

BISFF

Bengaluru International Short Film Festival

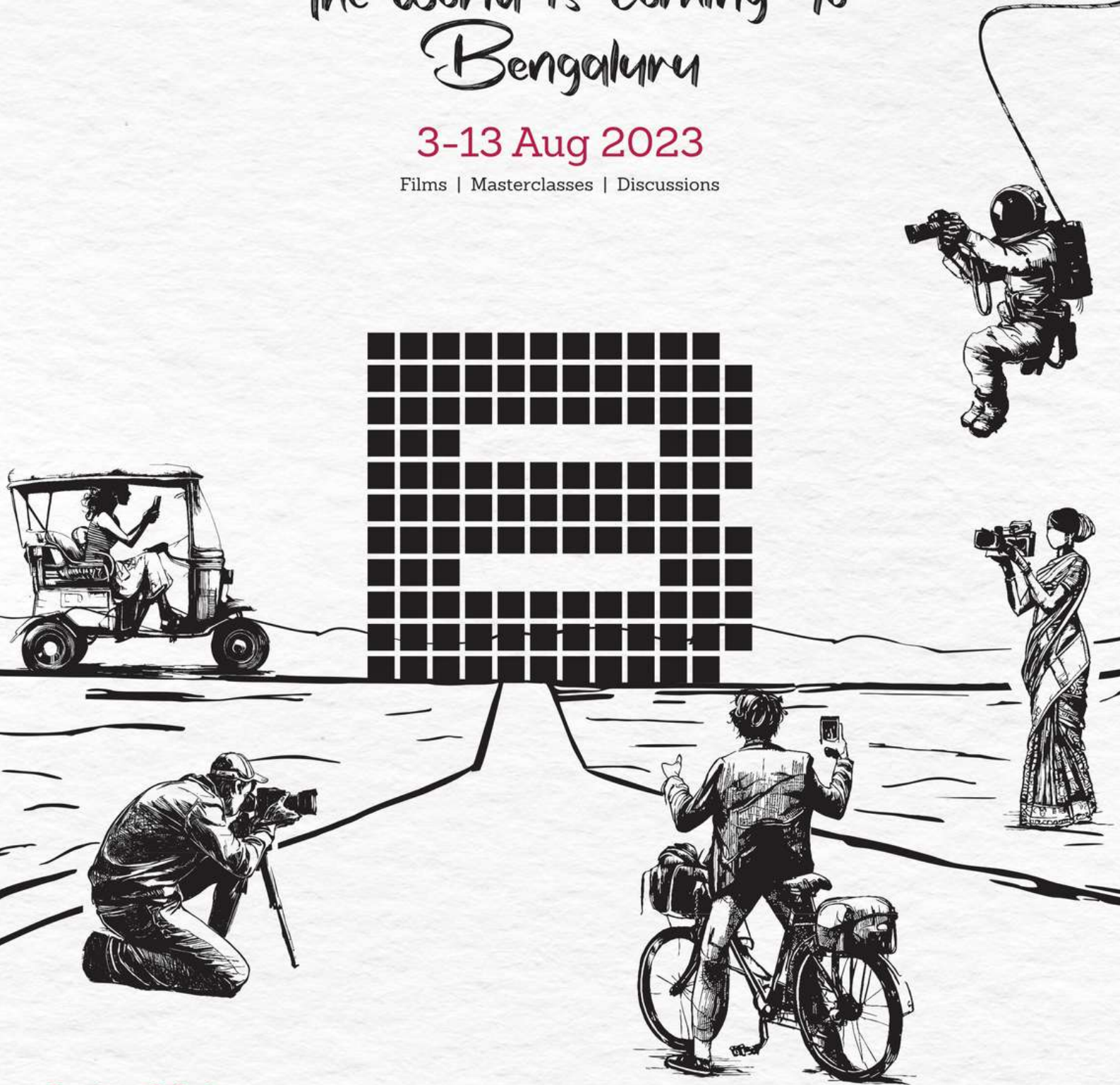
OSCAR®
Academy
accredited
festival



The world is coming to Bengaluru

3-13 Aug 2023

Films | Masterclasses | Discussions



bisff.in

hello@bisff.in

+91 998 686 3615

[@bisffblr](https://www.instagram.com/bisffblr)



CINEAH

tulsea

SHORTSTV



FOREWORD



AFTER TWO YEARS WE STEP OUT...

A teenager now!

BISFF 2023 is in its 13th edition now!

If 13 years ago someone told me that a passion project would become India's largest short film festival and Oscar accreditation to boast, I would have said "hogayale". So many participants at BISFF now become successful feature filmmakers and some national award winners too. Additionally, seeing the winners at BISFF on the Oscar shortlist just gets my engines fired.

We have continued the hybrid mode this year too, the scale it offers, and the inclusivity inspires us to constantly innovate and find ways to reach a wider audience.

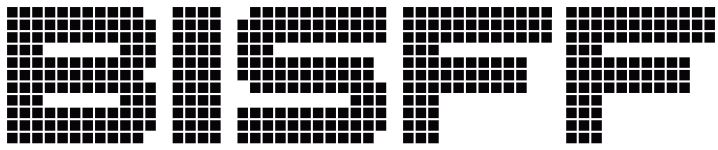
We have received outstanding films this year and I am not envious of the jury, who have their work cut out for them. Some wonderful workshops and masterclasses are also curated because we wish to always remain a learning platform and sounding board for young blood. We hope that tomorrow's Nolans and Spielbergs start their career here with us at BISFF.

I am signing off with a galaxy of gratitude for you the cinema lovers who make it possible for a small self-funded indie film festival to dream big and get more ambitious every year. I do hope that in the future we are able to motivate some big bucks to get behind us - so we can make this bigger and better!

And to my ever-amazing star team- I am because you are; We are because you are!

See you at the movies!

-Anand Varadaraj
Founder & Artistic Director, BISFF



Bengaluru International Short Film Festival

Aug '23

BISFF

Bengaluru International Short Film Festival

AUG '23

#BISFF

**International
Competition**

JURY

International Competition



NICOLÁS MEDINA



SUMANA KITTUR



ALEJANDRO GONZALEZ



A WOMAN IN MAKUENI

13:49 Germany Fantasy, Drama Swahili

Synopsis

She is in prison, waiting. He has a long way to travel and arrives too late. He wanders through the strange city, lost until he meets a woman willing to help him with some gentle magic.



Daria Belova



Valeri Aluskina

Director Biography

Daria Belova graduated from Saint Petersburg University in literature. She worked as an investigative journalist and moved to Germany to study film directing at DFFB, Berlin. Her film "Come and Play" received the Discovery Award in "Semaine de la Critique" Cannes Film Festival, in 2013. From March 2022, she worked as a human rights defender for people under political persecution.

Valeri Aluskina was born in Khabarovsk, Russia. At the age of 18, she moved to live in St.Petersburg and began working as a second director and art director for art-house cinema. She studied film directing at the St. Petersburg School of New Cinema and later began to teach there.



APNEA

20:00 Mexico Drama Spanish

Synopsis

Renata has a secret relationship with Liliana, her swimming coach. The game of power in which the couple dwells can transform the love and passion they profess for each other into the same force that destroys them.



Natalia Bermúdez

Director Biography

Natalia Bermúdez is a director, photographer and writer born in Tijuana, Baja California. She studied photography at the Escuela Activa de Fotografía and has a bachelor's degree in filmmaking at the Centro de Capacitación Cinematográfica (CCC). She has directed and written fiction and documentary short films such as "Golden Malibu" (official selection FICM, GIFF, Palm Springs; winner at Kinoforum Sao Paulo and Houston Latino Filmfest), "Apnea" etc. She works as a writer for the production company El Estudio and as a studio photographer for Netflix, Disney and Amazon.



BIG DAY

23:00 Taiwan Drama Chinese - Min Nan

Synopsis

A middle-aged married couple is taking a walk by the harbour and fighting when they meet an old acquaintance they haven't seen in long. On the way, they walk past the Mazu temple where he had proposed to her, which reminds them of how things used to be.



Chung Chieh Chiang

Director Biography

Chiang Chung-Chieh is a filmmaker from Taiwan who has created several short films on topics related to broken hearts and people in dilemma. Other than for short films, he is getting ready to create his first feature film.



BLESSED BY SUNLIGHT

13:35 United Kingdom Drama Swahili

Synopsis

'Blessed by Sunlight' is a collaborative story endeavour involving three countries: the United Kingdom, Kenya, and Poland. It is a story of a young Tanzanian girl with albinism living a carefree life until an unexpected event forces her to meet her gravest fear.



Sebastian Krolak

Director Biography

Sebastian Krolak is an award-winning Polish filmmaker and cinematographer based in London. His film "Phantom" received the EMiGRA Award at the Emigration Film Festival in 2019. Sebastian is well-known for his extraordinary ability to create powerful visual experiences and his advanced work with actors. Through his work, Sebastian aspires to raise awareness and engage a global audience with thought-provoking and powerful storytelling. Notably, Sebastian has been actively collaborating with the Youth Film Platform Africa where he conducts cinematography workshops for film students in Kenya. Sebastian's expertise and versatility in the lighting and camera departments have led to his involvement in four feature films.



ESTRELLAS DEL DESIERTO

18:55 Chile Drama Spanish

Synopsis

In the middle of the Atacama desert, Antay (12) sees his town disappearing due to the drought. Alongside his friends and their football team, they try to hang on to the last sunrises, their childhood fragments and the ties with those who still resist.



Katherina Harder

Director Biography

Katherina Harder is a filmmaker born on April 4, 1988, in Iquique, Chile. She earned her degree from the University of Chile and completed her Master's in Film Directing at Bande à Part in Barcelona. Notably, she co-founded and serves as the Artistic Director of the Iquique International Film Festival - FICIQQ. Katherina's impressive portfolio includes the TV series "4to medio" (TVN) and the short films, "Escamas" (2020), and "Estrellas del Desierto" (2022). Her works have received acclaim at renowned international competitions like Tribeca, FICGuadalajara, Mar del Plata, and PlusCamerimage, among others. Presently, she is involved in film projects both in Chile and Spain, where she founded and directs the International Film Festival of the Elderly in Barcelona. Furthermore, Katherina co-founded Volcánica Films in Chile.



© VAGABUNDO FILMS

FACELESS

23:33

France

Fantasy

French

Synopsis

At the end of the 1960s, while on his way with his manager to the Cannes Film Festival, Jean-Marc Lancel, an international film star, steps on the road for a wee break. When he returns to the car, it has inexplicably disappeared.



Eduardo Sosa Soria

Director Biography

Born in Mexico City, Eduardo Sosa Soria is a French-Mexican director, writer and producer. From an early age, he knew he would become a filmmaker. At the age of 18, he moved to France to study film and modern literature. At 25, he created the Paris-based production company Vagabundo Films, which he still manages. He has directed four short films and is currently working on his first feature film.



FUR COAT

22:41 Russian Federation Drama Russian

Synopsis

A female pensioner goes to the city centre. At the station square, she is accosted by a fur coat salesman. They "sell" an expensive fur coat to the grandmother for cheap. She remains confused for a few days. She doesn't know whether she is being tricked or whether it's a miracle.



Evgeny Vedrov

Director Biography

Evgeny Vedrov was born in Moscow. He is an engineer-physicist, training for a PhD in Economics. In 2020, he graduated from the "Author of Cinema Online" course at the Free Cinema film school. In 2022, he graduated from Oleg Dorman's script workshop at the Moscow School of New Cinema. Evgeny's student films became entries in international film festivals.



HOW TO BE A HUMAN BEING

15:00 Lithuania Drama Lithuanian

Synopsis

During a conference in a hotel, a woman in her mid-thirties meets a man she dated as a teenager. She had accused him of 'date rape' back then. She works at the conference and has to help him prepare for the presentation. They start to talk. It turns out that things were much different than she thought for many years.



Jorė Janavičiūtė

Director Biography

Jorė Janavičiūtė has a BA in Journalism, has completed a Film Production course and holds a MA in Film Directing. Her short film "Where Things, Where People Disappear" (2017) has been screened in around twenty festivals in Europe. Her short documentary "<3 / Less Than Three" had an International premiere in Ji.hlava IDFF 2019. Jorė is currently developing new film projects, lecturing at Vilnius University, writing articles for Lithuanian media, moreover, working as a Junior Programmer for Vilnius International Short Film Festival and in casting on film, TV, and commercial productions.



LAMB

15:00

Ireland

Drama, Psychological Thriller

English

Synopsis

An ordinary day takes a sinister turn for a woman and her child when a stranger walks into their isolated rural home.



Sinéad O'Loughlin

Director Biography

Sinéad O'Loughlin is an Irish writer and director. Her previous work includes "Homecoming" (2016) and "Strays" (2019). She was selected for the Screen Ireland Focus Short Award and an Arts Council Agility Award for her work in film. She is currently developing her first feature screenplay, "Vocation" with Copper Alley Productions, funded by Screen Ireland.



LET'S TALK

18:18 Israel Drama Hebrew

Synopsis

When Ori picks up his soldier brother for a day at the beach, he is horrified to see that his brother has become religious. In addition to that aggravation, the car's tire goes flat. As the sun sets, Ori is forced to choose between his "new" brother, who is planning to make Shabbat in a deserted place or to be with his sick mother.



Elad Mukades

Director Biography

Elad Mukades is a Film studies expert with a Jewish Film College certificate (2015-2017) and a Master's degree from Sapir College (2020-2022). He served as a lecturer at Jewish Film College (2022-2023) and directed Gula Jewish Film Festival in 2023, showcasing Jewish-themed films and promoting cultural appreciation.



LIVE

13:14 Poland Drama Belarusian

Synopsis

A peaceful demonstration in Minsk in memory of Raman Bandarenka, a young man who was beaten to death, is brutally put down by the police. The world learns about it through the live coverage provided by two female journalists from an independent Belarusian TV station, who are the only ones reporting live on the unfolding events. For safety reasons, they report from the windows of a nearby apartment. When the police start shooting at the protesters and the women are spotted by a police drone, they have little time to decide whether to continue their mission despite the risk.



Mara Tamkovich

Director Biography

Mara Tamkovich is a director and scriptwriter born in Minsk, Belarus. She studied Journalism at Warsaw University, Film Directing at Warsaw Film School and is a graduate of "Studio Próba" at Wajda School. She worked as a journalist at European Radio for Belarus and TV "Belsat" and has directed 5 short films, the latest of them, "Daughter", which has been shown and awarded at festivals around the world.



MAD

13:00 Russian Federation Comedy, Satire Russian

Synopsis

Koba and Revaz work for MAD Russia (Ministry of Apology Delivery in Russia). They must get an honest confession from a stand-up comic Slava, who accidentally told an unacceptable joke.



Guram Narmaniia

Director Biography

Guram Narmaniia was born in 1992 in Ochamchira. Due to the war, his family settled in Saint Petersburg where he spent most of his life and studied Cybernetics and Technical Science. In 2022, Guram graduated from the Moscow Film School as a feature movie director.



MY TOY

08:33

Denmark

Drama, Family

Arabic, Danish, English

Synopsis

Sarah and Salem are arguing about a toy, but in the end, there is another purpose behind meeting their parents.



Mazen Haj Kassem

Director Biography

Mazen Haj Kassem is an actor, director, and producer from Syria, who resides in Denmark. He manages film festivals across Europe and Scandinavia while pursuing his passion for acting and directing. Notable works include starring in Syrian dramas like "Under the Skies of Homeland" and "Calendar," and dubbing in "Taxi 17." He returned to Denmark during the Syrian war to fulfil his dreams, directing the Danish TV program "Power" and acting in films like "The Nile Hilton," "Ditte," "Louisa," and the Netflix series "The Rain." Mazen's talent also shone through directing acclaimed plays and short films.



PORT OF A PRINCE

14:42 United States Drama Haitian

Synopsis

A young Haitian boy must decide if joining a gang is the right path for him.



JR Aristide

Director Biography

JR Aristide is an award-winning Haitian-American writer/director from Miami, based in Los Angeles, CA. His curiosity for storytelling flourished while studying Philosophy (BA) at the prestigious HBCU, Florida A&M University. His passion for film pushed him to probe numerous themes ranging from personal identity, social morality, justice, and world religions. JR strives to tell genuine stories of authentic human interrelations that are inclusive of the global African diaspora. Recently, he directed the short film "Port Of A Prince", which is circulating through the 2023 festival circuit with selections at the Pan-African Film Festival, Milwaukee Film Festival, and Boston International Film Festival.



THE FOURTH

11:45 United States Crime, Drama English

Synopsis

Eager to celebrate the 4th of July, a group of young Black and Latino friends experience a police encounter that shatters the meaning of the holiday.



Johnny Kirk

Director Biography

Johnny Kirk is a California State University graduate, originally born in Chattanooga, TN. He has directed several short films. He is now the creative director and founder of Dark Blu Productions, a digital film production company that has produced several local projects. He is passionate about helping the youth and his community. Kirk created a community-based group that works with local teens to help them find their voice through acting. Kirk is currently writing several scripts revolving around social issues.



THE OTHER END OF THE STREET

22:00 Austria Thriller, Drama Hungarian

Synopsis

9-year-old Ábel is attacked by his classmate, Bence. His father decides to visit Bence's parents to put an end to the constant harassment. However, the conversation does not go as hoped as the father and son are confronted with a moral dilemma.



Kálmán Nagy

Director Biography

Kálmán Nagy was born in 1992 in a small town in Hungary. Since 2012, he lives in Vienna where he began his studies at the Filmakademie Wien in 2016. His short film, "Olyan Dolgok - Things Like" was awarded and screened at many international film festivals, including Palm Springs International Shortfest and HollyShorts Film Festival.



THE PILEUP

12:00 Spain Drama, Fiction Spanish

Synopsis

Angustias is an elderly widow who lives a sad and dull life because she misses her late husband. One day, she receives a mysterious package in which she finds a strange object. With the help of her friends, she tries to find out what "the pileup" is for.



Oscar Toribio Carbayo

Director Biography

Óscar Toribio is a director and producer who studied Directing, TV Cinema and Advertising at CES, Madrid. He was born in La Mancha and currently resides in Melilla. He has dedicated his life entirely to the audiovisual sector for 22 years, working in various audiovisual media. In 2017, he created his own production company, ZaluProducciones, where he develops his productions. His films are known for being very realistic with a comedic touch, leaving the audience wanting to see more.



THE WAY YOU SEA ME

18:18 Brazil Drama, Family Portuguese

Synopsis

The film tells the story of a brief encounter between two kids who have very different ways of seeing the world and the sea that embraces this moment. The boy, afraid of what the sea might hold for him, and the girl, used to seeing poetry everywhere around her, learn together that to enjoy life, all you need to do is give in to your senses. Through this life-changing encounter, they both learn to overcome their fears and enjoy the world around them.



Gabriel Mellin

Director Biography

Gabriel Mellin is a director, producer, and screenwriter, who boasts of two decades of industry experience with 500+ projects spanning various filmmaking domains. He is the founder and CEO of Rio Cinema Digital. He has achieved remarkable success with the multi-award-winning short film "The Way You Sea Me", gaining nominations in various categories at festivals across France, Italy, England, Sweden, Norway, India, and Indonesia, including a Best Director nomination at Cannes Short Festival. Gabriel's expertise extends to co-directing the feature film "Rio Mumbai" and directing documentary films like "Beth Carvalho: Corações em Festa" (Canal Brasil), and "Os Anti-Prós" (TV Brasil).



THINGS UNHEARD OF

15:36 Turkey

Drama, Magical Realism

Kurdish

Synopsis

A little Kurdish girl tries to put a smile back on her grandmother's face after the disappearance of the television, the latter's only window into the world.



Ramazan Kılıç

Director Biography

Ramazan Kılıç was born in Ağrı, East of Turkey. He studied Cinema-Tv, and Literature at Istanbul Şehir University in Istanbul. His previous film, "The School Bus", competed in many prestigious film festivals, including Clermont-Ferrand, Leeds, PÖFF Shorts, Odense, Palm Springs, Indy Shorts, and Bogoshorts. He was involved as a producer for "The Moisture", which will have its world premiere at the 79th Venice International Film Festival in the Orizzonti Short Film Competition. His latest film, "Things Unheard Of", won the Special Jury Mention award at Clermont-Ferrand 2023.



WEDDING RING

14:15 Mexico Horror Spanish

Synopsis

Vicente, the town gravedigger, decides to exhume the body of the recently deceased Hortensia to strip her of her wedding ring, without imagining what the result of his ambition could be.



Ramón Medina

Director Biography

Ramón Medina is a Mexican actor and director. He studied acting at Studio M&M with teachers like Arturo Ripstein, Patricia Reyes Spíndola and Luis Felipe Tovar. As a filmmaker, he gained recognition as Best Director at La Neta Rally Festival (2010) for his short film, "El Sastre/THE TAILOR", starring Mario Almada. In 2012, he got the Best Director and Best Short Film Awards in the Short Shorts Toluca for El Ocaso de las Ánimas. He has also directed video clips with several acclaimed artists.

BISFF

Bengaluru International Short Film Festival

AUG '23

#BISFF

**Indian
Competition**

JURY

Indian Competition



AMIT MASURKAR



CHAITANYA HEGDE



SRUTHI HARIHARAN



ADHIYAMAANUM AALAMARAMUM

27:17 India Drama Tamil

Synopsis

Adhiyamaan, a 6 year old boy from Chengamedu village has a special endearment for a 60 years old banyan tree that separates two neighbouring villages. Villagers decided to remove the tree in view of the road expansion. The incomparable affection of Adhiyamaan for the banyan tree unveils the emotional story.



Ashok Saminathan

Director Biography

Ashok Saminathan is a budding cinematographer/director who has been involved in various projects, including commercials, corporate films, documentaries, and music videos. He believes that filmmaking is about seizing the moment and presenting the viewer with an authentic cinematic experience.



ANEKANTVAD

20:33 India Drama Hindi

Synopsis

A mother navigates her daughter through the abandoned crevices of her childhood home. Memories from her past eventually direct her to an incident from a riot-stricken Delhi of 1984, a critical time in the history of the Sikhs and her family, as sentiments ablaze and perspectives unheard of are brought to light. Anekantvad, as the word so means, is a film that tries to ascertain that truth is multifold and can be seen from multiple facets.



Ikprabh Singh Kohli

Director Biography

Ikprabh Singh Kohli is a film student at NID, pursuing his Masters's in Design. Being a Sikh from Kolkata, he is curious and intrigued by subjects that revolve around identity, belongingness and space, while he tries to find his own. Fascinated by the idea of exploring film across various mediums, narratives and spaces, he tends to find himself inclined towards the surreal, too, in his body of work.



BAD EGG

28:09 India Drama, Thriller English, Hindi

Synopsis

Zoya receives a disturbing call from her mother - her sister Zara has gone missing during the pandemic. Surprisingly, Zoya isn't rattled enough. She's hiding something, all of which leads back to the fateful night of a party. Throughout the film, Zoya interacts with her surroundings as if she's recalibrating to them. As the plot unravels, so does she. In this story, appearances can be very deceiving.



Mehak Jamal

Director Biography

Mehak Jamal is a filmmaker from Kashmir, India and her focus is in screenwriting and direction. She has co-written the feature film called Love Hostel which has been co-produced by Shahrukh Khan's Red Chillies Entertainment. Her short film, Bad Egg premiered at the 19th Indian Film Festival Stuttgart, 2022 and won the German Star of India - Audience Award. She has written for the web series 'Never Kiss Your Best Friend' Season 2 streaming soon on Zee5. She is currently writing web series for Disney Plus Hotstar and Amazon.



BAHAR AA, CHAMAN PRAKASH!

12:55 India Drama Hindi

Synopsis

A few days before his wedding, Chaman becomes suspiciously quiet and refuses to come out of his room. His father Satej and fiancé Sandhya try their best to get him out. What is Chaman hiding and will he come out of his room?



Aniket Dabbas

Director Biography

Aniket Dabbas is known for films like, Trek to Neverland, Laali Ki Shaadi Mein Laaddoo Deewana and Bad Boy.



BATSHIT CRAZY

12:59 India Horror, Comedy Telugu

Synopsis

A young man from the North East is ambushed by a bunch of racist junkies, with both parties ending up getting more than they bargained for. The film is based on a story by Andhadun Co-writer Arijit Biswas.



Yogesh Chandekar

Director Biography

Yogesh Chandekar is a first-time director with 'Batshit Crazy'. He has previously written for advertising, animation, television, web and comics. He co-wrote the acclaimed hit Andhadhun (2018) with filmmaker Sriram Raghavan and is currently developing Tumbbad 2 for Sohum Shah Films. He recently wrote the critically acclaimed Monica O My Darling (2022) a comedy crime thriller, directed by Vasanth Bala for Matchbox Pictures.



CANVAS

18:40 India Drama Tamil

Synopsis

This story revolves around a Therukoothu artist and his journey through the challenging phases of his life. The central plot focuses on whether he can break free from these hardships and immerse himself in reel life, embodying the character of a Therukoothu artist.



Sanjai
Chandrasekaran

Director Biography

Sanjai Chandrasekaran is a talented and creative film director with a proper vision & mission, excellent skills in creating exceptional creative content with a keen knowledge of filmmaking and its stages. He was born and raised in Chennai, Tamil Nadu. He is known for 911 (2021) & Canvas (2023).



GIDDH (THE SCAVENGER)

24:28 India Drama Hindi

Synopsis

An old man faces a difficult decision after the death of his son. Despite his own hunger, he must grapple with the moral dilemma of selling his son's clothes, which is considered a sin and a crime in certain Indian customs. As he contemplates the clash between his hunger and guilt, the story raises the question of what will ultimately hold greater weight for him: satisfying his physical needs or preserving his moral integrity.



Manish Saini

Director Biography

Manish Saini graduated from NID Ahmedabad in 2009, specializing in Film and Video Communication. It is here that he discovered and channelized his love for story telling into crafting films. He is inspired by the nuances of daily life and has an eye for seeing whimsy and splendor in the seemingly ordinary and mundane happenings around him. He sees cinema as a mirror to real life, his work so far presents characters and humdrum situations through the lens of irony. He aspires to tell stories that are rooted in Indian life.



GOOGLE MATRIMONY

18:00 India Drama, Sci-Fi English, Tamil

Synopsis

Blind Ananthu leads a solitary and monotonous life, with his only companion being his Google Glass. It doubles as his eyesight (describes/identifies the objects in front of him) in addition to being a voice assistant. One day, when his Google Glass spots a charming young woman smiling and waving at him, things start turning romantic. Has he finally discovered true love? Or is this the ideal ground for a cruel heartbreak?



Abhinav G Athrey

Director Biography

Abhinav G Athrey is an engineer turned filmmaker based in Chennai, India. Over the last two years, he has worked on multiple advertisements and short films as the director's assistant. He currently freelances as an ad filmmaker for local production houses in South India. His short film 'Google Matrimony' is his directorial debut, which has been garnering quite some attention at local festivals. His main career goal is to direct a feature film for a major production company.



KALAAL

08:12 India Drama Malayalam

Synopsis

The daily struggles of a cobbler reflect the hierarchies and inequalities existing deep in society. The film unveils their plight to buy a new pair of shoes for their little girl.



Nithin John

Director Biography

Nithin John was born and raised in the enchanting state of Kerala, India. He was initially exposed to the world of filmmaking during their B.A. Multimedia studies. His professional journey commenced as a sound recordist, working on documentaries, and short films, and even serving as a pilot track recordist for mainstream feature films. With a deep passion for storytelling, he strives to unravel the intricacies of human nature and the complexities of life through his work in direction and screenwriting.



KANCHANA

15:45 India Drama Tamil

Synopsis

Following ancient customs, a 10-year-old girl is banished to a basic hut outside the village for menstruating. There, she goes through a trauma of isolation, pain and feels ostracized. The story depicts how these ancient menstrual myths still haunt Indian women and the stigma of menstruation is hard to overcome even in the 21st century.



Sriram Kanchana
Thangaraj

Director Biography

Sriram Nivas Thangaraj hails from Arasampalayam, a small village in Tamil Nadu. Growing up in an agricultural family, he witnessed the presence of the feudal system, social injustice, oppression, and cultural contradictions. As a visual communication student, he initially engaged in political activism to tackle these issues. However, his creativity led him to choose films as a medium to express himself and connect with the global community. Notably, his films "Aneethi" (2018) and "Ms. Nirmala" (2020) have received accolades and recognition in Indian film festivals. His films delve into sensitive topics and provoke thoughtful discussions rooted in Tamil culture.



KAV KAV

12:09 India Drama Marathi

Synopsis

What if your mother becomes untouchable? A gripping tale of an innocent kid who raises above the menstrual taboo in some parts of India.



Dr. Swanand
Santram Wagh

Director Biography

Dr. Swanand Santram Wagh is a 26-year-old dentist turned filmmaker and Indian television writer, who strongly believes in the saying: "Your worst film is your best film school."



MADHU

29:12 India Drama Marathi

Synopsis

Madhu struggles to send money to her daughter, Nandini, who studies engineering in the city. Nandini's friends ask her for a cold coffee treat, but her mother doesn't have enough money and she can't avoid her friends. Madhu has to face many obstacles to reach the bank.



Harish Tarun

Director Biography

Harish Tarun worked as a screenwriter and director in works such as "Ghusmat" (2016), "Shendri" (2018), and "Madhu" (2023). He has also made a mark in the world of poetry, and published two poetry books, namely "Binwasacha Chafa" (2016) and "Ugwata" (2018). Expanding his creative endeavours, he has also played a crucial role as the screenwriter and chief assistant director for the web series "Dadasaheb" (2022). He has written and directed over 10 advertising and branding films.



MISSING SINCE 6.12.1956

19:58 India Political Satire Marathi

Synopsis

This short film explores the phenomenon of "hero worship" in India, where statues, photos, and celebrations are used to demonstrate pride in freedom fighters and leaders. The story revolves around two teachers in a government school who must prepare for a surprise inspection but realize that a crucial photo of Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar is missing. They embark on a quest to find the photo, enlisting the help of various villagers. Despite their efforts, the photo remains elusive, reflecting the misplaced importance placed on symbols rather than the ideas and messages these leaders propagated.



Anand Pande

Director Biography

Anand Pande is a cinematography graduate from FTII, he has worked as a cinematographer on feature and documentary films. He is a skilled and creative media professional with 15+ years of experience in the audio-visual medium. He has worked in diverse styles and formats.



NOCTURNAL BURGER

27:27 United States Drama English, Hindi, Marathi

Synopsis

A 13-year-old girl and a 30-something man are brought to a police station in Mumbai in the middle of the night by two strangers. Amidst questionable motives and unreliable narrators, a frustrated female constable investigates what happened that night, and what could've happened.



Reema Maya

Director Biography

Reema Maya is an award-winning filmmaker, known for her socially relevant independent work and eclectic commercial work. Under the banner of her award-winning production studio CATNIP, Reema has directed ad films for highly successful brand campaigns. She has been featured in Hindustan Times '30 under 30', Harper's Bazaar's '101 Creatives to Watch', Elle India's '5 Boss Ladies Who're Changing the Indie Music Scene' and Luxelife's 'The New 40'.



PATH

20:21 India Drama Hindi

Synopsis

When the pandemic hit us, we were yet to know about the phrase 'embracing the new normal'. There is nothing normal about the loss of livelihood, or having to walk for hours. While the privileged embraced a new world, the worst affected fell through the gaps. 'Path' is a personal story of a man's lone journey as India readies herself for the onslaught of the virus.



Pradip Kurbah

Director Biography

Director Pradip Kurbah is known for "Market" (2019), "Onaatah: Of the Earth" (2016) and "RI: Homeland of Uncertainty" (2013). His third film "Iewduh" won the Kim Jiseok Award at the prestigious 24th Busan Indian Film Festival, in South Korea. "Iewduh" won MIT-SFT Human Spirit Award at Pune Indian Film Festival and also won the Best Khasi Film and Best Location Sound at the 67th National film awards. Kurbah's work in progress, The Elysian Field is one of the 22 selected projects for the Asian Project Market (APM) Busan 2020.



SADABAHAR

12:55 India Drama, Tragi-comedy English, Hindi

Synopsis

One night, finding themselves falsely accused of robbery, band members of Sadabahaar, a wedding brass quartet from UP but working in Goa, have to decide between pursuing a livelihood as 'outsiders' and returning to the lives they left behind in their villages.



Suyash Kamat

Director Biography

Suyash Kamat is an aspiring filmmaker & photographer based out of Goa-India. He has helmed various projects under multiple roles which have been showcased & won awards at prestigious platforms like Indian Film Festival of India (IFFI), Kala Ghoda, IDSSFK, MAMI among others. He is currently pursuing a post graduate course in Cinematography at Satyajit Ray Film & Television Institute (SRFTI).



SANDHANAM

11:00 India Drama Sanskrit

Synopsis

Frustrated with their problems, two strangers coincidentally come to the same place to commit suicide. This creates a very awkward scenario where both try to jump, but go on to tell each their tragic stories. In this dialogue, both find the courage to face their problems. In the end, those who had come to commit suicide become each others' life-giver. Eradicating life's "tamas"- anger & frustration, they find a new dawn in life.



Monaksh N. Kanirkar

Director Biography

Monaksh N. Kanirkar is a talented young filmmaker from India. He began his journey as an independent and self-taught director, writer, and producer. With a vibrant imagination and a unique filmmaking style, he swiftly transitioned from creating low-budget short films to venturing into commercial films. His filmography typically has strong emotional storytelling.



SAYRA

25:19 India Drama Malayalam

Synopsis

The story begins with twenty-year-old Sayra talking to her mother on a video call. Her parents are trying to arrange her marriage, but covid restrictions force her to watch her Nikah ceremony online. The film deals with helplessness among young women.



Safal M Samad

Director Biography

Safal is a director and entrepreneur based out of Kochi. His docudrama in 2014, "Oru Dweepinte Kadha" was covered extensively by the newspapers and screened at film festivals across Kerala. His short film "120 Gutters per day" won the second-best short film in the 'Shoot an Idea contest' conducted by Mathrubhumi back in 2016. He is a graduate of Visual Communication from SRM University, Chennai.



SHIMGA

17:32 India Drama, Social Short Marathi

Synopsis

Shimga, the film, explores various layers of alienation between the privileged and the underprivileged. In current times, the two economic classes seem to be separated by such a chasm that they struggle to understand each other's language, let alone empathise with one another. A waste-picking woman segregates coconut shells for firewood from wet waste. One day, she finds these shells missing. Did they belong to her anyway? It is through such questions that Shimga tries to highlight the broader conflict between ownership, rights and needs and what should take precedence.



Sanat Dhananjay Ganu

Director Biography

Sanat Dhananjay Ganu is an engineer by profession and works at Oneirix Labs. He has worked as an assistant director in Sumitra Bhavde and Sunil Sukthankar's films "Welcome Home" and "Dithee". He directed his debut short film "Arabian Nights" in 2019, which was showcased in several reputed festivals in India and won several awards including the Best Short Film at New York Indian Film Festival.



THE BROKEN TABLE

23:52 India Drama English, Hindi

Synopsis

Caregiver Deepti's new client Giri suffers from Alzheimer's. She struggles to deal with Giri's eccentricity, along with her own life's dilemma throughout one turbulent day. The day is made bizarre by the fact that Giri keeps calling for his wife, who Deepti finds out died a year back.



Chintan Sarda

Director Biography

Chintan Sarda, a talented director and writer based in Mumbai, is known for his storytelling prowess across various formats. He has contributed to several notable projects, including co-writing the story and screenplay for the upcoming Excel Entertainment/Amazon Prime show "Unseen". He is the writer, director and producer, for his short film titled "The Broken Table," which stars acclaimed actors Naseeruddin Shah and Rasika Dugal. The film is produced by RSBS Large short films.

BISFF

Bengaluru International Short Film Festival

AUG '23

#BISFF

**Karnataka
Competition**

JURY

Karnataka Competition



RAJENDRA SINGH
BABU



MANDYA RAMESH



CHAMPA SHETTY



AVALU, HER SMILE

10:20 India Comedy, Romance Kannada

Synopsis

A boy finds himself hell-bent on impressing a girl who caught his attention while travelling on a bus.



Sagar Annappa

Director Biography

Sagar Annappa entered the film industry in the year 2017, under the guidance of T.S Nagabharana and Pannaga Bharana. He was an assistant director for many projects including Kanoorayana (2018) and French Biriyani (2020) and a few documentaries. This film marks his directorial debut.



BOILED RICE

19:28 India Drama Tulu

Synopsis

Ratna and her 10-year-old son Manvith live in a village in coastal Karnataka. When they are forced to consume white rice under the ration system, the son refuses to eat as he prefers boiled rice.



Jayanth Nittade

Director Biography

Jayanth Nittade hails from Nittade village, situated in Belthangadi taluk. He obtained his screenwriting and direction diploma from Bangalore and has worked as a graphic designer. Some of his short stories have been published in certain magazines. Boiled Rice is his directorial debut. Presently, he works as an assistant director in the Kannada film industry.



CHAPTER 11

26:47 India Drama, Thriller Kannada

Synopsis

The underworld has been operating like a well-oiled machine. Kotwal vs. Jayaraj vs. the police and the system; battle lines have been drawn. What should have been just another visit to Jayaraj's brother turns into a night to remember. Sreedhar tries to make his case to Jayaraj's brother about staying away from the police, only for it to fall on deaf ears. Jayaraj's brother is too driven by rage to accept lifesaving advice. It slowly dawns on Sreedhar and Bachchan that the entire meeting is revealed to be an excuse to get rid of them.

Director Biography



Adarsh Halebidu
Eshwarappa

Adarsh Eshwarappa is a mechanical engineer who is following his dream to become a filmmaker. Born in Hassan, a small town in Karnataka, India, his first step to being a filmmaker was watching scores of world cinema on his laptop while simultaneously working in the BPO industry to make ends meet. Despite challenging financial and work commitments, he made a couple of self-funded short films. His first feature film, Shuddhi (2017) received great recognition and nominations and won 'Best Film' and 'Best Director' awards at the Karnataka State Film Awards in the year 2018.



DEAD BEINGS

26:02 India Drama Kannada

Synopsis

Abhi, a carefree teenager, realizes he has failed his exams yet again. Rather than being worried, he finds it as an opportunity to finally skip college and enjoy with his friends. His father lives in his world of drunken stupor, drowning in misery. Abhi's hope of roaming the streets with his friends comes to a halt when his otherwise indifferent father decides to put him to work upon learning about his son's failure. His naive, narrow world breaks down when he witnesses the menial work his father is forced to do at the Mortuary.



Manikanta Raj V.K

Director Biography

Manikanta Raj V.K. is a filmmaker and writer from Bangalore. He made his first short film called, Patches which dealt with the ordeals poor families go through to acquire finances for healthcare. His second film The Arrival of Factories, dealt with the effects of capitalism and urbanization when a factory is set up in a village. Through his films, Mani tries to explore the contemporary problems of humanity, with the hope that they amount to something towards the dream of a non-predatory future.



GLYCERIN

30:00 India Drama Kannada

Synopsis

Two wannabe film maker friends decide to make a movie inspired by Italian new wave with a very realistic and honest approach. They go in search of local face, leading to a series of unfortunate events eventually unravelling one's hypocrisy.



Shreekara Bhat

Director Biography

Shreekara Bhat was born in Udupi, Karnataka. He interned at Spandana (a local TV channel) where he was introduced to the world of film. After shifting to Bangalore, for higher studies, he decided to take cinema seriously. His first short films were his experimental projects that spoke about simple things in life which we miss out on due to our chaotic lives. He aims to utilize the visual medium to give a voice to the voiceless.



HALFBOILED

21:47 India Drama, Thriller Tulu

Synopsis

A student misses his routine bus to college. What follows is a series of unfortunate events. The film aims to deep dive into the mind of an introvert.



Sagar S Bhandary

Director Biography

Sagar S. Bhandary is a filmmaker who works as a software engineer during the weekdays and spends his weekends alone, listening to music, pondering and writing. "HalfBoiled" is his debut film. Sagar has always been drawn to arts and enjoys drawing, watching movies, and finding inspiration in the sky. When the COVID situation brought him back to his hometown, Udupi, he had the opportunity to explore his interest in writing and filmmaking, resulting in the creation of his first film.



HOTTEBĀKA

19:19 India Drama Kannada

Synopsis

'Hottebāka', meaning gluttony, follows the journey of a young, small-town woman who moves to Bangalore to pursue her dreams of becoming a movie actor. She manages to secure a position in a film but has to lose some weight for the role. Determined to succeed, she becomes increasingly obsessed with her appearance and develops an unhealthy relationship with food. Her mental and physical health begins to deteriorate, and she finds herself struggling to maintain the impossible standards set for her.



Vishnu Tenkayala

Director Biography

Vishnu Tenkayala is an avid storyteller and cinematographer who intends to encapsulate the many stories he witnesses through his lens. He loves experimenting by using different mediums to shoot his films be it drones or even an iPhone. His other works include *At the Dot* (2021), *Red* (2019) and *Bonzour Sychelles* (2018).



KANNADAVAGIRU

28:19 India Fantasy, Drama Kannada

Synopsis

Dhanraj (Danny) a techie, looks down on his mother tongue, Kannada. On the day of an important presentation, he is unable to hear any other language and is caught in a pickle. His journey on accepting and loving his mother tongue is what this film is about.



Sanju Sabhyasta

Director Biography

Sanju Sabhyasta has always been interested in films and has performed in many dramas and plays during his school years. He soon started analysing films and learning from the movies he watched which led to his interest in directing films.



KASUTI

19:30 India Drama Kannada

Synopsis

Aarhi, a hardworking tailor, lives with her father and paralyzed husband. Despite her father showing his support, the clash in their ideologies tends to set an uneasy environment at home. Due to a disagreement, her father abandons her at her most vulnerable. The narrative revolves around how Aarhi copes with the chaos in her life.



Goutham U Soratoor

Director Biography

Goutham U Soratoor is the director, editor, writer and cinematographer of Kasuti. He was born in Tarikere and studied Filmmaking and Visual Media at St. Joseph's University. Works of Vittorio De Sica, Steven Spielberg, Abbas Kiarostami, Asghar Farhadi, Ingmar Bergman, Satyajit Ray and Akhira Kurosawa are major influences on the process of exploring storytelling through movies. Kasuti was shot during the second wave of covid with a limited crew. Goutham has worked as an associate director and art director in the Kannada feature film, Photo.



KUSH KUSHIYAAGI

09:02 India Drama, Romance Kannada

Synopsis

Chaitra and Surya decide to celebrate the last day of their relationship. Many of us believe it is hard to say goodbye to people we have truly loved. But the couple has their ways.



Avinash Surya
Prabha

Director Biography

Avinash Surya Prabha is an aspiring filmmaker working in the Kannada Film Industry. He has worked as an assistant, associate and co-director in movies like "Dharani Mandala Madhyadolage" starring Naveen Shankar and Aishani Shetty, "Kshetrapathi" starring Naveen Shankar and Archana Jois, "Click" starring Pavan Basrur. etc. His first directorial short film, "Kush-Kushiyaagi" got entry into several short film festivals.



LOO

14:22 India Drama Kannada, English,

Synopsis

A domestic help working in an apartment building decides to secretly use the toilet in the house where she works. The employer finds out, and unsaid norms between them begin to blur as class bias comes to the surface.



Chanakya Vyas

Director Biography

Chanakya Vyas is a playwright, director, teacher and aspiring filmmaker with 12 years of experience in cinema. He has worked on plays and adaptations throughout these years. His recent works include "Once there was a Lake", an interactive game and audio series and "LOO". He has received the Sultan Padamsee Playwriting Award among many other recognitions.



MOOKAJJI

25:05 India Drama Kannada

Synopsis

A father plans on selling the cow that the family owns. The son argues against it. This conflict between practicality and emotions is the main essence of Mookajji.



Sharath Sharankar
Raysad

Director Biography

Sharath Sharankar Raysad is a full-time Bangalore-based filmmaker and writer who comes from a town called "Sirsi", near the Western Ghats. He takes inspiration from events that he witnesses and believes that film is an opportunity to show the co-existence of nature and its beings. He aims to carefully condense life into a film.



OORINAVARU YENTA HELTARE MARRE

15:25 India Thriller, Drama Kannada

Synopsis

Naveen, with his friend, is looking for his lost ring. The journey leads to unsettling discoveries about Naveen's past that make him question the authenticity of his societal facade. As dark truths emerge, he is faced with a harrowing choice: life or death. This quest for the ring becomes a profound exploration of self and societal expectations.



Arjun Acharya

Director Biography

Arjun Acharya is an engineer from Udupi, Karnataka, India. Along with his best friend Shravan Palan, he started Pictureframe Productions in 2017. Together, they fashion their ideas into movies to captivate their audience.



SOLO TRAVELER

08:17 India Drama Kannada

Synopsis

Sparsha is irritated about how her mother is always dependent on her. She meets a stranger on her way to Pune who changes her perspective.



Manasa U Sharma

Director Biography

Manasa U Sharma is a freelance photographer-cinematographer, writer and short filmmaker. Inspired by Shankar Nag and Puttanna Kanagal, she aims to make movies that portray realistic issues. She founded "Coffee Bite Media House" in 2017. She has worked as a writer for various projects including ABA JABA DABA and is still going strong. Her short film, MOM, was officially selected during BISFF 2019.



STREETS OF BENGALURU

28:36 India Drama Kannada

Synopsis

Abhi and Sachi, both part of the film industry, reminisce memories from their past. They bond on how cinema changed their lives and helped them with many opportunities and friends along the way. A message-oriented short film that wishes to inspire filmmakers and is dedicated to film enthusiasts.



Preetham Shivakumar

Director Biography

Preetham Shivakumar currently works in the IT industry. His love for cinema landed him the opportunity to showcase his filmmaking skills. This is his first project and he is working towards a feature film.



SURA

28:22 India Drama, Psychological Kannada

Synopsis

A Yakshagana artist whose life revolved around portraying the deity Mahishasura, is shattered when his role is given to a Catholic priest. As a result of this, he travels to his world of illusion, where he learns the truth about his deity.



Sarthak Hegde

Director Biography

Sarthak Hegde is a writer, director, and editor from Mangalore, Karnataka, India and is currently based in Los Angeles, USA. He holds a Diploma in Documentary and Filmmaking from the CREO Valley Institute of Film and Television in Bangalore and a Bachelor's degree in Fine Arts in Filmmaking from the New York Film Academy, LA, USA. He strives to create deeply personal and authentic stories that reflect his perception of the world. By seamlessly blending Eastern and Western influences and sensibilities, he aims to produce art that resonates with the audience on a profound level.



VARNA

26:00 India Drama Kannada

Synopsis

"Varna", which translates to "Caste" in Kannada, is a short story based in a small village in the coastal region of Karnataka. The plot revolves around Basava, a naive cattleman who faces societal inequality regularly and his inability to express his plight due to his introverted nature. It emphasises the generation gap and discriminative practices contrary to the bonding of Basava and his close companion Mohana, whose friendship is beyond racial and cultural barriers.



Ranvit Rao

Director Biography

Ranvit Rao (Pradeep Parameshwar) is the writer and director of the short film, Varna. His previous works Ondhsaari and Astha have been screened at several short film festivals and have received many awards and good responses. He is currently working as a cyber security analyst and also working as a scriptwriter for feature films.



WRITER?

18:28 India Thriller / Experimental Kannada

Synopsis

Richard Wagamese once said, "All that we are is a story. From the moment we are born to the time we continue on our spiritual journey, we are involved in the creation of the story of our time here. It is what we arrive with." If we all are just stories, who is the writer? The film follows Abhilash, a struggling screenwriter determined to impress a producer to finance his film. The task given by the producer gives life to new characters and brings chaos to his ordinary life.



Murali Krish

Director Biography

Murali Krish, a theatre artist and filmmaker hailing from Bangalore, has made significant contributions to the arts through his collaborations with WeMove Theatre and Ishi Studios. Murali showcases a deep belief in the transformative power of storytelling. His work aims to ignite introspection and meaningful conversations, going beyond mere entertainment. As an aspiring writer and director, Murali has directed numerous theatre productions with WeMove Theatre, demonstrating his skill and vision in bringing stories to life on stage. Additionally, he has made valuable contributions as a writer and assistant director for various short films and advertisements, showcasing his versatility across mediums.

BISFF

Bengaluru International Short Film Festival

AUG '23

#BISFF

**Let's
Include**

JURY

Let's Include



MILIND RAU



VINAY N MANJUNATH



A SONOROUS MELODY

24:26 Indonesia Drama, Biography Indonesian

Synopsis

Growing up as a deaf individual in Indonesia, Mufi faced challenges as she was taught to speak instead of sign. However, as an adult, she has embraced her identity and is now pursuing a music career to inspire others to express themselves through sign language. Despite feeling left out in family conversations due to the lack of understanding, Mufi found solace in using sign language with her close friends. Through her work, she aims to showcase her identity as a deaf artist and hopes to collaborate with local and international creatives on stage. Despite her success, Mufi still has fears about her future.



Riani Singgih

Director Biography

Riani Singgih is a Documentary Director based in Indonesia. Growing up in foreign communities, Riani has always been interested in telling stories about identity and the idea of 'home'. As a filmmaker, she has recently participated in IF/Then SEA Shorts by Tribeca and Yamagata Documentary Dojo. Her Documentary short films in the past have played in over 50 film festivals around the world including Big Sky Documentary Film Festival, Santa Barbara International Film Festival, and Palm Springs Short Film Festival. Her work has been screened in Vice Media, Discovery Channel, and PBS Network.



A WONDERFUL RIDE

28:03 China Drama Mandarin Chinese

Synopsis

Five years ago, Pan Meihao defied her parents' concerns and moved from a small town in Henan Province to Beijing. Despite being a disabled girl in a wheelchair since childhood, Meihao was determined to make a life for herself. After five years, she surprises her parents by finding a job and embracing various experiences, including parachuting and starting her own company. In a country with 85 million disabled individuals, Meihao's inspiring journey from a small town to a big city not only showcases female empowerment but also offers hope for disadvantaged individuals. It demonstrates that even in an inclusive and diverse society like China, dreams can be pursued by all.



Paul Zhou

Director Biography

Paul Zhou graduated from University College London, majoring in Documentary and Ethnographic Film Practice. Now he is working as a lecturer at Pan Tianshou Architecture, Arts and Design Academy of Ningbo University. And Paul is also studying for his PhD in Film Practice at Newcastle University. His documentary 'China in Ethiopia', won the 2018 One World Media Student Award, won the 2019 Nice International Film Festival Best Editing Award for Documentary Short, was shortlisted for the Best Student Documentary of the 2018 Grierson Awards and the third Chinese Ethnographic Documentary Academic Exhibition.



BASIC RESILIENCE MANUAL

30:00 Spain Drama, Human Rights, Disability Spanish

Synopsis

We discover the true meaning of resilience through the lives of eight young people affected by some so-called rare diseases - people who cling to the present while facing the uncertainty of a future.



Marco Vega Mayoral

Director Biography

Marco Vega Mayoral debuts as a documentary director with this short film after more than a decade of working in the advertising and TV content area. With this project, he reconnects with his origins and the motives that made him start studying Audiovisual Communication at Salamanca University and recover some illusion of making long content besides The Ephemeral and Short of the Daily advertising production. With 'Basic Resilience Manual' Marco tries to leave in the spectator the same impact that he got when in a commercial job he crossed with the people that the film portrays: real and unknown heroes. It could just be a straight and raw look at reality, but without entering into topical emotions, the director tries to show us those lives full of energy and illusions, exactly the same as everybody's normal lives, and also show that those lives are much more emphatic, strong and happy than whatever person without a terrible sickness would have ever imagined.



BORROWED HANDS

16:26 Mexico Drama Spanish

Synopsis

A young woman with cerebral palsy decides to hire a sex worker to experience her first sexual encounter, but it does not turn out as expected, resulting in intimacy and complicity.



Adrián Monroy Molina

Director Biography

Adrián Monroy Molina studied Film Directing at Centro de Capacitación Cinematográfica. Previously, he obtained a Bachelor's degree in Design and Visual Communication at the Faculty of Arts and Design / UNAM specializing in Illustration. He has worked as an Animation Supervisor on Cartoon Network projects. Currently, his documentary "Volver a Respirar" is in the post-production process and he is also developing his first fiction feature film: "Estrellas en el patio".



CROSS THE SKY

23:59 United Kingdom Documentary English

Synopsis

"We want people to understand we are not broken people." Cross the Sky, a community theatre company for learning-disabled and autistic adults has been running for over 20 years. Over the last six months, filmmaker John Slemensek-Thorne of Studio Bokehgo has embedded himself in the company, supporting the company members to tell their stories. The resulting film, a short-format documentary, sees the group rehearse together for the first time since February 2020.



John Slemensek-Thorne

Director Biography

John Slemensek-Thorne is a socially-engaged filmmaker with a passion for bringing untold stories into the spotlight. His lifelong fascination with the medium of time and movement first inspired his work as a sculptor, specializing in creating ephemeral ice sculptures, and eventually led him into film and cinematic art. His first film festival venture, "Cross the Sky," has received widespread acclaim, garnering 16 "Winner" Awards (so far) across multiple categories from festivals all around the world.



CURETTAGE

11:41 Islamic Republic of Iran Drama Persian

Synopsis

Nasim is pregnant, but the doctor's examinations have shown that the fetus has a physical disability and will be born incomplete. Nasim's husband and friend ask her to abort the fetus, but she is worried. In her dream, her disabled son asks Nasim to kill him and save his life. But after this dream, something ignites in the woman.



Sepideh Ghavami

Director Biography

Sepideh Ghavami holds a Bachelor of Accounting degree. She is a painter and has been working in this field for many years. "Curettagage" is her first experience in the field of filmmaking, and based on her experience as a woman, she chose this topic to write the script.



DAUGHTER

25:00

Islamic Republic of Iran

Documentary

Persian

Synopsis

After the death of her mother, 18-year-old Sahar is left in charge of her poor, mentally disabled father in an isolated village in Iran. This observational portrait captures a young woman caught between traditional gender roles and her desire for self-determination.



Yaser Talebi

Director Biography

Yaser Talebi, born in a northern city in Iran in 1982, is a film director, producer, screenwriter, and editor who has also made his name as a creative director. Yaser is a member of the Iranian Documentary Filmmakers Association (IRDFA), and his films have been screened at festivals worldwide and have won numerous awards. He has made many documentaries for television. Including a series of travel documentaries that examine and introduce history, civilization, rituals and traditions, ancient sites, delicious food, etc.



ENABLED

09:44 India Drama Assamese

Synopsis

A father who ignores his physically challenged son realizes one day that people are disabled by their minds, not their bodies.



Bhawani Doley Tahu



Gauri Saikia

Director Biography

Bhawani Doley Tahu used to work as a lecturer in History at Murkong Selek College, Jonai, Assam, India. Now, she works as a freelance content writer for various companies in New Delhi, India. She made her first short movie titled, "Mask", in 2021. In September 2022, she made two short movies "Sakhyam", and "Aprotakhya". These two short movies got an official selection at Northeast India International Film Festival, Nagaland.

Gauri Saikia, the second director of the short movie 'Enabled', is an accomplished actor with a career spanning stages at local, state, and national levels. Notable appearances in feature films include 'O2' and 'The Last Address,' as well as the short film 'The Unseen.' With a rich background in drama, traditional dance, and acting, Gauri ventured into directing and producing. Her short movies 'XOKHOM (ENABLED)' and 'APROTAKHYA (THE UNSEEN)' received critical acclaim and numerous accolades at various film festivals. 'Enabled' secured second position in the National Human Rights Commission Short Movie Competition 2022 and received official selections in esteemed festivals. Gauri's remarkable achievements extend to winning the "Best Debut Director" award at the Northeast India International Film Festival. She holds an MBA in project management.



MY GLOW

10:02

United Kingdom

Disability

English

Synopsis

A mature, deaf, Muslim, British Sign Language (BSL) mother shares her pregnancy journey through the pandemic, and how she coped with limited communication with others such as the healthcare service.



Sahera Khan

Director Biography

Sahera Khan is Muslim, British South Asian, Deaf and British Sign Language (BSL) mother. Her interest in screenplays has influenced her writing and in 2013 she joined an Open University course 'Digital Film School' to learn about making films and writing for the screen, as well as taking various filmmaking workshops.



MYZRUB

28:18 India Documentary Bengali

Synopsis

Tathagata Deb was born deaf and dumb. Later on, he is diagnosed with a mental illness called "Delusion Disorder", but his mother was steadfast to get him cured. Due to her relentless effort and cooperation from other family members, doctors, and teachers, Tathagata is now on a steady path to recovery. His journey is the main theme of the film. It revolves around the various methods of treatment and training that enables Tathagata to get well gradually.



Swarnayu Maitra

Director Biography

Swarnayu Maitra is an Indian film director hailing from Balurghat, West Bengal. He embarked on his film career in 2019, having completed his film studies at IFTA. With a passion for independent filmmaking, he strives to create unique and compelling films.



SHILPAKAAR (THE SCULPTOR)

14:53 India Drama, Biography Hindi

Synopsis

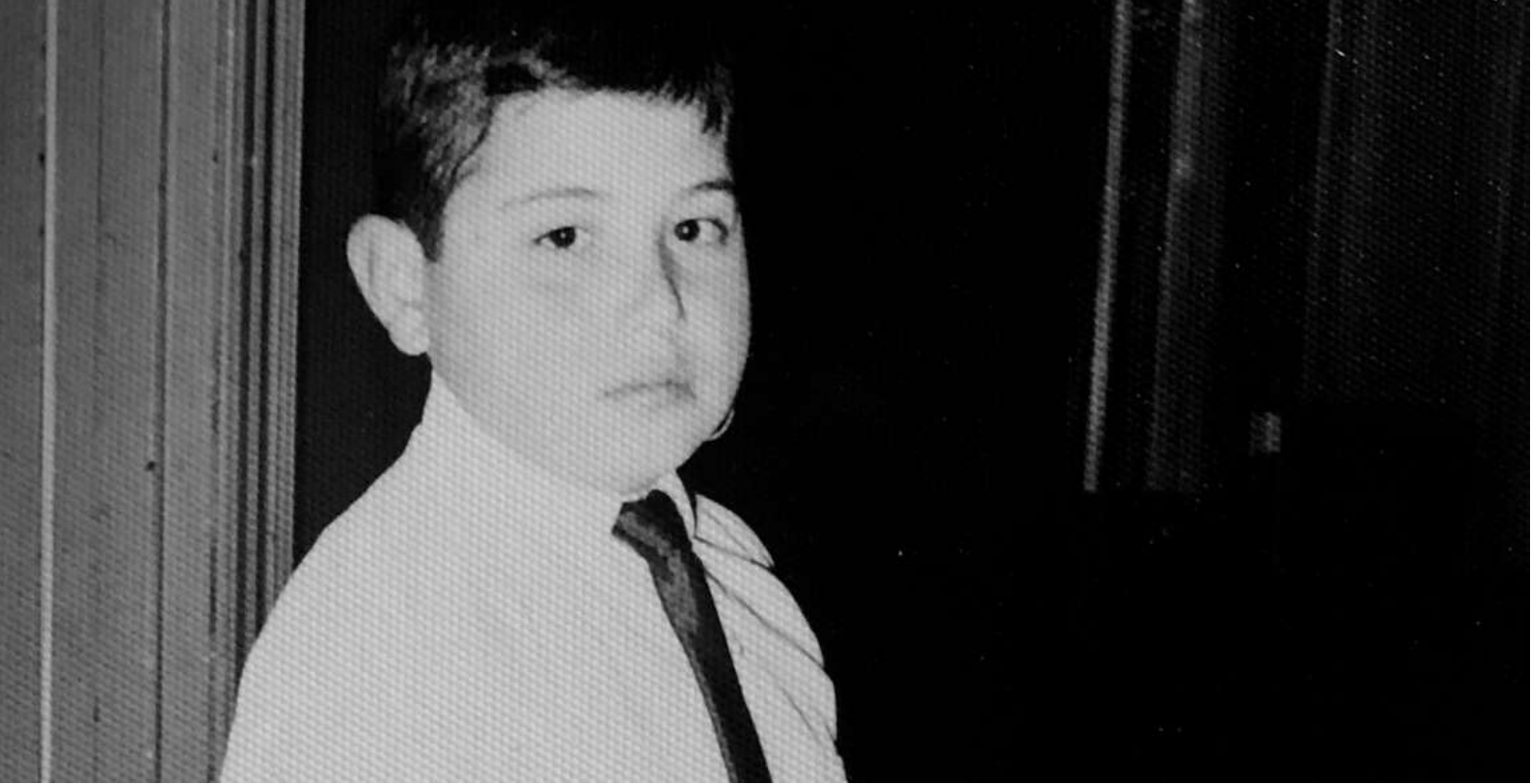
A real-life story of a girl named Monica who lost both her hands in a train accident and was living a miserable, dependent life for 6 years. One day, she finds out about a hand transplantation program, which turns out to be a boon for her.



Saahil Shirwaikar

Director Biography

Saahil Shirwaikar started his filmmaking journey in 2014 and has been in the film festival circuit ever since. He has won over 50 awards for the short films that he has directed and has recently completed his maiden directorial feature film, "The Lifeline", which is due for release.



THE SILENT WORLD OF BARRY PRIORI: SIGNING NOT WAVING

27:30 Australia Documentary, Social Justice, Disability English

Synopsis

Imagine being born profoundly deaf into an Italian migrant family of 10 without any means to communicate with them, let alone the ability to hold a simple conversation. The Silent World of Barry Priori is insightful, funny, and at times, heartbreaking.



Anne TSOULIS

Director Biography

Anne TSOULIS began as a screenwriter with credits including, "I'll Make You Happy". Since 2010 she has written/directed/coproduced feature documentaries. "These Heathen Dreams" (French/Australia), premiered in France, screened at Melbourne International Film Festival, Adelaide Film Festival and was nominated for best documentary at Antenna Film Festival. "From Under The Rubble" (2018) won Best Documentary at San Francisco Arab Film Festival, Best International Documentary Jellyfest Film Festival.



THIS IS NOT A FILM

04:28 Islamic Republic of Iran Experimental English, Persian

Synopsis

Two deaf people are busy talking in a café. The world around them is kinder in the silence of judgments.



Mahdi Hassanieh

Director Biography

Mahdi Hassanieh is an accomplished director with a passion for storytelling and cultural preservation. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Directorship from the Scientific Educational Centre of Soroush Multimedia Corporation. His journey in the world of filmmaking began with a Diploma in Filmmaking Directors Assistant from the Culture and Art Educational Center. He is known for "This is Not a Film" (2022) and "A Trip to the Moon" (2021).



UPHILL

22:34 Spain Drama, Social, Disability Spanish

Synopsis

How a family's life changes after the birth of their youngest child with cerebral palsy.



Teresa Trasancos

Director Biography

Teresa Trasancos is a young director who has released her first professional short film called "Cuesta Arriba" with the support of film production companies. She recorded her first short film at the age of 13 in San Fernando (Cádiz, Spain). Her short films "Silencio" (2015) and "Kuerpos" (2018) have been screened at various festivals. Now she presents "Uphill" (Cuesta arriba) (2022), her new work as director.

BISFF

Bengaluru International Short Film Festival

AUG '23

#BISFF

Women's
Cinema
Collective
Competition

JURY

Women's Cinema Collective
Competition



AJITH HANDE



GEETA GURAPPA



MEGHANA RAJ



7 PHERE- A DREAM HOUSEWIFE

26:16 India Thriller, Romance Hindi

Synopsis

It is the story of a young Indian couple and is a subtle satire on a "perfect housewife" in Indian society.



Malti Chahar

Director Biography

Malti Chahar is an actor born in Agra, UP, India. She is known for films like "Genius" (2018), "Ishq Pashmina" (2022) and "Sada Viah Hoya Ji" (2022). "7 Phere- A dream housewife" is her directorial debut.



ANKAHI BAATIEN

17:02 India Drama Hindi

Synopsis

A housewife wants to share a few moments with her family members. Gadgets and other engagements preoccupy them, leaving her with none of their attention. A quest to look for a companion opens her world to a neighbour's courier, a doll. Life takes a 360-degree turn with her thyroid dissolving as she communicates with her special friend. Life is now celebrated every moment with her soul mate.



Sujatha Rajashekar

Director Biography

Sujatha Rajashekar is known for "5 Elements" (2022), "Monkey Mind" (2023) and "Ankahi Baatien" (2023). She stepped into the film world at the age of 55, enticed by the story world, she walked the path starting with a concept, weaving a story and visualizing into films through the eyes of a lens to create a cinematic experience.



CARDBOARD BOXES

24:18 India Drama Tamil

Synopsis

While moving into their new home, a father and daughter erupt into a long-drawn argument, revealing their dysfunctional relationship.



Rukmini Ravishankar

Director Biography

Rukmini Ravishankar is a writer and filmmaker from Bengaluru. Her first short film, "The Yellow Wood" won the Best Student Short Film and the Best Scriptwriter Awards at the Golden Leaf International Film Festival. Her second short film "Cardboard Petti" (Cardboard Boxes) has won multiple awards. She is also a video journalist with Karnataka's leading news agency, Deccan Herald.



EK CUP CHAI

06:38 India Drama Hindi

Synopsis

"Ek Cup Chai" is a short film that discusses discrimination and how different objects have varying social statuses. It also shows how deeply discrimination is ingrained in each of our lives, whether we do it consciously or unconsciously. The film looks at one such instance in which a person's occupation serves as external validation.



Sahithya Shetty

Director Biography

Sahithya Shetty is an artist whose true love is narrative storytelling. The world of children, feminism, and issues of socio-economic classes are the main subjects on which Sahithya focuses her artistic efforts. She hopes to raise awareness of these important facets of the human experience and spark meaningful dialogue through her art.



GEJJE

10:00 India Drama Kannada

Synopsis

Gejje is an exploration of the apparent and hidden darker motives of human actions. A meeting between Chandramma, a woman applying for adoption and Anandamutry, the officer in charge, raises questions about innocence, trust and the value of scepticism. Gejje takes a nihilistic look at the world and explores the unspoken agendas behind an innocent exterior. It explores the often unaddressed faults of the bureaucracy. Who do we trust, and why is a seemingly 'innocent' person more worthy of our trust? What happens when positive intentions are assumed and not verified?



Mamatha G

Director Biography

Mamatha G Shetty, a proud native of Bangalore, has embarked on a delightful freelance journey exploring various roles in the Direction Team and the entertainment industry. As a freelancer, she has excelled as a Broadcaster & RJ, voice-over & dubbing artist, Amateur Theatre Actress, Scriptwriter, Article Writer, Copywriter, Story Creator, and Language Trainer, with Kannada language residing deep in her heart and soul. Beyond her professional pursuits, she finds immense joy in studying epics and folk-classical art. Mamatha expresses her views through poetry, drama, and story narration, while also embarking on exciting journeys through travel, driven by her curiosity about society and life. She strongly advocates for positive change.



KAANKHOWA

29:04 India Drama Assamese

Synopsis

The torn school uniform of an 11-year-old boy sets in motion a series of events culminating in his mother's death.



Hira Das

Director Biography

Hira Das was born in a remote village in the North Eastern state of Assam, India. After getting shunned by their village, her family shifted to a nearby town where she continued her studies. After graduating from film school, she worked as an editor for "MA-AMA" which won the Indian National Award for Best Garo Film in 2019. She's closely associated with the NGO, "I Love Jaisalmer", and is currently writing her debut feature as a director.



NAZARIYA- THE PERSPECTIVE

17:13 India Drama Hindi

Synopsis

Nazariya is a story about a newlywed couple on their honeymoon who fail to communicate what they expect of each other. These tiny misunderstandings create a distance not seen but felt from deep within.



Rashmi Somvanshi

Director Biography

Rashmi Somvanshi is an actor, producer, writer, director, and costume stylist in Bollywood. She has been associated with multiple critically acclaimed projects, including national award-winning films. This is her directorial debut, after creatively producing a feature with Drishyam Films.



NIMBU MIRCHI

14:29 India Romantic Comedy English, Hindi

Synopsis

An accident reunites Ada with her childhood bully, Arnav. The situation gets confusing when they seek treatment from Kabir, a doctor whom Ada has a crush on.



Aditi V Singhal

Director Biography

Aditi V Singhal is a Mumbai-based Indian filmmaker. She holds a degree in Filmmaking with specialisation in Direction. Her varied interests in different fields like Psychology and the Occult make her style in film relatable. She is currently writing her own feature film.



PARDE MEIN REHNE DO

28:48 India Drama Hindi

Synopsis

The film follows the story of a 32-year-old, soon-to-be-divorced woman named Kuhu as she traverses the complicated world of online dating, dealing with past traumas, friendships and body image issues.



Heena Dsouza

Director Biography

Heena Dsouza is known for films, "Vighna Bharta" (2015), "Pressure Cooker" (2017) and "Mukesh Jasoos" (2021).



SMALL-TIME CINEMA

29:00 India Drama Assamese, Baluchi

Synopsis

Small-Time Cinema is a documentary that follows two Youtube filmmaking groups, one living in Balochistan, Pakistan, and one in Assam, India. The film follows these groups as they make space for their complex history and cultures beyond a blanket Indian or Pakistani identity.



Priya Naresh

Director Biography

Priya Naresh is a filmmaker based in India. Her current curiosity has been to find a space between non-fiction and fiction filmmaking. Her past work has been around themes of cities and migration.



THE GROVE BECKONS

15:36 India Drama Malayalam

Synopsis

The villagers believed that Malu was a blessing of the Sacred Grove. Her grandparents raised her with their grandson, Ravi. With her coming, the Tharavaadu (ancestral home) prospers. The film traces the evolution of the childhood friendship of Ravi and Malu that gradually transcends its boundaries. The sacred enters the realm of the worldly. What comes from the Grove returns to it.



Sreeparvathy S

Director Biography

Sreeparvathy S is a second-year PhD student in Sociology at the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi. She has always held a deep fascination for the art of cinema, with a particular interest in filmmaking, acting, and music. Sreeparvathy recently directed her first short film, titled Kaavinte Vili (The Grove Beckons). Alongside her directing endeavours, she has also showcased her acting skills in two feature films, namely "Freedom Fight" and an unnamed Malayalam film.



Dear R.Durai
Here's your Rating & feedback

RATING:



SATISFACTION INDEX



FEEDBACK

VERY RUDE AND ARROGANT BEHAVIOUR.
DO NOT HIRE SUCH STAFF.

YOUR DELIVERY FEE
IS DEDUCTED BY

70%

TWO WORLDS

11:28 India Social Fiction Tamil

Synopsis

A young graduate, deep in debt, receives a call on a busy morning in Chennai. Assuring that he would reach within 15 minutes, he begins racing on his motorbike through the traffic, nearly risking his life. The following sequence of events in the film unfolds the sad reality of today's world.



Nithya Gopalakrishnan

Director Biography

Nithya Gopalakrishnan is an engineering graduate who is also a partner and executive director of a family-run logistics business in Chennai. She has had a passion for filmmaking since college and was influenced heavily by world cinema. Her love for cinema led to the making of this short film.



VAJRA

21:27 India Drama Kannada

Synopsis

A girl from North Karnataka comes to Bangalore in search of a job, carrying a belief and a dream. How her belief is misused and its effect on her forms the crux of the story.



Meghana Jagannath

Director Biography

Meghana Jagannath is a filmmaker who wants to make movies that are meaningful and original. Her vision is to always push forward, and she wishes to do the same with her films. She believes in the power of storytelling to change lives. She is an MBA graduate who worked for IBM, INFOSYS and CONCENTRIX MNC companies before becoming a filmmaker. "Smaya" - is her debut short film about Autism and "Vajra" is her second short film which throws light on woman trafficking. She showcases the human face of violence by telling stories that inspire, educate, and challenge us to think differently.



WHAT IF I FAIL

11:16 India Drama English

Synopsis

"What is the meaning of life? How can everyone be so happy all the time? Why do I feel this constant void inside me?"- these are the questions that haunt our protagonist throughout this film. At times, even breathing seems like a struggle to her; she knows she needs help but fails to ask for it. As her mind turns into a deep dark sinkhole infested with suicidal thoughts, she decides to give in, but life offers her an alternative.



Kiran Nagdev

Director Biography

Kiran Nagdev juggles multiple hats as a writer, director and producer. With a career spanning more than 11 years, she has been associated with Times Network, CNBCTV18, Bloomberg Quint, Sony Pictures Network, Alt Balaji etc. She has worked as an associate director on a feature film and multiple TVCs. Two of her shorts films have been featured on Disney+Hotstar and Amazon Prime UK & US.



YOU WANT COMPANY?

18:43 India Drama Assamese, Bengali, English

Synopsis

This film is a portrait of a young woman, Gargi, who has moved from Assam to Bangalore to make a living. She is kind and soft-spoken and lives with Madhu, her companion from the east. It's almost Gargi's birthday, and her friends Madhu and Farhan are excited to celebrate the day with her. Unfortunately, she has to work overtime with her senior colleague Anurag, who makes her feel uncomfortable with his "friendly" advances. Gargi, with the help of Madhu, tries to cope with the events that took place. The next day, following Anurag's lack of acknowledgement, Gargi takes a stand for herself.



Mehak Matharu

Director Biography

Mehak Matharu is a filmmaker who graduated from Srishti Institute of Art, Design and Technology. Her inability to understand her overwhelming emotions and feelings about the human mind led her to experiment with film. She finds herself intrigued by human behaviour and attempts to capture the essence of the emotions through her work.

BISFF

Bengaluru International Short Film Festival

AUG '23

#BISFF

**Animation
Competition**

JURY

Animation Competition



JASBINDER SINGH



PRAJWAL VAS



VINOD GOWDA



A GUERRA FINITA

05:00 Italy Animation No Dialogue

Synopsis

"Just look at reality. Just look its victims in the face; don't look the other way and you will understand everything." The words of Gino Strada, the animations of Simone Massi, and an urgent message for humanity: the need to abolish war. The short film "A Guerra Finita" wants to remind us that a world without war is just another utopia.



Simone Massi

Director Biography

Simone Massi was born in Pergola, Italy. After getting his degree in Animated Cinema from the State Institute of Fine Arts of Urbino, he began to work as a freelance animator. He is known for "La Memoria dei Cani" (2006), "About Killing the Pig" (2011) and "In Quanto a Noi" (2022).



AIKĀNE

13:54

United States

Romance, LGBT, Adventure

No Dialogue

Synopsis

A valiant island warrior, wounded in battle against foreign invaders, falls deep into a mysterious underwater world. Everything changes when the octopus who rescues him transforms into a handsome young man.



Daniel Sousa,
Dean Hamer,
Joe Wilson

Director Biography

Daniel Sousa is an acclaimed animator and director who explores human nature through mythical themes. His notable works include the Oscar-nominated film "Feral" and the award-winning "Fable." As an educator, he has taught at renowned institutions such as RISD and Harvard University. Dean Hamer, an Emmy-winning filmmaker and author, focuses on stories from marginalized voices. His collaborations with director and producer. Joe Wilson, an Emmy and GLAAD Award-winning filmmaker and longtime human rights activist, have received acclaim at international film festivals.



AKANKSHA ON THE PLANET BLARG

04:50 India Comedy, Heartfelt No Dialogue

Synopsis

'Akanksha on the Planet Blarg' follows a young Indian girl's struggles with cultural identity and alienation during a regular school day, as she writes and illustrates a story of her own to cope.



Apoorva Rege

Director Biography

Apoorva Rege is an Indian illustrator, animator and artist based in Pune, India. She has a particular passion for children's stories, and mostly enjoys working on earnest tales of love and friendship. A former animation student at NID Ahmedabad, she graduated in 2022 with the solo short film "Akanksha on the Planet Blarg", for which she served as director, animator, and background artist. Currently, she works as a visual designer, and freelances on the side as a children's illustrator.



AWAKENING: THE FIRST DAY

06:00 United States Romance, Fantasy English

Synopsis

Long ago, the God of light travels in search of belonging, but cannot escape the shadows in pursuit of him. In a journey through all the earthly realms, a fundamental truth is revealed once Light finally chooses to confront the Darkness.



Jos Diaz Contreras

Director Biography

Jos Diaz Contreras studied numbers at NYU before deciding to dedicate his life to film, media, and audiovisual production. His favourite number is three.



Santiago Carrasquilla

Santiago Carrasquilla got his start at the School of Visual Arts in New York, where he learned how to communicate complicated ideas with clarity. His favourite shape is the circle.



BALAM

10:10 Mexico Fantasy Spanish

Synopsis

Itzel, a young girl of Mayan descent, goes on a camping trip with her father, deep in the jungle. As they stargaze together, Itzel's curiosity leads her to wander off and explore the surrounding area. While wandering, she discovers a Jaguar in captivity and, without hesitation, frees the majestic animal. However, their escape is short-lived as a furious poacher begins to pursue them. Itzel runs for her life and in the process, stumbles upon a mysterious lost Mayan city. The adventure is full of wonder, danger, and magic, but Itzel is ready for whatever discoveries the jungle and the stars have in store for her.



Guillermo Casarin

Director Biography

Guillermo Casarín is a Mexican film director, screenwriter, and producer. Growing up, movies served as his escape to different worlds, instilling in him a deep desire to create those very worlds himself. Driven by a longing to challenge the stereotypical portrayals of his community, Guillermo embarked on a mission to provide authentic and empowering representations of marginalized groups. Throughout his career, Guillermo's work has garnered recognition from the Directors Guild of America (DGA), the Emmys, and various esteemed film festivals, some of which qualify for Oscars.



BARSAAT

06:30 India Drama, Romance Hindi, Malayalam

Synopsis

Barsaat is a surreal depiction of the lives of two individuals who form a deep connection with one another, blending their path and purpose underneath the ever-changing rainy skies. In this tale of togetherness from youth to sunset years is a love that evolved across seasons and tribulations. The ever-changing and often cyclical nature of love and loss in a couple's life is portrayed over time against a canvas of rain, recurring yet changing.



Vipin Samuel

Director Biography

Vipin Samuel is a filmmaker, director and editor from Kerala, India. Growing up in Muscat, Vipin's sense of intrigue for the world of film and storytelling led to him explore video editing in high school. From those initial years of learning skills and techniques from online tutorials, he went on to work on indie projects with friends who continue to share a passion for filmmaking. He aims to expand India's presence in the realm of animation, Sci-Fi and virtual reality cinema through socially relevant themes that challenge individuals and society to immerse themselves in the experience of a film.



BROKEN

16:00 Denmark Animation, Short No Dialogue

Synopsis

An elderly war veteran struggling with PTSD lives in an apartment with his chicken until an unknown aggressor began repeatedly hitting and breaking the living room window glass.



Farzaneh Omidvarnia

Director Biography

Farzaneh Omidvarnia is an Iranian-born artist, animator, and writer. She graduated from the University of Tehran and earned a PhD in Design from the Technical University of Denmark. Her fabric sculptures, short stories, and animated films have been showcased internationally, winning multiple awards. Currently, she is based in Copenhagen, Denmark.



CANDLELIGHT

06:47 United Kingdom Animation Animation

Synopsis

In a dusty attic, a tall dinner candle springs to life. As the playful and curious candle explores, learning to hop, skip and dance, it discovers a second candle. The two play and dance their way through the attic, falling in love. However, a shocking discovery is made when both candles realise that the heat from their combined flames, whenever they touch, causes them to rapidly melt. Splitting up, the two must decide whether life without the other can still be magical, or if they want to sacrifice everything for love.



Scott Newton

Director Biography

Scott Newton has worked in the film, animation and games industries in Belfast since 2013, across various productions. "Candlelight" is the first animated short film he has written and directed for Jam Media with the support of NI Screen.



CURIOSA

09:30 United Kingdom Animation , Dark Comedy English

Synopsis

Curiosa tells the story of an overly curious Mary who visits her boyfriend's flat for the first time, only to discover it's been stripped bare of all personal belongings. After being denied an explanation, she climbs into his head.



Tessa Moul-Milewska

Director Biography

Tessa Moul-Milewska is a British-Polish writer and animation director, a graduate of the National Film and Television School. Her go-to style of animation is stop-motion, but she's also directed 2D animated kids' series, experimented with mix-media as well as working in advertising. She specializes in short forms with a quirky sense of humour and a dark, whimsical tone. Tessa also brought to life the Warsaw Animation Film Festival and is a board member of the Ex Anima Foundation and a member of the Polish Filmmakers Association.



EUROPE BY BIDON

14:32 France Animated Documentary, Drama English, French

Synopsis

Biodun is Nigerian. In this animated documentary, he tells the story of his journey on foot from Lagos to Paris, how he survives with a container, a "bidon" and his courage. With his amazing patter, he transforms the events into extraordinary adventures.



Samuel Albaric



Thomas Trichet

Director Biography

Samuel Albaric pursued a career in press photography while directing documentaries. Influenced by reality films, he focused on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and directed three films, including "Gaza", "Souvenirs", "2008". This experience led him to choose news topics for his work while approaching them from unique angles. His motivation lies in exploring how significant historical events resonate with individuals.

Thomas Trichet directed "Le Taxi de Sun City" in 2019 and is working on the animated series, "Meet Doug". Alongside Martin Maire and Théo Jollet, he co-founded the collective of directors JTM, engaging in diverse projects ranging from fiction to fashion and music videos.



ICE MERCHANTS

14:00 Portugal Animation No Dialogue

Synopsis

Every day, a father and his son jump with a parachute from their vertiginous cold house, attached to a cliff, to go to a village far away to sell the ice they produce daily.



João Gonzalez

Director Biography

João Gonzalez is a Portuguese film director, animator, illustrator and musician. Recipient of a scholarship from the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, he did a Masters at the Royal College of Art (UK). He made 2 multi-award-winning films, "Nestor and The Voyager". In 2022, he became the first Portuguese animation filmmaker to be awarded at Festival de Cannes, winning the Jury Prize for Best Short Film in competition at the Critics Week, with "Ice Merchants". He has a big interest in combining music with authorial animation, always taking the role of composer and sometimes instrumentalist in the films he directs.



KANKHUA

07:11 India Fantasy, Drama Hindi

Synopsis

Being tormented by a deadly flood, an Assamese girl ventures to get help for herself and her grandmother. But her path includes a forest which is inhabited by the local boogeyman Kankhua.



Arindam Kishore Dutta

Director Biography

Arindam Kishore Dutta is an animator cum illustrator. He graduated from NID Ahmedabad, as an Animation Film Designer. He has been working on many freelance projects in the fields of animation, illustration, logo design and video editing. He interned at Ghost Animation Collective, Kolkata in 2019-20 and at Girgit Studios in 2021-22. Apart from visual arts, he is a Visharad in Tabla. His interest solely lies in pop culture media and video games.



LEAVES OF K.

18:00 Nicaragua Animation Spanish

Synopsis

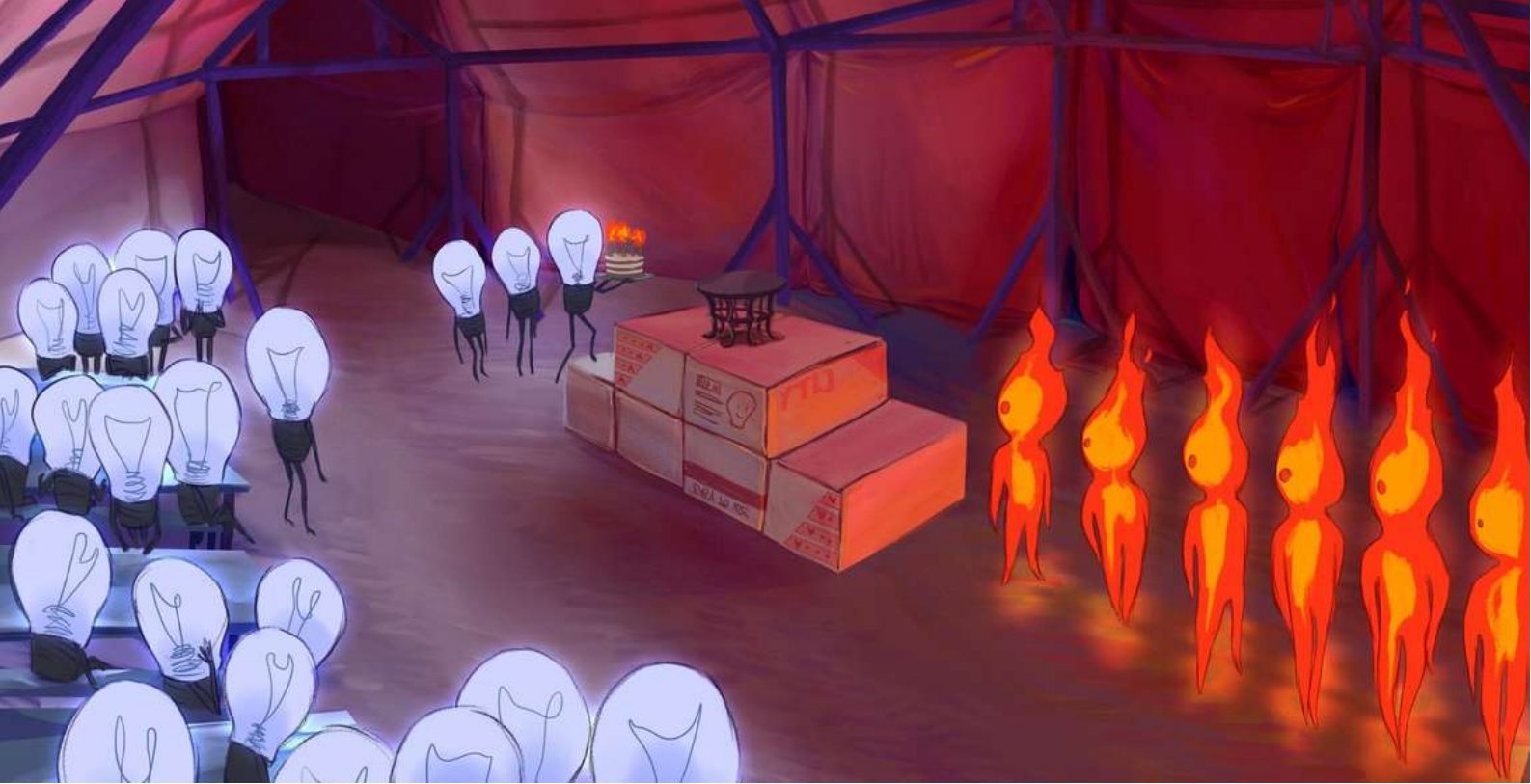
Through her personal, impressionistic, and dreamlike drawings, K, a 17-year-old girl shares her memories of the violence imposed upon herself, her family, and the people of Nicaragua by the government of Daniel Ortega - a former leader of the Sandinista Revolution (1979-1989) who mutated from a rebel fighting a corrupt government to a ruthless dictator whose iron fist now causes K. to risk her life to protest injustice.



Gloria Carrión

Director Biography

Gloria Carrión, a director, screenwriter, and social scientist from Nicaragua, gained recognition with her debut documentary "Heiress of the Wind", premiering at IDFA in 2017. The film has since been showcased in over 80 international film festivals, garnering numerous awards. In 2019, she co-directed her first fiction film, "Days of Light" with five other Central American directors, debuting at the AFI International Film Festival. The film was shortlisted for the Best International Film category at the Academy Awards. Gloria holds a Master's degree in Documentary Filmmaking and Development, and she founded Caja de Luz.



LIGHTS

08:26

Czech Republic

Coming-of-Age

No Dialogue

Synopsis

In the town of lightbulbs, a party for small flames is taking place. This will allow them to grow up and become a part of the system which will protect them and allow them to shine forever. But one flame likes to play with fire and it rebels against the system.



Jitka Nemikinová

Director Biography

Jitka Nemikinová studied at Václav Hollar secondary school, specializing in Advertising Graphic Design and then at FAMU, specializing in Animation. During her studies, she made a film called "1938" (2018), which received support from Czech television. She also directed the films "Bait Bite" (2018), "That escalated quickly" (2017) and "Feel Leaf "(2017). Now, she mainly focuses on graphic design and illustration. She keeps educating herself in these fields and she keeps expanding her skillset. In 2020, "Lights" received an Animation Espresso Award at the Anifilm Festival.



LOST IN SPACE

01:44 India Satire, Adventure English

Synopsis

In a country going through a tumultuous political period, *Lost In Space* is a light-hearted take on how ignorance can only get you so far. The longer we chase away the people we have our differences with, the more it chips away at the psyche -- that is until we realize we need a break from it all. Our only weary companion at the end is often the one we were fighting, who is also tired of all the anger. Despite all these differences, the weariness and a pause help create a shared understanding.



Najeeb Thottungal

Director Biography

Najeeb Thottungal is the Lead Animator with LastBench Studio with over 8 years of experience in illustrations and animations. A constant learner, he's always figuring out new art styles, working with new technology, or making new original work. He has a degree in Architecture but found his passion in illustration. He then went on to start his career at Fully Filmy where he worked on creative posters and filmy animations. Following this, he joined LastBench Studio, where he has been working on various 2D and 3D animated projects, along with several short films. His biggest inspiration is the legendary Japanese animator, Hayao Miyazaki, thanks to his distinct visual style and storytelling method; and you can see traces of influences in Najeeb's work.



MARIONETTES (AND THE VIRTUE OF A LOTUS FLOWER)

09:53

Australia

Drama, Social Issue

English

Synopsis

The fate of marionettes is sealed as they are stuck inside a cycle of suffering; the mother questions their existence to the god and supplicates for liberation from an unfortunate tradition.



Prajdnik Awasthi

Director Biography

Prajdnik Awasthi is an artist based in Canberra, Australia. He grew up in Kathmandu, Nepal and later moved to Australia to pursue a career as an artist. His primary interest is storytelling. His art practice primarily focuses on themes of existentialism that are usually supported by 2D and mixed media artwork. He likes to work with geometric shapes, typography, textures, colours, framing and symbolism to produce graphics that serve the purpose of storytelling.



MOTHERS OF THE WORLD

16:51

India

Women's Rights,
Human Rights

English, Persian,
Turkish, Ukrainian

Synopsis

Mothers of the World is inspired by the stories of five migrant and refugee mothers from Afghanistan, Somalia, Ukraine, the Philippines, and Turkey. It is a series of portraits of the women who made difficult journeys into Europe, their quest for safety, security, and stability for themselves and their children, their daily struggles, and the courage and wisdom with which they deal with the new challenges in Europe.



Vaishnavi Sundar

Director Biography

Vaishnavi Sundar is an Indian filmmaker, writer and women's rights activist. All her films champion women from various walks of life. This is her animation directorial debut.



NOT SELECTED

03:13 India Animation, Drama No Dialogue

Synopsis

Beyond any failure, just a flight away is a bigger perspective on life. When a girl is heartbroken by a rejection letter, her grandpa finds a clever way to unburden her perspective. She chucks the failure into the winds of new hope and breaks free from the hurt.



Tarun Sharma

Director Biography

Tarun Sharma has been working as an animator for over 15 years for studios around the world. He has published two books. Now, he is focusing on telling original stories. Recently, he won an Epic MegaGrant at ASIFA India 22.



PINA

23:44

Belgium

Animation

Italian

Synopsis

At the end of the 19th century, in a Sicilian countryside village, the young Pina holds the power to regenerate the land. With each harvest, the village is prey to shameless mafia looting. Pina's encounter with the mafia chief will plunge the hamlet into an era of starvation, endangering the destiny of the whole country.



Giuseppe Accardo,
Jeremy Depuydt

Director Biography

Giuseppe Accardo works both in Palermo and in Brussels as a scenographer. He discovered the field of animation thanks to his meeting with Jeremy Depuydt as co-author of this animated film "PINA" on which he also acted as a chief decorative artist. French director Jeremy Depuydt made his first animated film in 2004 "Il pleut bergère", les films du nord, after which he worked as an animator on tv series productions. Later on, he produced animated advertising videos and co-directs the animation studio Pixileon.



POTTICHOOTTU

02:22

India

Horror, Fantasy

Malayalam

Synopsis

Kerala is home to Gods, monsters, and the supernatural - survived by the tradition of grandmothers telling their tales to their grandchildren. One of these entities is the "Pottichoottu", a physical manifestation of the local deity that travels from one temple to another at night. It is described as a floating ball of fire - both fearsome and deadly. Over the years, locals stayed away from temple roads after sunset as running into one guaranteed illness or even death. However, as the dense forests turned into streetlight-illuminated roads, the stories of Kerala's past slowly aged and faded away, along with the ones telling them.



Najeeb Thottungal

Director Biography

Najeeb Thottungal is the Lead Animator with LastBench Studio with over 8 years of experience in illustrations and animations. A constant learner, he's always figuring out new art styles, working with new technology, or making new original work. He has a degree in Architecture but found his passion in illustration. He then went on to start his career at Fully Filmy where he worked on creative posters and filmy animations. Following this, he joined LastBench Studio, where he has been working on various 2D and 3D animated projects, along with several short films. His biggest inspiration is the legendary Japanese animator, Hayao Miyazaki, thanks to his distinct visual style and storytelling method; and you can see traces of influences in Najeeb's work.



SOMEWHERE

07:00 Malta Animation, Sci-Fi English

Synopsis

Wars, pandemics, and the acceleration of climate change have forced a selection of human civilisation to find refuge on the Cuboid - a gigantic structure just outside Earth's atmosphere - while the rest of humanity is left to survive on a hostile planet. Somewhere, follows Vincent - a researcher at the Halo Space Research Centre - who makes a detour to Planet Earth to retrieve an item. The film is a story about 'memory', 'remembering', and 'loss'.



Fabrizio Ellul

Director Biography

Fabrizio Ellul is a visual artist and filmmaker who founded Filfla Studio - an independent creative studio to tell stories in the digital medium. Filfla Studio has now produced three short animations - "Somewhere" (2023), "Mr Teddy is Angry" (2021) and "Filfla" (2019) as well as published a graphic novel - "Sarangu -the Sack Man" (2022).



THE LEGEND OF GOLDHORN

13:35 Slovenia Fantasy, Drama No Dialogue

Synopsis

A hunter heads out to the mountains to mend his broken heart. On his way, he can't escape the visions of his lover who left him. As he loses his mind, his dark side comes to life. The shadow guides him to hunt the mythical Goldhorn and ultimately leads him to his demise. Based on the Slovenian folktale, a story about greed and our relationship with nature. The musical score was made with traditional Slavic instruments.



Lea Vučko

Director Biography

Lea Vučko, an illustrator by education and animator by profession, has animated "Prince Ki-Ki-do", "Weasel", Špela Čadež's OITNB Netflix commission and "Somewhere Else", a contemporary puppet play. She is the co-creator of two site-specific projects which were selected for Animafests' Animation goes MSU (Petris, Spring Cleaning) and is the co-founder of OCTOPICS production studio. "The Legend of Goldhorn" is her debut short film, which won VESNA, the Slovenian main film award for Best-Animated film in 2022 and the DSAF award from the Slovenian animated film association for best visual design.



THE RECORD

08:38 Switzerland French Drama, Film Noir

Synopsis

An antique music instrument dealer receives a magical vinyl record from a traveller: "It reads your mind and plays your lost memories". Obsessed with this endless record, the antique dealer listens to it again and again, and the memories reemerge until one last and most painful memory is revealed -- how he got separated from his mother on the Swiss border during World War II.



Jonathan Laskar

Director Biography

Born in 1978, Jonathan Laskar studied visual arts at the University of Aix-Marseille and classical double bass at the Conservatory of Aix-en-Provence. In 2000, he moved to Germany, in the city of Weimar, to study architecture at the Bauhaus-Universität. After a few years of professional experience as an architect in Basel, Jonathan Laskar studied animation at the Lucerne University of Art and Design (Switzerland), where he obtained a master's degree with his graduation film "De terre et d'encre" produced by Claude Barras. Since 2013, he lives in Geneva and works as an independent animation filmmaker.

BISFF

Bengaluru International Short Film Festival

AUG '23

#BISFF

**Non
Competition**



1098

28:26 India Drama Kannada

Synopsis

The film explores the child marriage story of a girl, aged 14 during her wedding preparations and how a 5-year-old school girl tries to stop the wedding by recalling a class lecture. Through the film, we try to communicate the importance of education, and how it transforms girls' lives and in turn, society.



Nevil Pradeep Dsouza

Director Biography

Nevil Pradeep Dsouza is a passionate Mangalorean filmmaker and Assistant Professor in the School of Communication and Media Studies at St. Joseph's University, Bangalore. With a deep-rooted love for cinema, storytelling, and design, he ventured into the realms of Art Direction, Screenplay, and Direction. Nevil holds a Post Graduate degree in Electronic Media and eagerly waiting for his Doctorate in Media Technologies and Education. Having already completed three impactful short films, including "Oru Viral Pranayakadha", "Teacher", and "1098", he is currently immersed in developing a compelling story for his upcoming feature film. His dedication to both academia and filmmaking showcases his multifaceted talent in the world of cinema.



5 GRAINS

03:31 India Animation English

Synopsis

Four daughters-in-law try to pass an exam involving 5 grains to get the bunch of the keys and become the owner of the house.



Uma Sharma

Director Biography

Uma Sharma is a visual storyteller, who has directed and created several short films, fun explainers, music videos, children's books, gifs, and album art using the medium of animation and illustration. Being an explorer, she delights in envisioning fresh, fun and quirky art directions with immersive worlds and has a strong belief that the story is the heart of every creation. She gains sustenance through doodling and writing about animals, adventures and all things magical.



A HAUNTING THAT NO ONE ELSE SAW

04:32 India Semi-Autobiographical, Horror English

Synopsis

A 9-year-old girl moves to a new house where everything feels strangely unsettling. This horror-esque film brings you into her world and shows you things only she knew.



Pivari Kejriwal

Director Biography

Pivari Kejriwal is an animator based in Bangalore, specializing in 2D and stop-motion animation. With a master's degree in animation, she finds inspiration in surrealism and German expressionism, which shapes her artistic style. She has a deep fascination with all things spooky, like horror movies and ghosts. While she enjoys exploring dark themes in his work, she also loves incorporating bright colours to create a striking contrast. Animation has been a medium that allows her to express herself boundlessly. In 2022, she was fortunate enough to receive the Young ACE Award for Best Student Animated Short Film at the ANN Awards and had her work screened at the Animators Guild of India Festival.



AALAM

16:09 India Drama Hindi

Synopsis

A single man, now widowed and consumed by the daily affairs of his life, is trying to find some peace. The CAA-NRC riots have taken a toll on his entire life. From having a family of three, he is now the sole member left. The result has jilted him far beyond the fence from where coming back seems impossible. Belonging to a minority community, the trauma he festers alongside takes him back to memories that now haunt him. The film explores the aftermath of communal riots and the struggle to survive when the world around him moves unaffected.



Deependra Kumar Yadav

Director Biography

Deependra Kumar Yadav is a student filmmaker who is doing his Master of Design in Film and Video Communication from NID, Ahmedabad. Having worked on quite a few student short fiction films and ads, he is known to be adept at lateral thinking, team work and being utmost professional with peers. He recently completed his first short fiction film "Aalam", that questions the current state of affairs of the minority community in India.



ABHERI GUDDE

07:20 India Drama Kannada

Synopsis

In a village, a forest named "Abheri Gudde" is where many people see suspicious activities and think that the "Guliga Daiva" exists. A guy tries to find out what is really happening.



Pavan Raj Kalluraya,
Sudarshana Kalluraya M



ACHA HUA AAP TIME PAI AAGAYAI

10:44 India Comedy, Satire Hindi

Synopsis

A police inspector finds himself in a fight between two BMC officials and a girl for not wearing her mask. He tries to find the truth from different versions of the incident.



Dharmesh Patel



Arsh Kaur Lamba

Director Biography

Dharmesh Patel is a writer and director predominantly working in theatre and cinema and striving towards creating films and plays that are entertaining, insightful and accessible to everyone in my society. Acted in 2 web shows viz. "Laakhon mein ek" season 1 (Prime) and "Yeh meri Family" (Netflix). Writer on "Shark Tank" season 2.

Arsh Kaur Lamba is an aspiring storyteller who wants to serve stories of the world, to the world. She directed the short film: "Dahi", co-wrote the upcoming web show "Sindh Saga", acted in the play "Pukaar" and won the best actress for it the state at the Dajikaka Gadgil, and directed the original music video: One Woman Band.



AMMI

19:21 India Drama, Suspense Tulu

Synopsis

It is a story of a single-parent child, Ammi, who lives with her mother Sushila. The course of their day changes as a stranger enters the house and takes Ammi hostage in return for help. Goons come to find the stranger and the day turns into chaos.



Sathwik Shankar
Shetty

Director Biography

Sathwik Shankar Shetty graduated from NITTE Institute of Communication and hails from the coastal part of Karnataka. He has been a part of ad films and made a documentary called "Aakhal Chakra", based on Boothu Kola, a ritual celebrated by Tulu-speaking people. His interest in filmmaking came from his core skill in writing. He believes that films should take the audience on a journey and make them experience new things.



ATM CARD

14:56 India Drama Hindi, Odia

Synopsis

A struggling actor turns to a life of deceit, using his voice to exploit vulnerable seniors through ATM card scams. As his fraudulent actions lead to a painful breakup and a downward spiral into mental instability, he reaches the brink of despair. However, a disillusioned but principled man, disenchanted by the world of fraud, receives an unforeseen call from the actor-turned-scammer. In a pivotal moment of redemption, he chooses to answer his last call, sparking a profound transformation that could alter their lives forever.



Rajit Chandan

Director Biography

Rajit Chandan is a self-taught screenwriter and director-driven by a deep passion for storytelling. Coming from a B.Tech background, he followed his heart's calling to pursue filmmaking, without the formal training of a film school. Through films, Rajit strives to engage audiences with captivating narratives, blending realism and poetic storytelling. "ATM CARD" is his debut short, made against all odds. Now, he eagerly seeks opportunities to bring more of his stories to life, honing his skills in screenwriting, direction, and visual storytelling with each project.



BARSA

01:43 India Drama No Dialogue

Synopsis

Short story of a slum girl who fears thunder. It shows how to live with your problems.



Captain Shiv

Director Biography

Captain Shiv is an Indian film director who completed his diploma in automobile engineering in 2020. After his education, he worked for some automobile companies before leaving his job and starting filmmaking. His first short film was unreleased, and his debut short movie is "Barsa".



BLUE GOLD

23:08 India Drama Hindi

Synopsis

In a water-scarce, fictional village of Uttar Pradesh, India, where groundwater is undiscovered, Jeevesh, an untouchable outcast struggles to provide water for his family. But, his life gets derailed after he steals water from the local temple, causing him and his family to be banned from the village. Strangely affected by a lesson, his kids read at school. Jeevesh goes into a maddening self-reflective phase and eventually does the impossible: Find water. His success is short-lived as he becomes one of the exploiting upper class, the people he once despised. He now has to choose to either return to his roots, his family or continue living his newfound life of comfort.



Akash Shukla

Director Biography

Akash Shukla is a Writer, Director and Producer currently based in Los Angeles, California, USA. He was born and raised in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, India. After graduating high school, he interned at Post House Studios in Mumbai for a year. At the age of 19, he moved to the US in 2019 and has worked on several independent film sets. He produced a short film "The Bench" in March of 2022, which got an honourable mention at the Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival. He has a keen interest in film, arts, and culture and believes that music and art shape society.



BOUGAINVILLEA

22:33 India Drama Malayalam

Synopsis

A typical girl cherishing her youthfulness but struggling in search of her love for life goes to spend that night with her loving friend Sooraj. She has been eagerly waiting for this day for a few weeks. But she could never guess what he was planning that day. She ran in like a rat to the trap. But there awaited something way beyond everyone's imagination. And that's why they named that home "Bougainvillea", the unscented, soulless flower.



Asif Sainulabdeen



BROKEN MIRROR

11:39 India Drama English

Synopsis

On a mundane day of routine work, a woman crosses paths with a homeless fellow who reminds her of her buried past. In her desperate attempts to relive her memories, life happens...yet again.



Pinaki Sarkar

Director Biography

Mr. Pinaki Sarkar has completed his Master's in Physics from Presidency University and in Engineering from Jadavpur University. He specializes in Multimedia Development and is an expert in digital technology and modern-day filmmaking. Being the director of the 'Presidency College Drama Society' he has written, translated, produced and directed several dramas, ranging from "Bertolt Brecht" to "Rabindranath Tagore".



CHASING MIRAGES

05:22 India Drama Hindi

Synopsis

"Janam Amolak - Chasing Mirages" is a musical film inspired by the poetry of Dadu Dayal, a 16th-century Indian saint. The story follows Salim, a behrupiya (impersonator) struggling with the fading art form. Salim faces humiliation and loses interest in his performances until a small incident changes his perspective. The film explores the challenges faced by impersonators and the value of their art in bringing joy to people's lives. The poetry of Dadu Dayal emphasizes the futility of desires and the need to find fulfillment within oneself. The film highlights the real struggles of impersonators and their livelihood issues in Rajasthan, India.



Abhishek Kumawat

Director Biography

Abhishek Kumawat is a renowned filmmaker and photographer focused on telling the stories of marginalized communities. His work, featured in the United Nations magazine and exhibited at New Delhi's Lalit Kala Akademi, captures the essence of migration and village life. In addition to creating impactful documentaries for non-profits, Abhishek works on projects addressing water issues, migration, and environmental degradation. With a passion for storytelling and social justice, he seeks to make a difference through his art.



CLOUDS OF MONSOON

30:00 India Drama English, Hindi

Synopsis

A man who has been unemployed for months due to the COVID-induced lockdown in Mumbai and is struggling to take care of his family gets an opportunity to earn his livelihood again. This is only if he can circumvent the strict travelling restrictions of the Mumbai local train, the only means he can afford.



Ketan Kuril

Director Biography

Ketan Kuril is a Mumbai-based filmmaker who initially pursued a Bachelor's degree in Engineering from Ramrao Adik Institute of Technology. However, he transitioned into filmmaking as a self-taught artist. His short film "Clouds of Monsoon" premiered at the 52nd Tampere Film Festival and was showcased at prestigious events like the 27th Kolkata International Film Festival and the 19th Pacific Meridian International Film Festival in Vladivostok, Russia. Additionally, it was chosen as one of the Short Film Market Picks at the Clermont-Ferrand Film Festival Market in 2022. Furthermore, Ketan's feature film script was selected for the Scriptwriting Lab at the 26th European Union Film Festival in 2021.



DINNER

19:49 India Drama English, Hindi

Synopsis

After facing a tough few months living in isolation, Ragini decides to catch up with her friend Divya over dinner. What begins as a warm and intimate conversation, eventually turns sideways. They ultimately end their reunion leaving a big question of why they met for dinner.



Prateek Sharma

Director Biography

Prateek's journey as a filmmaker started early on, he worked in sound and editing studios during his college vacations and eventually started to make his own films then. He pursued editing at FTII Pune always believing a strong grasp of the edit is one of the most powerful tools a director can have. He's now been directing ads, music videos and documentaries.



DOKRA KEU BOJHEY NA

07:44 India Animated Documentary Bengali, English, Hindi

Synopsis

Dokra Keu Bojhey Na (Incomprehensible Dokra) is an animated documentary that explores the perils that the 4000-year-old craft of Dokra faces in West Bengal, India. We converse with artisans and sellers to discuss the lack of patronage that may lead to its extinction and the possible ways to revive the craft as well the poor living conditions of its artists.



Sneha Das



Monjima Mullick

Director Biography

Sneha Das and Monjima Mullick are animators who studied their Bachelors' of Multimedia at St. Xavier's College, Kolkata and are now pursuing their diplomas in Animation Cinema at Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute, Kolkata.



DOMESTIC HELP

21:00 India Mystery, Drama English

Synopsis

Thomas, a timid clown who wasn't funny enough to make it in the entertainment business, gets placed in a domestic help position for Jennifer, a woman who needs assistance managing the day-to-day as she works on a never-ending to-do list. Thomas is good at taking orders, but his job performance begins to suffer once he 'notices' the abandoned children in Jennifer's backyard.



Raveesh Jaiswal

Director Biography

Raveesh Jaiswal, quit his plush job in the corporate world to establish his own theatre and film production company, Bombay Theatre Company. He has been working in theatre for about 14 years as an actor, director and writer. He has been a part of 40 plays throughout his career and also plays the tabla. "Domestic Help" is his first film as a director and producer.



DYSABILITY

30:00

Australia

Dysability

English

Synopsis

'Dysability' is about how two women achieved great success despite their Dyslexia.



Shihyun Wang

Director Biography

In 2015, Shihyun Wang launched a YouTube channel, which garnered 13 million views in five years. Determined to prove the quality of her original videos, she submitted some of them in late 2016. Five years later, she achieved remarkable success, earning 960 IMDb awards, including 36 Remi Awards from Worldfest Houston. Facing financial obstacles common to indie filmmakers, she took on the roles of writer, editor, and producer for the majority of her 500+ films. By creating documentaries, comedies, sci-fi, horror, musicals, romances, and even westerns, she aimed to demonstrate that talent outweighs formal training and experience.



FOOTPRINTS

23:38 India Drama Bengali

Synopsis

Pampa, a single mother, and a lower-caste slum dweller, works as domestic help for a dysfunctional middle-class family. As her world comes crashing down at work one day, Pampa must stand up for herself by blurring the lines between the master and the maid.



Tathagata Ghosh

Director Biography

Tathagata Ghosh has always believed in telling stories of people from different social backgrounds and people who do not have a voice of their own. His films have travelled to numerous International film festivals and have won several awards.



GHAMA GHAMA

06:55 India Satire Kannada

Synopsis

A short film that portrays the unrealized fine details of inhuman behaviour in the daily chaos of urban life. The biased behaviour of the middle and upper middle class towards the lower class society has been portrayed here.



Malathesh V

Director Biography

Malathesh V is a film and stage actor from Bangalore. He has done his Master's in Performing Arts. He has acted in films like "Illiralaare Allige Hogalaare", "Amruth Apartments", "Photo", "Mayabazaar" and a few more.

He started his acting career in Kannada theatre. He has acted in "Three penny opera", "Jugari Cross", "Dreams of Tipu Sultan", "Shariffa", "Mahatma Kabeera and Tughlaq". He was an indivisible part of many workshops and productions conducted by Samudaya, Sanchari, Darpana and Kalamaithri. He has directed 2 proscenium plays and 3 street plays. Currently, he is playing a protagonist role in Samudaya's ongoing play "Tughlaq".



HOMEWARD

26:20 India Drama Malayalam

Synopsis

Narayanan, a Gulf returnee, finds himself back in his hometown of Kasaragod, Kerala, after losing his job during the Covid-19 pandemic. To sustain himself, he plans to pledge his family property for a bank loan. However, his plans take an unexpected turn when his mother, the property owner, is diagnosed with dementia and mild schizophrenia. Obtaining his mother's signature becomes crucial for loan approval, highlighting the impact of a family member's illness on their bond and love. This poignant story provides a realistic account of the challenges faced when a loved one's disease affects their relationships.



Akhil Dev M

Director Biography

Akhil Dev M is a filmmaker from India. He is a film school dropout from K.R. Narayanan National Institute of Visual Science & Arts, Kerala. His areas of interest are writing, direction and production.



HOW TO GET YOUR MAN PREGNANT

29:59 Republic of Korea Sci-Fi, Comedy Korean

Synopsis

Set in South Korea in 2030, this film follows the story of Jeonghwan Choi and Yujin Kang, a married couple facing fertility struggles. Yujin, exhausted from unsuccessful IVF treatments, introduces Jeonghwan to Dr. Samsin Kim, a brilliant doctor researching male pregnancy technology. Jeonghwan becomes involved in the male pregnancy project and boldly expresses his willingness to undergo the procedure on national television during a TV debate show.



Gyeongmu NOH

Director Biography

Gyeongmu Noh majored in Animation Directing at the Korean Academy of Film Arts. Her graduation project, "A Blue Giant", won the Special Jury Prize at Jeonju International Film Festival. "How To Get Your Man Pregnant" is the second animated film she directed. She is also the author of several picture books including "Man Out of A Fire (2017)", "Walk in Anxiety (2018)", and "The Namhae Traveler (2019)."



I RUN INTO CHAIRS

23:03

India

Short Documentary

English

Synopsis

Meet Divyanshu Ganatra, the first blind Indian to take a solo flight, and realize his childhood dream of becoming a pilot. In 2016, he was the first Blind Tandem cyclist to cycle from Manali to Khardung La, the world's highest motorable road. In 2018, he climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro, the highest free-standing mountain in the world, and become the first Blind Indian to do so. After losing his eyesight to Glaucoma at 19, Divyanshu was working to get his life back on track when he got an earful of free advice from well-wishers and rehabilitation counselors: "Your life is over." "You can only stay at home now and make cane furniture." He soon found that his blindness or health struggles were not the problem.



Barnali Ray Shukla

Director Biography

Barnali Ray Shukla is an Indian filmmaker, writer and poet. Starting off as a cell-biologist specializing in plant tissue culture and a topper of the Delhi University both at the graduate and post-graduate levels, Barnali soon turned towards film-making. She has worked with Ram Gopal Varma as assistant director on "Satya", and in various writers' rooms with Ekta Kapoor and looks forward to her directorial with Emmay Entertainment, the script is still a work in progress. Her first feature film (in Hindi) as a writer-director "KUCCH LUV JAISAA", was released in May 2011, FoxStar Studios.



ILA

28:35 India Drama Kannada

Synopsis

Pradeep, in his mid-thirties, with an inherent aversion toward the transgender community. When he is trying to come to terms with the inevitable separation from his wife, a series of events leads him to spend a night with a member of the transgender community. As they make a journey together, their impressions and perspectives about each other change. These events also help Pradeep take a more confident decision about his life. The movie ends with a question of whether or not Pradeep truly transforms his feelings about the transgender community.



Pruthvi Kantha L

Director Biography

Pruthvi Kantha L is a software engineer from Bengaluru, India, whose interest slowly drifted to making films. He has been a part of a couple of feature film projects as a screenwriter and now has directed a short film called "ILA".



IPSA

24:48

India

Fantasy, Horror

Hindi, Sanskrit

Synopsis

The Himalayan Foothills, circa 500CE: A neglected housewife struggles with infertility, leading her husband to bring a second wife into their home. As she grows distant from the family, she visits a mysterious sage seeking divine intervention.



Pavitra Verma

Director Biography

Pavitra Verma is a 21-year-old student writer, director and editor from India, currently based in Los Angeles. In December 2022, he graduated summa cum laude from New York Film Academy, Los Angeles with a Bachelor's degree in Filmmaking. He created two student short films during this time, his intermediate film 'Those Seven Steps' (2022) and his thesis film 'Ipsa' (2023). Verma was also selected to be a part of the Class of 2022 in the Gold Rising Talent Development Program hosted by the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences. As part of the program, he is currently being mentored by acclaimed director Robert Eggers.



KAANADA KADALIGE

22:13 India Drama Kannada

Synopsis

This is the story of a passionate photographer whose life turns hell after an accident. He loses both his eyes during the accident, and the universe decides to console him unexpectedly.



Raghu Atharva

Director Biography

Raghu Atharva started as an engineer, then pursued a career as an actor, and finally realized his dream of becoming a director—he has a million aspirations. Presently, he is working as an assistant director for M. Chandramouli on the film titled "Dilmaar."



KANNAGI

21:09 India Drama Tamil

Synopsis

A story of two best friends going through adolescence and trying to understand their own gender and those around them. In this process, society changes their course of life.



Ezhil Vinod Selvan

Director Biography

Ezhil Vinod Selvan born on the 8th of April, 1983 in Tamil Nadu, India, is a Filmmaker, Screenwriter and Producer. He studied Digital Film Making Course from SAE, Bangalore. He has been in the industry for over 15 years and is associated with both Feature Films and TV Commercials. He has cast artists for many well-renowned projects. His finesse in making independent films by himself is from his experience in working in all the departments such as cinematography, editing, art, costume & casting. He's also contributed to screenplays for movies. He is also intrigued by Tamil literature and world history.



KHARKHARAM

11:29 India Drama Malayalam

Synopsis

A young man's snore causes others trouble, thus creating emotional tensions. The film follows how he deals with his conditions.



Abhilash Anirudh

Director Biography

Abhilash Anirudh is an Indian short film director who works primarily in the Malayalam short film industry and started his film career with the 2017 Short film called "Wrong Drive". He was born in Kadakkal, Kollam, Kerala, India. He was an Animator also. He completed six short films and one musical album in this period.



KURT.COM/

17:12 India Dark comedy English

Synopsis

In an alternate world where suicide is commercialized, a delivery agent brings the wrong order.



Roshan Kumar

Director Biography

Roshan Kumar is an up-and-coming film director from Bangalore. Despite not having a formal education in film, Roshan has always been passionate about storytelling and visual arts. He is known for his unique style, quirky themes and approach to filmmaking. Despite being at the beginning of his journey, Roshan is already making strides in the industry and is eager to continue pursuing his passion. Roshan is always actively seeking new opportunities to collaborate with other creatives and bring his vision to life on the big screen.



LA MECHA

14:00 Chile Drama Spanish

Synopsis

Mecha (33) is the wandering soul of an environmental activist who dies under suspicious circumstances. Her death generates commotion in the town and unleashes mixed feelings in her family. This leads Mecha's ghost to seek reconciliation with her son Juan (16) and make him take charge of her fight.



Nicholas Hooper H.

Director Biography

Nicholas Hooper H. is an Anglo-Chilean film director and producer. He is interested in portraying social problems and creating innovative ways of telling real stories that affect a territory on a daily basis has led him to work on projects that seek to make an impact in society. He currently works with director Maite Alberdi in Micromundo Films and his production company CUBHO Audiovisual, developing different projects such as films, short films and interactive documentaries.



MAYAJAALA

29:40 India Psychological Drama Kannada

Synopsis

Abhai, a paranoid young IT employee, living away from home in a silicon jungle, feels a sense of apprehension about his love for Divya who is unspooling away from him. In the midst, when a long-lost friend of Divya, Pranav, descends into their life, all hell is set loose for Abhai.



Jeevan Chandra

Director Biography

Jeevan Chandra is a mechanical design engineer, but he has always been passionate about films and stories. Being self-taught, he spent many years understanding story techniques and wrote a few scripts, then gradually transitioned into directing short films.



MY FATHER'S DOCTOR

18:00 India Drama, Social Justice Kashmiri/Urdu

Synopsis

A young Kashmiri girl fights to safeguard the honour of her father's doctor. Numerous innocent lives caught in the crossfire war and conflict in Kashmir have left permanent scars and changed lives forever for those who had nothing to do with the war; it was sheer collateral damage. This humane and uplifting short narrative aims to give voice to the voiceless. The story is an opportunity to bring out the truth to stir justice and humanity.



Danish Renzu

Director Biography

Danish Renzu is a film director, whose work in direction and writing has received critical acclaim, whilst his work in drama specifically has earned him official selection in various film festivals and recognition in press and media. A graduate of the University of California Los Angeles, Danish was born in Kashmir, India. He also holds a Bachelor's in Electrical Engineering degree at UCLA and UCLA Writers' Program certification in Screenwriting. His first independent feature film "Half Widow" (2017), received recognition, praise and raving reviews on various platforms all over the world.



NADAM

05:00 India Drama Sanskrit

Synopsis

"Nadam: A Musical Journey" portrays the story of a family spanning three generations, all deeply devoted to classical music. As time progresses, change becomes inevitable, and the younger generation of classical music singers faces daily challenges. The film highlights the importance of adapting to the modern era while maintaining the core values and principles of the classical art form. It emphasizes the need for transformation without compromising the fundamental essence of their musical heritage.



Pradeep Anche



Shashank Aroor

Director Biography

Pradeep Kumar Anche, a theatre enthusiast, started his journey as an All India Radio (AIR) voice artist and street play activist. Being a mechanical engineering professional, his passion towards theatre led him to act in more than 20 plays and directed 4 plays. He is associated with many renowned teams in Bangalore and has performed about 200 theatre shows so far. He has gained accolades and awards for his notable theatre acts in the past. Now he is here with, "Nadam", his debut short film as a director.

Dr. Shashank Aroor, a neurosurgeon by profession has a deep-rooted passion for theatre and movies. He has acted in a number of theatre plays and has written and directed a play on a famous theatre artist titled - "HMP sir Ondu Nenapu". During his MBBS days started a team called SAMVIDYA and won a number of competitions at the state and national level in mad ads. He has an appetite for innovative writing and "NADAM" is his debut production and assistant director.



NAM SHEDDU

12:40 India Drama Kannada

Synopsis

“Nam Sheddu” is a story written by the children of a slum settlement in Bengaluru from their real-life experiences. The story revolves around four girls residing in a slum settlement and their emotional journey when the slum dwellers are asked to vacate. In fear of losing each other and their home, they try to stop the eviction.



Lahari Bharighat



Yashvanth

Director Biography

Yashvanth Kumar is an actor working in Kannada Film Industry. Yashvanth made his debut as a lead actor with the movie "Vikipedia" in 2022. 'Nam Sheddu' is his debut as a director.

Lahari Bharighat is a theatre artist and dancer. She has a master's degree in social work and 'Nam Sheddu' is an attempt to bring her work and art together.



ONCE AGAIN

18:21 India Drama Malayalam

Synopsis

Thressia and Madhu are a couple. Their relationship elicits curious speculation in the neighbourhood. They are oblivious to the remarks passed by the people around them and continue to lead their lives ahead by moving on from the past.



Vivette Kajal

Director Biography

Vivette Kajal is a writer and director known for "Revathy: The Virgin Soul" (2017), "Orikkal Koodi" (2023) and "Replay" (2020).



OTTAM (RACE OF LIFE)

20:51 India Drama Bengali, Malayalam

Synopsis

The movie Ottam (Race) tells the story of Asir, a young and ambitious man from a small village in West Bengal (India). He migrates to Kerala (India) in search of a better life. As a migrant, Asir realises the odds of rejection and unfairness from society migrant workers face. He becomes a victim of this biased section and rolls into its consequences. The movie explores the vulnerabilities of migrant workers. Some are brave enough to survive, and some torment themselves with harshness of the society.



Thomas K Raju

Director Biography

Thomas K Raju is from Allapuzha, Kerala. He initially worked as an Assistant and Associate Director for many years in the Malayalam film industry. This is his first short film after a long break from work. He is currently working on a screenplay.



OUT OF CONTEXT

24:00 India Thriller, Drama English, Hindi

Synopsis

Megh, a young migrant writer confronts his vulnerabilities when he feels violated by a stranger in the big city. By delving into themes of urban alienation and justice, the film examines the relationship between predator and prey when removed from their respective contexts.



Malhar Salil

Director Biography

Malhar Salil is a filmmaker, visual artist and poet. Storytelling through the lens calls for a wide yet balanced set of technical & creative skills, and his craft reflects this balance. Shapeshifting on the daily in the discipline of cinema, Malhar simultaneously engages with poetry and screenplay, graphic design, concept art, VFX, costume styling, design education & more. Having journeyed through more than a decade of experience in film and video production in all of its stages, he has a bag full of unique collaborations which have multiplied into his multifaceted career.



PINKY AND PAPA

16:27 India Drama Hindi

Synopsis

A conversation between a father and daughter who have no one but each other. They have to handle a situation where Pinky has done something very hard for Rajendra to digest. While Rajendra unfolds himself in many shades, Pinky is in constant fear and needs his support the most. Pinky tries to convince Rajendra, and as the story goes further, we see changes happening in Rajendra.



Shivang Khanna

Director Biography

Shivang Khanna is an independent filmmaker based in Pune, India. Born and brought up in the town of Bijnor, Uttar Pradesh. He worked as a photojournalist for several Hindi and English newspapers. After graduating, he got interested in the world of cinema. Later persuaded his post-graduation M.Sc. in Film Making from MIT Institute of Film and Television, Pune. He's been in love with the art of cinema since the time he got introduced to it. Apart from being a filmmaker, he spends the rest of his time travelling, photography, watching world cinema and meeting new people.



RAT IN THE KITCHEN

21:34 India Thriller English, Hindi

Synopsis

Vikram lives alone after his separation from his wife. Their divorce proceedings are ongoing. He leads a very solitary life, doing only the bare minimum - work, eat, sleep, and drink copious amounts of alcohol. He has reached a point where he is bitter at the world, and negligent about everything around him, including his well being. On top of this, he notices that his food is going missing and his kitchen is ransacked every time he comes home. He installs CCTVs around his house, thinking he has a rat problem. But what he discovers is far stranger.



Arkish Aftab

Director Biography

Arkish Aftab is a writer, director and editor based out of Mumbai. He is an alumni of AJK MCRC, Jamia Millia Islamia. He is skilled at fiction storytelling, screenplays, film direction, video editing and video production.



SANDALS OF GOLD

14:20 India Drama Gujarati, Sanskrit

Synopsis

When an old, lonely, seemingly humble man witnesses his gold-plated sandals being stolen outside a temple by a young thief, he opts for extreme measures to get them back.



Raj Kapadia

Director Biography

Raj Kapadia is a director from India, who's currently pursuing his MFA Film Production degree at Full Sail University, Florida. He is known for writing, directing, and editing his debut film, "Kanakam Padukam" (Sandals of Gold).



SAYAD CAPELLO

28:19 Islamic Republic of Iran Sports Turkish

Synopsis

Teenagers from the city outskirts have dreams in their heads. Sayad, despite his physical disability and his love of coaching football, is trying to fulfil the dreams of these children.



Rostam Nazari

Director Biography

Rostam Nazari is a celebrated director and documentary filmmaker from Iran. He is a member of the Iranian Documentary Cinema House and has created three short films and four documentaries, including "From Farsh Ta Aresh," "Mino Garden of Ferdows," "Under the Roof of the Bazaar," and "The Documentary of Sayad Kaplo." His films have been well-received at various domestic and international festivals, earning him several awards. Rostam's storytelling talent and passion for capturing compelling narratives continue to inspire audiences worldwide.



SHERA

19:30 India Drama Kumaoni

Synopsis

When Monu's parents decide to migrate from their remote Himalayan village to the city, he realizes he may never be able to see Shera, the elusive leopard that lives in the forests around his village. Everyone in the village seems to have seen her but Monu. As the day of departure nears, Monu grows despondent, but his best friend Raju is determined to give him the best parting gift he can think of - a view of Shera.



Arun Fulara

Director Biography

Arun Fulara is a writer and filmmaker based out of Mumbai, India. His debut short film "Sunday" (2020) has travelled widely to festivals around the world including at Tampere Film Festival, Frameline Film Festival, Roze Filmdagen, Kashish Mumbai International Queer Film Festival, Shorts Mexico, Inside Out Toronto and GAZE Dublin. The film has won multiple awards at festivals internationally including the prestigious Riyad Wadia Award for Best Emerging Filmmaker at Kashish MIQFF in 2020.



SIRITHU VELICHAM (RAY OF HOPE)

12:43 India Drama Tamil

Synopsis

A man returns from his incarceration after 13 years. He is innocent but was framed. That man, after this incarceration, goes to meet his beloved daughter. But the daughter, amidst wedding preparations, sends her father back. He is traumatized a lot by these things. He finally starts a used bookshop with the hope of getting a call from his family. This movie is about how prisoners get bashed inside the cells as well as in society.



Balaji SBR

Director Biography

Balaji SBR is a filmmaker from Chennai, who is passionate about narrating stories of hope through his films. Balaji has previously directed a short film titled "Unarthal (Realisation)", which can be found on the Film Companion South YouTube channel. His focus lies in portraying themes of hope and inspiration in his storytelling.



SYNCHRONY

07:57 France Comedy French

Synopsis

On his way to his important job interview, Noah runs out of gas. Left with no alternative, he has no choice but to embark with Katia, a tornado chaser.



Julia Le Bras-Juarez, Emmie Marriere, Marianne Fourmanoit, Laura Techer, Louise-Marie Roussellie, Jean Delamarre, Alexis Prost

Director Biography

Julia Le Bras-Juarez, Emmie Marriere, Marianne Fourmanoit, Laura Techer, Louise-Marie Roussellie, Jean Delamarre and Alexis Prost have graduated from the Supinfocom Rubika School (Valenciennes, France) with a Master in Digital Director. In 2022, they co-directed the short film "Synchrony".



TAPS

15:25 India Romance, Drama English,Hindi

Synopsis

A simple misunderstanding puts Akshay and Rohan's domestic idyll on shaky grounds. Set over the course of an evening, TAPS offers an intimate look at how the couple navigate their way back to each other.



Arvind Caulagi

Director Biography

Arvind Caulagi is an independent filmmaker based out of Mumbai. "TAPS", a film written and directed by him, won the KASHISH QDrishti Film Grant 2022, awarded to queer filmmakers in India annually. In 2021, Arvind wrote, directed, shot, edited, and produced "Nishaan" (Traces), a narrative short that was officially selected to compete at the 15th Edition of SiGNS Festival Kerala. A solitary project, the film is a queer interpretation of O. Henry's short story "The Furnished Room".



TERMITE

29:59 India Thriller, Drama Bengali

Synopsis

A self-employed roadside bookseller in Kolkata fights dwindling sales, cruel rejection from customers, a renowned fancy bookstore's omnipresence, and his daughter's betrayal, alone. It sends him into a self-destructive spiral that eats away his sanity from within, like a termite. There was a time when small businesses thrived alongside the corporates; when the content of the books mattered, not the glossiness of the pages. But now, it is a fight for survival. And the termites are getting stronger.



Tathagata Bhowmik

Director Biography

Tathagata Bhowmik is a PhD student of Organizational Behavior at Case Western Reserve University. This is his first film as a director. He is a singer/songwriter who has released two albums streaming on all global music platforms. He has directed all the music videos for his songs.



THE BLOOM

03:00 China Experimental/Documentary English

Synopsis

For the opening ceremony of the 2022 Winter Paralympics held at the Bird's Nest in Beijing, Chinese artist Jody Xiong is invited by Chief Director Zhang Yimou to create a technologically-powered art installation called 'The Bloom'. The project brought together 12 disabled people around an 8-meter wide, circular canvas to create a colorful smiley face by detonating paint-filled balloons using the power of their minds. It is a tech and art experiment, an expression of the strength of the disabled. This short film records the process of the experiment.



Jody Xiong

Director Biography

Jody Xiong was born in 1973 in Hunan Province, China. He graduated from Hunan University Of Technology Business and the Central Academy of Arts & Design, and New York Film Academy director class in China. He has served as Group Creative Director at Ogilvy Shanghai and worked for various 4A agencies, such as Leo Burnett Shanghai and DDB Shanghai. In 2016, Jody founded a creative agency, The Nine.



THE CLEANER

09:58 The United States of America Drama English

Synopsis

Will served his time and was released from prison into a world that no longer made sense. A year after his release, he is homeless with no clear path or plans until an opportunity is presented that could change his circumstances for the better. The only thing is, he would need to commit a crime and risk going back to prison for the rest of his life.



Cara Lofton

Director Biography

Cara Lofton is a Minnesota-born actress, writer, and director. After high school, she attended AADA in NYC and lived there for a number of years working as an actress in theatre and film. She made her first short film, "SEEK", which was a finalist for Tropfest - the largest short film festival in the world - and played at multiple festivals. She recently wrote, acted in, and produced my first full-length play at The Fringe Festival which went on to win the Encore award. A few months ago she acted as a first-time director, writer, producer, and supporting actress in her second short film, "The Cleaner", which is now playing in festivals around the world. She is deeply interested in human rights issues and the power of comedy.



THE GIRL BEHIND THE MIRROR

12:05 Brazil Animation Portuguese

Synopsis

A transgender girl locks herself in her room for fear of the monsters that threaten her outside until a new reality appears behind the mirror where these monsters do not exist, and she is free to be who she is or who wants to be.



Iuri Moreno

Director Biography

Iuri Moreno owns Caolha Films, a production company held in Goiás, Brazil, where he works as an animation director and scriptwriter. His latest short film, "The Juggler", was nominated for the Grand Prix of Brazilian Cinema and selected for more than 220 festivals in 47 countries, with a total of 37 awards. Currently, Iuri works as creator, director and chief scriptwriter of the animation series "347 Mission" and has just finished his newest short film, "The Girl Behind the Mirror", which is still not released in festivals.



THE ISLAND

15:03 India Narrative Khasi

Synopsis

A small village cut off from civilization is gripped by paranoia and mistrust after discovering the dreaded virus plaguing the civilized world.



Nicholas Kharkongor

Director Biography

Nicholas Kharkongor is a writer and filmmaker. He has directed two feature films. The first, titled "Mantra" (2016), featuring Kalki Koechlin, Adil Hussain and Rajat Kapoor, premiered at MAMI in Mumbai and is now available on Netflix and Amazon. The second, titled "Axone" (2019), featuring Sayoni Gupta, Vinay Pathak and Adil Hussain, premiered at the BFI London Film Festival in 2019, followed by MAMI, and released on Netflix in June 2020.



THE LIFE BETWEEN TWO NIGHTS

23:44 Spain Drama, Human Rights Spanish

Synopsis

Pepe and Jesús are father and son. That summer morning, Pepe has to work at a flea market, but the person in charge of Jesús, who has cerebral palsy, calls and says he won't be able to do it.



Antonio Cuesta

Director Biography

Antonio Cuesta is the director, screenwriter and producer of the short films 'Umbilical' (2013), 'Angélica' (2014), 'The Bullring' (2016) and 'The Life Between Two Nights' (2022).



THE MURDER OF OLOF PALME

20:17 Sweden Fiction, Animated English

Synopsis

Olof Palme was Sweden's Prime Minister from 1969–1976 and 1982–1986. Olof was a controversial politician who dominated Swedish politics for a long time. In 1986, Olof Palme was shot dead on an open street in Stockholm. The assassination has been a mystery that has plagued Sweden ever since. At a press conference in June 2020, the Police's Palme investigation pointed out Stig Engström as Olof Palme's killer. The Palme investigation is the world's largest murder investigation. This film shows what happened on the day Olof Palme was murdered and how the killer planned and carried out the assassination.



Paco Garcia



Joaquim Weibull

Director Biography

Joaquim Weibull is from Sweden and he lives in Stockholm. He has a Master's degree in Computer science and Engineering. "The Murder of Olof Palme" is his first film. He has written the script and produced and financed the film himself.

Paco García has been a cartoonist for more than 20 years. He was born and raised in Spain but now he is living and working in Sweden since 1997.



THE PHOTOGRAPHER

08:55 India Drama Hindi

Synopsis

A boy goes to a suicidal point where he meets a photographer taking pictures of nature. When the boy comes into the frame, the photographer starts a conversation with him. The photographer tries to save the boy with motivation. Does he save the boy or not?



Anand Singh Chouhan

Director Biography

Anand Singh Chouhan has been working in the industry as writer/director since 2011. He makes short films like "Akhbaarwala", "Anubandh", "Naya Ghar". His last short film "Washing Machine" which is based on social issue of male favouritism, has received numerous accolades in national and international Film festivals. His film "Washing Machine" was also runner up in Bisff 2021. Now he is doing a feature film in Rajasthani language which have cast from Bollywood. He has many more projects underway which will be interesting to watch.



UNSAID (AVAAK)

25:01 India Drama Hindi

Synopsis

Suraj wants to move to a different city for better career opportunities, but his mother Sheela doesn't want him to go. He informs his supportive father, Rajesh, and leaves without his mother's permission. Sheela stops talking to Suraj and the house gradually falls silent after Rajesh falls sick. Suraj returns when his father is in hospital and while his mother still refuses to talk to him, but the silence breaks at the moment of sharing grief.



Pankaj Khanchandani

Director Biography

Pankaj Khanchandani is a Business Administration graduate from St. Xavier's College, Jaipur, and a PGDM in Film Direction from L.V. Prasad College of Media Studies, Chennai. Apart from films, he has directed and performed in several amateur and professional theatre productions in Rajasthan and has been exploring various forms of performing arts over the past five years. He writes fiction and is currently working on a web series about love among old people.



URULA

15:42 India Satirical, Dark Comedy Malayalam

Synopsis

This short film is a satirical take on the various facts of the strange human mind. Here, a person's strong belief in the universal philosophy of karma lies close to the incompatibility between his beliefs and righteousness. The symbiotic relationship between man and nature paves the way for complicated traditions and belief systems. It portrays how contradictions of the human mind towards the same thing in two different situations create artifacts of curiosity within a nature that seems out of place in a man-made world.



Sanju M Suresh

Director Biography

Sanju M Suresh, a diploma holder in Cinematography from GFTI Karnataka, possesses the capability to lead companies and projects with their extensive knowledge, skills, and experience in film making and visualization. Furthermore, Sanju works as a freelance photographer and videographer, demonstrating their expertise in capturing visual moments.



WALINONG SARI

28:45 Malaysia Animated Short English

Synopsis

Inderapura's warrior princess has to choose between a kingdom that comes with a strategic marriage or following her heart for a life of adventure with a man who truly understands her. This is a folklore known to many Malaysians yet to discover its true ending.



Eugene Foo

Director Biography

Eugene Foo is an animator and educator who has worked in the animation industry for 15 years and has played an important role in every process including character design, art direction and animation directing. His true passion lies in concept art and his works include experiencing and illustrating science fiction and fantasy creatures.



WATER

07:03 India Drama Bengali

Synopsis

Neerbhukhi, a demon by birth, wishes to live like a human. But the villagers believe that their village, Barreshire is cursed with a dearth of water due to Neerbhukhi and outcast her. To befriend them, she disguises herself as a fairy and enchants the whole forest with her flute. The villagers find out the truth, and Neerbhuki is chased away. Humiliated, she hides in a dry well and weeps her heart out. Her tears flood the well and the water gushes out into waterfalls. Ever since, the village has been blessed with water and it is believed that the demon is still crying inside the well.



Triparna Maiti

Director Biography

Triparna Maiti is an aspiring filmmaker from Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute. She keeps an interest in animation and illustration. Being a freelance visual artist she has experience in storyboard art and art direction for two years in short films and TVC ads.



WHAT LIES WITHIN

17:41 United States Warped family drama English

Synopsis

Emile returns home to his estranged grandmother Marley after graduating from college, only to find that their inexplicable history which has been bubbling away underneath the surface, begins to boil over once more.



Subhro Das

Director Biography

Subhro Das is from Bangalore South, India, where he started making films with his younger sister and best friend at the age of 12. He strives to make films that don't bore the pants off of people and signal them to death.



WHO IS GOING TO STAY HERE.

16:16 India Native Drama Kannada

Synopsis

In this movie, you'll see the joyful experiences of life from a kid's perspective. The kid has a ball of a time with his three older friends, whom he believes will be there with him in their native place forever. But as the baggage of responsibility kicks in, the kid sees all three friends moving out in search of better opportunities to earn their daily bread. "If everyone leaves this village, then who is going to stay here?" remains a question for the kid.



Akshay Kumar Shetty

Director Biography

Akshay Kumar Shetty is a passionate and driven filmmaker with a profound interest in acting and directing. Through a harmonious blend of artistic creativity and strategic thinking, he strives to carve a successful path in the world of cinema. With a resolute determination to learn, grow, and make a difference, he is excited to embark on this exhilarating journey and leave his mark in the realm of filmmaking.



YOU ALWAYS/YOU NEVER

24:56 India Drama Assamese

Synopsis

In the dead of night, a dutiful housewife, who has lived through years of abuse, decides to confront her husband about the horrors of her marital life.



Saurav Roy

Director Biography

Saurav Roy is a filmmaker, writer, and musician based in Mumbai. He grew up in Dibrugarh, a quaint little town in the east of Assam. Roy has written and directed both, short films and music videos. Currently, he is working on his first full-length feature. As someone who has had formal training both in music and visual arts, he is deeply influenced by the intersection of the two. For his films, he endeavours to create grappling narratives that are driven by the powerful rhythmic sway of daily life

FESTIVAL TEAM



ANAND VARADARAJ



ANIL
RAMACHANDRA



MINOL AJEKAR



NIKHIL BHARADWAJ



NISARGA J



PRAJWAL KUMAR



AVINASH ARUN
NADIG



SAMEERA SURYA



MOHITH P

FESTIVAL TEAM



VINAY KASHYAP



SHAILESH R



AJAY JAYASIMHA



RAHUL DESAI



VIKRANT M S

TEAM BISFF



AASHISH MANE



ABHISHEK SURESH



ASIF RAHMAN
MALLICK



SANJANA B



CHAITRA
RAVISHANKAR



EMANUEL
PRASHOB KUMAR



G GOWTHAM



HARSH SAINI



HEMANTH M

TEAM BISFF



MANOJ S



MEENAKSHI S R



MOHAMMAD RAFIK



SUNIL REDDY



SANJANA ARUN



PREKSHA N JAIN



R MADHAVI SIMHA



VISHESH S SETTY



SARA SHEBA

TEAM BISFF



SUGEEL S



SUMANTH M
GOWDA



TOSHNA
VISHNUPANTH PATIL



V S SIDDAPPA



ROHIT S KATTIMANI



SUHAS GANGADHAR

International Competition

A WOMAN IN MAKUENI	04
Apnea	05
Big Day	06
Blessed by Sunlight	07
ESTRELLAS DEL DESIERTO	08
Faceless	09
Fur Coat	10
How To Be a Human Being	11
Lamb	12
Let's talk	13
LIVE	14
MAD	15
My Toy	16
PORT OF A PRINCE	17
The Fourth	18
The Other End of the Street	19
The Pileup	20
The Way You Sea Me	21
Things Unheard Of	22
Wedding Ring	23

Indian Competition

Adhiyamaanum Aalamaramum	26
Anekantvad	27
Bad Egg	28
BAHAR AA, CHAMAN PRAKASH!	29
Batshit Crazy	30
Canvas	31
Giddh (The Scavenger)	32
Google Matrimony	33
Kalaal	34
Kanchana	35
Kav Kav	36
Madhu	37
Missing Since 6.12.1956	38
Nocturnal Burger	39
PATH	40
Sadabahar	41
Sandhanam	42
SAYRA	43
Shimga	44
The Broken Table	45

Karnataka Competition

Avalu, her smile	48
Boiled Rice	49
Chapter 11	50
Dead Beings	51
Glycerin	52
HALFBOILED	53
Hoṭṭebāka	54
Kannadavagiru	55
KASUTI	56
Kush Kushiyaagi	57
LOO	58
Mookajji	59
Oorinavaru Yenta Heltare Marre	60
Solo Traveler	61
STREETS OF BENGALURU	62
SURA	63
VARNA	64
Writer?	65

Let's Include

A Sonorous Melody	68
A WONDERFUL RIDE	69
BASIC RESILIENCE MANUAL	70
Borrowed Hands	71
Cross the Sky	72
CURETTAGE	73
DAUGHTER	74
ENABLED	75
My Glow	76
MYZRUB	77
SHILPAKAAR (THE SCULPTOR)	78
THE SILENT WORLD OF BARRY PRIORI: SIGNING NOT WAVING	79
THIS IS NOT A FILM	80
Uphill	81

Women's Cinema Collective Competition

7 Phere- A dream housewife	84
Ankahi Baatien	85
Cardboard Boxes	86
EK CUP CHAI	87
GEJJE	88
Kaankhowa	89
Nazariya- The Perspective	90
NIMBU MIRCHI	91
Parde Mein Rehne Do	92
Small-time Cinema	93
The Grove Beckons	94
Two worlds	95
Vajra	96
What If I Fail	97
You want company?	98

Animation Competition

A GUERRA FINITA	101
AIKĀNE	102
Akanksha on the Planet Blarg	103
Awakening: The First Day	104
Balam	105
Barsaat	106
Broken	107
Candlelight	108
Curiosa	109
Europe by Bidon	110
Ice Merchants	111
Kankhua	112
Leaves of K.	113
Lights	114
LOST IN SPACE	115
MARIONETTES (AND THE VIRTUE OF A LOTUS FLOWER)	116
MOTHERS OF THE WORLD	117
NOT SELECTED	118
PINA	119
POTTICHOOTTU	120
SOMEWHERE	121
The Legend of Goldhorn	122
The Record	123

Non Competition

1098	125
5 grains	126
A HAUNTING THAT NO ONE ELSE SAW	127
Aalam	128
Abheri Gudde	129
ACHA HUA AAP TIME PAI AAGAYAI	130
AMMI	131
ATM CARD	132
Barsa	133
Blue Gold	134
BOUGAINVILLEA	135
Broken Mirror	136
Chasing Mirages	137
Clouds of Monsoon	138
Dinner	139
Dokra Keu Bojhey Na	140
Domestic Help	141
DYSABILITY	142
Footprints	143
Ghama Ghama	144
Homeward	145
How To Get Your Man Pregnant	146
I Run Into Chairs	147

Ila	148
IPSA	149
Kaanada Kadalige	150
Kannagi	151
KHARKHARAM	152
kurt.com/	153
La Mecha	154
Mayajaala	155
MY FATHER'S DOCTOR	156
Nadam	157
Nam Sheddu	158
Once Again	159
Ottam (Race of Life)	160
OUT OF CONTEXT	161
Pinky and Papa	162
Rat in the Kitchen	163
Sandals of Gold	164
Sayad Capello	165
Shera	166
Sirithu Velicham (Ray of Hope)	167
SYNCHRONY	168
TAPS	169
TERMITE	170
The Bloom	171
The Cleaner	172
The Girl Behind the Mirror	173
The Island	174
THE LIFE BETWEEN TWO NIGHTS	175

INDEX

The Murder of Olof Palme	176
The Photographer	177
Unsaid (Avaak)	178
URULA	179
Walinong Sari	180
Water	181
WHAT LIES WITHIN	182
WHO IS GOING TO STAY HERE	183
YOU ALWAYS / YOU NEVER	184