



2-7 JULY 2019 @ NATIONAL FILM CORPORATION CINEMA HALL

















Organised by SAARC Cultural Centre. Sri Lanka



A LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT (AFGHANISTANI FEATURE)

Directed by Roya Sadat

AFGHANISTAN NIGHT STORIES (AFGHANISTANI FEATURE)

Directed by Alka Sadat

SALARY (AFGHANISTAN/ SHORT)

Directed by Khadim Hussain Byhname

SINGLE MOTHER (AFGHANISTANI SHORT)

Directed by Aqila Farahmand

LIGHT BREEZE (AFGHANISTAN/ MASTER)

Directed by Sahraa Karimi

FAGUN HAOAY (BANGLADESH) FEATURE)

Directed by Tauquir Ahmed

KOMOLA ROCKET (BANGLADESH) FEATURE)

Directed by Noor Imran Mithu

A QUARTER MILE COUNTRY (BANGLADESH) SHORT)

Directed by Noman Robin

SEE YOU (BANGLADESH! SHORT)

Directed by Chaitali Somadder. Syful Akbar Khan

ALPHA (BANGLADESH/ MASTER)

Directed by Nasir Uddin Yousuff

THE VESTED ASTROLOGER (BHUTANI FEATURE)

Directed by Kinga Kinley Tshering

THE WIND OF KARMA (BHUTAN) FEATURE)

Directed by Karma Lhatrul Dorji

A WOMAN OF PURE HEART (BHUTAN) SHORT)

Directed by Kinga Kinley Tshering

ROW (BHUTAN/ SHORT)

Directed by Karma Lhatrul Dorji

NAGARKIRTAN (INDIA/ FEATURE)

Directed by Kaushik Ganguly

WALKING WITH THE WIND (INDIA! FEATURE)

Directed by Praveen Morchhale

MONITOR (INDIA! SHORT)

Directed by Hari Viswanath

'NA BOLE WO HARAM...!' (INDIA! SHORT)

Directed by Nitish Vivek Patankar

PADMAAVAT (INDIA/ MASTER)

Directed by Sanjay Leela Bhansali

GOHRAALHU (MALDIVES/ FEATURE)

Directed by Ahmed Shinan

SOUL (MALDIVES! SHORT)

Directed by Ali Seezan

BULBUL (NEPALI FEATURE)

Directed by Binod Paudel

PRASAD (NEPALI FEATURE)

Directed by Dinesh Raut

THE MOON IS BRIGHT TONIGHT (NEPALI SHORT)

Directed by Abinash Bikram Shah

THE REMAINS (NEPALI SHORT)

Directed by Manoj Babu Pant

HARI (NEPALI MASTER)

Directed by Safal K.C

LOAD WEDDING (PAKISTANI FEATURE)

Directed by Nabeel Qureshi

MOTOR CYCLE GIRL (PAKISTAN) FEATURE)

Directed by Adnan Sarwar

CHALAY THAY SAATH (PAKISTANI MASTER)

Directed by Umer Adil

BURNING BIRDS (SRI LANKA) FEATURE)

Directed by Sanjewa Pushpakumara

THE WIND BENEATH US (SRI LANKA) FEATURE)

Directed by Nuwan Jayathilake

THE IMAGE (SRI LANKA) SHORT)

Directed by Chathumi Vidhushika

TRADITION (SRI LANKA) SHORTI

Directed by Lanka Bandaranayake

PALAMA YATA (SRI LANKA/ MASTER)

Directed by H.D. Premaratne



SAARC Cultural Centre is the SAARC Regional Centre for Culture and it is based in Sri Lanka. It was established by the Governments and Heads of States of the SAARC Countries to promote cultural cooperation within the Region, to enhance cultural understanding and harmony amongst the people of South Asia and to share the distinct cultural identity of South Asia with the world.

The Centre functions as an important focal point for the artistic communities of the eight Member States of Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, India, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. The Centre promotes Regional understanding and harmony through Cultural and Research Programmes, brought about with a view to inspire individuals and groups of Artistes, to partake in varied and diverse activities and events encompassing

the multifaceted realm of the Arts. It aims to create an inspirational and conducive environment, to meet and exchange their inter-regional creative visions and promote discussion deeper and analysis. In its view to be as inclusive as possible in its outlook and artistic vision, the Centre explores all forms of art, that of Performing Arts such as dance, music, drama, theatre, puppetry and folk culture; Visual Art such as painting, sculpture, film making, photography, and Literature reflecting the vision of the SAARC Agenda for Culture.

The Centre also encourages and invites further analysis and exploration through its publications on varied topics from the South Asian Diaspora to Traditional Knowledge and Cultural Expression, Sustainable Development and Tourism. In its quest to share the value and depth of South

Asian Heritage freely with the world at large, it continues to foray into the realm of publications and research and the Centre will endeavour to make all publications available online on its website: www.saarcculture.org

The SAARC Cultural Centre is a part of SAARC, the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, created with a vision to build and further promote understanding between the eight countries of the South Asian Region. Eight countries which are already inherently bound together in a richly woven tapestry of shared history and heritage brimming with warm hearted people, fertile lands, a myriad of colour and its very own and unique beauty, art and culture.



Message from the Hon. Prime Minister



ශී ලංකා අගුාමාතන

இலங்கையின் பிரதம அமைச்சர்

Prime Minister of Sri Lanka

MESSAGE FROM THE HON. PRIME MINISTER

South Asian Association for Regional Corporation (SAARC) constitutes a grouping of South Asian nations that have joined together to promote economic development and regional integration.

SAARC Cultural Centre which is committed to forge the concept of unity within diversity has played a key role since its inception in promoting cultural cooperation through the dynamic form of cultural exploration, namely the SAARC Film Festival.

The SAARC Film Festival is unique in opening up new ventures in the film industry with particular emphasis given to some of the pressing social, cultural and political issues facing the region. The event will also encourage film makers to continue producing quality, thought provoking and representational films for the region.

Most importantly, I relish the prospect of promoting friendship and understanding within the industry in South Asian Region. It is my fervent belief that workshops and forums incorporated into the festival will enrich cinematic creations to unprecedented levels. I wish the SAARC Film Festival which is being held for the 9th consecutive year in 2019 every Success.

Ranil Wickremesinghe

Prime Minister

20th June 2019



Message from the Minister of Foreign Affairs



තිලක් මාරපත - (පා.ම.) විදේශ කටයුතු අමාතස திலக் மாரப்பன - (பா.உ.) வெளிநாட்டு அலுவல்கள் அமைச்சர் Tilak Marapana - (M.P.) Minister of Foreign Affairs

Message on the Occasion of SAARC Film Festival, Organised by SAARC Cultural Centre in Colombo, Sri Lanka, 2019

It is with great pleasure that I convey my warm felicitations and best wishes to the SAARC Cultural Centre in Colombo for the successful hosting of yet another SAARC film festival in Sri Lanka.

The inception of SAARC brought with it the hope and aspiration of unity and prosperity in the region that is diverse in culture, ethnicity and religion. At the Thirteenth SAARC Summit held in Dhaka, it was reiterated that people of South Asia are the real source of strength and the driving force of SAARC, and cultural cooperation and people-to-people contact were identified as the impetus that promotes these objectives. It is with much appreciation that I acknowledge the contribution a SAARC film festival makes toward promoting connectivity, goodwill and understanding of the common cultural heritage of South Asia, among nations of the region.

On this positive note, allow me to express my appreciation to all the SAARC member countries for coming together to celebrate the unique culture and lifestyle of South Asia through the SAARC film festival.

Tilak Marapana, PC, MP Minister of Foreign Affairs



Message from the Minister of Housing, Construction and Cultural Affairs



නිවාස, ඉදිනිර්ම් සහ සංස්කෘතික කට්ටුතු අතිතානංෂක අ මහල, "සෙත්සිව්පාන්", මත්තරමුල්ල

ம்.. வல்ய, நீர்மானத்துவற மற்றும் கலாசரு அறுவல்கள் அமைக்க 2வது மாடி, "செத்சிறியாய", பத்தரமுல்ல.

Ministry of Housing, Construction & Cultural Affairs 2nd Floor, "Sethairipaya", Battaramulta. සජිත් පේමදාන පා.ම. சනුத் பிரேமதாச பா.உ. Sajith Premadasa M.P.

නිවාස, ඉදිකිරීම් සහ සංස්කෘතික කටයුතු අමාතය දේ...කැට්ටු, ඉබ්යාහෝදුනුකු පමුතුරියනෑණේ ඔහුමෙන් ඔහුමේන් Minister of Housing, Construction & Cultural Affairs

கைப் மூன் எனது இல்: My No. ®வி மன் உழு இல் Your No. දිනය නියන් Date

Message from Minister of Housing, Construction and Cultural Affairs

It gives me great pleasure to issue this message on the occasion of the 9* SAARC Film Festival to be held in Colombo from 02 to 07 July 2019.

Cinema in South Asia has a long standing history and South Asian Cinema has been applauded and recognized globally. The region has produced a number of excellent films, and durie is no doubt that screening of South Asian Films during the festival will undoubtedly bring people closer together and foster understandings of our cultures, beliefs and traditions. Despite the fact that commercialization has clouded that many ethos of South Asian Culture, the best films of the region still do maintain high standards in capturing the true heritage of the south Asian Region. Film has the power to provide a window into a new world, a release from everyday drudgery. It gives an opportunity to experience the different cultures, traditions and life-styles. The SAARC Film Pestival is an ideal opportunity that would bring together the cultures of the region and provide an opportunity to the people to experience such cultures through the film.

I congratulate the SAARC Cultural Centre for taking the initiative in giving prominence to South Asian Cinema. I wish the film festival success.

Sajith Premadasa. M.P.

Minister of Housing, Construction and cultural Affairs



Message from the Secretary-General of SAARC



SOUTH ASIAN ASSOCIATION FOR REGIONAL COOPERATION SECRETARIAT

SECRETARY GENERAL

MESSAGE

I wish to congratulate the SAARC Cultural Centre for organizing the Ninth SAARC Film Festival in Colombo.

This Festival conforms to the directive of the Eighteenth SAARC Summit that all possible measures may be taken to preserve and promote the South Asian cultural identity.

Cinema is a modern form of universal communication that can transcend the barriers of conventional diversities. A quality film can entertain a wide variety of audiences, regardless of their cultural, religious, and ethnic backgrounds. Through Festivals such as this, we can learn more about our neighbours in the region and realize that there are more things uniting us than what divides us. At the same time, these events play an important role in the development of the film industry in South Asia.

As the world of entertainment is continuously evolving, the regional film industry must keep up with the changes. I hope the Festival can espouse a meaningful discussion on the challenges facing the film industry and how to address them. If we are to promote quality film production in the region, we must ensure that the industry gets adequate support from all concerned. We can also do more to ensure that regional films attract a wider audience in the region.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank the esteemed Member States for their nominations to this Film Festival. I also wish to congratulate all those associated with the films nominated for this

I wish to commend the active role being played by the SAARC Cultural Centre in promoting the South Asian cultural heritage, including through organization of events as this Festival.

I wish the Ninth SAARC Film Festival-2019 great success.

jad Hussain B. Sial

Kathmandu, 20 June 2019



Message from the Director, SAARC Cultural Centre, Sri Lanka

It is with great pleasure that I issue this message to celebrate the "SAARC Film Festival 2019" being held for the 9th consecutive year organized by the SAARC Cultural Centre.

Film making is a powerful form of art in the present world and the SAARC region has a rich tradition of cinema. The best aspect of films is the ability to create meaningful social connections through a shared experience. Filmmakers and Artistes express their imaginative, conceptual ideas and it becomes a powerful vehicle for culture and education.

The SAARC Film Festival is one of the most important cultural events keeping in line with SAARC's main objective of promoting cultural cooperation amongst the Member States. Films can be enjoyed and appreciated by all regardless of the cultural, religious or ethnic diversities. The SAARC Cultural Centre is committed to develop the concept of "Unity within Diversity" through this dynamic form of cultural exploration.

The Film Festival 2019 is proud to showcase a variety of feature films, short films and master films whilst continuing the tradition of bringing wider recognition to South Asian films. In addition to the screening of Films, there will also be a workshop with international experts, which will serve as a platform to share experiences and knowledge and initiate a meaningful discussion on the challenges facing the film industry.

This year we have received submissions from all eight SAARC Member States and the Film Festival will showcase the unique talents of the Filmmakers and Artistes in the SAARC Region. Thus, the Festival will promote regional unity through cultural exploration and integration and contribute towards preservation, conservation and protection of South Asia's cultural heritage through the medium of Cinema.

On behalf of the SAARC Cultural Centre, Sri Lanka I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to the Honoured SAARC Member States, Film Directors, Editors, Cinematographers and Artistes for the diverse submissions. I would also like to thank the staff of the SAARC Cultural Centre and all others who assisted in numerous ways to ensure that the SAARC Film Festival 2019 is a successful and remarkable event.

Mrs. D. K. R. Ekanayake

Director, SAARC Cultural Centre

2019



AWARDS

Trophy for Best Feature Film

Trophy for Best Short Film

Trophy for Best Director

Trophy for Best Screenplay

Trophy for Best Actor

Trophy for Best Actress

Trophy for Best Cinematographer

Trophy for Best Editor

Trophy for Best Sound Designer

Trophy for Best Original Score (Music Composer)

Two Special Jury Awards

NOMINATED FILMS AND OPEN CATEGORY FILMS FROM THE REGION





Feature/ 83 mins/ Afghanistan

Synopsis

"A Letter to the President" tells the story of a young woman named Soraya who is sentenced to death for murdering her husband. To save her life, she writes a letter to the President. And the President, after reading her story in her letter, realizes some untold facts about her case. The film revolves around Soraya, a mother of two, who tries to balance her career as the head of the Kabul Crime Division and her life as the wife of a very rich but on the verge of alcoholism husband, who, additionally, is dominated by his gangster father. The already crumbling balance ends when Soraya decides to save a woman who is being accused of adultery and is actually sentenced to death by the village elders, and in the process defies the man in charge of the area, Commander Essmat Khan, who happens to be an associate of her father-in-law. The repercussions are huge and violence ensues in Soraya's house, in a series of events that lead to her killing her husband and her subsequent imprisonment, facing the capital punishment. The only thing that can save her is a letter to the President and the efforts of Behzad, an associate who is in love with her but manages to make things worse when he expresses his feelings through an exhibition of his paintings.



Roya Sadat

Being passionate about producing films and considering restrictive atmosphere during the Taliban regime in her country she started writing scripts for plays and movies. In 1999, even during the Taliban regime, she wrote and directed a play for a theater show for a group of Afghan women. After the Taliban regime came to an end, she started making films and her first feature film as a producer and director was "Three Dots", known in Afghanistan as "Se noughta", or "Ellipsis". She made this film in less than two weeks, in a digital video format. The film, though not a quality product, still gave an exposure to the western audience on the status of women in Afghanistan.

Director Roya Sadat Producer Aziz Deldar, Roya Sadat Story Roya Sadat Screenplay Leena Alam Music Zabih Mahdi Cinematographer Behrooz Badrooj Editor Ahmad Farid Farahmand, Razi Kashi Original Score/ Music Shailendra Barve Sound Designer Resul Pookutty, Arnav Dutta



Feature/ 120 mins/ Afghanistan

Director
Alka Sadat
Producer
Alka Sadat for Roya Film House
Cinematographer
Sina Saboory
Editor
Alka Sadat

Synopsis

A special commando unit was set up within the Afghan army to fight against the Taliban and other violent militia. Filmmaker Alka Sadat, who as a woman had to obtain permission from the mullah before shooting among the troops, records everyday life in the Afghan commando camp and follows the men on their dangerous, often nocturnal, missions. These military operations, for which the soldiers are constantly on standby, contrast starkly with the everyday routine of the camp. Whistling, a soldier fixes his hair at the bathroom mirror; outside, men are playing volleyball and messing around with the pigeons, which coo loudly in the otherwise mouse-still surroundings. In the cramped dormitory, soldiers play board games and flip channels from a singer to Barack Obama, who is announcing the withdrawal of American troops from Afghanistan. Sadat also places the men individually in front of her camera, where they reticently talk about their loves, their families, the opportunities of the modern age and their big dream of a secure future. Everything is punctuated by the recurring orders and helicopters arriving to drop the soldiers into some unfamiliar area, where they have only two options: kill or be killed.

Alka Sadat

Alka Sadat is an Afghan documentary and feature film producer, director and cameraman. She became famous with her first 25-minute film "Half Value Life", which highlights social injustice and crime; the film won several awards.





Short/ 25 mins/ Afghanistan

Synopsis

The film shot in the rustic backdrop of Afghanistan, depicts the struggle of a young boy who sells match boxes for his living. An orphan with no home or shelter, he sleeps under a tree and his only possession is a basket in which he carries the match boxes. The film takes through the emotions of this boy who is fighting his loneliness and his scuffle with fate when his basket of match boxes is stolen.



Khadim Hussain Byhname

Khadim Hussain Byhname was born into a cultural family in Ghazni / Afghanistan in 1993. His interest in cinema led him to filmmaking. He is now a fourth-year student in Kabul University. He has established the "Image of Thought" group and has made 9 short films in three years. His films have been screened in the domestic and international film festivals and received awards.

Director
Khadim Hussain Byhnam
Producer
Alisha Nazari & Ali Baba Nadiri
Cinematographer
Khadim Hussain Byhnam
Cast
Jalil Nazari, Saadat Hussainy, Farida
Mirzaiy



Short/ 20 mins/ Afghanistan

Director

Aqila Farahmand

Producer

Rahman Alemi

Screenplay

Aqila Farahmand

Cinematographer

Hassan Natiqi, Abdullah Anwari

Editor

Hassan Natiqi and Rahman Alemi

Original Score

Arf Jafari

Sound Designer

Hassan Natiqi

Cast

Halima Karimi

Synopsis

This film is about a mother whose husband has left for work in Iran since a year and a half. He has not sent her any money ever since and she earns a living by washing clothes which is not enough for her rent or food. Unable to earn for her basic needs, she sells her marriage clothes which are the cherished memories of her husband. As the title of the film suggests she is a single mother and depicts her struggles to pay the rent of her house and buy bread for her daughter. The film closes with the protagonist sitting with a group of girls, and she gets a letter written from one of them addressing to the Afghan Human Rights. In the letter she expresses her distresses and puts forward her request to bring back her husband.

Agila Farahmand

She is a student at the Regis University and a film maker from Afghanistan.





Master/ 50 mins/ Afghanistan

Synopsis

The film is set around a young girl with a docile and calm nature, who emigrated to Slovakia from Afghanistan. It is a common notion that displacement has the power to make one feel out of their depth and this fact is portrayed in the film. In an Afghan and Slovakia co-production *Light Breeze* is about the memories of an Immigrant Girl, Sahraa Karimi weaves a screenplay around her own experiences in a new country. Through poems and notes in her diary, the protagonist depicts her innermost feelings as an immigrant.



Sahraa Karimi

Sahraa Karimi, is a prominent filmmaker in her own right. She has more than 10 years of experience in the field and has directed more than 30 films. She is the only woman from Afghanistan to have earned a doctorate in cinema. She co-founded a multimedia house and their films are mostly about civil rights issues faced by women in war-torn Afghanistan. Her feature film "Afghan Women Behind the Wheel" has received some 25 awards from major film festivals around the globe. The film she made as part of her doctoral studies, "Light Breeze," won the Slovak National Film Award.

Director
Sahraa Karimi
Producer
Veronica Vrabeova
Music
Rastislav Dubovsky, Hamid
Dorakhshani
Cast
Sahraa Karimi, Lenka Kuchtova,
Nazir Ahmad, Said Sajadi





Feature/ 101 mins/ Bangladesh

Synopsis

Language is a right. 'Spring Breeze' states the importance of language for presenting the cultural heritage, harmony & peace. In present globalization, every language is transforming fast. Many of the languages of different ethnic (tribal) people are dying and it is necessary to preserve the language in diverse culture. 'Spring Breeze' is a movie in that context set in a small southern town of Bangladesh, it symbolically depicts the exploitation, suppression and the quest to preserve the mother language. The Antagonist wants to seize the mother tongue but realizes he cannot even control the tongue of a bird. 'Spring Breeze' speaks in favor of presenting and practicing mother language, thus to preserve the diverse cultural tapestry of the world.



Tauquir Ahmed

Tauquir Ahmed is born in 1966. He is an architect, actor, writer and filmmaker. He started his career in theatre and later he has made six feature films. His present occupation is filmmaking, writing and acting. Having received his academic theatre and film education from reputed universities of New York, UK and South Korea, Tauquir is well known for his theatre and films in Bangladesh and abroad. His films beginning from "Joyjatra" in 2004 followed by "Rupkothar Golpo" in 2006 and "Daruchini Dwip" in 2007. His "Oggatonama" won the Best Screenplay at the 7th SAARC Film Festival and his "Halda" won the Best Feature Film in the 8th SAARC Film Festival held in Colombo.

Director
Tauquir Ahmed
Screenplay
Tauquir Ahmed
Cinematographer
Enamul Hoq Sohel
Editor
Amit Debnath
Original Score/ Music
Pintu Ghosh, Rokon Emon
Sound Designer
Ripon Nath
Cast
Yash Pal Sharma, Abul Hayat, Nusrat
Imrose Tisa



Feature/ 95 mins/ Bangladesh

Director
Noor Imran Mithu

Producer

Faridur Reza, Ebne Hasan Khan

Screenplay

Shahaduzzaman, Noor Imran Mithu

Original Score/ Music

Pavel Areen

Cast

Tauquir Ahmed, Mosharraf Karim, Joy Raj, Samia Said, Fariha Shams Sheuti, Dominic Gomes, Master S T Sabit, Sujat Shimul

Synopsis

A ship of the British colonial age is stuck at the sand-bed. Passengers in this ship are a deceased body of a female worker, the fled owner of the garment factory, a poet cum herbal practitioner, a blind singer, a recent rich family, a young girl with her own fancies, two unemployed young guys, a magician and a host of people from all social backgrounds. The orange rocket as if is a mini Bangladesh and in it some people remain imprisoned. Within this imprisoned state, different human instincts and crisis start being unveiling. Different levels of hunger, poverty, lust, deception and empathy get unfolded. At a stage, as if the deceased body of a female worker becomes a character. Hunger makes the aristocratic encounter with the poor people. The deceiver, the owner of the garment factory encounters a new reality.

Noor Imran Mithu

Noor Imran Mithu was born in 1983. Inspired by Satayjit ray he took to film making as a mode of expression. Gradually Andrei Tarkovsky, Emir Kusturica and Nuri Bilge Ceylan widened this cinematic vision. Noor Imran is a graduate of Sociology from Khulna University. With close observation of the Bangladesh rural life he made his directorial debut with "An orange ship". He has researched for this film for about two years and shoot the film for one and half years.





Short/ 30 mins/ Bangladesh

Synopsis

Mona is an extremely simple young man who, during an impoverished childhood, came from Myanmar to Bangladesh to seek work at the age of twelve. He has since been employed as the housekeeper of an unsavory businessman. The miserable living conditions of the Rohingya (refugee community) who have taken shelter in Bangladesh since the 25th of August, 2017 have made Mona thoughtful. Despite his master's strict orders to keep away from the Rohingya, Mona often goes to the refugee camp. There he brings joy to the small children, playing with them and often helping them pick up their relief goods. After a series of events, Mona ends up marrying a Rohingya girl, in the hope of offering her a better and safer life. But the couple is unaware that the law of 2014 has long declared it illegal for Bangladeshis to marry Rohingya; indeed, such a marriage is considered a criminal offense. Will Mona be able to dodge the police and smuggle his Rohingya wife out of the camp to take her to a village and start a new life? Will they succeed in starting a quiet, peaceful life?



Noman Robin

Noman Robin's films are courageous, as is his selection of themes. Developing his work on the basis of real-life experiences, Noman provokes his audience to think twice. Noman Robin is one of the most successful and popular TV-fiction makers of Bangladesh. His selection of realistic stories has made him highly popular. His first full-length feature film "Common Gender - The Film" was exhibited at the 70th Golden Globe in 2012, and a year later at the Journalism and Genetic Science sections of several universities around the world. This film has influenced Bangladeshi society so strongly that transgender people are now officially recognized as the third gender in their passports and national ID cards.

Noman Robin
Producer
Sved Ashik Rahman, Tanyeer Ahmed

Syed Ashik Rahman, Tanveer Ahmed Siddiqui

Cinematographer
Sarun Manandhar (Nepal)

Editor

Mahmudul Hasan Mahadi

Director

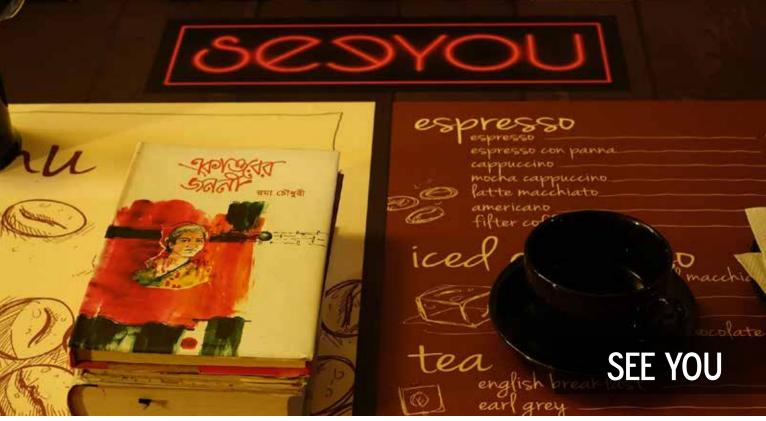
Original Score/ Music

Tanveer Alam Shawjeeb

Sound Designer **Tanveer Alam Shawjeeb**

Cast

Mahmudul Hasan Mahadi, Rabiul Islam, Sangeeta Chowdhury, Sharmin Akhee, Kashem Khirzut, Nasir Uddin Khan, Shamim Iftaqer Nayan, Jainab Akter, Sm Manik, Noman Robin, Jamal Bhai, Hamin Telwat, Tanveer Ahmed Seajaan, Zohirul Islam, Rubel Hossen



Short/ 23 mins/ Bangladesh

Director

Chaitali Somadder & Syful Akbar Khan

Producer

Syful Akbar Khan

Screenplay

Baishaki Somadder & Syful Akbar Khan

Cinematographer

Zahed Khan

Editor

Chaitali Somadder

Original Score

S M Khaled Ibn Akhtar & Octave

Sound Designer

Sudeepta Sadhukhan

Cast

Tropa Majumdar, Arjjay Meghdoot, Monirul Islam Rajib, Moutushi Biswas

Synopsis

A bold and wise mom in the city of Dhaka, who, despite being a successful professional, stays incomplete inside the 'family', somehow or other. She keeps her struggles closely guarded under her silence and some things finally revert some other way that spells out a newer gravity of motherhood and womanhood.

Chaitali Somadder

Chaitali Somadder graduated from the Asian Film Academy, Busan, Korea and Post-Graduate Diploma in Editing from the Satyajit Ray Film & Television Institute (SRFTI) of Kolkata, India. She directed a 5-minute 1-shot film named 'Patience' in 2014 that got screened and acclaimed in several international festivals in London, Croatia, Dhaka etc. She is also the editor and a Co-Director of 'SeeYou', her latest short film.



Syful Akbar Khan

Syful Akbar Khan, a passionate writer has authored a number of books including an original experimental novella in Bengali, directed TV commercials and written couple of TV dramas that are on air. Written and produced a 5-minute 1-take short film named "Patience" that got screened and acclaimed at several international film festivals in 2014. His first short film was "Suicide Note" in 2017, and he is the screenplay co-writer, co-director and the producer of the latest short film named "See You".





Master/ 87 mins/ Bangladesh

Synopsis

Alpha is a painter who lives in a subaltern abode built on bamboo pillars under which flows polluted sewage water. Alpha undergoes spells of trances in which he sees visions of surrealistic journeys revealing his abnormal mindset, he is loved by all his neighbors for his compassionate nature. Deep within alpha has a rare obsession for aesthetics and he paints figures of demigoddess (partly female and partly god). One-night alpha discovers a floating dead body of a man in the sewage water stuck under his dwelling place. Alpha's life topples over. This one floating dead body changes alpha's existence as he knows it.



Nasir Uddin Yousuff

Nasir Uddin Yousuff has directed over 200 teleplays and produced around one thousand fiction, non-fiction and education programmes. From 1972 until 2016 he gave directions to 23 stage plays which received high accolades both at home and abroad. Some of his films include "Ekattorer Jishu" (Jesus 71), "Guerrellia" and "Alpha", which he loves to define as "the most modern film." Nasir Uddin Yousuff has conducted a number of national and international workshops, presented papers and attended conferences too. From 1983 until now he received 22 awards, both of national and international repute. Nasir presently teaches in the Film in the Department of Theatre & News Media at Daffodil International University, a leading private university in Bangladesh.

Director Nasiruddin Yousuff Producer Faridur Reza Sagor And Esha Yousuf Screenplay Nasiruddin Yousuff Cinematographer Samiran Datta Editor Catherine Masud Original Score/ Music Alokananda Dasgupta Sound Designer Subhadeep Sengupta Alamgir Kabir, Doyel Mash, Heera Chowdhury, Atm Shamsuzzaman, Ishrat Nishat, Mostafizur Noor Imran, Bhaskor Rasha



BHUTAN



Feature/ 135 mins/ Bhutan

Synopsis

The story begins in the havoc of affairs, probing the missing gem of powerful Dzongpoen, in an exclusive Bhutanese tradition of astrological art. For the overriding time, Ya Mae-a phony astrologer who is considering to be a renowned astrologer, is appointed to seek out the gem, locked inside the palace and shattered his life thereafter. The reviving of the gem as the plot, the film signifies that there is a similarity in life as to how good deeds fetch good results and the bad ones result in a disaster.



Kinga Kinley Tshering

As certified Script writer, he has written scripts for most of the Bhutanese block buster movies such as "Saye Lhamo", "Nga Kinley Choegi Super Man", "Zhu Dha Ghema", "Tsip Choelo", "A Woman of Pure Heart" and continues with the script writing to promote the National Language Dzongkha and overall development of Bhutanese Values which impact the growth of social values and Bhutanese culture and tradition. As a Director, he visualizes the morale from a Bhutanese context in every movie he directs to prove the significance of Bhutanese values and traditions.

Director Kinga Kinley Tshering Producer **Sonam Tshewang** Screenplay Kinga Kinley Tshering Cinematographer Kinzang Namgay Editor **Kinzang Namgay** Original Score/ Music Karma and Tashi Wangdi, Thuji Younden Sound Designer **Kinzang Namgay** Nidop Dorji, Tash P.Dorji, Tandin Bidha



Feature/ 67 mins/ Bhutan

Director

Karma Lhatrul Dorji

Producer

Pedjyung Zumzhey Production

Screenplay

Sonam R Kuenfel

Cinematographer

Sonam Dorji

Editor

Tshering Nidup

Original Score

Tandin Dorji

Sound Designer

Tshering Nidup

Cast

Karma Choe Chong, Tshering Zam, Mummy Zam, Kinzang Thinley

Synopsis

Yethro is the only child born in a rich family and she leads her life like a queen. Phuentsho is an orphan who works for Yethros parents and he owns nothing but his only companion Mindu, the horse. Phuentsho is an archer and soon Yethro falls in love with him. Namgay and Phuentshos are best friend, Namgay is always there to help him out and he too works for Yethros parents. After a brief friendship Yethro and Phuentsho are separated as Yethro's parents arrange her marriage with another rich man's son from their village. Unhappy with the separation from Phuentshos, Yethro ends both of their lives by consuming poison.

Karma Lhatrul Dorji

Completed his Film making course, Karma worked under Hollywood film maker, Mr. Bret Carr. Some of his Short films are "100 Dollars", "The call", "50 Million Dollars and Row". His well-known music videos are Motherland, Green Tara, Kangjay, Nga Lu Gha Na, Meto Zum, Amitayu Mantra, Gawai Tam and Kishu Thara. His wellknown Feature film is "Tshorwa" (The inner call) and he has worked as a producer and director, in the languages like Dzongkha Tshangla, Nepali, Hindi, Monpa and Tibetan.





Short/ 24 mins/ Bhutan

Synopsis

A woman of pure heart is a portrayal of a graduate, Sonam Lhamo's episodic tale. From a far-flung village, the protagonist comes to Thimphu in search of a decent job where she stays with her cousin. It so happens that one night, she gets raped by her brother in-law. She meets Pema a guide, and their relation gradually turns into a love affair. She finally reveals to him the secret. Pema then makes a mind to file the case to the police. After winning the case in favour of her, the two live together. It is only when she learns that Pema is already married to a woman, things again turns out bad. Following which she leaves Thimphu for her village. In Spite of being betrayed for several times, her will to be a leader does not die out. Her capacity ultimately wins her the post of GUP in her Gewog. As a Gup, she serves the community with the best of her ability. Her dedication and commitment makes her a woman that the whole community can look up to her as an exemplary leader.



Kinga Kinley Tshering

As certified Script writer, he has written scripts for most of the Bhutanese block buster movies such as "Saye Lhamo", "Nga Kinley Choegi Super Man", "Zhu Dha Ghema", "Tsip Choelo", "A Woman of Pure Heart" and continues with the script writing to promote the National Language Dzongkha and overall development of Bhutanese Values which impact the growth of social values and Bhutanese culture and tradition. As a Director, he visualizes the morale from a Bhutanese context in every movie he directs to prove the significance of Bhutanese values and traditions.

Director Kinga Kinley Tshering Producer **Sonam Tenzin** Screenplay Kinga Kinley Tshering Cinematographer **Kinzang Namgay** Editor **Kinzang Namgay** Original Score/ Music Tashi Wangdi Sound Designer **Kinzang Namgay** Sonam Tenzin, Samgay Ihaden **Tshering**



Short/ 8 mins/ Bhutan

Director Karma Lhatrul Dorji

Producer

Hidden Heart Studio

Screenplay

Karma Lhatrul Dorji

Cinematographer

Sonam Dorji

Editor

Tshering Nidup

Sound Designer

Zhegyel Studio

Cast

Karma Lhatrul Dorji, Dechen Pelden

Synopsis

The hunter missing his shot, snacks on some goose berry. Then taking a sip of the river, he finds it to be miraculously sweet and delicious. Not weary of the fact that his quiver is contaminated with the poison from the arrows, he decides to take some of the sweet water to his wife. With affection he gives her a cup, and unintentionally brings her life to an end.

Karma Lhatrul Dorji

Completed his Film making course, Karma worked under Hollywood film maker, Mr. Bret Carr. Some of his Short films are "100 Dollars", "The call", "50 Million Dollars and Row". His well-known music videos are Motherland, Green Tara, Kangjay, Nga Lu Gha Na, Meto Zum, Amitayu Mantra, Gawai Tam and Kishu Thara. His wellknown Feature film is "Tshorwa" (The inner call) and he has worked as a producer and director, in the languages like Dzongkha Tshangla, Nepali, Hindi, Monpa and Tibetan.







Feature/ 120 mins/ India

Director **Kaushik Ganguly**Producer

Joy Ganguly

Screenplay

Kaushik Ganguly

Cinematographer

Sirsha Ray

Editor Subhajit Singha

Original Score

Prabuddha Banerjee

Sound Designer

Anirban Sengupta

Cast

Bidipta Chakraborty, Sujan Mukherjee, Indrasish Roy, Riddhi Sen, Ritwick Chakraborty

Synopsis

Unable to cope with the trauma of being 'betrayed' by her teacher Subhash-da (Indrasish Roy), Porimal, a trans woman, runs away from home and joins a ghetto of eunuchs as Puti and sings at traffic signals to earn money. There she falls in love with Madhu (Ritwick Chakraborty), a delivery boy with a Chinese restaurant who moonlights as a flautist in kirtans. Their love blossoms while they dream of raising money required for the sex reassigned surgery after meeting the first transgender person in India who has completed Doctor of Philosophy, Manabi Bandyopadhyay. But transphobic society does not support their dreams. Puti is arrested and commits suicide by hanging herself with her towel inside the lock up at a police station. Eventually, Madhu joins the same ghetto of eunuchs.

Kaushik Ganguly

In 2004 Ganguly directed his first feature film Waarish, followed by his comedy Brake Fail inspired by Hrishikesh Mukherjee films and Jackpot. He cast director Rituparno Ghosh as the lead in his 2010 film "Arekti Premer Golpo" about a gay documentary filmmaker and a transgender Jatra actor. It won awards at the I-View Film Festival and the International Film Festival of India. Ganguly's next film "Laptop" was selected for screening at the 42nd International Film Festival of India. He won the best director award at the 44th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) in November 2013 for Apur Panchali. At the 64th National Film Awards 2017, Kaushik Ganguly's "Bishorjan" bagged the Best Bengali Film award.





Feature/ 79 mins/ India

Synopsis

10 year old Tsering lives in the difficult terrain of the Himalayas. One day he accidentally breaks his friend's school chair. When he decides to bring the chair back to his village, the 7 kilometres long journey back home in mountainous landscape on a donkey, becomes even more arduous than usual. Chair is the metaphor for the awakening journey, quest for inner truth and reality, which people aspire to find in the adult world.



Praveen Morchhale

ICFT-UNESCO Gandhi Medal (2018) winner filmmaker, Praveen Morchhale was born in Central India. After few years of making short films and theatre working as a director, Praveen Morchhale achieved recognition with his feature film debut "Barefoot to Goa". Critics hail him as a new wave Indian cinema filmmaker and he is known for his poetic and subtle cinema. He has also won National Film Award in 2018.

Director Praveen Morchhale Producer Mahesh Mohan Screenplay **Praveen Morchhale** Cinematographer Mohammad Reza Jahanpanah Editor Ujjwal Chandra Sound Designer Sanal George Cast Sonam Wangyal, Phunchok Toldan, Rigzin Dolkar, Phuntsog Dolma, Sachi Joko, Aanchal Munjal, Namgyal Dorjey



Short/ 20 mins/ India

Director Nitish Patankar

Producer

Nitish Patankar

Screenplay

Aditya Bhagat

Cinematographer

Atharva Wagh

Editor

Ashay Gatade

Original Score

Ashutosh Sohoni Sound Designer

Vikrant Pawar (Crafts studio,

Pune)

Cast

Raj Takalakar, Raghav Vartak, Amar Gaiakwad

Synopsis

Set in a small town in coastal Konkan region of Maharashtra, the story is about beliefs that we all come across when deciding what is right and, what is wrong? Pashya (Prasanna), and Aseem are two young boys (10-12-year-old) in a small town. Pashya's father (Mahadev Gurav) is a priest in the local temple. Pashya, however, is little rebellious. Aseem, a son of a butcher (Aabir), though, is the scholarly one and loved by everyone. These contrasting personalities make them closest of friends. After witnessing an event in the town, a ritual performed in the name of God which involves sacrificial killing of a goat, boys begin their quest of finding the reason behind why something is good and some things are not! What is the value of being good? How 'virtues' are created? As the boys start discovering the things behind it, they come with their own set of principles for the holy and the unholy! Their actions have different consequences than intentions.

Nitish Patankar

After completing His Commerce graduation from Pune University, Nitish started working as an Assistant director for Multiple National Award-Winning Film makers such as Ms. Sumitra Bhave, Mr. Sunil Sukthankar and Mr. Sujay Dahake. He is also actively involved in Pune's experimental theatre circuit. Currently working as freelancing creative/content writer & director. He is an aspiring feature film maker and currently in the process of writing his own feature film.





Short/ 20 mins/ India

Synopsis

This story is about a girl Rupa, a computer programmer working in an IT Company who spends 11-12 Hours in office. She is staying with her mother, the only surviving relation. Rupa has a boyfriend, who works in the call centre. Because of his job, he always likes to talk to Rupa over the phone. She gives her heart and soul towards this job and wants to earn more and clear her debts and give a comfortable life to her mom. This story tells how she is struggling to balance her career and personal life by spending time with her mom & boyfriend. Parallelly, how she is harassed in her work place by her immediate superior. And who know's all her struggle and effort? The entire short film is told in a monitor(Computer) point of view.



Hari Viswanath

Hari Viswanath is an international award winning Indian film director, for his much acclaimed feature film debut with "Radiopetti" (Radio Set) in 2015, which became the first Tamil film and second Indian film to win the Audience Award Best Film in the official competition in Busan International Film Festival 2015 and has been officially selected in Indian Panorama for 46th International Film Festival of India, Goa. It also won the Best Music award at Imagine India film festival 2016, Spain. It also won the Best Film award by Puducherry Govt. He was the Jury member of Indian Panorama section of International Film Festival of India 2017, Goa. Ever since he has been actively directing shorts, films and writing stories close to his heart.

Director
Hari Viswanath
Producer
Debarghya Bakshi
Cinematographer
Rusha Bose
Editor
Maruthi Krish
Original Score/ Music
Richard Ford
Sound Designer
C Sethu
Cast
Chitrangada Chakraborty,
Satrajit Sarkar



Master/ 164 mins/ India

Director
Sanjay Leela Bhansali
Screenplay
Prakash R Kapadia, Sanjay Leela
Bhansali
Cinematographer
Sudeep Chatterjee
Editor
Rajesh Pandey
Original Score/ Music
Sanjay Leela Bhansali
Sound Designer
Bishwadeep Dipak Chatterjee
Cast
Ranveer Singh, Deepika

Padukone, Shahid Kapoor

Synopsis

Set in 1303 AD medieval India, Padmaavat is the story of honor, valor and obsession. Queen Padmavati is known for her exceptional beauty along with a strong sense of justice. She is the wife of Maharawal Ratan Singh and pride of the Kingdom of Chittor, a prosperous kingdom in the north west of India. The legend of her beauty reaches the reigning Sultan of Hindustan – Allaudin Khilji. The sultan who is a tyrant, is fixated with wanting anything that is of exceptional beauty for himself. He lays siege on the impregnable fortress of Chittorgarh. After a grueling 6 months, he returns empty handed. He becomes obsessed and now wants to capture Chittor and its Queen at any cost. He returns with a bigger army and ranging fury. He attacks Chittor with brutal force and a bloody and fearsome battle takes places between the righteous Maharawal Ratan Singh defending his kingdom and the honor of his queen and Sultan Allaudin Khilji. Khilji manages to breach the fortress but in vain as the Queen chooses to make the ultimate sacrifice to protect her dignity.

Sanjay Leela Bhansali

Sanjay Leela Bhansali studied at FTII, Pune. He started his career as the Director of Songs for Vidhu Vinod Chopra's 1942: A Love Story. He made his directorial debut with "Khamoshi": The Musical in 1996, followed by the box office blockbuster "Hum Dil De Chuke Sanam" (1999), "Devdas" (2002), "Black" (2005), "Saawariya" (2007), "Guzaarish" (2010), "Ram Leela" (2013), "Bajirao Mastani" (2015) and his latest film "Padmaavat" (2018) has earned appreciation across the globe.







Feature/ 90 mins/ Maldives

Director **Ahmed Shinan**

Producer

Mohamed Ali & Aishath Fuwad Thowfeek

Screenplay

Moomin Fuad

Cinematographer

Ahmed Shinan & Adam Waseem

Editor

Ahmed Shinan

Original Score

Ismail Adheel

Sound Designer

Ali Shifau

Cast

Jumayyil Nimal, Aishath Thasneema

Synopsis

Aiman (Jumayil) develops inexplicable feelings for Zaina (Thasneema) who was dating a notorious gangster named Husham (Irufan). Aiman tries to warn Zaina about the shady affairs of Husham who flaunts his devious deeds whenever he gets the chance. Being hopelessly in love, Zaina refuses to believe Aiman. Feeling threatened, Husham decides to teach Aiman a lesson, that pulls him into the dark, murky life of the city's most ruthless, ill-reputed hoodlum.

Ahmed Shinan

Shinan is a Maldivian Director/ Ahmed Cinematographer who started his career with the release of Dark Rain Entertainment's suspense thriller "Happy Birthday" in 2009. He worked as a visual effects artist and title animator in this awardwinning movie which later formed the basis for true suspense in the Maldivian Film Industry. Shinan's films have garnered both critical and commercial success, out of which, "Fathis Handhuvaruge Feshun 3D", "4426" and "Gohraalhu" are his most notable ones. He won his first national award two years after he first started working, in 2012's National Film Awards for his prodigious work as a visual effect artist for the movie "Dhinveynuge Hithaamaiga". From then on, he became a common face at the award shows winning two more National Awards in 2014 and 2017 as the Best Visual Effects for the movies "Fathis Handhuvaruge Feshun 3D" and "4426" respectively. He won presidents national award of recognition in area of creating visual effects in 2018.





Short/ 20 mins/ Maldives

Synopsis

Nishant, a successful business man married to the love of his life, Sithara, visit Maldives for their honeymoon after their marriage. On their honeymoon trip they stay in a beautiful local island of Maldives and they enjoy the beauty of Maldives, local people and their traditional activities as well. Sithara loves listening to music, one day she requests him to listen to her favorite song;

Nishant did not try listening to it that day. Finally, Nishant tried to listen to that music while Sithara enjoys her swim alone. Nishant wears the headset, plays the song and lie on the beach chair. He gets lost while listening to the beautiful song at the same time he lost her forever.



Ali Seezan

Ali Seezan started as an actor who pinned his name on top of the actor's list with "HIYY EDHENEE" which won him best actor at the 3rd National Film Awards. With a successful acting career and winning many awards, Seezan also won an award for Best Choreography. And the following year at the same Awards, Seezan garnered a best supporting actor award for "DHINVEYNUGE HITHAAMAAGAI". 'KARUNAVEE BEYVAFAA' was the first feature film he directed after spending nine long years in the film industry. In 2006, Seezan established his own production company called C-Xanal Movies. His studio mostly produced some well received short films such as "VIGANI" and a thirteen episode television series called "JUST FRIENDS". Seezan has a vision to experiment new genres and is determined to raise the level of filmmaking in Dhivehi film industry. Director
Ali Seezan
Producer
Aiminath Shazaaz, Mirushaan,
Ali Seezan
Screenplay
Aishath Shaazlyn
Original Score/ Music
Ibrahim Nifar
Cast
Amila Karunanayake, Nipuni Wilson





Feature/ 127 mins/ Nepal

From the psychoanalytic perspective, this is the story of unmet desires and other pertaining core issues. When the protagonist's husband goes to the Gulf leaving his wife along with his paralysed father and infant daughter, the strongest support of her life also goes away. While she continues hoping that he comes back one day, the hope gradually fades after he stops sending money around two years later. Day by day, the frequency of his phone calls wanes, and this makes the woman increasingly feel abandoned and betrayed. Also contributing to her fear is her workplace where a colleague abuses her. These circumstances collectively lead her to an unconscious desire for a 'substitute', which she later finds in a random guy wandering around her station. But, as psychoanalytic theorists say, the unconscious, the storehouse of unfulfilled desires, never dies; hence nothing or no one can quench people's desire for the original source of happiness.



Binod Paudel

Binod Paudel has a Bachelors in Film Studies from the Tribhuvan University (Oscar International College) and a Masters in Business Administration from the Trinity Saint David University, UK. Binod became a Film maker and Film Academician and CEO/Principal at the Oscar International College, Kathmandu (College of Film Studies). As a director and writer he is known for "Awaken Eyes" (2008) a Short movie and as an Associate Director for his "God Lives in the Himalayas" (2009). Binod also has been an actor in the feature film "Sick City" (2011). He has also wriiten screenplays and story for "Saanghuro" (2013).

Director
Binod Paudel
Producer
Pralhad Thapa, Raju Paudel
Screenplay
Binod Paudel
Cinematographer
Sushan Prajapati
Editor
Animesh Sapkota
Original Score/ Music
Koshish Chhetri, Udgam Pariyar
Sound Designer
Uttam Neupane
Cast
Mukun Bhusal, Swastima Khadka



Feature/ 138 mins/ Nepal

Director

Dinesh Raut

Producer Shuvash Thapa

Screenplay

Sushil Paudel

Cinematographer

Rajesh Shrestha

Editor

Lokesh Bajracharya

Original Score

Subash Bhusal

Sound Designer

Uttam Neupane

Cast

Bipin Karki, Namrata Shrestha, Nischal Basnet, Basundhara Bhusal, Anjali Adhikari

Synopsis

Prasad is a devotional offering made to God, and is the title of this Nepali social drama about two newlywed couples struggling to conceive a baby. The film portrays how lower-class people are intimidated by influential people and the wife's fight to raise a baby born because of a rape by her husband's friend.

Dinesh Raut

Dinesh Raut is a Nepali film director, theater Artist, lyricist and dancer. He is best known for directing several successful films. Raut started his career at the age of 14 as a theater artist then worked as an assistant director in various Nepali films before he made his debut as a director with "I am Sorry" (2012). He also has penned lyrics for different Nepali movies. Raut has successfully directed five feature films which garnered him both critical and commercial recognition. Raut is the recipient of several awards, including National Film Awards and many more.





Short/ 17 mins/ Nepal

Synopsis

The Remains is a stream of consciousness progression of a hallucinatory experience of an old man in his late 70s living in an isolated river bank. The old man feels that his life is soon coming to an end and believes that he will be transformed into a gigantic fish. He wants to erase all his memories to escape from the sufferings. But wherever he goes, his own childhood image keeps appearing around him. The image traps the old man in a fishnet and they play a typical game in the riverbank.



Manoj Babu Pant

Manoj Babu Pant has taught cinema making at the Tribhuvan University for a decade. He has conducted many cinema workshops throughout the country. He is the head of the department of screenplay writing and direction faculty at the College of Film Studies since 2012. He directed his first short film "WHERE IS THE STORY?" in 2008 which was shown in various national film festivals. As a script consultant he has initiated to craft many short and feature films that have travelled to international fraternity representing Nepal. Since 2015, he is guiding Bikalpa Cinema Society, the society of new cinema scholars aiming to create new movement in the cinema culture of Nepal.

Director
Manoj Babu Pant
Producer
Nawa Nidhi Dahal, Hari Bahadur
Adhikari
Cinematographer
Narendra Raj Mainali
Editor
Animesh Sapkota
Sound Designer
Kishore Acharya
Cast
Prem Dev Giri, Asim Regmi,
Hari Bahadur Adhikari



Short/ 15 mins/ Nepal

Director
Abinash Bikram Shah
Producer
Anup Poudel / Min Bahadur
Bham / Ram Krishna
Screenplay
Abinash Bikram Shah
Cinematographer
Sayak Bhattacharya
Editor

Sayak Bhattacharya
Editor
Kiran Shrestha, Nimesh Shrestha
Sound Designer
Amit Shrestha, Jonathan Q. Hee

Synopsis

A dead body of a migrant worker arrives in a remote village of Nepal. Tattini, now a widow, plans to start a new life with her dead husband's life insurance money, away from the shackles of the conservative society she lives in. But her lonely father-in-law, determined to stop her, claiming the money belongs to the village and demands for darrkhana, their traditional hot iron ritual.

Abinash Bikram

Born in Nepal, Abinash Bikram Shah is a freelance writer/director based in Kathmandu. An alumnus of Berlinale Talents (Germany) and Asian Film Academy (South Korea), Abinash has written, directed and produced short films that have participated and won awards at many International Film Festivals. He has also written few feature films that premiered in Berlin International Film Festival (2012) and Venice International Film Festival (2015), and were also Nepal's Official Entry for Academy Awards in Best Foreign Language Film Section. Also working as a teacher at Oscar International College (College of Film Studies) and Programming Director of Ekadeshma International Short Film Festival, Abinash is currently preparing for his directorial debut film "Season of Dragonflies".





Master/ 106 mins/ Nepal

The story follows a thirty- year old overly religious and superstitious man-child named Hari. He has led his whole life following the rules that were set by his ancestors and his strict religious widow mother. Leading a monotonous life at home and office. His life takes a sudden change when one day a bird craps on him, to his dismay he doesn't know if it is a pigeon which is a sign of good luck or a crow which happens to be a bad omen. As his day continues, he experiences both good and bad, which confuses Hari. All these events start to veer Hari onto a new path where he finds love and desires, he didn't know he had before. Hari is a man who hasn't ever thought for himself but rather just obeyed everything that was told by his mother, his boss, his staff and everyone in his life but as events unfold Hari takes a stand and takes chances and savors his freedom. All this however comes with a price, as the good, will always come with the bad.



Safal K.C

Safal K.C was born in Kathmandu, Nepal, he has been working in the Nepali film industry for the last 8 years. After education he returned to Nepal and worked on the national hit film "Loot" and numerous other films he realized that he was in a position to make a film of his own choosing without the barrier of mainstream trends and conditions. Hari was born out of this idea of thinking with a new perspective and this marks his debut film alongside his writing and director partner Pratik Gurung



Pratik Gurung

Pratik Gurung was born in Lalitpur, Nepal, he has been working in the Nepali film industry for the last 7 years having returned from UK where he studied Film Studies. *Hari* marks Pratik's debut film alongside Safal K.C

Director
Safal KC, Pratik Gurung
Producer
Yagyashwar Paudel, Tapka Tamang,
Madhav Thapa
Screenplay
Safal KC
Cinematographer
Chintan Raj Bhandari
Editor
Arjun Karki
Sound Designer
Min Bista
Cast
Bipin Karki, Sunita Shrestha





Feature/ 137 mins/ Pakistan

Load Wedding is a social comedy encircling the stigmas attached in our society to weddings with just the right blend of light-hearted comedy, ironic situations, and intense emotions. The story unfolds with Raja "Fahad Mustafa" who lives in a small town with his parents and an unmarried sister; Baby Baji. The plot takes a twist when Raja finally musters up the courage to profess his feelings for Meeru (MehwishHayat) but life throws a curve ball at him. The sudden demise of his father that very day leaves Raja with the responsibility of filling in his father's shoes and also finding a husband for his sister. Call it luck or God's master plan, Meeru's steps in Raja's life brings about just the right amount of luck that he needed, but fate again takes another downturn leaving Raja and Meeru with only 24 hours to arrange for the dowry that would save his sister's wedding.



Nabeel Qureshi

Nabeel Qureshi (born 1985) is an award-winning Pakistani film director, screenwriter and occasional singer best known for making movies that tackle socio economic issues in a thought provoking yet light hearted manner. He made waves in Pakistani cinema with his debut feature film, "Na Maloom Afraad" (2014), where he won an award for best film director following up with his critically acclaimed and his biggest box office hit till date Actor in Law 2016 for which he again won an award for best director. Nabeel skillfully uses politics, pop culture and daily happenings which resonates with the audience. Touching on issues of economic inequality, his novelty films take the audience on an enthralling ride which hits close to home. His insightful movies have proven that film has the power to promote change.

Director
Nabeel Qureshi
Producer
Fizza Ali Meerza, Mehdi Ali
Screenplay
Nabeel Qureshi & Fizza Ali Meerza
Cinematographer
Rana Kamran
Editor
Asif Mumtaz
Original Score/ Music
Shani Arshad
Sound Designer
Arun Nambiar
Cast
Fahad Mustafa, Mehwish Hayat



Feature/ 114 mins/ Pakistan

Director Adnan Sarwar

Producer

Adnan Sarwar, Jami

Screenplay

Adnan Sarwar

Cinematographer

Nabeel J Qureshi

Editor

Tahir Ali

Original Score/ Music

Xulfi (Zulfiqar Jabbar)

Sound Designer Load Films

Cast

Sohai Ali Abro

Synopsis

An 18-year old girl (Zenith Irfan), lives in Lahore, Pakistan, with her family who becomes an overnight sensation and grabs the attention on media after she travelled on Motorcycle toward difficult and dangerous mountain areas on the Pakistan northern sides to fulfill her father's wish and became the first woman of Pakistan to travel alone to north of the country on a motorbike.

Adnan Sarwar

Adnan Sarwar is a Pakistani actor, director, musician, screenwriter, producer, lyricist, doctor and racing driver. He made his film debut in the biopic Shah, in which he also played the leading role. Adnan made his film debut in the 2015 Pakistani sports biopic Shah, based on the life of Olympian boxer Hussain "Shah". Adnan also wrote the screenplay and directed the film as well as composed the original musical score. Adnan trained for the role of the homeless boxer by undergoing a six-month long boxing training regime and lost 10 kilos of body weight. Despite being produced on a shoestring budget by a team of five people, "Shah" was hailed as "not only an achievement for Adnan Sarwar but for the whole Pakistani film industry" and Sarwar was praised by critics for his portrayal of the Lyari born Pakistani boxing legend.





Master/ 120 mins/ Pakistan

Chalay Thay Saath is a film about relationships, not just between people but between countries as well. Pakistan's ties with China run deep; in our story the Chinese lead 'Adam' visits Pakistan and is seen honoring his dad's grave at the Chinese graveyard located in Gilgit, (where those Chinese who lost their lives during the construction of the Karakoram Highway are buried). Adam then explores the region taking a tour with a tour guide, where he meets Resham, the protagonist of our story and falls in love with her.

From here on they both try to understand each other's story, their cultures and languages realizing the differences between them were huge; despite that, their similarities are immense.



Umer Adil

With an inquisitive mind and distinctive leadership and communication skills and a passion for storytelling of all kinds. He has over fourteen years of experience and expertise in content development, production and direction of tv shows, documentaries, TVCs, music videos, short films and feature length films.

Director **Umer Adil** Producer Umer Adil, Beenish Umer Screenplay Atiya Zaidi Cinematographer Shahzad Khan Editor M. Arsalan (Sharpimage) Original Score/ Music Sahibzada Abbas Ali Khan Sound Designer Roland Heap (Sound Disposition) Syra Shahroz, Kent S. Leung, Behroz Subzwari, Mansha Pasha, Zhalay Sarhadi, Osama Tahir, Faris Khalid, Shamim Hilaly, Sherbaz Kaleem



SRI LANKA



Feature/ 84 mins/ Sri Lanka

Synopsis

In a small village in Eastern Sri Lanka in 1989, after her husband was abducted, tortured and murdered by a paramilitary group, 37 year old Kusum has to fight to look after her eight children and mother-in-law all by herself. After a series of unsuccessful odd jobs, where she is constantly abused physically and sexually, Kusum falls into prostitution. Soon the Police arrest her in a brothel. This event adversely affects her children's schooling. Her revengeful reaction unfolds thereafter.



Sanjeewa Pushpakumara

Sanjeewa Pushpakumara a diploma in film making at the Sri Lanka National Film Corporation in 2006. In 2014 he obtained his advanced degree (Master of Fine Arts) in film-making from the Chung-Ang University in South Korea as a Korean Government Scholarship Holder (KGSP). In 2009, Sanjeewa was selected to the Asian Film Academy of Busan International Film Festival. He participated in Berlin Talent Campus in 2012. Sanjeewa's first feature film, "Flying Fish" (Igillena Maluwo) received post production support from the Hubert Bals Fund of International Film Festival Rotterdam. Subsequently "Flying Fish" world premiered at International Film Festival Rotterdam and was nominated for the Tiger Award. The film garnered many honors and the film was invited to more than 30 international film festivals around the world. He has won accolades at other prestigious events like the Cannes Film Festival, Locarno Film Festival and Venice Film Festival.

Sanjeewa Pushpakumara Producer Antonin Dedet, Sanjeewa Pushpakumara, Dominique Welinski, Somarathne Dissanayake, Renuka Balasooriya Cinematographer Kalinga Deshapriya Ajith Ramanayake, Katharina Wartena Original Score/ Music R.Abaji, Philip David Sheppard Anoma Janadari, Samanalee Fonseka, Mahendra Perera, Chandani Senavirathne, Leonie Kotalawala, Pubudu Chathuranga, Thissa Bandaranayaka, Priyanka Samaraweera, Shyam Fernando, Sanjeewa Dissanayake, Maheesha Nethara, Dasun Pathirana, Dharshan Dharmaraj, Dharmapriya Dias, D.B. Gangodathenna, Rex Hamilton, Pavithra Wikremasinghe, Jayantha Mututanthri

Director



Feature/ 84 mins/ Sri Lanka

Director **Nuwan Jayathilake**

Producer

Nuwan Jayathilake, Maya Nawagaththegama

Screenplay

Nuwan Jayathilake

Cinematographer

Striner Macklain Adams

Editor

Saman Alvitigala, Kasun Malinda

Original Score/ Music

Chitral Chity Somapala

Cast

Semini Hennanayake, Praveen Katukithule, Sudam Katukithule, Suranga Ranawaka, Priyankara Rathnayake, Iranganie Serasinghe

Synopsis

Buddhism being the religion followed by the majority of the people of Sri Lanka, its teachings of reincarnation and past lives and spirituality play an important factor in this film. Amidst scenes that depict the prayer and chants offered by the family a bull goes missing. Fearing him dead, the family ask the universe and its Gods to bring him come back in the next life as a human so that he may be able to reach nirvana. This shows how important and loved the bull was to this family and how it affects the children Kasun and Vihanga, who refuse to believe that their beloved bull is dead and set out to bring him back.

Nuwan Jayathilake

Captivated with the magic of cinema and film making he went through a lot of self-study about films. His short venture in journalism and later transformed his creative skills into films. During his vigorous study of the secrets of successful films made him to absorb the formulas of good films. During this period of his life he completed five short films and made an entry into film making.





Short/ 8 mins/ Sri Lanka

There is a little girl who has no idea about nationalism or religion. She always has a question about everything. When she saw the reliquary for the first time in her life, she had no idea about that too. So, she put questions to her grandmother and she understands the value of that. And also, she gets an understanding of the fact someone who is holding the reliquary, gets merit too. She thinks when she grows up, she can also get merit like her father did. But, her grandmother says that, it is prohibited to hold reliquary on a woman's head. What is the reason..? She fails to understand that. She continues to think about it always. Following which one day she saw the image on the temple wall which answered her question. This is the story about "her".



S.R.G. Chathumi Vidhushika

Graduated from the University of Visual & Performing Arts, Sri Lanka. Chathumi specialized in multimedia in her graduation. With a liking to do short films, Documentary films and video clips she is working as a temporary lecturer in the university.

Director
S.R.G. Chathumi Vidhushika
Screenplay
S.R.G. Chathumi Vidhushika
Cinematographer
Kularuwan gamage
Editor
S.R.G. Chathumi Vidhushika
Sound Designer
Hilusha Hewagama
Cast
W.G. Thanusha Dilmindi,
S.G.G. Kusumawathi,
R.G. Shirani Dilrukshi



Short/ 11 mins/ Sri Lanka

Director
Lanka Bandaranayake
Producer
Lanka Bandaranayake
Screenplay
Lanka Bandaranayake
Cinematographer
Vishwajith Karunarathna
Editor
Sankha Malwaththa
Original Score
Sumudu Guruge

Cast
Kalum Gamlath, Irangani
Serasinghe, Sameera Lakmal,
Nilanka Dahanayaka, Arunod
Wijesinha, Kalana Jayanath,
Anjana Premarathna, Rajeev
Ananda

Synopsis

An old woman decorates a bride with the traditional Sri Lankan jewelry. She describes the symbolic meaning of each jewelry piece. Those meanings carry the girl to her past relationships and their deep scars. The bride's ultimate destiny seems something illusive.

Lanka Bandaranayke

Lanka Bandaranayke, is a producer, director and an actor from Sri Lanka. She started her stage drama career in 1998, she has earned several acting and costume designing national awards. She produced and directed the national award-winning short dramas. Lanka graduated from the University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka and filmmaking at Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institution, Kolkata. She directed and produced her first short film "Tradition" in 2016. Since then she has been directing short films and music videos.



PALAMA YATA

Master/ 132 mins/ Sri Lanka

Synopsis

Dotty, a beautiful woman is condemned to a life of adversity when her husband, Solomon, is imprisoned for murder. Left alone to support her son, Somasiri, she falls for the fatal charm of Willie, a thug who takes advantage of her vulnerability. Under his influence, Dotty takes to drinks and drugs. Somasiri, disgusted with her transformation and degradation, is compelled to kill Willie to save her.



H.D. Premaratne

Educated at the Gurukula Vidyalaya of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka, H.D. Premaratne started his film career as a clapper boy in Daru Duka in 1967. While working at the old Times of Ceylon group, he was an Assistant Director for "Pujithayo" before embarking on his maiden directorial venture "Sikuruliya" starring Vijaya Kumaranatunga and Swineetha Weerasinghe in 1975. A majority of his work focused on women and women's issues. Along with cinema, Premaratne produced the teledramas "Sandungira Ginigani" (1993), "Sihina Danauwa" (1996), and "Dulari" (1997) and also the stage drama "Yakage Kammala". He worked at Swarnavahini as a Consultant to the Board of Directors, and functioned as the president of the Sri Lanka Cinema Bala Mandalaya.

Director
H.D. Premaratne
Producer
Geetha Kumarasinghe
Cinematographer
Suminda Weerasinghe
Editor
Elmo Halliday
Original Score/ Music
Premasiri Khemadasa
Cast
Sanath Gunathilaka,
Geetha Kumarasinghe, Razi Anwar,
Joe Abeywickrama

MEET THE JURY MEMBERS



EMMANUAL DELA CRUZ

Emamanual Dela Cruz from Philippines is one of the most versatile and sought-after creative personality in the local Film and TV industries. Cruz has his He graduated with a Film Degree from the UP Film Institute, University of the Philippines, and amassed several accolades as a screenwriter, short film-maker, creative producer, director and theater artist. With 23 years of professional experience, he is presently a film faculty member in Asia Pacific Film Institute, Far Eastern University, and Philippines Centre for Creative Imaging, SHIFT and the ABS-CBN University Moving Images Academy. He is a sought-after resource speaker and has given numerous talks, participated in seminars and workshops at The Reality Film Lab and the FDCP's ongoing nationwide Planting Seeds Film Educational Campaign.



MILANA MAJAR

Journalist, screenwriter and film director, Milana Majar from Bosnia, has written and directed documentary films. Among her most important productions are, "Istanbul, city of dreams" (2009), "Under the wings of the desert" (2010), "Egypt at the crossroad" (2011), "Following the steps of St. Paul" (2012), "Libya before and after Gaddafi" (2016), "From the edge of sanity" (2017) and "In manus tuas" (2019).

She has created critically-acclaimed film "From the edge of sanity" that has been screened worldwide at more than 60 International Film Festivals and earned 20 prestigious awards. Her work deals with the human identity and the human rights. She gets motivation from life, human behaviour, social-and-political problems around the world, nature and music.

As a journalist and film maker she was engaged as correspondent for Radio Television Republic of Srpska at the time of the Egyptian revolution(2011), participation in a project SNOWE 4 Women in Film Creative Networking in Stockholm/Sweden (2017), participation in panel discussion "The role of women in film" in Asia Peace Film Festival, Karachi/Pakistan (2018) and participation in panel discussion "Day of Serbian cinema" in Kazan International Festival of Muslim Cinema, Tatarstan 2019).



HASSAN NAZER

Hassan Nazer is an award-winning British film director of Iranian origin, he started his theatre acting as a child actor in Iran from the age of 12. Hassan has been directing theatre stage and acting in cinema. He was chosen to be mentored by one of the influential theatre director MR Hamid Samandarian in 90's. Hassan has acted in "The Caucasian Chalk Circle", one of Iran's best-selling plays, Directed by Samandarian. Studied at the Art University in Tehran, Hassan developed his career further and went to UK in his early 20's. He passed his exams and got selected to study Film directing in Scotland, UK. After graduating his degree Hassan continued to live in UK. He opened his own film company World Film Production and started to collaborate with other filmmakers as well as financiers and Producers.

Hassan's feature films were released in Iran and internationally, some of them are, BLACK DAY, HERE IRAN, UTOPIA, THE CHECK POST, WINNERS which are mostly collaborations between UK and Iran, as well as India.

The film UTOPIA was an official entry for the Academy Awards 2015 and Golden Globe. The film UTOPIA won more than 18 awards, nationally and internationally was distributed by the Shoreline Entertainments. His recent film WINNERS (UK/Iran Coproduction) has just finished its post-production, soon to be released at the festivals worldwide. Hassan currently working on large Hindi art house movie filming in India and UK 2020. Hassan has been a Jury member at more than seven selected international festivals. He is an official member of the 'Producers guild of Iran' and member of directors at cinema house of Iran which is authorised by the Ministry.





WHY DO WE NEED FUNDING FOR INDEPENDENT CINEMA

CONDUCTED BY



EMMANUAL DELA CRUZ
PHILIPPINES

Emamanual Dela Cruz is one of the most versatile and sought-after creative personality in the local Film and TV industries. He is a sought-after resource speaker and has given numerous talks, participated in seminars and workshops at The Reality Film Lab and the FDCP's ongoing nationwide Planting Seeds Film Educational Campaign.



MILANA MAJAR
BOSNIA

Milana Majar is a Journalist, screenwriter and film director, she has written and directed documentary films. With many documentary films to her credit, she has also worked as a correspondent for Radio Television Republic of Srpska. She has participated in many panel discussions and her films are screened in International Film Festivals around the world.



HASSAN NAZER

An award-winning British film director of Iranian origin, Hassan Nazer started his theatre acting as a child actor in Iran from the age of 12. He has been directing theatre stage and acting in cinema. Hassan has been a jury member in many International festivals and is a member of directors at Cinema house of Iran.

MODERATED BY



DHANUSHKA GUNATHILAKE

He is an award winning cinematographer, educator and festival curator. He has worked as a cinematographer for many films and teaches cinematography at various universities in Sri Lanka. He has also been a consultant for Bangladesh Film Festival, Iran Film Festival, the SAARC Film Festival and a committee member of the International Film Festival of Colombo (IFF COLOMBO) and the Artistic Director of Colombo International Student Film Festival (COINS).

5th JULY 2019 from 10.00 am to 12.00 pm

at Colombo Film and Television Academy

No 6515. Ward Place. Colombo 7 (Prior registration required)

ORGANISED BY SAARC CULTURAL CENTRE, SRI LANKA





















SAARC FILM FESTIVAL 2018 AWARDS

The Award Ceremony of the SAARC Film Festival in 2018 was held at the National Film Corporation Cinema Hall on 27th May 2018.

A Panel of impartial Jury Members- Ms. Han Sunhee of South Korea, Mr. Amable Tikoy Aguiluz of Philippines, and Mr. Christophe Henri of France made the selections. The SAARC Film Awards 2018 are as follows:

SPECIAL JURY AWARD

"For its sincere and relevant portrayal of the need for education of the youths in India, especially young girls."

MANOUJ KADAAMH (INDIA) FOR KSHITIJ (THE HORIZON)

SPECIAL JURY AWARD - SPECIAL MENTION

"It is a daring movie that pushes the cultural boundaries of the traditional Sri Lankan values, in a humorous and accurate way."

MALAKA DEVAPRIYA (SRI LANKA) FOR BAHUCHITHAWADIYA (THE UNDECIDED)

BEST SOUND DESIGNER

"It accurately reproduced the sounds of the environment and locations of present day Sri Lanka."

SASIKA RUWAN MARASINGHE (SRI LANKA) FOR BAHUCHITHAWADIYA (THE UNDECIDED)

BEST EDITOR

"For its fluid and balanced flow of the story."

AMIT DEBNATH (BANGLADESH) FOR HALDA

BEST CINEMATOGRAPHY

"For the light and shadow interplay of the lives and drama of the people in the river Halda."

ENAMUL HAQUE SOHEL (BANGLADESH) FOR HALDA

BEST SCREENPLAY

"It's a 'triumph of the spirit' story with compelling and accurate narration of true events that project the hardships of climbing Mt. Everest."

PRASHANT PANDEY & SHREYA DEV VERMA (INDIA) FOR POORNA

BEST ORIGINAL SCORE

"For its beautiful conversion of traditional Bangladesh music into contemporary flavor."

TAUQUIR AHMED, PINTO GHOSH, SANZIDA MAHMOOD NANDITA (BANGLADESH) FOR HALDA

BEST ACTOR

"For his depth, realism and sincere heart-felt portrayal of his character who gradually releases his emotion and connection to the corpse."

MAHENDRA PERERA (SRI LANKA) FOR 28 (TWENTY-EIGHT)

BEST ACTRESS

"For her honest, innocent and realistic portrayal of a little girl who wants to rise above her situation."

VAISHNAVI TANGDE (INDIA) FOR KSHITIJ (THE HORIZON)

BEST SHORT FILM

"By the presentation of cinematic language, the director is able to tell her story about the girl's sacrifice for her grandfather."

GI (INDIA)

BEST DIRECTOR

"It's basically a poignant storytelling about marginalized characters. The director captivates the audience through very clever cinematic storytelling, continuously surfing on the cutting edge of irony and humor."

PRASANNA JAYAKODY (SRI LANKA) FOR 28 (TWENTY-EIGHT)

BEST FEATURE FILM

"It addresses serious environmental issues of real day-to-day Bangladesh life, emphasizing the struggle of the people through cinematic language. It's about sustainability of the life of the rural people."

HALDA (BANGLADESH)



ORGANISING COMMITTEE SAARC FILM FESTIVAL 2019



Dhanushka Gunathilake -Consultant

Dhanushka Gunathilake has a strong background in film as a cinematographer and educator.

He is known for his cinematography in internationally acclaimed films "Sulanga Gini Aran" (Dark in the White Light), "Thanha Rathi Ranga" (Between Yesterday and Tomorrow) and "Ginnen Upan Seethala" The Frozen Fire. His latest films are "Suparna" and "Inisible Moon" currently travelling around the world in international festivals. Currently he in the process of making a new political thriller "Nobody Knows".

He had received the best cinematography awards in Derana Film Awards in 2015, OCIC Film awards in 2015 as well as Hiru Golden Film Awards in 2016. Dhanushka received his BSc in Information Technology from Edith Corwen University (Perth, Australia), an MA in Film and Television from the Rai University (Pune and Mumbai, India) and a Post Graduate Diploma from the Film and Television Institute of India (Pune, India).

He also participated at Open Doors in Locarno Film Festival in Switzerland, a curator of the Colombo International Student Film Festival (COINS Film Fest), a consultant for Iran Cultural Center for Cinema, Curator of the Bangladesh Film Festival in Sri Lanka and a committee member of the International Film Festival of Colombo (IFFCOLOMBO).

Currently he is a jury member for the Asia Peace Film Festival in Karachi -2018 and the curator of the Iran Film Festival in Colombo. He was also a Jury member of the All Light India International Film Festival 2018, Asia Peace Film Festival 2017 in Islamabad and 2018 in Karachchi, State Music Awards 2015, Derana Music Video Awards 2016, Raigam Tele'es 2018 and Hiru Golden Film Award 2018.

He is the founder of the Sri Lanka Foundation Digital Film Academy and currently working as the Director of the Colombo Film and Television Academy in Sri Lanka.

Organising Committee

Chairperson - D.K.R. Ekanayake, Director, SAARC Cultural Centre

Dhanushka Gunathilake - Consultant, SAARC Film Festival 2019

Kishani Jayasinghe - Wijayasekara, Deputy Director (Programmes), SAARC Cultural Centre

Dr. Soumya Chavan - Culture Specialist (Programmes), SAARC Cultural Centre

Keerthi Gunathilake - Administrative Officer, SAARC Cultural Centre

Kalum Bandara - Finance Officer, SAARC Cultural Centre

Mahinda Sumanasekara - Documentation Officer, SAARC Cultural Centre

Ishan Amaraweera - IT Officer, SAARC Cultural Centre

Harishnath Nadarajah - Programme Assistant, SAARC Cultural Centre

Special Thanks

H.E. Secretary General of SAARC and the SAARC Secretariat in Kathmandu, Nepal

Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Ministries of External Affairs and other line Ministries in SAARC Member States

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Mrs. Anusha Gokula Fernando, Chairman, National Film Corporation of Sri Lanka and Staff

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Film Directors, Cast and Crew of the Officially Nominated Films

Colombo Film and Television Academy

All Distinguish Guests

All Print and Electronic Media

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The staff of the SAARC Cultural Centre

Enthusiastic and dedicated fans and film lovers of the SAARC Film Festival for your continuous patronage

Edited by

Dr. Soumya Chavan – Culture Specialist (Programmes), SAARC Cultural Centre

Compiled by

Harishnath Nadarajah – Programme Assistant, SAARC Cultural Centre

Design Concept

Ishan Amaraweera, Computer Operations Officer, SAARC Cultural Centre

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Disclaimer

This Brochure contains information received from the officially nominated films from the SAARC Member States up to the date of submission for printing on 28th June 2019. The SAARC Cultural Centre does not bear any liability for the information contained herein, nor any responsibility for any omissions that may have occurred due to late submissions.

SCREENING SCHEDULE - SAARC FILM FESTIVAL 2019

2nd JULY

11.30 am **PADMAAVAT**

Master Film I 164 Mins India

5.15 pm A QUARTER MILE COUNTRY

Short/ 30 Mins/ Bangladesh

2.45 pm BULBUL

Feature 127 Mins I Nepal

6.15 pm **MOTORCYCLE GIRL**

Feature/ 114 Mins/ Pakistan

3rd JULY

9.00 am **FHAGUN HAOYA**

Feature 101 Mins 1 Bangladesh

SOUL Short / 20 Mins / Maldives

11.00 am

11.45 am LOAD WEDDING

Feature 136 Mins I Pakistan

2.15 pm A LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT

Feature / 83 Mins / Afghanistan

4.00 pm THE REMAINS

Short 16 Mins / Nepal

4.20 pm NA BOLE WO **HARAM**

Short/ 20 Mins/ India

5.00 pm KOMOLA ROCKET Feature 195 Mins 1 Bangladesh 7.00 pm **WALKING WITH** THE WIND

Feature 179 Mins India

4th JULY

9.00 am **SEE YOU**

Short 123 Mins I Bangladesh

12.00 pm **TRADITION**

Short I 11 Mins I Sri Lanka

2.00 pm GOHRAALHU Feature 190 Mins I Maldives 9.30 am **PRASAD**

Feature 1138 Minsl Nepal

12.30 pm THE WIND OF **KARMA**

Feature 67 Mins Bhutan

4.00 pm NAGARKIRTAN Feature / 120 Mins / India

6.30 pm AFGHANISTAN NIGHT STORIES

Feature 120 Mins 1 Afghanistan

5th JULY

10.00 am **MASTERCLASS**

at Colombo Film and Television Academy 65/5, Ward Place, Colombo 7

2.15 pm THE IMAGE

Short/ 8 Mins/ Sri Lanka

5.15 pm

ROW Short / 8 Mins / Bhutan 12.30 pm ALPHA

Master Film / 87 Mins/ Bangladesh

2.45 pm THE VESTED **ASTROLOGER**

Feature / 135 Mins / Bhutan

5.30 pm **BURNING BIRDS**

Feature / 84 Mins / Sri Lanka

6th JULY

10.00 am THE WIND **BENEATH US**

Feature / 84 Mins / Sri Lanka

12.30 pm MONITOR

Short 120 Mins India

1.30 pm **CHALAY THAY** SAATH

Master Film/ 120 Mins / Pakistan Short/ 24 Mins/ Bhutan

4.45 pm **SALARY** Short/ 25 Mins/ Afghanistan

12.00 pm THE MOON IS BRIGHT **TONIGHT**

Short 15 Mins / Nepal

1.00 pm SINGLE **MOTHER**

Short 120 Mins I Afghanistan

4.00 pm WOMEN OF **PURE HEART**

5.30 pm PALAMA YATA

Master Film/ 132 Mins/

Sri Lanka

7th JULY

10.00 am HARI

Master Film/ 106 Mins/ Nepal

12.00 pm LIGHT BREEZE

Master Film/ 50 Mins Afghanistan

ENTRANCE FREE

Some of the films screened may contain adult content, parental guidance advised Films and Timings subject to change without prior notice



Email: scc@saarcculture.org Web: www.saarcculture.org