education in India since 2006 and is determined to play a leading role in the years ahead. Of the many courses available, the institute offers a Bachelor's and Master's Degree in Communication Design with Film and Video Design as a specialisation.



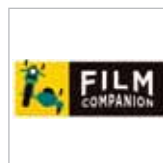
SADABAHAR

Director:	SUYASH KAMAT
Producer:	FILM COMPANION LLP
Screenwriter:	SUYASH KAMAT
DoP:	RIYA KHICHER
Editor:	EESHA DEV
Cast:	SATISH GAONKAR, MAHADEV KRISHNA SAWANT

One night when they find themselves falsely accused of robbery, band members of 'Sadabahr', a wedding brass quartet from Uttar Pradesh working in Goa, have to decide between pursuing a livelihood as 'outsiders' in Goa or returning to the lives they left behind in their villages.



Suyash Kamat is a young filmmaker and photographer based out of Goa, India. He has helmed various projects under multiple roles which have been showcased and have garnered awards at prestigious film festivals. Currently, he is pursuing a post graduate course in Cinematography at the Satyajit Ray Film & Television Institute.



Film Companion is a platform for entertainment journalism. It's main focus is films across genres and geography - Bollywood, Hollywood, world cinema, Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, Kannada and Marathi, amongst others. They do reviews, interviews, features and recommendations around cinema.



SRI RUDRAM

Director:	ANANDA JYOTHI
Producer:	PERUMEEEN CINEMA
Screenwriter:	ANANDA JYOTHI
DoP:	PAPPINU
Editor:	SURAJ E.S.
Cast:	GAGANA GOPAL

Gagna, a very intelligent woman who has studied abroad, returns to her home in India to spend time with her family. However, her analytical mind and her ideal idea of success in the modern world undergoes a slow, but radical change, when she encounters the richness and poetry of images recited by the guardians of the millenary Vedic chant, Sree Rudram. The power of vibrations and their meaning and wisdom will touch Gagna's heart, deepening her understanding of devotion, along with dispelling her fears and giving her mental clarity where she will decide to walk a path to contentment and happiness in the depths of this poetry to the creator of the world.



Ananda Jyothi is a poet, scriptwriter, musician and filmmaker from Kochi, Kerala. He has directed many international documentary film projects in Greece, Switzerland, England, Brasil, and India, and has also curated prominent cinema exhibitions and festivals like 'Bhava: Universe of Indian Cinema' (2012), and '100 Years of Indian Cinema' (2014).



Perumeen Cinema had produced the feature film 'Uma - The Light of Himalayas' (2019). It has also co-produced a Brazilian feature film called 'Echoes of Silence' (2020). In 2021, it co-produced a Swiss documentary called, 'Dancing Stillness of Fire'.



THE SEA & SEVEN VILLAGES

Director:	HIMANSU SEKHAR KHATUA
Producer:	KADAMBINI MEDIA PRIVATE LIMITED
Screenwriter:	HIMANSU SEKHAR KHATUA
DoP:	HIMANSHU KHATUA
Editor:	RAMA RAMAN DAS
Cast:	SATAVAYA VILLAGERS

As sea levels rise along the Bay of Bengal, coastal erosion, frequent cyclones and the mismanagement of coastal lands have resulted in the destruction of homes, agricultural lands and the entire settlement of Seven Villages of Kendrapara district in Odisha. It has resulted in people suffering along with forced migration. The film traces and depicts the stories of these displaced coastal communities of the Satabhaya villages.



Himansu Khatua is an award winning film director, scriptwriter, sound recordist and sound designer in the Oriya film industry. His debut film 'Katantar' (2005) won multiple state awards, including the Best Film Award (Odia). His other notable films that have garnered accolades are, 'Kahani Nuhen', 'Kahe Ballava', 'Matira Bandhana' and 'Krantidhara'.



Kadambini Media is committed to literature and publishes books with high literary value, authored by eminent writers. It also marked its debut in films with its production 'Kathantara' which bagged national and state film awards, followed by the feature film 'Krantidhara', and short films like 'Kahani Nuhen' and documentaries like 'Kahe Ballava'.



UTSAVMURTI

Director:	ABHIJEET ARVIND DALVI
Producer:	ANUSHKA MOTION PICTURES AND ENTERTAINMENTS
Screenwriter:	ABHIJEET ARVIND DALVI
DoP:	GAURAV KULKARNI
Editor:	MAYUR HARDAS
Cast:	KANHAIYYA TIWARI, PUSHKAR TAMBOLI, KIRAN DIDWANIYA

The state of Maharashtra in India has a magnificent cultural heritage of celebrating the Ganesh festival with great gaiety. The idol of Lord Ganesha is called 'Utsavmurti' meaning festival idol. The story of the film 'Utsavmurti' is about a boy named Kanha and Lord Ganesha in a group celebrating Ganesh Utsav. Kanha feels very envious of Lord Ganesha, who sits as a 'Utsavmurti' for ten days during the Ganesh festival, as Kanha himself wishes to become a 'Utsavmurti' like Lord Ganesha in life. His wish is fulfilled but then he realizes how difficult it is to become a 'Utsavmurti', noticing the several mistakes that are made at the Ganesh festival.



Abhijeet Dalvi is an award-winning director, writer and actor in films and theatre predominantly in Marathi. He has written and directed several One Act Plays, winning several accolades. His Marathi non-feature film 'Kumkumarchan' was nominated and awarded at more than 21 national and International film festivals (2020-2021) including the 68th National Film Awards.



Anushka Motion Pictures and Entertainments is a production company founded by Narendra Firodia; a businessman, investor, social entrepreneur and a mentor to budding leaders. Driven with a vision to build on the legacy of his family, his production company produced the Marathi films 'Aga Bai Arrecchha 2' and 'Tripleseat'.

BEST WEB SERIES (OTT) AWARD

54th International Film Festival of India



India has a vibrant media and entertainment sector with a diversity of content across languages, regions, cultures, platforms, and mediums, including theatrical films and OTT platforms. The OTT sector, despite being nascent in India, emerged as a bulwark for the Media and Entertainment (M&E) Industry during the Covid-19 pandemic. Its growth has led to the increasing production of content in Indian languages and has also helped take Indian content from regional to global audiences, leading to recognition and awards globally.

The Government of India has taken steps to support and promote the OTT industry. The Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021 provides recognition to the OTT sector, establishing a stable institutional mechanism making the platform accountable to their audiences. The OTT industry today is contributing towards the growth of the M&E sector of India by taking Indian stories to the world, nurturing young talent, producing world-class content, and earning honour and investments. Realising the synergy between film and the OTT sector, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has encouraged the participation of OTT platforms as world premieres, master classes, and technology exhibitions, amongst others. Recognising these tectonic changes in the entertainment industry, the Best Web Series (OTT) Award is been introduced at the 54th IFFI with an aim to acknowledge, encourage and honour the flourishing content and its creators on OTT platforms.

The Award primarily aims at recognising and rewarding exceptional talent with the opportunities provided by the OTT space in India. It aims at encouraging the production of exceptional content for digital platforms in Indian languages, promoting diversity and creativity in the web content industry. Furthermore, to incentivise and create investment opportunities in India's OTT sector by providing avenues to content creators and OTT platforms to showcase their work, exchange knowledge, and foster international relationships through the prestigious International Film Festival of India (IFFI).

The Best Web Series (OTT) Award will be presented to the Director, Creator, and Producer of one Best Web Series and its OTT Platform for its artistic merit, storytelling, technical excellence, and overall impact with certificates and a cash prize of 10 Lakhs at the 54th IFFI.

ACCESSIBLE INDIA ACCESSIBLE FILMS

IFFI has a special section for specially-abled festival delegates, making the festival, and thereby cinema inclusive and accessible for everyone. Keeping in mind accessibility needs, these films will be audio-visual-equipped, with embedded audio descriptions, or embedded sign language.



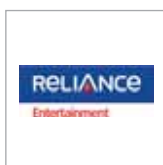
83

Director:	KABIR KHAN
Producer:	RELIANCE ENTERTAINMENT
Screenwriter:	KABIR KHAN, SANJAY PURAN SINGH, V ASANBALA
DoP:	ASEEM MISHRA
Editor:	NITIN VAID
Cast:	RANVEER SINGH, DEEPIKA PADUKONE, TAHIR RAJ BHASIN, KRISHNAMACHARI SRIKKANTH

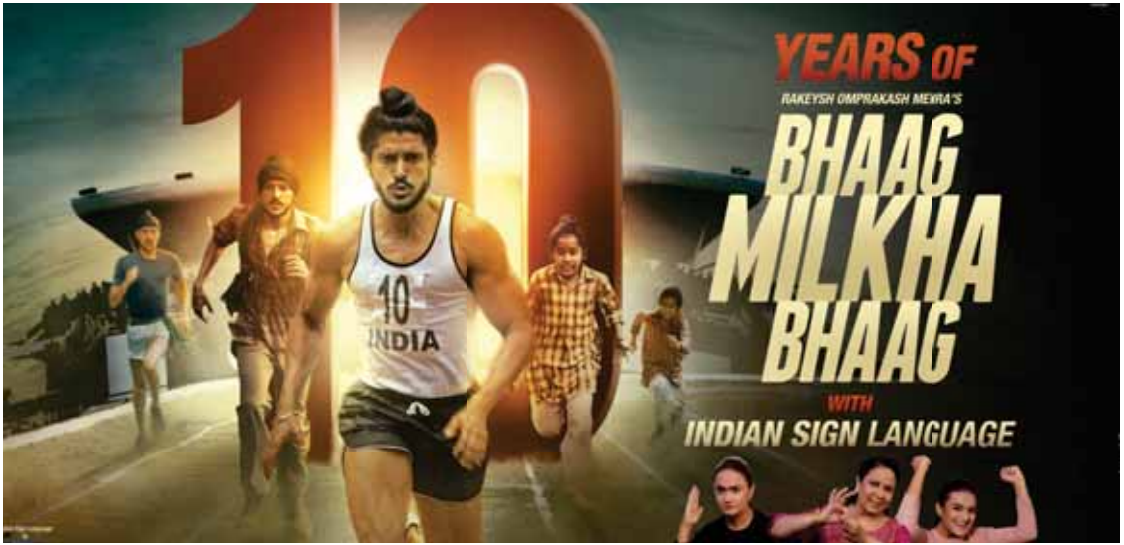
Courtesy:
India Signing Hands



Kabir Khan is an Indian film director, screenwriter and cinematographer who works in Hindi cinema. He started his career working in documentary films, and then made his feature film directorial debut in 2006 with *Kabul Express*. He is best known for directing *Ek Tha Tiger* (2012) and *Bajrangi Bhaijaan* (2015). His latest film *83* was released in (2021).



Reliance Entertainment Pvt Ltd is an Indian media and entertainment company. It is a division of Reliance Group, handling its media and entertainment business, across content and distribution platforms. The company was founded on 15 February 2005, as two entities, namely Reliance Big Entertainment and BIG Pictures.



BHAAG MILKHA BHAAG

Director:	RAKEYSH OMPRAKASH MEHRA
Producer:	VIACOM 18
Screenwriter:	PRASOON JOSHI
DoP:	BINOD PRADHAN
Editor:	P. S. BHARATHI
Cast:	FARHAN AKHTAR, DIVYA DUTTA, PAWAN MALHOTRA, SONAM KAPOOR

The true story of the "Flying Sikh" – world champion runner and Olympian Milkha Singh -- who overcame the massacre of his family, civil war during the India–Pakistan partition, and homelessness to become one of India's most iconic athletes.

Courtesy:
India Signing Hands



Rakeysh Omprakash Mehra is a director, writer and producer who established Rakeysh Omprakash Mehra Pictures (ROMP). His film Rang De Basanti won four National Awards (President's Medals), was India's official entry to the Oscars 2006–2007 and was also nominated by British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) in the foreign language category 06–07



Viacom18 Motion Pictures is India's finest fully integrated motion pictures studio. In just two and a half years of operations, it has emerged as a force to reckon with by delivering a stream of critically and commercially successful films like Special 26, Kahaani, Gangs of Wasseypur, OMG Oh My God!, Shaitaan, That Girl in Yellow Boots, Pyaar ka Punchnama, Inkaar and Saheb, Biwi Aur Gangster Returns to name a few.



SHERSHAAH

Director:	VISHNU VARADHAN
Producer(s):	DHARMA PRODUCTIONS PVT LTD, KAASH ENTERTAINMENT PVT LTD
Screenwriter:	SANDEEP SHRIVASTAVA
DoP:	KAMALJEET NEGI
Editor:	A. SREEKAR PRASAD
Cast:	SIDHARTH MALHOTRA, KIARA ADVANI, SHIV PANDIT, SAHIL VAID

The story of a young soldier on the border who sacrifices his life for the integrity of the Nation.



Vishnu Varadhan is an Indian film director, producer and screenwriter in the Tamil film industry, known for his highly successful films like, 'Arintuum Ariyamalum', 'Pattiyal', 'Panjaa' and 'Arrambam'. 'Shershaah' was his directorial debut in Hindi cinema.



Dharma Productions is one of India's top film production houses, led by filmmaker Karan Johar. It produced more than 35 films which includes a series of blockbusters and critically acclaimed films.

Kaash Entertainment is a film and web series production house founded in 2013 by Shabbir Boxwala, Ajay Shah and Himanshu Gandhi that celebrates the grandeur of love, life and stories.



SIRF EK BANDAA KAAFI HAI

Director:	APOORV SINGH KARKI
Producer(s):	BHANUSHALI STUDIOS LIMITED, ZEE STUDIOS
Screenwriter:	DEEPAK KINGRANI
DoP:	ARJUN KUKRETI
Editor:	SUMEET KOTIAN
Cast:	MANOJ BAJPAYEE, ADRIJA SINHA, SURYAMOCHAN KULSHRESH

Inspired by true events, the film is the story of a five-year-long standalone fight of a regular and small time sessions court lawyer, P.C. Solanki who stood for truth against an influential and powerful godman with political clout who assaulted a minor girl. The film takes one through the brutal long struggle to bring justice to this particular minor girl and all the others who were wronged by the fraud godman over the years, proving that no man is above the law. Based on the philosophy of India's national emblem, 'Satyameva Jayate' (Truth Alone Prevails), the courtroom drama emphasises on Satya (truth) as one says it as "Truth is God."



Apoorv Singh Karki is an acclaimed web series and film director. Known for the popular OTT series 'Aspirants' (2021) and 'Flames' (2019), with his stories connecting well with young audiences. Before donning the director's hat for 'Sirf Ek Bandaa Kaafi Hai', his OTT release 'Saas Bahu Achaar Pvt Ltd' (2022) received rave reviews.



The production house, **Bhanushali Studios Limited**, along with the music label Hitz Music has been associated with an impressive portfolio of over 1100 films for expertise in various aspects of the entertainment industry, including music, marketing, distribution, licensing, and production.

Based in Mumbai, India, **Zee Studios**, established in 2012 as the content powerhouse for Zee Entertainment Enterprises Limited, specializes in the development, production, and distribution of film, streaming, and television content.

GALA PREMIERES

The 'Gala Premieres' segment of the festival was launched during the 53rd edition of IFFI to add more glitz and glamour to the festival and allow the public to see their favourite stars up close. This segment was a huge success and drew in large audiences, with mainstream films from across the globe gracing the red carpet and attending the galore premieres of their films. The segment was designed to connect international cinema to reach the roots of India by providing a platform for filmmakers, delegates to interact, build global friendships. The section has added inclusiveness where Indie art meets glamour and diverse talent connects with the industry. True to the festival ethos the Gala premieres have Directors in attendance with stars supporting the auteur.

Farrey (Feature)

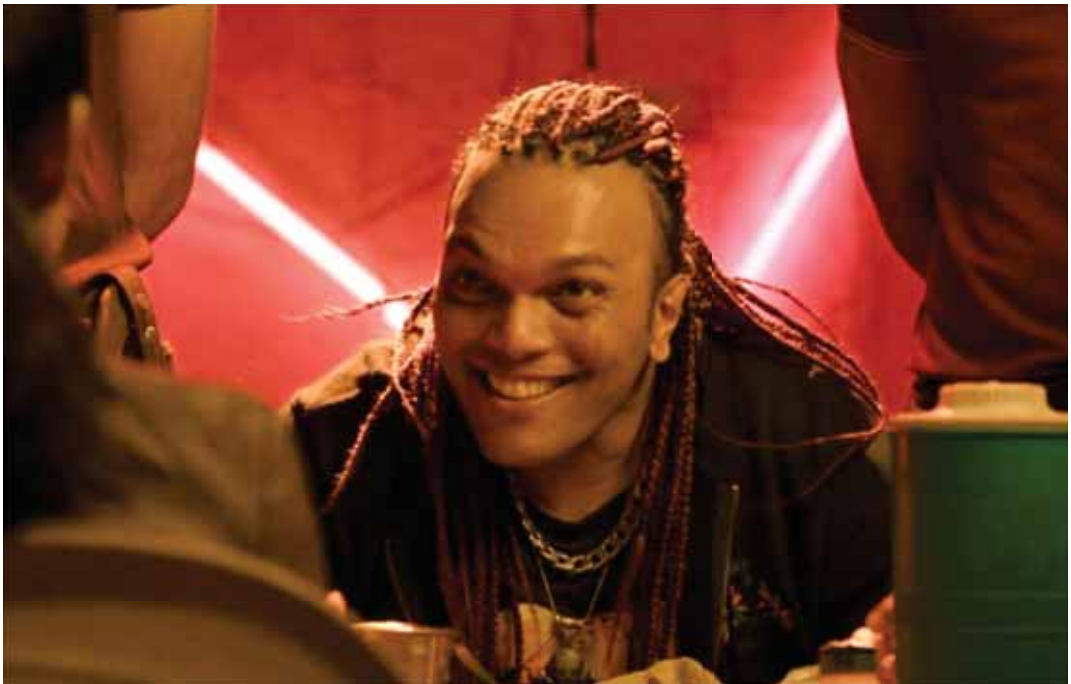


The Village (Web-Series)



Still from Dear Jassi (Feature)

Additionally, the section will give premiere status to some OTT content. The Red Carpet & Gala Premieres also introduces some of the first timers in cinema. As gala premieres enter the second edition this year it is driven to make it even grander than the last, raising the bar for cinematic excellence.



Still from Film 'Grey Games'



Still from Dhootha (Web Series) **Gala Premieres Schedule***

S.N.	DATE	TITLE	DIRECTOR	LANGUAGE	DURATION	CAST
1	21/11/2023 Tuesday	Farrey	Soumendra Padhi	Hindi	120 Min + 15 Min Q&A	Alizeh Agnihotri, Prasanna Bisht, Sahil Mehta, Zeyn Shaw
2	21/11/2023 Tuesday	Gandhi Talks	Kishor Padurang Belekar	Silent	141 Min	Vijay Sethupathy, Aditi Rao Hydri, Mahesh Manjharekar, Arvind Swamy, Siddharth Jadhav
3	22/11/2023 Wednesday	Kadak Singh	Aniruddha Roy Chowdhury	Hindi	136 Min	Pankaj Tripathy, Parvathy Thiruvothu
4	22/11/2023 Wednesday	The Village (Episode 1)	Milind Rau	Tamil	35:45 Min + 15 Min Q&A	Arya, Divya Pillai, Aazhiya , Aadukalam Naren
5	23/11/2023 Thursday	Hurry Om Hurry	Nisarg Vaidya	Gujarati	147 Min	Siddharth Randeria, Raunaq Kamdar, Vyoma Nandi
6	24/11/2023 Friday	Dear Jassi	Tarsem Singh Dhandwar	Punjabi	132 Min + 15 Min Q&A	Pavia Sidhu, Yugam Sood, Gourav Sharma
7	26/11/2023 Sunday	Dhootha (Episode 1)	Vikram K. Kumar	Telugu	42:01 Min + 15 Min Q&A	Naga Chaitanya, Parvathy, Prachi Desai
8	27/11/2023 Monday	Dil Hai Gray	Susi Ganeshan	Hindi	132 Min	Urvashi Rautela, Akshay Oberoi, Rangaraj Pandey, Vineet Kumar Singh
9	27/11/2023 Monday	Grey Games	Gangadhar Salimath	Kannada	121 Min	Vijay Raghavendra, Shruti Prakash & Ram Manjjoaath

OPEN AIR SCREENINGS

An annual sidebar of IFFI's city-wide film festival programme, Open Air Screenings return to the 54th edition with a slate of entertaining, inspirational and audience friendly films.

These special screenings for the citizens of Goa as well as the visitors to the scenic state will be organized at the following popular destinations:

1. Anjuna Beach (North Goa)
2. Rabindra Open Lawn (Madgaon)
3. Miramar Beach (Panjim)



MASTERCLASSES AND IN-CONVERSATION SESSIONS

Tuesday, 21st November, 2.30 PM

InConversation: The Archies – Made in India

SPEAKERS

Jon Goldwater, CEO and Publisher – Archie Comics

Zoya Akhtar, Writer, Director, Producer

Reema Kagti, Screenwriter and Filmmaker

Sharad Devarajan, Founder & CEO, Graphic India and Liquid Comics

MODERATOR

Rajeev Masand, Film Critic, Journalist and Cinephile

Tuesday, 21st November, 5.00 PM

In Conversation: No if, no but. Only Jatt

SPEAKERS

Sunny Deol, Actor

Rahul Rawail, Director

Anil Sharma, Director

Rajkumar Santoshi, Director

Wednesday, 22nd November, 10.30 AM

Masterclass: Film Direction

SPEAKER

Brillante Mendoza, Director and Producer

Wednesday, 22nd November, 12.30 PM

In Conversation: Living The Character

SPEAKERS

Vijay Sethupathi, Actor

Kushboo Sundar, Actor

Wednesday, 22nd November, 2.30 PM

In Conversation

SPEAKERS

Madhur Bhandarkar, Film Maker

MODERATOR

Taran Adarsh, Film Critic and Film Business Analyst

Thursday, 23rd November, 12.30 PM

In Conversation: Unique Swagger In Every Role

- **SPEAKER**
Pankaj Tripathi, Actor
- **MODERATOR**
Mayank Shekhar, Entertainment Editor – Mid-day

Thursday, 23rd November, 2.30 PM

In Conversation: Indian Documentary on World Stage

- **SPEAKERS**
Kartiki Gonsalves, Director and Filmmaker
RV Ramani, Filmmaker, Cinematographer and Teacher
Miriam Chandy Menachery, Film Maker
Sai Abishek, Head of Factual & Lifestyle Cluster, South Asia, Warner Bros. Discovery.
Nilotpal Majumdar, Producer, Mentor, Head of Docedge Kolkata
- **MODERATOR**
Anshul Chaturvedi, Executive Editor, Metro Supplements, Times of India

Thursday, 23rd November, 5.00 PM

In Conversation: The Road to Oscars

- **SPEAKERS**
Guneet Monga, Producer
Carter Pilcher, Chief Executive, ShortsTV
Resul Pookutty, Sound Designer / Filmmaker
- **MODERATOR**
Sonal Kalra, Chief Managing Editor for Entertainment&Lifestyle, Hindustan Times

Friday, 24th November, 2.30 PM

In Conversation: Crafting Compelling Web Series for OTT

- **SPEAKERS**
Manoj Bajpayee, Actor
Raj Nidimoru and Krishna D.K, Writer, Director, Producer
Apoorva Bakshi, Producer
Srikrishna Dayal, Actor
- **MODERATOR**
Naman Ramachandran, Film Consultant

Friday, 24th November, 5.00 PM

In Conversation: Dazzling the Screen

□ **SPEAKERS**

Dolly Ahluwalia, Costume Designers and Actor

Vaishnavi Reddy, Production Designer

Preetisheel Singh D'souza, Character Designer, Hair, makeup and prosthetic artist

□ **MODERATOR**

Sudhir Srinivasan, Writer and film critic. Executive Editor, The New Indian Express

Saturday, 25th November, 12.30 PM

In Conversation:

□ **SPEAKERS**

Tarsem Singh, Filmmaker

Brendan Galvin, Cinematographer

Saturday, 25th November, 2.30 PM

In Conversation: Passion of Storytelling – Young Filmmakers

□ **SPEAKERS**

Sagar Puranik, Filmmaker

Nikhil Mahajan, Screenwriter, Producer, Director

Rajdeep Paul, Filmmaker–writer

Jasmeet K. Reen, Writer and Director

□ **MODERATOR:**

Mayank Shekhar, Entertainment Editor, Mid-day

Saturday 25th November, 5.00 PM

In Conversation: Raising Finance– Bringing Creative Visions to Life

□ **SPEAKERS**

Boney Kapoor, Producer

Allu Aravind, Producer

Firdausul Hasan, Producer

Prithul Kumar, Festival Director – IFFI and Film Bazar 2023

Sunitha Tati, Founder and CEO, GURU Group

SR Prabu, Producer and Distributor

Shariq Patel, Chief Business Officer, Zee Studios

□ **MODERATOR**

Komal Nahta, Trade Analyst

Sunday, 26th November, 12.30 PM

In Conversation: Delivering Compelling Performances

- SPEAKER**
Rani Mukerji, Actor
- MODERATOR**
Baradwaj Rangan, Editor-in-Chief, Galatta Plus

Sunday, 26th November, 5.00 PM

Masterclass: Introduction to Digital Motion Picture Preservation

- SPEAKER**
Theodore E. Gluck, Academy's Science and Technology Council

Monday, 27th November, 11.00 AM

In Conversation: Woman Power in Indian Cinema

- SPEAKERS**
Ashwiny Iyer Tiwari, Artist, Filmmaker and Writer
Modhura Palit, Cinematographer/DOP.
Shweta Venkat Mathew, Film Editor
- MODERATOR**
Puja Talwar, Former Editor – Entertainment, NDTV

Monday, 27th November, 2.30 PM

In Conversation: The Villains – Leaving A Lasting Impression

- SPEAKERS**
Ranjeet, Actor
Gulshan Grover, Actor
Raza Murad, Actor
Kiran Kumar, Actor
- MODERATOR**
Komal Nahta, Trade Analyst

Monday, 27th November, 5.00 PM

In Conversation: Women and the Glass Ceiling

- SPEAKERS**
Vidya Balan, Actor
Vani Tripathi Tikoo, Actor

Tuesday, 28th November, 11.30 AM

In Conversation: Is it Time for One World Cinema?

- SPEAKERS**
Michael Kirk Douglas, Actor and Producer
Shailendra Singh, Producer

FILM BAZAAR



Film Bazaar is South Asia's largest global Film Market organized by National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) alongside IFFI, every year at the Marriott Resort, Goa. With its focus set on discovering, supporting, and showcasing South Asian content and talent in filmmaking, production and distribution, the Bazaar also facilitates the sales of world cinema in the South Asian region. Each year more than 200 films from across South Asia are pitched to various sales agents, buyers, film festival programmers and financiers from all over the world.

Over the years many films have come out of Film Bazaar and have gone on to premiere at major international film festivals and have also won several awards. Some of these films are *The Lunchbox*, *Margarita With A Straw*, *Chauthi Koot*, *Qissa*, *Ship of Theseus*, *Titli*, *Court*, *Anhey Ghorhey Da Daan*, *Miss Lovely*, *Dum Lagake Haisha*, *Liar's Dice*, *Bombay Rose*, *Thithi*, *I AM*, *Deool*, *Television*, *Shanghai*, *Liar's Dice*, *The Good Road*, *Court*, *Lipstick Under My Burkha*, *Island city*, *Killa*, *Highway*, *Ashwatthama*, *Nil Battey Sannata*, *Tu Hi Mera*

Sunday, *Bhosle*, *Aamis*, *Laila Aur Satt Geet*, *Nasir*, *Uljhan*, *Soni*, *Balikapa*, *Maáma*, *Eeb Allay Ooo!*, *Nimtoh* etc.

17th Edition of NFDC Film Bazaar is being held from November 20–24, 2023.

CO-PRODUCTION MARKET

Co-Production Market is one key segment of Film Bazaar initiated in 2007 with an aim to give a platform to Indian as well as foreign producers to find suitable Co-Producers for their projects in the form of financial assistance, location support, or post-production facilities. In 2011, the market was expanded to include deserving projects from South Asian Countries. The model has been set up to bring together film professionals from across the globe to enhance opportunities for international co-productions and to contribute actively to the dynamism of the South Asian film industry.

The Co-Production Market has consistently brought out notable projects. Successful projects from the past editions include *Shanghai* (2010), *Court* (2012), *The Song of Scorpions* (2013), *Newton* (2015), *Manto* (2015), *Agra* (2015), *Children of the Sun* (2015), *Bombay Rose* (2015), *Bhosle* (2016), *The Salt in our Waters* (2016), *Aamis* (2017), *The Knot* (2017), *Nasir* (2017), *Rapture* (2018), *The Storyteller* (2020), *Writer* (2020), etc

For the 17th Edition this year, we received 142 projects from 19 countries featuring a diverse range of 27 languages. 20 projects were selected that bring forth a pan-global narrative. The selected filmmakers will be pitching their projects to International and Indian producers, distributors, festival programmers, financiers, and sales agents at the Open Pitch.

From this edition onward, we have included Documentary to the Co-Production Market. The aim is to foster connections between documentary projects with South Asian themes and international producers, distributors, sales agents, and financiers. We encouraged projects that celebrates human stories from the field of (but not limited to) environment and sustainability, science and technology, urbanization, love and borders, important cultural figures, education, anthropology, women's movement, gender and sexuality, children, music, arts and culture, health, mental health and wildlife. We received a good response with 98 entries from 15 countries and in 32 languages.

With immense and careful examination, a final selection of 12 projects from 7 countries and in 17 languages have been selected. These projects have compelling stories that transcend boundaries in terms of genre, geography, language, voice and identity.

These 32 selected projects from Co-Production Market will now be pitching, and connecting with national and international fraternity at Film Bazaar from November 20-24 where the projects will find financial and creative collaborations.

WORK-IN-PROGRESS LAB

The Work-in-Progress (WIP) Lab gives selected filmmakers a chance to screen the rough cut of their film to an eminent panel of international advisors that included film festival directors, film critics, producers, and editors. These advisors provide valuable feedback on the edit with the aim of helping the filmmaker achieve an accomplished final cut of the film. Previous year's advisors were Marco Mueller, Marie-Pierre Duhamel, Lizi Gelber, Philippa Campbell, Olivia Stewart, Derek Malcolm, Jacques Comets and Clemence Carre. From this year, the Work-In-Progress Lab will be accepting Documentary (Non-Fiction) as well as Animation films in addition to fiction features.



Total of 5 Fiction films and 5 Documentary (Non-Fiction) films will be selected. The Director and Editor of the selected film screen their rough cuts to the panel of advisors and receive intense one-on-one feedback.

VIEWING ROOM

The Viewing Room presents films from India and South Asia, which are recently completed or still in post-production. These films are looking for film festivals, world sales, distribution partners, or finishing funds. Viewing Room connects Sellers (filmmakers) with Buyers (film programmers, distributors, world sales agents, and investors) from around the world. Buyers are able to watch the films, access details about the films as well as contact the filmmakers through the specially-designed Viewing Room Software. This is a highly restricted zone with the aim of making it a safe space for filmmakers who submit their unreleased films.



Market Screenings



To create a more user-friendly experience, buyers can choose to view the films / film clips on the basis of parameters like duration, language, stage of completion, type and festival history, among others. This year there are around 180 films in viewing room.

MARKET SCREENINGS

Market Screenings serve as a crucial platform for filmmakers to showcase their films to sales agents, distributors, producers, and festival programmers from around the world. These screenings play a pivotal role in promoting and marketing films in the international market, providing talented filmmakers with opportunities to establish valuable connections and secure distribution deals.

Previous films like Skater Girl, Axone, Super Deluxe, Pimpal, Mulshi Pattern, Angrezi mein kehte hain, Kuthiravaal, Oththa Seruppu, Ek Sangayachay, No Dorai, Pimple, T se Taj, Abarkha, Bena, Dithee, Aani Maani, Bailadila and many more have been featured, making it an exciting and promising event for industry professionals and filmmakers alike. For this edition we have received films from various countries like the USA, Russia, Canada, Germany, Taiwan, India.

FILM OFFICES

The Countries & States through their Film Offices, highlight their film policy and their endeavor to make filming a smooth affair, showcase their locations and acquaint the filmmakers and the fraternity about the incentives/rebates/subsidies offered for filming in their respective jurisdictions. The Industry on the other hand, gets an opportunity to sensitize the State Governments with regard to the needs of the

film industry, the various challenges faced by them during filming in locations and the consequent economic impact that film shootings have on the local economy.

This year's attendance includes countries like the United Kingdom, Russia, Kazakhstan and states like Maharashtra, Jammu & Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Bihar, Uttarakhand, etc.



COLLABORATIONS

For this edition, Film Bazaar has collaborated with the British Film Institute wherein 6 producers (both feature and non-feature) will be coming to the bazaar along with 2 BFI representatives in an attempt to encourage cultural exchange and collaborations between countries.

Additionally, we have also signed an MOU with ATF IP ACCELERATOR Project Market in Singapore which is one of the biggest content markets for Co-Production. The partnership will run for 2 years with its inception from 2023. During the partnership years, each market will pick up two projects and represent them in their respective market.

In this edition, we have a special tie up with The Australian India Film Council. The Council will bring 5 representatives from the Australian film fraternity who will participate in the bazaar by meeting the participants

and will be watching films in various capacities.

SCREENWRITERS' LAB

NFDC LABS, started in 2007, has been established to provide a framework of professional development for Indian filmmakers already established in the work field or developing their careers following Film and/or Media studies. The Lab is structured with three on-site, residential sessions spread over four to five months. The lab is under the mentorship of internationally-acclaimed script and industry experts. The long-running, residential Lab for Indian screenwriters will continue to understand the fundamentals of screenwriting, story structure and character development. Some of the films that were part of the lab and completed their script to screen journey in the recent years are The Lunchbox, Titli, Dum Lagake Haisha, Bombay Rose, The Good Road, Lipstick Under My Burkha, Island city, All India Rank, Gos Kota Manuh (The Woodcutter), Sharmaji Namkeen, Fire in the Mountains



This year, eight scriptwriters are selected and will be mentored by the established team of mentors in. The mentors this year are Marten Rabarts (New Zealand), Claire Dobbin (Australia), Bikas Mishra (Mumbai), and Ketki Pandit (Pune). These eight

screenwriters will be pitching at Film bazaar to the potential producers, financiers, distributors, and other film industry delegates from across the world.

BOOK TO BOX OFFICE



The purpose of Book to Box Office is to create a marketplace for the exchange of ideas between authors and producers, a hub where the written word can eventually be adapted for the big screen.

This year, Book To Box Office has partnered with The Story Ink for a three-day pop-up at the Film Bazaar, which will include curated meet-and-greets, networking events, and “beachside chats” by experts in the field. The main objective is to provide creative authors a platform to submit their work and introduce these stories to the entertainment industry producers and heads of platforms. Book to Box Office not only aims for the best union of authors with producers, but also encourages genuine deals, selling ‘rights’ ethically. The top 30 titles have been selected by an eclectic group of six esteemed writers, agents, producers, and OTT platform heads who are part of our prestigious jury. Each jury member has picked ONE title that will have the opportunity to do an open pitch to producers, OTT platforms, and financiers at the Book to Box Office tent.

Tech Pavilion

For the first time in Film Bazaar history, a VFX and Tech Pavilion will showcase some of the most dynamic, immersive, and cutting-edge advances in filmmaking technology in the fields of animation, visual effects, virtual reality, and CGI, as part of our unwavering commitment to nurture and uplift talent and support the future of cinema. Join experts from the creative and AI spaces as they unveil the possibilities and advancements in moviemaking by devising virtual worlds, forming intelligent characters, and sharing personalized experiences to showcase the magic “beyond the camera.” Some of this year’s esteemed, participating brands include Google Arts and Culture, Netflix, and Amazon.



PRODUCERS’ WORKSHOP

The Producers’ Workshop is an extensive five-day, closed-door program designed to cover all aspects to mobilize a film project for producers, entrepreneurs, and filmmakers. The program is ideal for delegates/participants who have a potential project.

Over the course of the workshop, key industry professionals and domain experts from across the globe will share their knowledge and insights on different facets of

producing films such as development, pitching, funding, budgeting, film markets, rights management & distribution. The sessions are integrated with other verticals of Film Bazaar to give an overview of the opportunities that the producing framework offers in both mainstream and independent cinema with the help of case studies of successful films.



KNOWLEDGE SERIES

The Knowledge Series consists of specially curated presentations, lectures, and panel discussions with key decision makers and

market drivers of the film industry. It covers a wide range of topics including (but not limited to) the evolution of content through changing socio-economic structures, genre expansion, traditional and innovative distribution platforms, various emerging co-production opportunities, international collaborations and treaties, and the art of navigating various festivals and film markets. Among the speakers are business unit heads of major media corporations (studios/producers/distributors, etc.), top executives of organizations connected with the film industry, independent aggregators, and content providers from across the world. This year, the Knowledge Series will focus on topics including international co-production, women producers and animators who are changing the landscape, how to normalise climate storytelling, a VFX spotlight on the Amazon series MUMBAI DIARIES, and an OTT roundtable on the future of Indian content in the global sphere, just to name a few.



FILM BAZAAR KNOWLEDGE SERIES PROGRAMME 2023

Time	Session	Speakers	Moderator
Day 0- 20th November 2023 - Monday			
3:00 PM - 3:45 PM	Film Bazar Inauguration by Shri Anurag Singh Thakur, Hon'ble minister of Information & Broadcasting	Welcome Address by SIB Google CEO AV presentation & Address on Google Arts & Culture Project on Films FD IFFI & FB - Overview of Film Bazaar AV Presentation \Performance Element Inaugural Address by HMIB	
4:00 PM to 4:30 PM	Attending the Film Bazar	Jitin Hingorani	
Day 1- 21st November 2023 - Tuesday			
9:30 AM - 11:15 AM	Open Pitch - Co-Production Market (Fiction)		Eshan Harsh
11:30 AM - 12:15 PM	Open Pitch - Screenwriters' Lab		Jitin Hingorani
12:30 PM - 1:30 PM	Open Pitch - Co-Production Market (Documentary)		Bursenla
1:30 PM- 2:30 PM	<i>Lunch</i>		
2:30 PM - 3:15 PM	Film Facilitation: UK and India's 2023 Co-Production Journey	1. Shri Apurva Chandra, Secretary, MIB 2. Agnieszka Moody : BFI Film Fund 3. Kajri Babbar : Director, Lioness 4. Shahnaab Alam: Producer, Lioness 5. Aditi Rao Hydari	Naman Ramachandran
3:30 PM - 4:15 PM	State Focus- Madhya Pradesh		
4:30 PM- 5:15 PM	Claiming her agency as an actor across all mediums- Divya Dutta in conversation with Jitin Hingorani	Divya Dutta : Actor	Jitin Hingorani

5:30 PM - 6:30 PM	Book to Box Office: Does a story by any other word smell as sweet?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sidharth Jain - The Story Ink 2. Atika Chohan - Writer 3. Ranjib Majumdar : Applause Ent 4. Mrinalini Khanna : Lionsgate 5. Harini Lakshmi Narayan : Endemol Shine 6. Radhika Gopal : Tulsea 	Smriti Kiran
Day 2- 22nd November 2023 - Wednesday			
9:30 AM - 12 PM	Film Bazaar Recommends (feature, mid-length and shorts)		Jitin Hingorani
12:15 PM - 1 PM	25 Years in the Industry: How Shailendra Singh has made his mark on the industry through writing, directing, and producing	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shailendra Singh 2. Madhur Bhandekar 3. David Dhawan 4. Revathi 	Bobby Bedi
1 PM - 2 PM	<i>Lunch</i>		
2 PM - 2:45 PM	Crafting Tomorrow's Stars: Shaping Skills in Media and Entertainment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shri. Prithul Kumar, Joint Secretary (Films), MoIB and Managing Director, NFDC 2. Dr. N.P.S. Kalsi, Chairperson, NCVET* 3. Smt. Sonia Huria, Head of Communications, Amazon Prime Video* 4. Shri. A. Sreekar Prasad, Scriptwriter (Predominantly working in OTT Platforms)/ any other CMOT Selection Jury member 5. Shri. Vijay Verma, Actor, Gully Boy, Mirzapur, Darlings, Pink, Gully Boy, Lust Stories 2* 	
3 PM - 4 PM	Russia Panel Two - Roskino		
4:15 PM - 5 PM	State Focus- Maharashtra		

5:15 PM-6:15 PM	Women in Animation: Urgency to Create a Sustainable Market in India	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Yashoda Parthasarty : Plexus Motion 2. Saraswathi Vani Balgam 3. Nisha Vasudevan : Independent Animator/Supari Studios 4. Shilpa Ranade- Animator 	Mohit Soni
Day 3- 23rd November 2023 - Thursday			
9:30 AM - 10:15 AM	Beyond the Camera: New dimensions of VFX and Digital production for the Big Screen	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bejoy - PhantomFX 2. Anand Bhanushali - Philm CGI 3. Gaurav Gupta - Future Works 	Ashish S.K.
10:30 AM - 11:15 AM	<i>Depiction of violence against children and women in the popular cinema</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ms. Vani Tripathi Tikoo, Actor and Member of CBFC (Worked on Guidelines for Child and Adolescent Participation in the Entertainment Industry and Any Commercial Entertainment Activity developed by National Council for Vocational Education and Training) 2. Mr. Soumendra Padhi, Director, Jamtara 3. Ms. Cynthia McCaffrey, UNICEF Representative to India 4. Ms. Shweta Basu Prasad (Renowned Actor, Makdee, Iqbal, Tashkent Files) (Won the National Film Award for the Best Child Actor (2003) for Makdee)* 	
11:30 AM - 1 PM	Panel for Russia - Moscow Export		
1 PM - 2 PM	Lunch		
2 PM - 2:45 PM	State Focus- Jammu & Kashmir		

3 PM - 3:45 PM	Stylised Animation: The IP value chain of India's upcoming animated feature films	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Vaibhav Kumaresh: Vaibhav Studios 2. Rajiv Chilaka: Green Gold Animation 3. Soumitra Ranade: Paper Boat 4. Rituparna Sarkar : Co-founder, Animators Guild India 	Munjal Shroff: Graphiti
4 PM - 4:45 PM	Masterclass: Decoding Documentaries	1. Raghav Khanna : Co-Founder and MD - Riverland Entertainment Ex- Netflix	<i>No moderator</i>
5 PM - 6 PM	Women Producers - Pioneers in Shaping Hyperlocal Global Hits and	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Monisha Advani 2. Apoorva Bakshi 3. Vani Tripathi Tikoo 	Naman Ramachandran
	Revolutionizing the Indian Film and TV Industry		

Day 4- 24th November 2023 - Friday

9:30 AM - 10:15 AM	How Accessible are International Film Funds? Creative ways Indian filmmakers are pursuing Co-Production and Distribution in other parts of the world	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dominique Welinski: French Co-Producer & Cannes Marche du Film 2. Anupam Sharma - Australian/Indian Co-Pro 3. Dheer Momaya: Producer, Last Film Show 4. Pan Nalin: Director of Last Film Show 5. Al Clark: BFI Producer 	Cary Sawhney
10:30 AM - 11:15 AM	Green Sets: How to run a sustainable film shoot and normalise climate story telling	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Jess Hines 2. Divya Ravichandran: Skrap (Environment sustainability firm) 3. Kunal Khanna : ALTEFF - All Living Things Environmental Film Festival 4. Pragya Kapoor (Producer) 	Datta Dave
11:30 AM - 12:15 PM	So, my documentary got into an international film festival! Now, what?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mita Suri : Sheffield Docfest 2. Falguni Lakhani Adams : Vice TV 3. Sai Abishek : Discovery 4. Samarth Mahajan : Doc 	Aanchal Kapur

		5. Kartiki Gonsalves	
12:30 PM - 1:15 PM	Looking Beyond the Usual Suspects: Which streaming platforms around the world are distributing Indian movies and who's watching?	1. Wendy Bernfeld	<i>no moderator</i>
1:15 PM - 2:15 PM	<i>Lunch</i>		
2:15 PM - 3 PM	State Focus- Uttarakhand		
3:15 PM - 4 PM	VFX Spotlight: How Amazon Prime and Emmy Entertainment Meticulously Recreated the Mumbai Floods of 2005	1. Nikhil Madhok, Head of HIndi Originals, Prime Video 2. Madhu Bhojwani, Producer, Mumbai Diaries S2, Emmy Entertainment 3. Monisha Advani, Producer, Mumbai Diaries S2, Emmy Entertainment 4. Vishwas Savanur, VFX Director & Producer, Mumbai Diaries S2, (Founder) Variate Studios 5. Malay Prakash, Cinematographer, Mumbai Diaries S2	Rohini Ramnathan
4:15 PM - 5 PM	International Film Festivals: How curatorial and marketing strategies are evolving in an era of record-breaking Indian submissions	1. Jonathan Penner : Tribeca Film Festival 2. Dr Pushpinder Chowdhry MBE : UK Asian Film Festival 3. Rita Meher (Tasveer)	Charlotte Hurni - FIAPP
5:15 PM - 6:15 PM	The OTT Roundtable: What's the secret ingredient that gives Indian content its global appeal?	1. Sushant Sreeram : Prime Video India 2. Ambika Khurana : Netflix 3. Shobha Sant : Jio Cinemas	
6:30 PM - 7 PM	Closing & Award Ceremony		

75 CREATIVE MINDS OF TOMORROW



In recent years, the Government of India has actively undertaken several programmes and initiatives aimed at unleashing the full potential of youth especially in the Media and Entertainment sector in the country. Launched in 2021, as part of the “Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav” celebrations by the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, the “75 Creative Minds of Tomorrow” was conceived as a unique platform of opportunities for youth, artists, filmmakers and creatives, especially from far-flung areas, to learn, engage and network with the who’s who of the Indian Film Industry at the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) in Goa.

The 75 Creative Minds of Tomorrow initiative is the brainchild of Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting and Youth Affairs and Sports, Shri Anurag Singh Thakur. The initiative aims to identify, encourage and nurture young creative talent in filmmaking, from the entire length and breadth of the country. It is the largest platform of its kind in the world, where young creators from all over India interact, engage and learn from veterans of national and international cinema at one of the biggest film festivals in Asia, The International Film Festival of India (IFFI).

In the last two editions alone, the program has successfully engaged 150 young filmmakers from all across the country including far flung places like Lakhimpur and Sonitpur in Assam, Khorda in Odisha, Krishna and Prakasam in Andhra Pradesh, Theni in Tamil Nadu and Bhandara in Maharashtra.

Taking the legacy forward, we are delighted to bring to you the third edition of the 75 Creative Minds of Tomorrow, set to be the biggest you’ll witness yet!

Once again, we present to you, 75 talented young cinema professionals from all across India, from 10 filmmaking disciplines viz., Direction, Scriptwriting, Cinematography, Editing, Playback Singing, Music Composition (inc. Sound Design), Acting, Costume & Make-Up, Animation, VFX, AR & VR, and Art Design.

At the 54th IFFI, these 75 Creative Minds will participate in the Filmmaking Challenge, a thrilling teamwork and teambuilding exercise as well as a group competition designed to create short films within a tight 48-hour timeframe. A jury panel composed of renowned and respected filmmakers will judge their films, and the most outstanding production will receive a special recognition. The 48-hour Short Video challenge is being executed in collaboration with programming partner, Shorts TV, a UK based worldwide network dedicated to short films.

Apart from this, youngsters will get the opportunity to be a part of the inaugural ceremony of 54th IFFI, guided tours of NFDC Film Bazaar and attend masterclasses, panel discussions, in-conversation sessions and network with the members of the global cinematic community.



75 Creative Minds of Tomorrow at the Opening Ceremony of 52nd IFFI, 2021



75 Creative Minds of Tomorrow, 2021

The initiative thrives on the mantra of "Where Talent Meets Opportunity," and as part of this commitment, we are organizing a "Talent Camp" for the selected participants. During this event, creative minds will have the unique opportunity to engage with and learn from senior executives representing up to 20 prominent companies from India's Media and Entertainment sector. The initiative is a significant intervention in India's pursuit of becoming the Content Hub of the World and aims to expedite the capacity of our film sector.

We are delighted to invite you all to the 75 Creative Minds of Tomorrow Hub, which will be set up along the Promenade near the Marriott Hotel from November 19th to November 26th, 2023, at the 54th International Film Festival of India in Goa!



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

STEERING COMMITTEE



EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS:

Shri Anurag Singh Thakur, Hon. Minister of I&B and Youth Affairs & Sports (Chairman)
Dr Pramod Sawant, Hon. Chief Minister of Goa & Chairman, ESG(Co-chairman)
Dr L Murugan, Hon. Minister of State for I&B and Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying
Smt Delilah Lobo, Vice Chairman, ESG
Shri Apurva Chandra, Secretary, I&B
Shri Puneet Kumar Goel, Chief Secretary, Goa
Shri Jayant Sinha, Additional Secretary & Financial Advisor, Ministry of I&B
Smt Neerja Shekhar, Additional Secretary, I&B
Shri Prithul Kumar, Joint Secretary (Films), I&B & Managing Director, NFDC
Shri Manish Desai, Principal DG, PIB
Shri Subhash Chandra, Secretary I&P, Goa
Ms Ankita Mishra, CEO, ESG



NON-OFFICIAL MEMBERS:

Shri Prasoon Joshi
Shri Vipul Amrutlal Shah
Ms Khushbu Sundar
Shri Ravi Kottarakara
Shri Shoojit Sarkar
Shri Bobby Bedi
Smt Vani Tripathi Tikoo
Shri Manoj Muntashir
Shri Rahul Rawail
Shri R Balki
Shri Prosenjit Chatterjee
Ms Aimee Baruah



TECHNICAL COMMITTEE:

Shri A.K. Bir, Eminent Film Maker – Chairman
Shri B. Diwakar, Professor in Cinematography
MD, NFDC
CEO, ESG, Goa
Commissioner, Panaji Municipality, Govt. of Goa
Chief Engineer (Elect.), Govt. of Goa
Health Officer, Panaji, Govt. of Goa
Chief Fire Officer, Panaji, Govt. of Goa
Traffic Commissioner, Panaji, Govt. of Goa
In charge, INOX Theatre, Goa
Chairman, Kala Academy, Goa
Shri Anirvan Ghosh, M/s Pulz Electronics
Shri Ketan Mehta, M/s Real Image/Qube
Shri K.J. Madhusudan, M / s Barco
Shri Ujwal Nirgudkar, M/s SMPTE
Shri Ram Sahay, SSE (Formerly Films Division), NFDC , Mumbai
Member Secretary – Shri D. Ramakrishnan, GM (P&A) NFDC

PREVIEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Arun Kumar Singh
Ashok Palit
Atul Pandey
Brijesh Bhatt
Haril Shukla
Joydeep Ghosh
Mahesh Digrajkar
Mandar Bam
Manish V Sheth
Mir Sarwar
Murtaza Ali Khan
Pradeep Kechanuru
Rajesh Sethi
Rajesh Singh
Rekha Gupta
Satish Pande
Saurabh Kanti Datta
Shivam Chhabra
Shyam Malick
Thripthi Sundar Abhikar
Indira Parimi
Kousalya Potturi
Sriprakash Menon
Sulakhyana Baruah

SCREENING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Nila Madhab Panda
Vinod Ganatra

TEAM IFFI

Festival Director: Prithul Kumar

CEO Entertainment Society of Goa (ESG): Ankita Mishra

Artistic Director (Programming): Pankaj Saxena

Director SRFTI (Masterclasses & In Conversation Session) : Himansu Sekhar Khatua

General Manager (P&A) NFDC: D Ramakrishnan

General Manager (North), NFDC and Executive Officer IFFI: Ajay G. Dhoke

General Manager (Media) NFDC: Himika Chaudhury

General Manager, Entertainment Society of Goa (ESG): Mrunal Walke

OSD (Films): Tushar Karmarkar

Deputy Director (Indian Panorama): Tanu Rai

Deputy Director (Press Information Bureau): Gautam S Kumar

Deputy GM (Media Planning) NFDC: Balaji Mani Kumaran

■ INTERNATIONAL CINEMA

Film Programmer: Prateek Rawat

Asst. Film Programmers: Jolyn Clare Langhu, Suhas SR , Anil B

Festival Coordinators: Rochna Kumar, Rujuta Doshi, Antony Sebastian Francis, Samzaiyile Newme

■ INDIAN PANORAMA

Asst. Film Programmers: Aditi Bhutda

Festival Coordinators: Abhinav Kshirsagar, Nishant Kumar

■ GALA PREMIERS & RED CARPET

Head - Distribution, Syndication & Marketing: Deepti Chawla

Team Gala: Irfan Faras , Tarang Kapoor, Kapil Verma , Rashmi Manuja

■ FESTIVAL SEGMENTS

Section Head, Cine-mela: Shruti Rajkumar

Programming Head (Masterclasses & Panel Sessions): Gouri Nair

■ FESTIVAL CO-ORDINATION

Sr. Branch Manager SSE (Formerly Films Division): A K Maharaja

Assistant Manager: Harsha Prajapati

Senior Co-ordinator (F&E): Malyaban Ash

Associate Co-ordinator: Kritika Khurana

Festival Co-ordinator: Sahil Bhardwaj

Festival Scheduler: Tanishk Bhatt

Festival Assistant: Nikhil Kalangutkar

Attendant (F&E): Amartya Rishi

Artistic Director, Film Bazaar: Leena Narzary
 Head of Programming, Film Bazaar: Jitin Hingorani
 Advisor (Film Bazaar) to MD, NFDC: Leena Khobragade
 Section Head, Creative Minds of Tomorrow: Sonal Mathur, Head SD/SP/IP & Admn, NFDC
 Finance & Accounts: Vivek Toshniwal, DGM, NFDC | Kanti Jogadia, Manager (F&A), NFDC
 IT Head: SNV Sai Bharath
 Protocol: Rajesh Meena, Director SSE
 IFFI Merchandise: Jayita Ghosh, Manager NMIC
 Print Unit Coordination: Sushant Shrotriya, Unit Manager
 Technical Supervision, Siri Fort Auditorium: Mahipal Saini, Sadhu Ram,
 Senior Executive Assistant to Festival Director: Sneha Ramachalam
 Jury Secretaries: Ashish Das , Ajitha Nair
 Consultant Film Facilitation Office: Ramkumar Vijayan

ENTERTAINMENT SOCIETY OF GOA (ESG) TEAM

Hospitality: Siddhesh Sane
 Air Travel Arrangements: Shekhar Naik
 Information Technology: Arjun Narvekar

PRINT SOURCE:

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NFDC

cinemas of india

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