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IN CINEMAS

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Image Courtesy: Bombay Kids

Indian Film Festival of
MELBOURNE
2022

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#MATCHED2 supported by VicScreen. Directed by Katalhat Abdulajim, winner of the 2018 Indian Film Festival of Melbourne Short Film Competition. Photo Sara Mohammed.

VICTORIA
State
Government

Message From The Honorable Premier

Daniel Andrews

Welcome to the 13th annual Indian Film Festival of Melbourne.

This year's festival program showcases the very best of the world's largest film industry.

And events like these, and the creative industries they support, form a big part of what makes Victoria the cultural capital of Australia.

Victoria is the home of Australia's biggest Indian community, and our strong relationship with India is enriched by the cultural connections forged by festivals like these.

The IFFM plays an important role in promoting Victoria as a leading destination for screen production, tourism and education.

And our Government is proud to be a longstanding supporter and partner of the festival.

I extend a warm welcome to our international guests who will join the activities this year, and I congratulate the IFFM team on another excellent program.

Enjoy the festival.



The Hon Daniel Andrews MP
Premier of Victoria



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Camera shown with optional accessories and lens.



Message From The Minister

Steve Dimopoulos

Welcome to the 2022 Indian Film Festival of Melbourne – the biggest celebration of Indian Cinema outside of the sub-continent.

After a couple of years online, it's fantastic to see the festival back in Melbourne's tremendous theatres so we can experience the vibrancy of Indian cinema where it belongs – on the big screen.

In keeping with this return, the festival's theme is 'Revival' and the 2022 program is absolutely packed.

Alongside the extensive program of films, the IFFM offers deeper cultural insights through a line-up of talks, Q&As, dance and masterclasses.

We are proud to support IFFM through our VICSCREEN strategy, which is all about strengthening our screen industry and culture here in Victoria.

Congratulations to the IFFM team for bringing another exciting, diverse suite of Indian cinema to Melbourne and developing a blockbuster program of supporting events.

See you there!



Steve Dimopoulos MP
Minister for Creative Industries

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Message From The Lord Mayor

Sally Capp

The City of Melbourne is thrilled to roll out the red carpet for the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne 2022.

For 13 years, this much-loved festival has lit up local cinemas – and virtual screens across the country – with the best in Indian film.

Victoria is proudly home to almost 40 per cent of all Indian-born Australians, so it's fitting that Melbourne hosts the biggest annual celebration of Indian cinema in Australia.

This year's festival coincides with the 75th celebration of Indian Independence. I look forward to seeing the ways this important milestone, and the festival's theme of revival, inform the diverse selection of films on offer.

Melbourne enjoys a long-standing trade and cultural relationship with India. We have been the backdrop for the first Indian movie filmed entirely in Australia, cementing Melbourne as both the arts capital of Australia, and one of the most culturally diverse and welcoming cities in the world.

The City of Melbourne has proudly supported the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne from its inception. We applaud its organisers, artists and volunteers for bringing people together and uniting us in the name of cultural diversity and the arts.

We cannot wait to celebrate with our vibrant Indian community and see you in the city soon.




Sally Capp
Lord Mayor

My Melbourne

A love letter to my city...

4 Diverse Stories
4 Iconic Directors
5 Australian Writers
Many Communities
One City



Greg

Monique

Puneet

Samira

Shivangi

Race / Gender / Disability / Sexuality

An anthology of four stories about Diversity and Inclusivity based on authentic multicultural migrant experiences in one feature film - My Melbourne. Set in Melbourne with a local cast and crew, mentored and helped by four of the world's best film makers - **Kabir Khan, Rima Das, Imtiaz Ali and Onir.**



KABIR KHAN

RIMA DAS

IMTIAZ ALI

ONIR

Message From The Festival Director

Mitu Bhowmick Lange

Welcome to the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne 2022!

After two years of the pandemic-driven online festival, we are finally back in the world to revive the magic of cinema with you in physical form. That is why this year's theme for our festival is REVIVAL. We are beyond excited to present over a hundred films from the nooks and crannies of India and the Subcontinent. We are engaging new talent, diverse stories, and brilliant storytelling. Through these films we take a microscopic lens into Indian culture, stories about identity, disability, sustainability in the contexts of the subcontinent.



We have carefully curated a selection of films that will make you laugh, cry and shudder with pride. As ecstatic as we are to screen these cinematic gems in person, we have also developed an IFFM streaming platform and a new IFFM App, which allows our viewers to have an optimal cinematic experience anywhere in Australia!

This year is huge for us! We are proud to celebrate India's 75th Independence Day. It is an honour to hoist our Indian flag up high in the beautiful lands of Australia. We are over the moon to invite some of India's most prolific writers, directors, producers, and actors to grace our festival and answer all your burning film questions through a series of panel discussions. Over the course of the festival, we plan to bring the community together through the most heart-pumping, foot-tapping events, especially the Indian Dance Competition and the glamorous Awards Night. We are also extremely proud to showcase a curation of talented works from independent filmmakers for The IFFM Short Film Competition.

This is the 13th year of our celebrated festival, and it only grows bigger, stronger and better every year. We cannot thank you and our partners enough for believing in us, helping us push the boundaries of cinema and give a platform to new, exciting voices. To our participants, volunteers, staff, guests, and our wonderful audience, I have nothing but immense love and gratitude for you.

We look forward to you joining us at IFFM 2022 for a jampacked season of fabulous films, festivities, and lots and lots of fun!

Mitu Bhowmick Lange
IFFM Festival Director

Kapil Dev

Kapil Dev is a legendary former cricketer and Indian cricket team captain. Not only is he one of the world's greatest all-rounders in cricket, but also in life. He made his mark on the sport as a medium-fast bowler and a middle order batsman. Under his captaincy, the Indian National team won the 1983 Cricket World Cup. He was awarded with Padma Shri and Padma Bhushan, some of India's highest civilian accolades, and his career and cricketing fame has spanned multiple generations.

The record-breaking cricketer, Kapil Dev held the world record for taking the highest number of wickets in Test cricket before retiring from the sport in 1994. His passion for the sport also led him to coach the Indian National Team after his retirement. He is named as "Cricketer of the Century" and is inducted into the International Cricket Council (ICC) Hall of Fame.

His success transcends past cricket and into his personal life, being an incredibly successful author of several books including: *By God's Decree*, *Cricket My Style*, *Straight from the Heart* and *We, The Sikhs*, and has become one of India's greatest inspirations.

Kapil Dev's remarkable cricket career was the inspiration behind the hit Indian film *83*. The film follows the journey of the Indian Cricket team, winning the 1983 World Cup. We are honoured to welcome Kapil Dev to the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne's Independence Day celebrations in 2022. We are incredibly proud to announce that he will hoist the Indian Flag at Federation Square on 13th of August!



I look forward to being part of IFFM 2022. It's a great platform celebrating the best in Indian cinema. I truly do believe that sports and cinema are two major cultural experiences for not only Indians but various communities and countries, that bind us together. It's something for decades now that has united people. It's a deep rooted emotional connect and love we have for both cinema and sports, and when they come together it's a rewarding experience for everyone.



Abhishek Bachchan

Being one of the very few actors with three consecutive Filmfare awards under his belt, Abhishek Bachchan needs no introduction. Over his career spanning more than 22 years, he has delivered unforgettable performances in films like *Yuva*, *Dhoom*, *Sarkar*, *Guru*, *Bunty Aur Babli*, *Delhi-6* and more that were not just blockbuster hits, but also went on to become timeless classics that have found a permanent place in the heart of every Bollywood lover. He was one of the first Bollywood actors to break into the then newly emerging Indian streaming space by signing on *Breathe: Into the Shadows* in 2018, pioneering the way for the bustling OTT craze that followed. For his bold and affecting performance in *Dasvi* (2022), Abhishek Bachchan is nominated for the IFFM Best Actor award. He is also winning the Leadership in Cinema Award!

Aparna Sen

Aparna Sen is one of India's greatest actor-writer-directors, known for her frank and honest portrayal of women's experiences primarily in Bengali cinema. She began her career as a child actor in the legendary director Satyajit Ray's classic *Teen Kanya* (1961), and soon established herself as India's strongest female cinema powerhouses with several internationally acclaimed features such as *36 Chowringhee Lane* (1981), *Paroma* (1984), *Yugant* (1995), *Paromitar Ek Din* (2000), and more. Not only is she the recipient of nine National Film Awards, but she was also honoured with Padma Shri, India's fourth highest civilian award in 1987 for her contributions to the artform.

Her most recent hard-hitting feature *The Rapist* (2021) starring Arjun Rampal and Konkona Sen Sharma will close the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne 2022.





Anurag Kashyap

Anurag Kashyap is one of the most trailblazing, genre-defying filmmakers in India today. He has paved the way for modern new wave Hindi cinema with his bold, gritty and unapologetic style that put Indian cinema on the world map. Films like *Black Friday* (2004), *Dev.D* (2009), *Gulaal* (2009), *That Girl in Yellow Boots* (2011), *Gangs of Wasseypur* (2012) among many others have changed the landscape of Indian cinema as we knew it. A consistent Cannes favourite in recent years, the Government of France also awarded him the prestigious *Ordre des Arts et des Lettres* (Knight of the Order of the Arts and Letters) in 2013. In 2022, he directed a time-bending film *Dobaaraa* which will be screened as the Opening Night film for the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne 2022.

Kabir Khan

Filmmaker Kabir Khan has always traversed two worlds - one where he has explored delicate political subtexts with much ease in movies like *Kabul Express* (2006) and *New York* (2009), and another where he has delivered some of mainstream Bollywood's record-breaking box office hits such as *Ek Tha Tiger* (2012) and *Bajrangi Bhaijaan* (2015).

His most recent film *83* (2021) followed the journey of legendary cricketer Kapil Dev and the Indian National team to win the 1983 World Cup. The film, which celebrates one of India's most historic achievements, is nominated for multiple Awards at IFFM 2022.





Mohit Raina

Gaining prominence for his acting career in Indian television, Mohit Raina has acted in multiple hit TV series like *Devon Ke Dev Mahadev*, *Chehra*, *Chakravartin Samrat Ashoka*, *21 Sarfarosh - Saragarhi 1897*. He broke the barriers of format through his performance in the big-screen blockbuster *Uri: The Surgical Strike* (2019), not long before also venturing into the OTT space through the shows *Kaafir* (2019) and *Mumbai Diaries 26/11* (2021). His show *Mumbai Diaries 26/11* (2021), directed by Nikkhil Advani, is a medical drama based on the 2008 Mumbai terrorist attacks. The talented actor will be a part of the IFFM Chats where we discuss how narratives are shifting in the TV and film industry, especially uncovering his experience working on *Mumbai Diaries 26/11*. We are excited to welcome Mohit to our festival!

Nikkhil Advani

National-Award winning director, writer, and producer, Nikkhil Advani has given the industry some of its most memorable films in his career spanning over 25 years. Making his directorial debut with the iconic film *Kal Ho Naa Ho* (2003) that made waves internationally, he went on to deliver several successful films like *Salaam-e-Ishq* (2007), *Katti Batti* (2015), *Hero* (2015), *Batla House* (2019) among many others. He is the Co-founder of Emmay Entertainment, known for producing films like *Airlift* (2016), *Sardar Ka Grandson* (2021) and *Bell Bottom* (2021). Recently, he also directed the Amazon web-series *Mumbai Diaries 26/11* (2021) based on the tragic 2008 Mumbai terrorist attacks, which has garnered several nominations at IFFM 2022.





Rajeev Masand

Former film critic and journalist Rajeev Masand holds a very special honour in every Indian cinephile's heart - he is the film guru and expert who undoubtedly has the last word on all things film. His in-depth analyses and signature say-it-like-it-is style has earned Indian film criticism a seat at the table of global film culture, bringing international recognition to the often-undervalued profession in India. He has interviewed some of the most renowned names in world cinema such as Martin Scorsese, George Lucas, Guy Ritchie, and M Night Shyamalan alongside ace Bollywood stars Shah Rukh Khan and Amitabh Bachchan. Currently, he serves as Chief Operating Officer of Dharma Cornerstone, where he continues to bridge the gap between excellent cinema and hungry audiences. He is also one of the many prestigious members of the IFFM Awards jury.

Ronnie Lahiri

Ronnie Lahiri has produced some of the most barrier-breaking Indian films in recent years. Some of his credits include thought-provoking and affecting superhits like *Gulabo Sitabo* (2020), *October* (2018), *Pink* (2015), and *Vicky Donor* (2012).

He is also the Director of production company, Rising Sun Films. His most recent production *Sardar Udham* (2021) has garnered several nominations at IFFM 2022.



IFFM Guests



Sakshi Tanwar

Award-winning television actress, Sakshi Tanwar made her mark in the late 90s by becoming a household name loved by Indian television audiences all over the world. Post the success of her TV shows *Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii* and *Bade Achche Lagte Hain*, she is also highly regarded for her role of a supportive mother in the critical and commercial success, *Dangal* (2016). Sakshi recently made a career defining comeback to the content landscape through her impactful performance in the web-series *Mai: A Mother's Rage* wherein she plays the role of a grieving mother who seeks to avenge her daughter's death. Sakshi's career spanning 25 years and three platforms has borne witness to her incredible acting prowess, charting a never-seen-before trajectory for female actors in India so far. For her role in *Mai*, she has been nominated under the Best Actress category at IFFM 2022.

Samantha Ruth Prabhu

Award-winning actress Samantha Ruth Prabhu continues to break the mould with every new film under her belt. In a diverse career spanning 11 years, she has completed 40 films, and is best known for her roles in *Eega* (2012), *Mahanati* (2018), *Mersal* (2017), *24* (2016), *Super Deluxe* (2019), *Oh! Baby* (2019) and more. In spite of predominantly working in the Tamil and Telugu industries, Samantha has managed to make hers a household name across the country, breaking the barriers of language, while constantly defying the expectations people have from a traditional Indian heroine.

She is one of the first South Indian actors to venture into Hindi-medium OTT and establish herself as a force to reckon with across India as a part of the second season of *The Family Man*, for which she won the Best Actress Award at IFFM 2021.



IFFM Guests



Shefali Shah

National Award-winning actress Shefali Shah has never been shy to break out of the barriers of format time and time again to deliver powerful performances in every role she takes up. Be it the big screen, short films or web-series, she has a ubiquitous presence in the Indian content landscape. Her affecting performance in Neeraj Ghaywan's short film *Juice* (2017) lent necessary significance to an oft-undervalued medium of storytelling and brought short filmmaking to the forefront. Her bold performance in the Emmy Award-winning Netflix drama series *Delhi Crime* (2019) remains a strong testament to the power of the streaming medium which made India an industry to watch out for in the global sphere. For her evocative, delicate performance in *Jalsa* (2022), she has been nominated for the Best Actress Award at IFFM 2022.

Shibashish Sarkar

Shibashish Sarkar is one of the biggest names in the media and entertainment industry, with over 29 years of corporate experience. He is the Chairman & CEO of International Media Acquisition Corp (IMAC) and the former Group CEO of Reliance Entertainment, the flagship motion picture arm of India's Reliance group. As a part of the senior leadership team, he was a board member with various Reliance group companies.

Prior to joining Reliance Entertainment in 2007, he has had a rich history working with companies like UTV, Percept Picture and Viacom 18. Over the span of his career, he has been responsible for green-lighting several pathbreaking Indian films, the latest being *83* (2022) starring Ranveer Singh, which has garnered several nominations at IFFM 2022.





Shoojit Sircar

National Award-winning director Shoojit Sircar is a visionary filmmaker, director and producer. Known for his unconventional, taboo-breaking films, he has many critically and commercially successful works under his belt that span a variety of genres, themes and social subjects explored through unique, fresh storytelling that the Indian industry hadn't experienced before. Some of his groundbreaking films that launched several prominent Indian actors to acclaim include *Yahaan* (2005), *Vicky Donor* (2012), *Madras Café* (2013), *Piku* (2015), *Pink* (2016), *October* (2018), *Gulaabo* (2020) and *Sardaar Udham* (2021).

We are excited to welcome him to our film festival this year. He will be leading panel discussions and we are beyond eager to learn a lot from him!

Sona Mohapatra

Sona Mohapatra is a singer, composer and lyricist. She rose to prominence after her remarkable performances as lead singer and performer in *Satyamev Jayate*. Her song *Mujhe Kya Bechega Rupaiya* which was based on celebrating women's freedom was a huge success. Over the years she has given the Indian film industry many hits like *Ambarsariya*, *Jiya Laage Na*, *Naina*, and many more. Sona, a virtuoso live performer, is a path-breaker for simply being her unapologetic self.

She is outspoken and relentless against the misogyny in the Indian music industry, which is the subject of the biographical documentary *Shut Up Sona* which will be proudly screened at the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne 2022. She will also judge the IFFM Dance Competition!





Suresh Triveni

Suresh Triveni is a celebrated Indian director and writer. His movies *Jalsa* (2022) and *Tumhaari Sulu* (2017) have been critically acclaimed by audiences in India.

His recent release *Jalsa* on Amazon Prime Video has been lauded for its complex female characters, storyline and neurodivergent representation. His debut film *Tumhaari Sulu* also starred powerhouse Vidya Balan in a lead role, and it explored the story of a housewife who gives relationship advice on a late-night radio show.

Suresh Triveni's compelling storytelling, fresh and realistic portrayal of women characters, and the ability to bring out raw, authentic performances from his actors are beyond impressive and we are keen to hear from him in our IFFM Chats!

Sunir Kheterpal

Sunir Kheterpal is an Indian film producer. He is the man behind producing successful award-winning Indian films like *Badla* (2019) and *Kesari* (2019). His next co-producing venture will be Anurag Kashyap's highly awaited film *Dobaaraa* (2022) starring Taapsee Pannu and Pavail Gulati.

He will be joining us for the 2022 Indian Film Festival of Melbourne, and we cannot wait to have him with us for the Opening night screening of *Dobaaraa*!





Taapsee Pannu

Known for playing roles that are unconventional, challenging and powerfully evoke crucial feminist themes, Taapsee Pannu consistently pushes the envelope, carving a niche for herself in the Indian film industry. She is an absolute delight on screen and a firebrand off it.

She debuted in Bollywood with *Chashme Baddoor* (2013) after establishing herself in the Tamil and Telugu industries. It is her feisty, gritty performances in movies such as *Baby* (2015), *Pink* (2016), *Badla* (2019) and *Thappad* (2020) that make her a force to reckon with amongst film folk and audiences alike. Her latest release, *Dobaaraa* (2022) directed by Anurag Kashyap, is the Opening Night film at IFFM 2022, with the actress-director duo in attendance.

Tamannaah

Tamannaah is one of the first pan-Indian superstars who is a prominent figure across Tamil, Telugu and Hindi film industries. With multiple awards under her name and amazing performances in 65 films across three languages, she has won the hearts of film lovers all over India. Her commercial successes include *Ayan* (2009), *Paiyaa* (2010), *Siruthai* (2011), *Devi* (2016), *Sye Raa Narasimha Reddy* (2019). She was the lead actress in *Baahubali: The Beginning* (2015), and *Baahubali 2: The Conclusion* (2017), two of the most game-changing films for Indian cinema, which put Indian regional cinema on the world map and went on to become some of the highest grossing films in the history of Indian cinema. The films have set a very high standard for complex storytelling and visual effects in Indian films.





Vaani Kapoor

Multiple award-winning Indian actress, Vaani Kapoor is one of India's most celebrated actresses who has wowed audiences with her performances in multiple blockbuster films such as her first film *Shudh Desi Romance* (2013) for which she won the Filmfare Award for Best Female Debut, *Befikre* (2016), *War* (2019), *Bell Bottom* (2021), and the most recent *Shamshera* (2022). Vaani's commanding screen presence and choice of challenging roles makes her a compelling actress who is not only entertaining, but also impactful. In her most recent success, *Chandigarh Kare Aashiqui* (2021), she was commended for choosing a road less travelled and breaking taboos by portraying a trans-woman character with authenticity and grace. For breaking the boundaries through her impressive range of roles and tremendous performances, we cannot wait to welcome Vaani Kapoor to our 2022 Indian Film Festival of Melbourne!

Vikram Malhotra

Vikram Malhotra is a content producer, entrepreneur and the CEO of media and entertainment company Abundantia Entertainment. Through it, he has continually taken the road less travelled by putting his belief and might behind compelling, groundbreaking cinema that brings to the fore fresh perspectives and gives the audience an experience of real, authentic and powerful storytelling. Some of the many critically acclaimed and commercially successful films on their roster include *Kahaani* (2012), *Gangs of Wasseypur* (2012), *Special 26* (2013), *Bhaag Milkha Bhaag* (2013), *Queen* (2013), *Once Upon A Time in Mumbaai* (2013), *Tanu Weds Manu* (2011), *Jalsa* (2022) and the list goes on! We are delighted to welcome visionary entrepreneur Vikram Malhotra to our 2022 Indian Film Festival of Melbourne!



The World of 83: In Conversation with Kapil Dev, Kabir Khan and Rajeev Masand



Kapil Dev



Kabir Khan



Rajeev Masand

83, which showed Kapil Dev's journey leading the Indian National cricket team to victory in the 1983 World Cup, made audiences clap and cheer! Not only did it win every cinema lover's heart, but also made cricket fans shudder with pride.

In an exclusive event, we will witness the director, Kabir Khan, and the inspiration behind the film, Kapil Dev in conversation with the film guru, Rajeev Masand. Held at the Melbourne Cricket Ground, the event will be nothing short of inspirational! We are so excited to hear the legends share their experience of making the film and uncover the world of 83.

When: Friday, August 12, 2:00 PM

Where: Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG)



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Events - Opening Night

Friday, August 12, 7PM

Presented by Official Airline Partner

HOYTS District Docklands
440 Docklands Dr, Docklands



The festival will open on 12th of August as we light the ceremonial lamp to begin our festival with warmth, positivity, and light. We will kick-start the festival by screening the Australian Premiere of the thriller, *Dobaaraa* directed by Anurag Kashyap, starring Taapsee Pannu and produced by Sunir Khetarpal.



Join us on the 12th of August at 7PM for the screening of *Dobaaraa* and a very special Q&A with the brilliant minds behind the film – Anurag Kashyap, Taapsee Pannu and Sunir Khetarpal afterwards!



Anurag Kashyap



Taapsee Pannu



Sunir Khetarpal

Events - India's 75th Independence Day Celebrations

Saturday, August 13, 11AM

Federation Square

Corner of Swanston St & Flinders St, Melbourne

75 years. That is how long our beautiful country, India, has been independent. Join us as we wave our rich and powerful colours of saffron, white, and green in unison with the traditional flag hoisting ceremony on Saturday, 13th of August, at 11AM.



What better way to celebrate this significant milestone than with India's Cricketer of the Century, Kapil Dev and superstar Abhishek Bachchan, hoisting the Indian Flag at Federation Square!

Leading up to the flag hoisting will be many exceptional live dance and music performances from talent across Melbourne!



Events - IFFM Dance Competition

Saturday, August 13, 11:30AM

Federation Square

Corner of Swanston St & Flinders St, Melbourne

The IFFM Dance Competition is one of the most highly anticipated, energy-fueled, fun-filled events on the IFFM Calendar.

The Pan-Indian superstar **Tamannaah**, the incredible singer **Sona Mohapatra** and Miss Universe Australia **Maria Thattil** will be judging the dance competition this year! With such talented beauties on the judges' panel, the competition is sure to get fierce!



Judges



Tamannaah



Maria Thattil



Sona Mohapatra

Events - IFFM Chats With Rajeev Masand

Date : Saturday, 13th August

Time : 3pm - 10pm

Host : Rajeev Masand

Arts Centre Melbourne

100 St Kilda Rd, Melbourne VIC 3004



IFFM Chat: Representation and Storytelling

In conversation with the Jalsa team

How refreshing was it to see a neurodivergent character played with dignity and grace in the power-packed film *Jalsa*?

It is safe to say that Indian cinema is making giant strides towards diverse, inclusive, and complex storytelling through these trailblazing films. This is such a welcome shift in the industry, and we are proud to host the makers of *Jalsa* to share their take on representation and inclusive storytelling.

Join us for an important and urgent conversation like no other!

3:00 pm | The Jalsa Team | 60 Minutes



IFFM Chat: In conversation with Vaani Kapoor

How incredible was it when a mainstream, gorgeous actress, Vaani Kapoor broke conventions by playing a strong trans dance teacher in Chandigarh Kare Aashiqui? Or when she displayed enormous versatility and her acting prowess in the blockbuster *Shamsher*?

Vaani Kapoor has proven herself to be the most exciting actress in India by choosing unexpected roles and leaving everyone in awe with her dance moves.

Join us as we have a one-on-one conversation with the vivacious Vaani and uncover the secrets to her fantastic career!

6:00 pm | In conversation with Vaani Kapoor | 60 Minutes



Events - IFFM Chats With Rajeev Masand

IFFM Chat: Changing narratives in cinema and streaming series

So much has changed in the past few years for the Indian film and TV industry! As filmmakers focus on highly nuanced and complex stories steeped in realism, and tackle themes like pride, disability, neurodivergence and more, the industry has seen a huge transformation. Additionally, with the advent of OTT platforms and the move towards independent productions, how have our traditional narratives evolved to tell stories that have never been explored before?

We have invited coveted guests like **Tamannaah** (Actress K.G.F), **Nikhil Advani** (Director, Mumbai Diaries 26/11), **Shoojit Sircar** (Director, Sardar Udham), **Shibashish Sarkar** (Producer), **Mohit Raina** (Actor, Mumbai Diaries 26/11) and the **Joyland team** to discuss this huge shift in the TV and film industry.



4:30 pm | Changing narratives in cinema and streaming series | 60 Minutes

Events - IFFM Chats With Rajeev Masand

IFFM Chat: In conversation with Abhishek Bachchan

The Indian mega star, Abhishek Bachchan has had a career to remember. His award-winning performances, his status in the Indian film industry, and his witty and loveable personality has been praised by audiences and critics throughout his career.

From his iconic portrayal of Guru to his huge recurring role in the Dhoom franchise, Abhishek Bachchan is a name that every Indian movie lover knows.

Join us as we unravel the Superstar's journey through the Indian film industry. Book now, as this panel is not to be missed!



7:30 pm | In conversation with Abhishek Bachchan | 60 Minutes



Events – IFFM Awards Night

Sunday, August 14, 5:30PM for 6PM start

Palais Theatre

Lower Esplanade, St Kilda, VIC 3182

Welcome to the most GLAMOUROUS night of the year!

Hosted by the amazing, Rithvik Dhanjani, the IFFM Awards Night is going to be a night of celebration, glamour, and glorious music. With a copious amount of talent and unlimited entertainment, this starry night will be the most spectacular night of the year!

Our celebrated guestlist consisting of superstar Abhishek Bachchan, Apama Sen, Sona Mohapatra, Kapil Dev, Kabir Khan, Tamannaah Bhatia, Shefali Shah, Vaani Kapoor among many others will be gracing the IFFM Awards night!

Hosted by Rithvik Dhanjani

One of the blue-eyed boys of Indian television, Rithvik Dhanjani has won many hearts with his role in *Pavitra Rishta*. His gift of the gab has made him a very popular host across reality shows, award functions, events and so on. Straight from the sets of *Super Dancer*, *India's Got Talent* and *Fear Factor: Khatron Ke Khiladi*, the charming Rithvik Dhanjani is all set to make IFFM Awards Night the most colorful and energetic night ever!

Performances by

Parvyn

Parvyn is a Punjabi-Australian singer best known for her work in band The Bombay Royale and performing globally with her father Dya Singh. Her debut solo record 'Sa', released in September 2021 was heralded as an 'multi-genre, multicultural, masterpiece' by The Australian.

Janaki Easwar

Janaki Easwar is a 13-year-old singer and the youngest contestant at the prestigious singing competition *The Voice Australia*. She won everyone's hearts through her incredible rendition of 'Lovely' by Billie Eilish. The wonderful Janaki is all set to make IFFM Awards Night a night to remember!



Kapil Dev



Shefali Shah



Sona Mohapatra



Vaani Kapoor



Rithvik Dhanjani



Kabir Khan



Abhishek Bachchan



Tamannaah



Apama Sen



IFFM Awards Jury



Anna M.M. Vetticad

Anna M.M. Vetticad is a feminist, award-winning journalist and author of the critically acclaimed bestseller, *The Adventures of an Intrepid Film Critic*. Anna has worked with several major Indian media houses and is currently an independent journalist. She is also a speaker on gender, cinema, the news media and various social issues.

Geoffrey Wright

Geoffrey Wright is an Australian film director and screenwriter whose credits include his breakthrough 1992 film *Romper Stomper* starring Russell Crowe (which earned him AACTA nominations for Best Film and Best Director), and the acclaimed *Metal Skin* starring Ben Mendelsohn. Geoffrey co-created and directed a six-part television series sequel to *Romper Stomper*, which won the 2018 Logie Award for Outstanding Miniseries.



Jill Bilcock

Synonymous to the world of film-editing, Jill Bilcock is an immeasurable professional with the world's most sought-after awards and titles to her name. With four BAFTA nominations, five AACTA awards (including the International Award for Filmmaking Excellence), and an Oscar nomination for Baz Luhrmann's *Moulin Rouge* – Bilcock's prolific collection of work includes six of the 20 highest-grossing films produced by Australia.

Nadia Tass

Awarded the Screen Leader Award for Outstanding Leadership, Achievement and Services to the Screen Industry, Nadia Tass is one of Australia's most iconoclastic screen directors. Nadia's work is recognised internationally with Australian classics *Malcolm* and *The Big Steal*. Nadia's work has received over 70 international awards including Best Director AFI (*Malcolm*) and Best Film Cannes Cinephile Prix du Jury (*Matching Jack*).



IFFM Awards Jury



Rajeev Masand

Film guru and expert, Rajeev Masand has had a vibrant career reviewing numerous films over two decades. His in-depth analyses and signature say-it-like-it-is style has earned Indian film criticism a seat at the table of global film culture. Currently, he serves as Chief Operating Officer of Dharma Cornerstone, where he continues to bridge the gap between excellent cinema and hungry audiences.

Shirley Abraham

Shirley Abraham is a Cannes-prize winning documentary filmmaker. Her debut film, *The Cinema Travellers*, won 19 awards globally, including the National Film Award in India. She has recently made films for New York Times and the Guardian. She is a Sundance fellow and member of the documentary branch of the Academy.



Shubhra Gupta

Shubhra Gupta is an award-winning Indian journalist, author, and film critic who currently writes columns for *The Indian Express*. She crafted an impressive career as a film critic for over thirty years, and also written the book *50 Films That Changed Bollywood* which centred around the development of the Indian film industry.



Vince Colosimo

Vince Colosimo is one of Australia's renowned Australian Film Institute Awards winning film, theatre, and television actor. With several award nominations and bagging awards such as the 'Best New Talent' and 'Best Actor' at the Sydney Film Critics Circle Award and Newport Beach Film Festival (NBFF), Colosimo is a celebrated personality both in Australia and the United States.



IFFM Awards Nominees

The Indian Film Festival of Melbourne aims to recognize and honour members of the film industry that have challenged stereotypes, pushed boundaries, and achieved outstanding achievements. The framework of this festival is based on quality and variety that explores cinema from every perspective, and celebrates talent demonstrated by the filmmakers, actresses and actors in the IFFM program. Judged by some of the best in Australian cinema and a highly respected Indian film critic, here is the best of the Indian Cinema who made it in our nominations this year!

Best Feature Film



83
Hindi



Badhaai Do
Hindi



Gangubai Kathiawadi
Hindi



Jai Bhim
Tamil



Minnal Murali
Malayalam



Paka (River of Blood)
Malayalam



Sardar Udham
Hindi



The Rapist
English, Hindi

Best Indie Film



Boomba Ride
Mishing



Dug Dug
Hindi



Fairy Folk
English, Hindi



Jaggi
Punjabi



Once Upon a Time in Calcutta - Bengali



Pedro
Kannada



Shankar's Fairies
Hindi



Shoebox
Hindi, Bengali, English

IFFM Awards Nominees

Best Performance (Male) Feature



Abhishek Bachchan
Dasvi - Hindi



Gopal Hegde
Pedro - Kannada



Rajkumar Rao
Badhaai Do - Hindi



Ramnish Chaudhary
Jaggi - Punjabi



Ranveer Singh
83 - Hindi



Suriya
Jai Bhim - Tamil



Tovino Thomas - Minnal Murali - Malayalam



Vicky Kaushal
Sardar Udham - Hindi

Best Performance (Female) Feature



Alia Bhatt - Gangubai Kathiawadi - Hindi



Bhumi Pednekar
Badhaai Do - Hindi



Deepika Padukone
Gehraiyaan - Hindi



Konkona Sen Sharma
The Rapist
English, Hindi



Lijomol Jose
Jai Bhim - Tamil



Shefali Shah
Jalsa - Hindi



Sreelekha Mitra
Once Upon A Time In Calcutta - Bengali



Vidya Balan
Jalsa - Hindi

Best Director



Anmol Sidhu
Jaggi - Punjabi



Aparna Sen
The Rapist - Hindi



Kabir Khan
83 - Hindi



Pan Nalin - Chhello Show (Last Film Show) - Gujarati



Sanjay Leela Bhansali
Gangubai Kathiawadi - Hindi



Shoojit Sircar
Sardar Udham - Hindi



Suresh Triveni
Jalsa - Hindi



T.J. Gnanavel
Jai Bhim - Tamil

IFFM Awards Nominees

Best Documentary



A Night of Knowing Nothing
Hindi, Bengali



Ayena (Mirror)
Hindi, Urdu



Kicking Balls
Hindi



Ladies Only
Hindi, English, Marathi



Urf (A.K.A)
Hindi

Best Film From Subcontinent



Joyland
Pakistan



Lunana: A Yak in the Classroom
Bhutan



The Newspaper
Sri Lanka



No Land's Man
India, USA, Bangladesh



Rehana Maryam Noor
Bangladesh

IFFM Awards Nominees

STREAMING PLATFORM Best Performance (Male) Series



Dhruv Sehgal
Little Things Season 4



Mohit Raina
Mumbai Diaries 26/11



Varun Mitra
Guilty Minds



Parambrata Chatterjee
Aranyak



Tahir Raj Bhasin
Yeh Kaali Kaali Ankhein

Best Performance (Female) Series



Konkona Sen Sharma
Mumbai Diaries 26/11



Madhuri Dixit
The Fame Game



Mithila Palkar
Little Things Season 4



Raveena Tandon
Aranyak



Sakshi Tanwar
Mai: A Mother's Rage



Shriya Pilgaonkar
Guilty Minds

Best Series



Aranyak



Fame Game



Little Things Season 4



Mai: A Mother's Rage



Mumbai Diaries 26/11



Yeh Kaali Kaali Ankhein

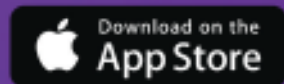


Indian Film Festival of
MELBOURNE
2022

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WorldRemit Short Film Competition



This year's groundbreaking short film competition theme is none other than 'REVIVAL'.

Watch out for the exhilarating and innovative films made by filmmakers across the world! The exceptional winners of this competition from previous years have opened new doors of opportunity and gone onto funded projects with Film Victoria or even assisted distinguished Bollywood filmmakers. Through the truthful storytelling about how we revived and re-established our own journeys as a human race, this year's short film competition hopes to assist in accelerating our talented winners' careers.



Special Events - Q & A's

Q & A with Ayena (Mirror) Team

Two incredibly strong and courageous acid-attack survivors, Ritu Saini and Faraha Khan, who are the protagonists and inspiration behind the documentary, *Ayena* will join us along with editor Nilanjan Bhattacharya for the IFFM screening. Come along and be in company of this fantastic team!

FESTIVALS: Budapest International Documentary Festival (BIDF) 2022, Mumbai Film Festival (MAMI) 2022

7PM | Monday 15th August | HOYTS Melbourne Central

Q&A with Megan Mitchell - No Land's Man

The lead actress of *No Land's Man*, Megan Mitchell will be heading to Melbourne for a special screening. Keep your questions ready as she will be joining us for a Q&A and provide glimpses of behind-the-scenes of *No Land's Man*!

FESTIVALS: Busan International Film Festival 2021, Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival 2021

7PM | Tuesday 16th August | HOYTS Melbourne Central

Q&A with WOMB Women Of My Billion Team

The producers of *W.O.M.B Women Of My Billion*, Apoorva Bakshi, Srishti Bakshi, will be joining us for a screening of their documentary. Come along to hear about their experience after the screening!

Audience Award for Best Film at London Indian Film Festival 2021 and Birmingham Indian Film Festival 2021, Manchester Indian Film Festival 2021, River to River Indian Film Festival Florence 2021

7PM | Wednesday 17th August | HOYTS Melbourne Central

Q & A with Jaggi Team

Come and watch the screening of *Jaggi*, the winner of two major awards at the Indian Film Festival of Los Angeles. The brilliant team consisting of director Anmol Sidhu, producer/DoP Pardeep Kumar Mannan, and actor Ramnish Chaudhary will answer your questions after!

FESTIVALS: Indian Film Festival Of Los Angeles 2022 - Uma da Cunha Award for Best Feature Film Debut, Audience Choice Award for Best Feature

7PM | Wednesday 17th August | HOYTS Highpoint



Special Events - Q & A's



Q & A with the Maali (Gardener) Team

Come and watch the World Premiere of Maali (Gardener). The award winning team behind Maali, consisting of Sonali Rana (writer, creative producer), Pragya Kapoor (producer), Shiv C Shetty (writer, director) will share their experiences after.

World Premiere

7PM | Thursday 18th August | HOYTS Melbourne Central



Q & A with Paraasakthi Team

We are proud to screen the World Premiere of Paraasakthi. What's more? The very accomplished producer of the film, Apoorva Bakshi will be joining us and will tell you about her experience making the film!

World Premiere

4PM | Friday 19th August | HOYTS Docklands



Q & A with Joyland Team

The first Pakistani film to premiere in Cannes Film Festival, which has won multiple awards, will be screened at our festival! The esteemed makers of the film, Saim Sadiq (director), Apoorva Guru Charan (producer), Ali Junejo (cast), Rasti Farooq (cast), Alina Khan (cast) will be joining us for a robust Q & A afterwards!

FESTIVALS: Winner - Jury Prize, Un Certain Regard & Winner - Queer Palm, Cannes Film Festival 2022

7PM | Friday 19th August | HOYTS Melbourne Central

Special Screenings @ Fed Square

Get ready to cheer aloud as '83 will take you through the legendary Kapil Dev's journey leading the Indian National cricket team to victory in the 1983 World Cup.



83

2021 | 161 Mins | **Hindi**

Director: Kabir Khan

Cast: Ranveer Singh, Jiiva, Pankaj Tripathi, Tahir Raj Bhasin, Saqib Saleem

Cricketer Kapil Dev gets an opportunity to make his country famous on the world stage when he captains the Indian national cricket team at the 1983 Cricket World Cup.

3:00 pm, Saturday, 13th August | Fed Square



To amp up the energy levels even more, we have Badhaai Do, wherein a man and a woman, both part of the LGBTQIA+ community marry each other to make their families happy. A story about LGBTQIA+ acceptance in the Indian context, this movie will make you laugh, cry, and keep you entertained for sure!



Badhaai Do

2022 | 147 Mins | **Hindi**

Director: Harshvardhan Kulkarni

Cast: Rajkumar Rao, Bhumi Pednekar, Sheeba Chaddha, Chum Darang

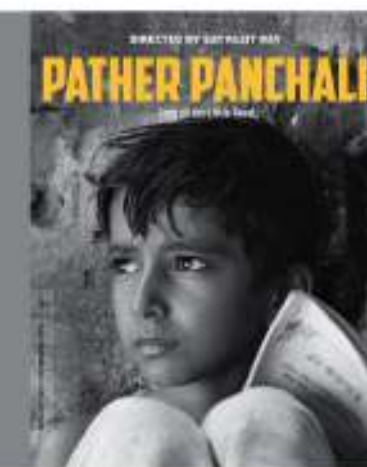
Shardul, a gay man, and Suman, a lesbian woman, enter into holy matrimony to appease their families. However, when Suman's girlfriend moves in with them, their lives become more complex.

6:00 pm, Saturday, 13th August | Fed Square



Tribute to Satyajit Ray

The eternal classic, digitally restored, multiple-award winning trilogy, The Apu Trilogy, directed by the legendary director, Satyajit Ray, will be screened in Melbourne! These films put Indian cinema on the world map and are a must watch!



Pather Panchali (Song of the Little Road)

1955 | 122 Mins | **Bengali**

Director: Satyajit Ray

Cast: Subir Banerjee, Karuna Banerjee, Uma Dasupta, Chunibala Devi

Apu and his sister Durga try to make the most out of their poverty-stricken lives. Soon, when their father goes to the city for a job and their mother becomes increasingly bitter, things go downhill.

3:45 pm, Sunday, 14th August, HOYTS Melbourne Central



Aparajito

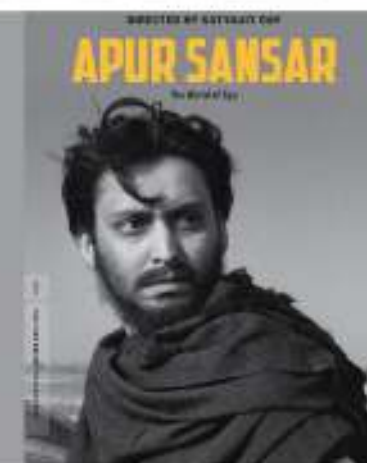
1956 | 127 Mins | **Bengali**

Director: Satyajit Ray

Cast: Pinaki Sengupta, Smaran Ghosal, Karuna Banerjee

After the death of his father, Apu leaves his mother and goes to Kolkata to complete his education. His mother falls sick but she does not let the news reach him as it would affect his studies.

3:45 pm, Saturday, 20th August, HOYTS Chadstone



Apur Sansar (The World of Apu)

1959 | 107 Mins | **Bengali**

Director: Satyajit Ray

Cast: Soumitra Chatterjee, Sharmila Tagore, Swapan Mukerjee

Apurba is a young bachelor. He falls in love with Aparna and marries her. She dies during childbirth and gives birth to their son. Apu is devastated by her death. He refuses to see their son.

6:45 pm, Saturday, 20th August, HOYTS Chadstone



Closing Night

Saturday, August 20, 7PM

HOYTS District Docklands
440 Docklands Dr, Docklands

Join us on the last day of our in-person festival, as we screen another groundbreaking film, *The Rapist*, directed by Aparna Sen, starring Konkona Sen Sharma, Arjun Rampal and Tanmay Dhanania.



The Rapist: Winner of Kim Jiseok Award at the 26th Busan International Film Festival (BIFF).

The Rapist is a story about a couple, Naina and Aftab, both professors, left-liberal in their outlook, and anti-capital punishment activists, whose comfortable existence is shattered one night, when Naina is raped and her friend is killed.

The incredible director of the film, Aparna Sen will be in attendance so make sure you join us!

"My producers (Applause Entertainment and Quest Films) and I are delighted that our film THE RAPIST is being showcased at the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne as the closing film.

We are proud and happy that the film is being feted and critically acclaimed both at home and abroad. It won the prestigious Kim Jiseok Award at Asia's biggest film festival - the Busan International Film Festival - in 2021 and got rave reviews all over."





International Premiere

Abharkha (Desire)

2022 | 95 Mins | Rating: G | **Gujarati**

Director: Himadri Parmar

Cast: Rinkal Patel Nee Dhameliya, Milan Bhil, Ginish Bhai Mewada, Bhavik Atulbhai Oza

Abharkha unravels childish affection, the needs of a capitalist village and a woman's stoic resilience and grit through the journey of Milan and Meera.

6:45 pm, Sunday, 14th August, HOYTS Melbourne Central

FESTIVAL:
Mumbai Film Festival
(MAMI) 2022



Australian Premiere

Adh Chanani Raat (Crescent Night)

2021 | 107 Mins | Rating: R18+ | **Punjabi**

Director: Gurvinder Singh

Cast: S. S. Dhiman, Veera Gill, Samuel John

Modan returns home after 15 years in prison for a murder committed to avenge his father's humiliation, his altered life and suppressed anger manifests itself in renewed violence.

3:45 pm, Sunday, 14th August, HOYTS Highpoint

FESTIVAL:
International Film Festival
Rotterdam
MAMI - Mumbai Film
Festival



Australian Premiere

Ayena (Mirror)

2021 | 69 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Hindi, Urdu**

Director: Siddhant Sarin, Debankon Solanky

Cast: Ritu Saini, Faraha Khan

In the aftermath of an acid attack that changed their life forever, 'Ayena' explores moments of friendship, resilience and the daily negotiations of two extraordinary young Indian women.

7:00 pm, Monday, 15th August, HOYTS Melbourne Central

FESTIVAL:
Budapest International
Documentary Festival
(BIDF) 2022



Australian Premiere

Ayu

2020 | 116 Mins | **Tamil**


Director: Chathra Weeraman

Cast: Sandra Mack, Jagath Manuwama, Malini Fonseka, Ashan Dias, Kenara Weerathunga

After getting in a car accident, a pregnant woman discovers a deadly secret about her life that begins to destroy everything and everyone she loves.

4:00 pm, Friday, 19th August, HOYTS Chadstone

FESTIVAL:
18th Dhaka International
Film Festival

The SBS logo consists of a stylized white graphic of three curved lines to the left of the letters 'SBS' in a bold, white, sans-serif font.A cricket bat with a green handle and a red cricket ball are positioned on the left side of the image. The bat is angled upwards, and the ball is placed on its face. The background is a vibrant, abstract composition of diagonal brushstrokes in various colors including blue, red, green, and yellow, with some circular patterns. The title 'COLOURS OF CRICKET' is written in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters, slanted diagonally across the center-right of the image.

COLOURS OF CRICKET

**A new podcast series from SBS
about the South Asian diaspora in
Australia and our love of cricket!**

Launching August 15.

**Listen in the SBS Radio app, Spotify, Apple Podcasts,
or at sbs.com.au/coloursofcricket**

IFFM SHORT FILM PACKAGE



Bad Omen

2021 | 19 Mins | Rating: G | **Dari**

Director: Salar Pashtoonyar

Cast: Mostafa Monwar, Priyam Archi, Deepanwita Martin

Set in the backdrop of the scathing consequences of climate change, an impoverished ambulance driver Saiful staggers between two wives while he sets out on a bone-tired journey of moral decay, murder, deception, and social bashing.

7:00 pm, Thursday, 18th August, HOYTS Highpoint

7:00 pm, Friday, 19th August, HOYTS Docklands

FESTIVAL:

Bronze Medal - Student Academy Awards 2021
Telluride Film Festival 2021



Boomba Ride

2021 | 76 Mins | Rating: G | **Mishing**

Director: Biswajeet Bora

Cast: Indrajeet Pegu, Sadagar Dao, Hiranya Pegu, Dipali Pegu & Binod Laal Das

Boomba is the only student in his school in rural Assam. His teachers resort to bribing him to attend school in order to keep the school running and their salaries coming.

7:00 pm, Wednesday, 17th August, HOYTS Chadstone

FESTIVAL:

International Film Festival of India 2022
International Film Festival of Kerala 2022



Chhello Show (Last Film Show)

2021 | 112 Mins | Rating: G | **Gujarati**

Director: Pan Nalin

Cast: Bhavin Rabari, Bhavesh Shrimali, Richa Meena, Dipen Raval, Paresh Mehta, Vikas Bata, Rahul Koli, Shoban Makwa

After watching a movie at the Indian Galaxy Cinema, young, free-spirited Samay's life turns upside down as he passionately falls in love with films.

3:45 pm, Saturday, 13th August, HOYTS Melbourne Central

FESTIVAL:

London Indian Film Festival 2022, Palm Springs International Film Festival 2022



Donkeyhead

2022 | 106 Mins | Rating: R18+ | **English**

Director: Agam Darshi

Cast: Agam Darshi, Kim Coates, Husein Madhavji, Stephen Lobo, Sandy Sidhu, Cavan Cunningham

Mona, a failed writer, carves out a life of isolation while caring for her ailing Sikh father, but when he has a debilitating stroke her three successful siblings show up.

6:30 pm, Saturday, 13th August, HOYTS Docklands

FESTIVAL:

Vancouver International Women's Film Festival 2022



Australian Premiere

Dostojee (Two Friends)

2021 | 111 Mins | Rating: G | **Bengali**

Director: Prasun Chatterjee

Cast: Asik Shaikh, Arif Shaikh, Jayati Chakraborty, Swatilekha Kundu

Dostojee explores the story of friendship between two 8-year-old boys, Palash, a son of a Hindu Brahmin, and Safikul, the son of a Muslim weaver amidst violent religious clashes.

4:00 pm, Sunday, 14th August, HOYTS Chadstone

FESTIVAL:
BFI London Film Festival
2021
Goteborg Film Festival
2021



Australian Premiere

Dug Dug

2021 | 107 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Hindi**

Director: Ritwik Pareek

Cast: Altaf Khan, Gaurav Soni, Yogendra Singh, Durga Lal Saini

A mysterious disappearance of Dug Dug brand motorcycle creates chaos, and a new religion spreads like wildfire.

6:30 pm, Saturday, 13th August, HOYTS Melbourne Central
3:45 pm, Saturday, 20th August, HOYTS Highpoint

FESTIVAL:
Toronto International Film
Festival 2021
Mumbai Film Festival
(MAMI) 2022



Victorian Premiere

Fairy Folk

2022 | 100 Mins | Rating: R18+ | **English**

Director: Karan Gour

Cast: Mukul Chadda, Rasika Dugal, Nikhil Desai, Asmit Pathare, Chandrachoor Rai

In a fairytale of sorts, Ritika and Mohit chance upon a hairless, genderless being which transforms into a brand new human once bonded with someone.

3:30 pm, Saturday, 20th August, HOYTS Docklands

FESTIVAL:
Sydney International Film
Festival 2022



Australian Premiere

Gandhi & Co.

2022 | 101 Mins | Rating: G | **Gujarati, English**

Director: Manish Saini

Cast: Darsh Jariwala, Jayesh More, Dhurma Mehta, Hiranya Zinzuwadia, Reyaan Shah

11-year olds Mintoo & Mitra are known for two things: firstly, their collective potential towards mischief and secondly, for their legendary friendship with Bharat Bhai.

3:45 pm, Saturday, 13th August, HOYTS Docklands

FESTIVAL:
Bangalore International
Film Festival 2022
UK Asian Film Festival
2022

In Cinemas



Australian Premiere

Jaggi

2022 | 117 Mins | Rating: R18+ | **Punjabi**

Director: Anmol Sidhu

Cast: Ramnish Chaundhary, Gaurav Jasuja,

Harmandeep Singh, Aks Mehraj, Harmeet Jassi

A schoolboy who lives in rural Panjab encounters impotence and is misunderstood by society as gay. He is left with a choice that no one should have to make.

FESTIVAL:
Indian Film Festival Of Los Angeles 2022

7:00 pm, Wednesday, 17th August, HOYTS Highpoint



Australian Premiere

Jhini Bini Chadariya (The Brittle Thread)

2021 | 97 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Hindi, English, Bhojpuri, Hebrew**

Director: Ritesh Sharma

Cast: Megha Mathur, Muzaffar Khan, Sivan Spector, Utkarsh Srivastava, Roopa Chaurasiya, Nishant Kumar

Headstrong, feisty street dancer Rani works hard to take care of her daughter while reclusive weaver Shahdab discovers a new world in his friendship with an Israeli tourist.

FESTIVAL:
International Film Festival of Kerala 2022, Best Debut Feature Film at New York Indian Film Festival, 2022

7:00 pm, Monday, 15th August, HOYTS Chadstone

7:00 pm, Wednesday, 17th August, HOYTS Docklands



Joyland

2022 | 126 Mins | Rating: R18+ | **Urdu, Punjabi**

Director: Saim Sadiq

Cast: Ali Junejo, Alina Khan, Rasti Farooq, Sarwat Gilani, Salman Peerzada

As the Ranas yearn for the birth of a baby boy to continue the family line, their youngest son secretly joins an erotic dance theatre and falls for an ambitious trans starlet.

FESTIVAL:
Winner - Jury Prize, Un-Certain Regard & Winner - Queer Palm, Cannes Film Festival 2022

7:00 pm, Friday, 19th August, HOYTS Melbourne Central



Australian Premiere

Kasiminte Kadal (The Small-Town Sea)

2022 | 123 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Malayalam**

Director: Shyamaprasad

Cast: Harish Uthaman, Tashi Shamdat, Arya Salim, Niranjan

Uprooted from a bustling city, Kasim is replanted in his father's home town where he struggles to cope with his new life. He reluctantly makes friends with Bilal, a boy who lives in the orphanage run by the local mosque.

FESTIVAL:
Mumbai Film Festival (MAMI) 2022
International Film Festival of Stuttgart 2022

6:30 pm, Sunday, 14th August, HOYTS Highpoint

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IFFM SHORT FILM PACKAGE



Kicking Balls

2022 | 36 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Hindi**

Director: Vijayeta Kumar

In a conservative society in rural Rajasthan, an NGO trains young girls who are mostly child brides. The sport instills confidence, independence, and agency in these young girls to stand up to the patriarchy.

7:00 pm, Thursday, 18th August, HOYTS Highpoint

7:00 pm, Friday, 19th August, HOYTS Docklands

FESTIVAL:
Best Documentary
Short - New York Indian
Film Festival 2022



Ladies Only

2021 | 79 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Hindi, English, Marathi**

Director: Rehana Liz John

A small film crew ventures into the compartments of Mumbai's local trains that are reserved for women and pose a simple question "What makes you angry?". The responses paint a feminist portrait of modern urban women in India.

4:15 pm, Saturday, 13th August, HOYTS Highpoint

FESTIVAL:
Busan International Film
Festival 2021
Berlin International Film
Festival 2022



Lunana: A Yak in the Classroom

2020 | 109 Mins | **Dzongkha**

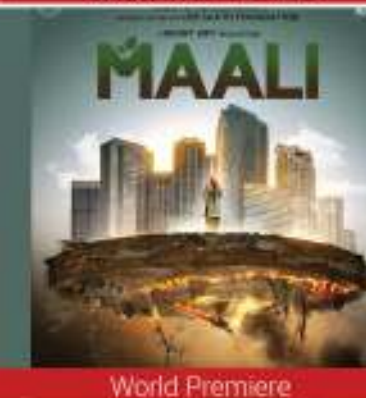
Director: Pawo Choyning Dorji

Cast: Sherab Dorji, Ugyen Norbu Lhendup

A young man with a dream of moving to Australia finds himself teaching a classroom of eager children — and a yak — in a remote Bhutanese village.

7:00 pm, Tuesday, 16th August, HOYTS Chadstone

FESTIVAL:
BFI London Film Festival 2019
Busan International Film
Festival 2019



Maali (Gardener)

92 Mins | Rating: R18+ | **Hindi**

Director: Shiv C Shetty

Cast: Anita Negi, Auroshikha Dey, Sushil Yadav

Tulsi lives amidst nature in the mountains with her grandfather Basant. When Tulsi accompanies her friend into the city, she faces challenges that are alien to her otherwise harmonious forest life.

7:00 pm, Thursday, 18th August, HOYTS Melbourne Central



IFFM SHORT FILM PACKAGE



Australian Premiere

Maasa

2022 | 26 Mins | Rating: G | **Marathi**

Director: Phulawa Khamkar

Cast: Amruta Subhash, Jyoti Subhash

An elderly widow Rakhmabai, is a tough independent woman. After her son's untimely death in a road accident, she starts serving lunch boxes with her daughter-in-law, Ketaki, to make ends meet.

7:00 pm, Thursday, 18th August, HOYTS Highpoint

7:00 pm, Friday, 19th August, HOYTS Docklands

FESTIVAL:

Mumbai International Film Festival 2022, Special Jury Award - The Talking Frames Film Festival India 2022



Australian Premiere

Niraye Thathakalulla Maram (Tree Full of Parrots)

2021 | 90 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Malayalam**

Director: Jayaraj Rajasekharan Nair

Cast: Narayanan Cherupazhassi

An 8-year-old Poonjan sees a blind man sitting alone at a jetty who seemed to have lost his way home but only remembers a tree full of parrots in front of his house. Poonjan helps the man but it leads to disheartening outcomes.

4:45 pm, Saturday, 13th August, HOYTS Chadstone

7 pm, Friday, 19th August, HOYTS Chadstone

FESTIVAL:

International Film Festival of Kerala 2022, Chennai International Film Festival 2022



Australian Premiere

No Ground Beneath the Feet

2021 | 90 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Bengali**

Director: Mohammad Rabby Mridha

Cast: Mostafa Monwar, Priyam Archi, Deepanwita Martin

Set in the backdrop of the scathing consequences of climate change, an impoverished ambulance driver Saiful staggers between two wives while he sets out on a bone-tired journey of moral decay, murder, deception, and social bashing.

4:30 pm, Friday, 19th August, HOYTS Highpoint

FESTIVAL:

Busan International Film Festival 2021, International Film Festival of India 2021



No Land's Man

2021 | 101 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Hindi, English, Urdu, Bengali, French**

Director: Mostofa Sarwar Farooki

Cast: Nawazuddin Siddiqui, Megan Mitchell,

Tahsan Rahman Khan, Eisha Chopra

Persecuted in one country for being a "Non-Muslim" and in another for being a "Muslim", Naveen Cheema finds temporary refuge in an apparent safeguard of a manufactured identity in an eventful quest for a sense of belonging.

7:00 pm, Tuesday, 16th August, HOYTS Melbourne Central

FESTIVAL:

Busan International Film Festival 2021, Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival 2021



Australian Premiere

Once Upon a Time in Calcutta

2021 | 129 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Bengali**

Director: Aditya Vikram Sengupta

Cast: Sreelekha Mitra, Shayak Roy, Bratya Basu

FESTIVAL:
Venice International Film Festival 2021
El Gouna Film Festival 2021

Once Upon a Time in Calcutta, follows the life of a bereaved mother trying to desperately find a new identity, love and independence.

7:00 pm, Thursday, 18th August, HOYTS Chadstone



Australian Premiere

Paka (River of Blood)

2021 | 101 Mins | Rating: R18+ | **Malayalam**

Director: Nithin Lukose

Cast: Basil Paulose, Vinitha Koshy, Athul John

FESTIVAL:
Official selection - 48th International Film Festival of India, Goa

Two star-crossed lovers are intent on leaving the aggressions of their ancestors behind and start a new life. A cycle of vengeance continues, when an estranged family member returns from prison.

3:45 pm, Sunday, 14th August, HOYTS Docklands

6:30 pm, Saturday, 20th August, HOYTS Highpoint



World Premiere

Paraasakthi

2022 | 43 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Tamil**

Director: Mari Selvaraj

Cast: Kathir, Anandhi, Yogi babu



Aggrieved by the untimely death of his mother, an actor scrambles and performs the last rites at her funeral. As he embarks on an emotional journey sparked by the loss, he turns up on set the same day and produces a performance that blurs the lines between reality and imagination.

4:00 pm, Friday, 19th August, HOYTS Docklands



Australian Premiere

Pedro

2021 | 105 Mins | Rating: R18+ | **Kannada**

Director: Natesh Hegde

Cast: Gopal Hegde, Ramakrishna Bhat Dundi

FESTIVAL:
Busan International Film Festival 2021
BFI London Film Festival 2021

Pedro, an outcast and a drunk, accidentally kills a cow belonging to his landlord. The village folks refuse to accept a man who has committed such an unholy and disgraceful act.

6:45 pm, Sunday, 14th August, HOYTS Chadstone

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In Cinemas



Rehana Maryam Noor

2021 | 107 Mins | Rating: R18+ | **Bengali**

Director: Abdullah Mohammed Saad

Cast: Azmeri Haque Badhon, Afia Jahin Jaima, Kazi Sami Hassan

Rehana, an assistant professor at a medical college, witnesses a student storming out of a professor's office, crying. Rehana puts everything at stake in order to find justice for her student and her daughter.

7:00 pm, Monday, 15th August, HOYTS Docklands

FESTIVAL:
Cannes Film Festival 2021,
Busan International Film
Festival 2021, BFI London
Film Festival 2021,
Pingyao International Film
Festival 2021



Shankar's Fairies

2021 | 93 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Hindi**

Director: Irfana Majumdar

Cast: Jaihind Kumar, Shreeja Mishra, Adwik Mathur, Ghulam Pir Muhammad, Arvind, Santosh

Shankar's Fairies explores the friendship between a little girl born into a privileged family with a village man who is the family servant.

Check IFFM website

FESTIVAL:
Locarno Film
Festival 2021
Busan
International
Film Festival
2021



Shoebos

2021 | 95 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Hindi, Bengali, English**

Director: Faraz Ali

Cast: Amrita Bagchi, Purnendu Bhattacharya

Allahabad is in the throes of change as a new era sets in with the city being renamed. Looking at the upcoming development, an ailing Madhav Chatterjee battles to keep his decrepit single screen theatre alive.

7:00 pm, Saturday, 13th August, HOYTS Chadstone
7:00 pm, Thursday, 18th August, HOYTS Docklands

FESTIVAL:
Best Film Award - New York
Indian Film Festival 2022
Mumbai Film Festival
(MAMI) 2022

Australian Premiere



Shut Up Sona

2019 | 85 Mins | **Hindi, English**

Director: Deepti Gupta

Cast: Sona Mohapatra

Shut Up Sona is an intimate journey with Sona Mohapatra, singer, performer, trouble-maker by choice! Sona doesn't know what "Don't" means. She simply can't be stopped from doing what she loves - to sing her songs and speak her mind.

7:00 pm, Thursday, 18th August, HOYTS Highpoint

FESTIVAL:
International Film Festival
Rotterdam 2020, HotDocs
Film Festival 2020,
Sheffield Doc/Fest 2020,
Indiememe Festival 2021

IFFM SHORT FILM PACKAGE



The Daughter

2022 | 16 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Hindi**

Director: Soumyak Kanti Debiswas

Cast: Naseeruddin Shah, Ira Dubey, Jitendra Shastri, Chitragada Satarupa

In an Indian town under curfew, a young woman, Indu, grapples with her father's dying wish. Inspired by true events.

7:00 pm, Thursday, 18th August, HOYTS Highpoint

7:00 pm, Friday, 19th August, HOYTS Docklands

FESTIVAL:
MAMI In Focus Shorts 2022
New York India Film Festival
2022



Australian Premiere

The Newspaper

2021 | 103 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Sinhala**

Director: Sarath Kothalawala, Kumara Thirimadura

Cast: Sarath Kothalawala, Kumara Thirimadura

Guna, a poor but kind-hearted man, lives a righteous life with his family in a small village. However, everything changes when a newspaper accuses his brother of carrying out a terrorist attack.

7:00 pm, Tuesday, 16th August, HOYTS Highpoint

FESTIVAL:
Winner-Second Best-Asian
Film Award
Ceylon International Film
Festival USA 2022



The Rapist

2021 | 132 Mins | Rating: R18+ | **Hindi**

Director: Aparna Sen

Cast: Konkona Sen Sharma, Arjun Rampal, Tanmay Dhanania

A couple, Naina and Aftab, both professors, left-liberal in their outlook, and anti-capital punishment activists, whose comfortable existence is shattered one night, when Naina is raped and her friend is killed.

7:00 pm, Saturday, 20th August, HOYTS Docklands

FESTIVAL:
Busan International Film
Festival 2021, Mumbai
Film Festival (MAMI) 2022



Australian Premiere

The Road to Kuthriyar

2021 | 115 Mins | Rating: G | **Tamil, English**

Director: Bharat Mirla

Cast: Dhruv Athreye, Chinna Dorai, Parvathi Om, M K Raghavendra, Mariammal, Saravana

Dhruv, a wildlife researcher from the city, is faced with the task of conducting a 'mammal survey' of the 600-square-kilometre Kodakanal Wildlife Sanctuary with a local guide, 40-year-old maps, and a GPS device.

6:30 pm, Sunday, 14th August, HOYTS Docklands

FESTIVAL:
Busan International Film
Festival 2021, New York Indian International
film Festival 2022



Australian Premiere

Two Sisters and a Husband

2022 | 104 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Hindi**

Director: Shlok Sharma

Cast: Avani Rai, Manya Grover, Dinker Sharma, Himanshu Kohli, Ashutosh Pathak

Based in the India of the 90s, this is the story of three people who set out to live their dreams, but end up living like strangers under the same roof.

6:30 pm, Saturday, 13th August, HOYTS Highpoint
7:00 pm, Friday, 19th August, HOYTS Docklands

FESTIVAL:
Tribeca Film Festival 2022,
Mumbai Film Festival (MAMI)
2022



Australian Premiere

Urf

2022 | 93 Mins | Rating: G | **Hindi**

Director: Geetika Narang Abbasi

Cast: Kishore Bhanushali, Firoz Khan, Prashant Walde

The Juniors are lookalikes of popular Indian film stars. They even have their own films, which are often satirical revisions of beloved classics.

7:00 pm, Tuesday, 16th August, HOYTS Docklands

FESTIVAL:
International Film Festival
Rotterdam 2022, Mumbai Film
Festival (MAMI) 2022, Film
Southasia 2022, London Indian
Film Festival 2022



Australian Premiere

WOMB (Women of my Billion)

2021 | 97 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **English, Hindi, Tamil, Telugu**

Director: Ajitesh Sharma

Cast: Srishti Bakshi, Neha Rai, Pragya Prasun Singh, Sangeeta Tiwari

Srishti Bakshi embarks on a 3,800-kilometer on-foot journey from Kanyakumari to Srinagar over 230 days to raise awareness of the rising tide of violence against women in India.

7:00 pm, Wednesday, 17th August, HOYTS Melbourne Central

FESTIVAL:
Audience Award for
Best Film at London
Indian Film Festival
2021

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Australian Premiere

15 Seconds A Lifetime

2022 | 62 Mins | Rating: G | **Hindi, English, Marathi**

Director: Divya Khamare

Cast: Mayur Natekar, Ashish Padia, Rita Natekar, Deepak Natekar, Prathamesh Natekar, Atul Ingle

Amidst the maddening chaos of social media and smartphones currently engulfing India, a college-going youngster risks going against his dysfunctional middle income family to become famous on TikTok.

FESTIVAL:
New York Indian Film Festival 2022
Moscow International Documentary Film Festival 2022



Australian Premiere

21mu Tiffin (21st Tiffin)

2021 | 88 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Gujarati**

Director: Vijaygiri Bava

Cast: Nilam Paanchal, Raunaq Kamdar, Netrie

A middle-aged lady runs a tiffin service business. Everything changes a young man and her 21st tiffin customer, appreciates her.

FESTIVAL:
International Film Festival of India 2021
Tasveer South Asian Film Festival 2021



Australian Premiere

7 Star Dinosaur Entertainment

2022 | 19 Mins | Rating: G | **Tamil**

Director: Vaishali Naik

Cast: Kapil Dev, Rahul Sahu

Dressed as giant dinosaurs Sudhur and Vinod would dance to Bollywood songs at weddings and birthday parties, running a business titled "7 Star Dinosaur Entertainment". Now, two years into the pandemic, we find the brothers jobless and hungry.

FESTIVAL:
Manchester International Film Festival 2022
Indian Film Festival Of Los Angeles 2022



Australian Premiere

A Night of Knowing Nothing

2021 | 99 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Hindi, Bengali**

Director: Payal Kapadia

Cast: Bhumisuta Das

L, a university student in India, writes letters to her estranged lover, while he is away. Through these letters, we get a glimpse into the drastic changes taking place around her. Merging reality with fiction, dreams, memories, fantasies and anxieties, an amorphous narrative unfolds.

FESTIVAL:
Golden Eye Award - Cannes Film Festival 2021, Amplify Voices Award - Toronto International Film Festival 2021, Busan International Film Festival 2021



Australian Premiere

Aadigunjan (Murmurs of the Jungle)

2021 | 20 Mins | Rating: G | **Marathi**

Director: Sohil Vaidya

Cast: Pradyumna Chaware, Bigyna Dahal

A story that encompasses all of humanity and its symbiotic relationship to nature unfolds in the Western Ghats, and the woods begin to form a bridge between the present and the past.

FESTIVAL:
International Film Festival of India 2021, International Film Festival of Rotterdam (IFFR) 2022

Streaming Australia-wide: 13 August onwards

These films are free to watch but we urge you to donate to Royal Children's Hospital if you can



Australian Premiere

Abhalakhalcha Yak Diwas (A Day Under The Sky)

2022 | 26 Mins | Rating: Festival Rating | **Marathi**

Director: Pratik Girish Bhojar

Cast: Krushna Gawli, Prapti Bhojar, Prem Barekar

Aditya is a sincere primary school student curious about his fellow classmates from a lower economic background. One day they invite him to play with them and they bunk school. As they explore the day wandering through nature, the events lead to the discovery of togetherness and Aditya's understanding broadens beyond the pages of a textbook.

FESTIVAL:
Bengaluru International Short Film Festival 2022
Shimla International Film Festival 2022



Australian Premiere

Anekantvad

2022 | 21 Mins | Rating: Festival Rating | **Hindi, Punjabi**

Director: Ikprabh Singh Kohli

Cast: Savita Sharma, Aarvi Jain, Gurmohan Singh, Kusum Jain, Manpreet Kaur, Nikhil Bothra,

Anekantvad follows a mother through the house she grew up in. Memories from the past spring up, and in the process, she learns about another side to a story about her family's past, that she did not earlier.

FESTIVAL:
Pune Short Film Festival 2022, International Film Festival of South Asia Toronto 2022



Australian Premiere

Bad Egg

2022 | 28 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Hindi, English**

Director: Mehak Jamal

Cast: Zoya Hussain, Akshay Oberoi, Jim Sarbh

Zoya receives a disturbing call from her mother and is told that her sister Zara, has gone missing. Surprisingly, Zoya isn't rattled enough. As the plot unravels, so does Zoya.

FESTIVAL:
Indian Film Festival Stuttgart 2022



Australian Premiere

Baghthan

2022 | 20 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Nepali, Gurung**

Director: Sunil Pandey

Cast: Chandra Bahadur Khatri, Shishir Bhandari, Mina Pandey

As more and more people move to the cities, the director's grandfather tells him how once the residents of their village lured a tiger into a stone cage. Past and present seem to intertwine in this reflection on migration, tradition, and memory. Gurung, Ek Bahadur Gurung, Yubaraj Gurung, Chandra Biwas Gurung, Durga Gurung, Gyan Bahadur Gurung, Suraj Gurung, Bal Bahadur Gurung, Som Gurung

FESTIVAL:
Pune Short Film Festival 2022
International Film Festival of South Asia Toronto 2022



Australian Premiere

Bedsores

2021 | 25 Mins | Rating: R18+ | **Hindi**

Director: Navind Chandra Ganesh

Cast: Rakesh Kumar, Niyati Rathod, Shikha Khan, Shifa Saifi, Samunder Dahiya, Nisha Vishwakarma, Dev k razz, Diwakar Naveen Diwakar

Bedsores explores traditions of the Banchhada tribe where girls secure a livelihood for their families through prostitution.

FESTIVAL:
Indian Film Festival Stuttgart 2022

Streaming Australia-wide: 13 August onwards

These films are free to watch but we urge you to donate to Royal Children's Hospital if you can



Australian Premiere

Bela

2021 | 59 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Bengali**

Director: Prantik Basu

Cast: Ganesh Mahato, Shikar Mahato, Kalo Gorai, Gurubari Mahato, Bijoy Singh Sardar

Bela, a little village in eastern India is mostly inhabited by the indigenous people of the Kurmi community. Bela intimately observes the rhythms of art and labour, the feminine and the masculine, and the ambiguous thresholds between them.

FESTIVAL:
International Film Festival
Rotterdam 2021
Mumbai Film Festival
(MAMI) 2022



Australian Premiere

Bhagavadajjukam

2021 | 78 Mins | Rating: G | **Sanskrit**

Director: Yadu Vijayakrishnan

Cast: Pradeep Kumar, Jishnu V Nair, Parvathy V Nair, Reshmi Kailas, Jwala S Parameswar, Shiva Kumar

Shandilya is the disciple of Parivrajaka, a Buddhist monk who laments the death of Vasanthasena, a courtesan. Parivrajaka transfers his soul to the body of Vasanthasena and a series of comical events ensues.

FESTIVAL:
International Film Festival
of India 2021
New York Indian Film
Festival 2022



Australian Premiere

Bhai (Brothers)

2021 | 7 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Urdu, English**

Director: Hamza Bangash

Cast: Ayan Javaid, Mohammad Ali Hashmi

On Pakistan's Independence Day, two teenage boys go out to celebrate at a fast food restaurant – when a dancing monkey interrupts.

FESTIVAL:
Toronto International Film
Festival 2021
Dharamshala International
Film Festival 2021



Australian Premiere

Chavittu (Stomp)

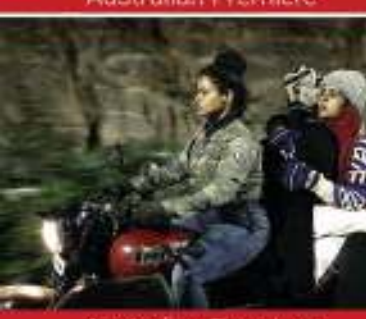
2022 | 85 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Malayalam**

Director: Sajas Rahman, Shinos Rahman

Cast: Arunlal, MP Rajesh, Akhil, Midhunlal, Suresh, Abit, Sreejesh, Aneesh kottakkal

In Kerala, a theatre company prepares for its performance during festivities. Chavittu reveals the 'theatre makers' creative process, a subtle look at the caste system, and vulnerable art forms.

FESTIVAL:
International Film Festival
of Rotterdam 2022
International Film Festival
of Kerala 2022



Australian Premiere

Cheepatakadumpa

2021 | 24 Mins | Rating: R18+ | **Hindi, Urdu**

Director: Devashish Makhija

Cast: Bhumika Dube, Ipshita Chakraborty Singh, Annapurna Soni, Bishna Chouhan

This improvised black comedy short film explores three small town friends, their reunion, a gorilla, a bull, the full moon, the kundalini, a tomato, and patriarchy-smashing mischief!

FESTIVAL:
Gender Sensitivity Award
by Film Critics Guild -
Dharamshala International
Film Festival 2021
Indian Film Festival
Stuttgart 2022



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Streaming Australia-wide: 13 August onwards

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Australian Premiere

Clowning With Shakespeare

2022 | 60 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Hindi, English**

Director: Siddhartha More

Cast: Rajat Kapoor, Kalki Koechlin, Ranvir Shorey, Vinay Pathak, Jim Sarbh, Sujay Saple

Rajat Kapoor, an Indian filmmaker & actor collaborates with fellow actors from Bollywood to put up a theatre play that turns Shakespearean stories into a modern tale with an unconventional twist.



Australian Premiere

Cycle

2021 | 20 Mins | Rating: R18+ | **Hindi, Bengali, Bundelkhandi, Telugu, Odia**

Director: Devashish Makhija

Cast: Bhumika Dube, Mukesh Pachode, Jacky Bhavsar, Bhumisuta Das, Vijay Patidar

A wronged young tribal woman in the absence of systemic justice turns rebellious, but struggles to fulfill all the expectations that the path to retribution demands.

International Documentary and Short Film Festival of Kerala (IDSFFK) 2021 - Winner Special Mention in Short Fiction
Indian Film Festival Stuttgart 2022



Australian Premiere

Deid (One And Half)

2022 | 99 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Marathi**

Director: Omkar Achyut Barve

Cast: Shreyas Kota, Shivraj Waichal, Ketaki Narayan, Renuka Daftardar

Poorna, an eleven-year-old boy, runs away from his village and comes to a rapidly growing cosmopolitan determined to find a place called 'Deid Gully' (lane one and half).

FESTIVAL:
New York Indian Film Festival 2022



Australian Premiere

Didi

2022 | 28 Mins | **Hindi, English, Marathi**

Director: Madhura Dalimbkar

Cast: Ketaki Kulkarni, Umed, Aparna Chothe, Ajeet Singh

What starts off as a regular, quiet day at work for Didi, suddenly turns into a chaotic frenzy when a film crew barges into her work space to shoot a small scene. The director spontaneously casts her in the role of a damsel in distress and she shocks everyone with her acting, showing them what true strength looks like.

FESTIVAL:
Indian Film Festival Stuttgart 2022
Pune Short Film Festival 2022



Emergence: Out of the Shadows

2021 | 81 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **English**

Director: Vinay Gindhar

Cast: Jag Nagra, Harv Nagra, Avtar Singh Nagra, Rajwant Kaur Nagra, Jaspal Kaur Sangha

For Kayden, Jag, and Amar, awakening to and expressing their sexuality within conservative South Asian families was a lonely and terrifying experience.

FESTIVAL:
UK Asian Film Festival 2022
Film Southasia Nepal 2022
KASHISH Mumbai International Queer Film Festival 2022

Streaming Australia-wide: 13 August onwards

These films are free to watch but we urge you to donate to Royal Children's Hospital if you can



Australian Premiere

Erolnungdagi (From the Depth)

2022 | 10 Mins | Rating: G | **Manipuri**

Director: Rakesh Moirangthem

Cast: Rameshchandra

A school teacher perseveres to conserve his indigenous culture, traditions, and local dialect amidst a fast growing urbanized world around him.

FESTIVAL:
International Guwahati
Film Festival 2022
International Short Film
Festival 2022 Kolkata



Ghasjomi (Grassland)

2022 | 112 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Bengali**

Director: Sumantra Roy

Cast: Sanjita Mukherjee, Suvosmita Mukhopadhyay,
Debashis Chatterjee, Sawon Chakroborty

Barna, while conducting research in her university meets Ipsita, a woman she has little in common with. Gradually the two form a friendship that ultimately changes their lives in unexpected ways.

FESTIVAL:
Indian Film Festival
Stuttgart 2022



Australian Premiere

God's Buffalo

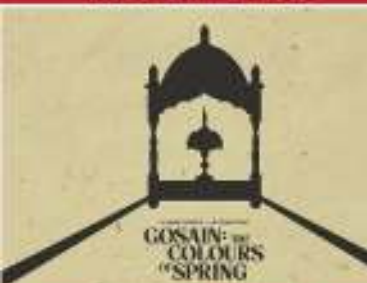
2021 | 15 Mins | Rating: G | **Nepali**

Director: Mari Selvaraj

Cast: Kathir, Anandhi, Yogi babu

Homan Singh Shivabhakti ekes out a living farming in the hills of Sindhupalchowk district, east of Kathmandu. Script He loves and worships his buffalo which has brought him all the good things in his life. All is well until devastating floods ravage the area. Homan Singh's buffalo disappears.

FESTIVAL:
Best Documentary Nepal
Panorama 2021
ICIMOD Mountain Film
Award 2021



World Premiere

Gosain: The Colours of Spring

2022 | 28 Mins | Rating: Festival Rating | **Bodo**

Director: Bishal Swargiary

The significance and traditions surrounding the Doul Purnima (Holi Festival), as well as the mythology of the discovery Narasimha Gosain by the Banka Kachari while excavating a pond serve as the foundation for this ethnographic film.



International Premiere

Goshta Arjunchi (Arjun's Tale)

2022 | 12 Mins | **Marathi**

Director: Anupam Barve

Cast: Geetanjali Kulkarni, Shivraj Waichal

Arjun, a boy in his early 20s returns home late one evening, as always, inebriated. Little does he know what surprise his mother has in store for him tonight!

FESTIVAL:
South Asian Short Film
Festival Kolkata 2022
Bangalore International
Short Film Festival 2022

Streaming Australia-wide: 13 August onwards

These films are free to watch but we urge you to donate to Royal Children's Hospital if you can



Australian Premiere

Grey Solar Game

2022 | 25 Mins | **Bengali**

Director: Seemonta Halder

Cast: Priti, Jhilik, Surjo

Living on their own as outcasts, this film accounts a few days in three sibling's lives, where they struggle to live amidst changing times.

FESTIVAL:
SIGNS Film Festival 2022
IFFSA Toronto 2022
International Film Festival of Shimla 2022



Gudiya

2022 | 9 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Bengali**

Director: Abhiroop Basu

Cast: Satakshi Nandy, Apeksha Singh

On the eve of India's 73rd Republic Day, a working class woman's daily routine goes for a toss when she is called to squeeze in an extra shift at work.

FESTIVAL:
Odense International Short Film Festival 2022
Braunschweig International Film Festival 2022



International Premiere

Guthlee (Ladoo)

2022 | 104 Mins | Rating: G | **Hindi**

Director: Ishrat R Khan

Cast: Sanjay Mishra, Dhanay Seth, Subrat Dutta, Kalyanee Mulay, Pravin Chandra

Guthlee, a son of a poor sweeper, wants to go to school, but can't due to his caste. When Guthlee and the school's headmaster develop an unspoken bond, Guthlee's dream sees hope.

FESTIVAL:
International Film Festival of Kolkata 2022



Australian Premiere

Her Canvas

2022 | 9 Mins | **Silent**

Director: Sagar Devram Minde

Cast: Neha Ashok Sharma, Adwaita Janardhan

On a cloudy melancholy evening Myra a visual artist experiences an overwhelming surge of emotions. Hinged between past and present she tries to make sense of reality around her. Deeply drenched in fantasy and memories she reflects on her relationship with Surbhi.

FESTIVAL:
KASHISH Mumbai International Queer Film Festival 2022
The Mamostra International Film Festival 2022



Hridoy Bosot (A Home For My Heart)

2022 | 64 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Bengali**

Director: Sankha

Cast: Sudeb Suvana, Sagar Sadhu, Chhaya Sadhu, Sadhan Sadhu, Ismail Gazi, Alessio Maximilian Schroder

Suvana Sudeb, a transgender, undergoes Gender Affirmative Surgery to gain appreciation as a 'real woman'. However, this decision creates turmoil in her family, who fear societal backlash.

FESTIVAL:
Mumbai Film Festival (MAMI) 2022

Streaming Australia-wide: 13 August onwards

These films are free to watch but we urge you to donate to Royal Children's Hospital if you can



I am Lawrence Wilson

2022 | 26 Mins | Rating: G | **Hindi**

Director: Varun Kodamana

Cast: Lawrence Wilson, Anthony Joseph, Yakub Abdul Mulla, Nileesh Shivram Naik

The story follows Lawrence Wilson, who at 76 years of age is a singer, dancer, stand-up comedian, and cinephile who was a part of an old custom of screening films in rural Goa, India when theatres were rare and television was not popular.

FESTIVAL:
Bengal International Film Festival 2022



I Rise

2021 | 52 Mins | Rating: G | **Hindi**

Director: Borun Thokchom

Cast: Sarita Laishram

Laishram Sarita Devi, a mother, a boxer, is passionate about empowering people who are marginalised and runs an Academy that trains and encourages destitute children to create an identity through Boxing.

FESTIVAL:
Best Documentary, 13th Manipur State Film Awards
New Delhi International Film Festival 2021



If Memory Serves Me Right

2022 | 57 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **English**

Director: Rafeeq Elias

Cast: Rashid Irani

Rashid Irani is a film critic and a life-long lover of books and cinema so much so that he had 'lived life vicariously through movies'. A trip to a time bygone, the film brings people, nostalgia and moments of poignancy to life.

FESTIVAL:
International Documentary & Short Film Festival Of Kerala (IDSFK) 2021
New York Indian Film Festival 2022



Into the Sea

2022 | 60 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Odia**

Director: Ashish Kumar Nayak

Cast: Ramesh Majhi, Nishikant Mandal, Ashok Sethi, Krushnachandra Mistry, Jhantu Nayak

Set in the coastal areas of Odisha, India, Into the Sea depicts the hopes, dreams and struggles of fishermen trying to catch a big haul of fish in the sea amidst adverse conditions.

FESTIVAL:
Tareque Masud Award for Best Debut Film - Film Southasia, Nepal 2022



Jilabichi Gosht (A Sweet Story)

2021 | 18 Mins | **Marathi**

Director: Sandeep Bhaskar Jadhav

Cast: Nishigandha Wad, Amruta Datta Sonavane, Mugdha Mahesh Kulkarni, Aditi Vinod Chandoba

A little girl in rural India is passionate about education but struggles due to her financial situation. The brings one of her favourite sweets to school and she has to hide it from her headmistress.

FESTIVAL:
Golden-Leaf International Film Festival
Andaman-Nicobar 2021
Mumbai International Film Festival 2022

Streaming Australia-wide: 13 August onwards

These films are free to watch but we urge you to donate to Royal Children's Hospital if you can



Australian Premiere

Kalkokkho (House of Time)

2021 | 125 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Bengali**

Director: Rajdeep Paul, Sarmistha Maiti

Cast: Tannistha Biswas, Janardan Ghosh, Sreelekha Mukherji, Amit Saha, Ahana Karmakar

Amidst the pandemic, an apathetic but adept doctor finds himself captive in time and space in a house inhabited by three women – a paranoid young woman, an amnesic old woman and a lonely young girl.

FESTIVAL:
Busan International Film Festival 2021
International Film Festival Of India 2021



International Premiere

Kanade

2021 | 50 Mins | **Hindi**

Director: Karishma Rao, Vishwesh Shiva Prasad

Cast: Ar. Shankar N Kanade, Ar. Navnath N Kanade

Widely considered an important milestone in Indian Architectural history, the Kanade brothers are a testimony of how life and work can coexist with honesty as the fundamental driving factor. The film 'Kanade' gives an insight into the journey and experiences of Shankar & Navnath Kanade as architects and teachers.



International Premiere

Kathegala Kanive (The Valley of Stories)

2022 | 30 Mins | **Kannada, English**

Director: Vikas Badiger

Cast: Kathir, Anandhi, Yogi babu

Kathegala Kanive documents the inspirational journey of the trans-artists from The Aravani Art Project who learn photography, which helped them revive their bond with the area they live in, their near and dear ones and how they reclaimed their connection to the city of Bengaluru.

FESTIVAL:
Chennai International Documentary Festival 2022
Best Documentary - Madras Independent Film Festival 2022



Kicking Balls

2022 | 36 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Hindi**

Director: Vijayeta Kumar

In a conservative society in rural Rajasthan, an NGO trains young girls who are mostly child brides. The sport instills confidence, independence, and agency in these young girls to stand up to the patriarchy.

FESTIVAL:
Best Documentary Short - New York Indian Film Festival 2022
International Film Festival of South-Asia Toronto 2022



Australian Premiere

Kiss

2022 | 17 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Hindi**

Director: Varun Grover

Cast: Adarsh Gourav, Swanand Kirkire, Shubhrajyoti Barat

At a preview theatre, a young filmmaker waits in the hope of getting his new sci-fi drama certified with 'no cuts' by the Indian Censor Board. As they argue over the length of the kiss, the laws of physics disintegrate around them.

FESTIVAL:
Official selection - 48th International Film Festival of India, Goa

Streaming Australia-wide: 13 August onwards

These films are free to watch but we urge you to donate to Royal Children's Hospital if you can



International Premiere

Lagaam (The Rein)

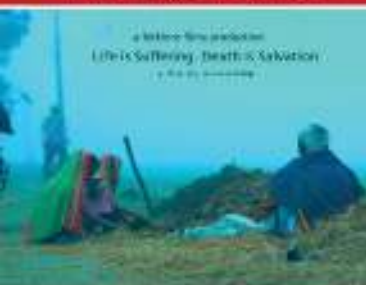
2022 | 20 Mins | **Marathi**

Director: Madan Kale

Cast: Siddharth Thorat, Swati Gotawale

A husband comes to visit his wife, who is visiting her parents, making an excuse of her birthday. Their meeting slowly unfolds the tension between them.

FESTIVAL:
Kolkata International Film
Festival 2022



Australian Premiere

Life is Suffering Death is Salvation

2022 | 90 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Bhojpuri**

Director: Arvind Pratap

Cast: Shree Rajbhar, Shivmurat Yadav

An old man, working at a dairy farm deals with his isolation and suffers for his survival. When he comes to know about the sudden demise of his son who was working at a metro construction site, he plans to visit his son's funeral site.

FESTIVAL:
International Film Festival
of Kerala 2022



Australian Premiere

Lords of Lockdown

2022 | 120 Mins | Rating: G | **Hindi, English**

Director: Mihir Fadnavis

Cast: Ruben Mascarenhas, AK Singh, Dr Aparna Hegde, Rana Ayyub

At midnight, 23rd March 2020, India went into a hard, total lockdown. The next few months changed the very fabric of the country as the pandemic exposed the nation's biggest endemic problem - hunger.

FESTIVAL:
New York Indian Film
Festival 2022



Australian Premiere

Lullaby

2022 | 76 Mins | Rating: G | **Bengali**

Director: Arunava Khasnobis

Cast: Kinjal Nanda, Manali Chakraborty, Anindya Banerjee, Biswajit Ghosh, Pravat Tarafder

Lullaby is a story of a writer who is facing a writer's block; when a girl forces him go through unknown alleys of his own mind space, which finally makes him face his own complex and hazy mind.

FESTIVAL:
Jaipur International Film
Festival 2022



Australian Premiere

Maa Toh Ashbei (Mother Will Arrive)

2021 | 30 Mins | Rating: G | **Hindi, Bengali**

Director: Runa Mukherjee Parikh

In 2020, as the pandemic hit, the idol makers of Kolkata faced its brunt. However, slowly but surely, the idol of the Mother Goddess took shape, as did their hope.

FESTIVAL:
Druk International Film
Festival 2021

Streaming Australia-wide: 13 August onwards

These films are free to watch but we urge you to donate to Royal Children's Hospital if you can



Australian Premiere

Manikbabur Megh (The Cloud and the Man)

2021 | 96 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Bengali**

Director: Abhinandan Banerjee

Cast: Bratya Basu, Debesh Roy Chowdhury

Manikbabur Megh is a surreal and philosophical reflection on one recently-be-reaved middle aged man and his complex yet meaningful relationship with a cloud.

FESTIVAL:
Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival 2021
International Film Festival of India 2021



Australian Premiere

Marigold

2022 | 12 Mins | **Hindi**

Director: Abhinav Dubey

Cast: Ishit Yamini, Pooja Sharma, Rudraksh

Thakur

As the summer holidays approach, Geeta decides to lie about her last day at work to meet Shashi. Conversation between two women unfolds their desires and sexuality which they long to share with each other, till the last boat arrives.

FESTIVAL:
Cannes Film Festival SFC 2022, Directors' Fortnight (Shortlisted) Cannes Film Festival
Bengaluru International Short film Festival 2022



Australian Premiere

Mintgumri

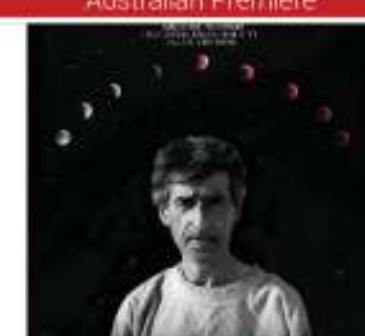
2021 | 23 Mins | **Punjabi**

Director: Aakash Chhabra

Cast: Lakshvir Saran, Uday Chandra, Mohinder Gujral, Kulwinder Harsahai, Hasneet Sethi

When Raag returns to his hometown after a long absence, he attempts to rekindle his friendship with his ailing grandfather by dressing him up in the clothes he wore on the day they met last.

FESTIVAL:
New York Indian Film Festival 2021
International Film Festival of South Asia-Toronto 2022



Moon on the Man

2021 | 78 Mins | Rating: G | **Hindi, English**

Director: Sriram Raghavan

What happens if we narrate stories we indiscriminately believe in but they never occurred? What happens if our perception determines our reality, rather than the contrary? Moon on the Man looks at the most fundamental questions of reality, perception and choices.

FESTIVAL:
Official selection - 48th International Film Festival of India, Goa



Mulaqat (Sandstorm)

2021 | 20 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Urdu**

Director: Seemab Gul

Cast: Parizae Fatima, Hamza Mushtaq, Ayesha Shoaib Ahmed, Nabila Khan, Aun Ali Saleem, Masuma Halal Khwaja, Qasim Ali

Zara, a schoolgirl in Karachi, Pakistan, shares a sensual dance video with her virtual boyfriend, who then blackmails her.

FESTIVAL:
Venice International Film Festival 2021
Sundance Film Festival 2022

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Streaming Australia-wide: 13 August onwards

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Australian Premiere

Murder Tongue

2022 | 18 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Urdu, Sindhi**

Director: Ali Sohail Jaura

Cast: Munawwar Saeed, Amtul Baweja

It is May of 1992. The state sanctioned "Operation" has put the city of Karachi at constant unrest. Abdul Aziz Ansari wakes up at night and is informed by his daughter in law, Naseema that his son hasn't returned home.

FESTIVAL:

Miami Film Festival (Won Best International Short) 2022
Figari Film Festival (Audience Choice Award) 2022



MY MOTHER'S GIRLFRIEND

My Mother's Girlfriend

2021 | 15 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Hindi, Marathi**

Director: Arun Fulara

Cast: Sushama Deshpande, Anju Alva Naik, Suhas Sirsat

When Mangesh finds his mother Renuka in the arms of her female lover Sadiya, his love for his mother must contend with her sexuality and her love for the woman.

FESTIVAL:

Kashish Mumbai International Queer Film Festival 2021
London India Film Festival 2022



Australian Premiere

Nauha

2022 | 26 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Hindi**

Director: Pratham Khurana

Cast: Azhar Khan, Uday Chandra, Shashi Ranjan, Ayush Kumar Upadhyay

Kishan, a 22-year-old servant and nurse to a 75-year-old Babuji, grows attached as he takes care of him. When Babuji's family plan to fly him away to America, Kishan is left questioning his roots.

FESTIVAL:

Cannes International Film Festival 2022



Australian Premiere

Never Ask Why

2022 | 20 Mins | **Hindi, English**

Director: Saurabh Dubey

The unfulfilled dream of a young football fan became the catalyst to help achieve the dreams of talented young under-15 football players who come from very underprivileged and under-nourished families.

FESTIVAL:

Best Documentary, Short Form - Istanbul Film Festival 2022
Helsingborg Film Festival



Australian Premiere

Nine Hills One Valley

2021 | 75 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Meitei, Tangkhul**

Director: Haobam Paban Kumar, Sankha

Cast: Shang Anam Ahum

Anam Ahum, a tribal from the hills, travels to Imphal city in the valley to meet his daughter before she leaves for New Delhi in search of a job. During the journey, he encounters the cruelty of ethnic conflicts.

FESTIVAL:

Mumbai Film Festival (MAMI) 2022

Streaming Australia-wide: 13 August onwards

These films are free to watch but we urge you to donate to Royal Children's Hospital if you can



Australian Premiere

Nisabdham

2022 | 78 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Malayalam**

Director: Raghunath N B

Cast: Krishna Prabha, Prarthana Menon, Sakshi

FESTIVAL:

Druk International Film Festival Bhutan 2022
Athens International Art Film Festival 2022

The film tells the story of a mother and daughter relationship through which the difficulties and joys of their life journey are explored.



Australian Premiere

Passport Man of India

2022 | 60 Mins | **Hindi, English**

Director: Dhananjay Bhawalekar

FESTIVAL:

Druk International Film Festival 2022
International Film Festival of Andaman and Nicobar 2022

The new techno age changed the face of the Indian passport. Dr. Dnyaneshwar Mulay was the man behind making the passport accessible to everyone, and not limited to just one class.



perianayaki

Perianayaki

2022 | 11 Mins | Rating: G | **Tamil**

Director: Bala Murali Shingade

Cast: Jeyagowri Sivakumaran

FESTIVAL:

New Zealand International Film Festival 2022
Melbourne International Film Festival 2022

Recent immigrant from Sri Lanka, 56-year-old Perianayaki's day begins as it does every day - at her dead-end job stacking shelves at the local supermarket. As a result of her inability to speak English, she struggles to fit in.



Australian Premiere

Phir Kabhi (The Way We Are)

2021 | 18 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Hindi, Marathi**

Director: Nihit Bhawe

Cast: Manav Kaul, Amruta Subhash

FESTIVAL:

New Zealand International Film Festival 2022
Melbourne International Film Festival 2022

A husband realizes that his body reacts to men the way other boys' bodies react to women. A wife realizes that she has always let other people dictate her life. The couple start to own their truths and find ways to communicate that to each other.



Australian Premiere

Pratyadanam

2022 | 14 Mins | Rating: R18+ | **Hindi**

Director: Rushabh Raghunath Rathod

Cast: Vaishnavi Kale, Kalpesh Chavan

FESTIVAL:

IFFSA Toronto 2022

Everyone manipulates. A man who loves silence is willing to achieve acute silence, come what may. A woman with responsibilities is ready to wend herself. This goes forever and ever and ever.

Streaming Australia-wide: 13 August onwards

These films are free to watch but we urge you to donate to Royal Children's Hospital if you can



Australian Premiere

Raavi

2022 | 14 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Punjabi**

Director: Jasmine Kaur Roy

Cast: Sukhjinder Kaur

Fear and insecurity plague the mind of 73-year-old Raavi as she finds herself trapped in her own home. While she wallows in the misery of her confinement, some scraps of memories float from a distant past and find release. The past and present fuse seamlessly and suffering acquires a new meaning.

FESTIVAL:
New York Indian Film Festival 2022
Indian Film Festival of Melbourne 2022



Australian Premiere

Roached

2022 | 70 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Hindi**

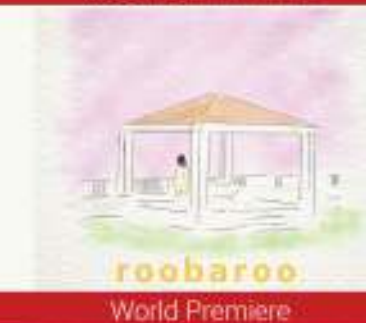
Director: Kshitij Sharma

Cast: Deeya Dey, Rudolfo Rajeev Hubert, Rohit

Pareek, Nishtha Sharma, Sheeraj Sharma

Stuck at home amidst the COVID pandemic, a timid housewife finds her world unraveling due to the constant presence of her overbearing husband and a six legged intruder.

FESTIVAL:
Indo French International Film Festival 2022



roobaroo

World Premiere

Roobaroo

2022 | 36 Mins | **Hindi, English**

Director: Bhavya Shah, Khushi Nimbalkar

Cast: Komal Chhabria, Yaman Chatwal, Rajiv Kumar, Deepak Kriplani, Archana Iyer, Bulbul Bhattacharjee

As a child, Ajay was told by his father, "you could either be a mama's boy or a papa's boy, you can't be both." And so, he chose his father, only to be faced with the disappointment of having to see the man disappear on him. While his mother had



Australian Premiere

Semkhor

2021 | 93 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Dimasa**

Director: Aimee Baruah

Cast: Aimee Baruah, Jagannath Seth, Sohandika Khersa, Prateek Hagjer, Ziyen Ranjan Saikia

After the death of her husband Diro, his wife gets her only daughter Muri married at the age of 11. After Muri dies during childbirth, the infant is prepared to be buried alive along with the mother.

FESTIVAL:
International Film Festival of India 2021
Toronto International Women Film Festival 2021



International Premiere

Shiksha (The Discipline)

2022 | 23 Mins | Rating: G | **Malayalam**

Director: Prahas

Cast: Krishnaveni, Gokul Krishna, Amal, Babu, Sreedev S, Devika Deepu, Neeraj Madhav, Aswathy K, Navneeth Raj S

A teacher disciplines her pupils when unexpected incidents occur in a residential school for children.

FESTIVAL:
Mumbai International Film Festival 2022
Synergia Short Film Festival 2022

Streaming Australia-wide: 13 August onwards

These films are free to watch but we urge you to donate to Royal Children's Hospital if you can



Stop. Look. Go.

2022 | 6 Mins | Rating: G | **Silent**

Director: Sneha Das

An innocent formless blob takes in its surroundings and its various influences, which physically and mentally transforms them into a jaded middle aged man who believes he is only a cog in a larger machine. This man then looks back at who he used to be and wonders if he could ever go back to such innocent times again.

FESTIVAL:

Kursaal Film Festival 2022



Succulent

2021 | 29 Mins | Rating: G | **Hindi, English**

Director: Amrita Bagchi

Cast: Merenla Imsong, Adithi Kalkunthe

Obsessive plant lover 'M' is hired by a unique agency that replaces missing family members. As she juggles her own personal attachments with the emotional needs of her clients, Succulent questions whether human affection can possibly be commodified.

FESTIVAL:

Audience Award for Best First Film - Dharamshala 2021
Grand Jury Prize for Best Short Film - International Film Festival of Los Angeles 2022



Sweet Biryani

2021 | 24 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Tamil**

Director: Jeyachandra Hashmi

Cast: Sarithiran, Balaji Venugopal, Nivya, Sumathy

Arimuthu, a law student, delivers food for his family's economic needs. He enjoys riding the bike all day, listening to a variety of songs. On what looked like an ordinary day, Marimuthu encounters humiliation, prejudice, and arrogance. How did he find his solace, and what was his retaliation? Sweet Biryani answers it intensely and humanely.

FESTIVAL:

Winner - International Film Festival of India 2021
Winner, Best Regional Film, Rajasthan International Film Festival 2022



Taangh (Longing)

2021 | 90 Mins | Rating: Festival Rating | **Hindi**

Director: Bani Singh

Cast: Balbir Singh, Keshav Datt, Shahzada Shahrugh, Grahnanandan Singh, Bani Singh

Against the backdrop of Partition, newly independent India's first hockey team defeats England, their erstwhile coloniser, to win the Gold at the 1948 London Olympics.

FESTIVAL:

Best Film - Film South Asia (Kathmandu) 2022
Best Documentary - New York Indian Film Festival 2022



Teen Paayancha Ghoda (Three Legged Horse)

2022 | 123 Mins | Rating: R18+ | **Marathi**

Director: Noopur Bora

Cast: Ria Nalavade, Kunal Shukla, Avinash Londhe

A coming-of-age drama of three teenagers set against the backdrop of a forgery scam, a rape case and a hit-and-run case.

FESTIVAL:

Mumbai Film Festival (MAMI) 2022
New York Indian Film Festival 2022

Streaming Australia-wide: 13 August onwards

These films are free to watch but we urge you to donate to Royal Children's Hospital if you can



The Miniaturist of Junagadh

2021 | 29 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Hindi**

Director: Kaushal Oza

Cast: Naseeruddin Shah, Rasika Dugal, Raj Arjun, Padmavati Rao, Uday Chandra

The 1947 Partition have compelled an old artist, Husyn Naqqash, to sell his ancestral home in Western India. When the new owner comes to know that Husyn has an invaluable and rare miniature collection, he schemes to get hold of the collection.

FESTIVAL:
New York Indian Film Festival 2021
London Short Film Festival 2021
Dharamshala International Film Festival 2021



The Road to Kuthriyar

2021 | 115 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **English, Tamil**

Director: Bharat Mirle

Cast: Dhruv Athreye, Chinna Dorai, Parvathi Om

Dhruv, a wildlife researcher from the city, is faced with the task of conducting a 'mammal survey' of the 600-square-kilometre Kodaikanal Wildlife Sanctuary with a local guide, 40-year-old maps, and a GPS device.

FESTIVAL:
Busan International Film Festival 2021, New York Indian International Film Festival 2022

Australian Premiere



The Salon

2022 | 13 Mins | Rating: G | **English, Kannada**

Director: Nitya Misra

Cast: Sudha Belawadi, Eric Leivang, B. Suresha

Often, a haircut is not just a haircut. Nimmi, a middle-aged woman, strikes up a conversation with her hair stylist, Nelson, and works through her husband's death while getting her hair cut.

FESTIVAL:
Indian Film Festival Stuttgart 2022

Australian Premiere



The Silent Echo

2021 | 16 Mins | Rating: G | **Nepali**

Director: Suman Sen

Cast: Kunsang Gurung, Tashi Wangdue Gurung

Four teenagers, from a remote mountain village in Mustang region, Nepal, spend their days in an abandoned bus on a ridge, playing music. When a music band competition is organized in a nearby town, they gather money and the courage to be part of it.

FESTIVAL:
Winner-Best Short of the Festival
Raindance Film Festival 2021

Australian Premiere



The Tale of A Santa and His Moth

2022 | 83 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Hindi**

Director: Aneek Chaudhari

Cast: Usha Banerjee, Pawan Chopra, Ashok Kanjilal

Pedro, a bisexual widower once attended every Christmas party with much enthusiasm, but now has no other choice than staying at home and taking care of his ailing daughter.



World Premiere

Streaming Australia-wide: 13 August onwards

These films are free to watch but we urge you to donate to Royal Children's Hospital if you can



Australian Premiere

Thodi Si Khushi (A Bit of Happiness)

2022 | 15 Mins | Rating: G | **Hindi**

Director: Ashish Madurwar

Cast: Padmanabh Bind, VijayaLaxmi, Sambhaji Bodkhe

A differently abled househusband and his transgender partner discover happiness at the end of their miserable day with the assistance of care and affection for each other in an utopian building in the city where disabled, blind, gay, and queer people live peacefully.

FESTIVAL:
Bengal International Short Film Festival (BISFF) 2022
International Film Festival of South Asia Toronto 2022



Australian Premiere

Threads: Sustaining India's Textile Tradition

2022 | 60 Mins | Rating: G | **Hindi, English**

Director: Shuchi Kothari, Katherine Sender

Threads: Sustaining India's Textile Tradition features four Indian designers and their collaborations with traditional textiles artisans that produce fashion collections for a contemporary market.

FESTIVAL:
Jaipur International Film Festival 2022



Australian Premiere

Together

2022 | 23 Mins | Rating: G | **Hindi**

Director: Azad Alam

Cast: Natasha Rastogi, Sampa Mandal, Avtar Sahni, Akanksha Yadav, Nandish Das

Munmun, a migrant domestic worker and her employer, Rekha who are at loggerheads find themselves under the same roof during the lockdown. Together explores the changing dynamics of emotions and class differences at the time of shared crisis.

FESTIVAL:
New York Indian Film Festival 2022, Mumbai International Film Festival 2022, International Film Festival of South Asia, IFFSA Toronto 2022



Australian Premiere

Under the Waters

2022 | 18 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Marathi**

Director: Ambiecka Pandit

Cast: Nishant Bhavsar, Shivraj Waichal, Sameeha Sabnis

When a sexual transgression is inflicted upon a pubescent boy at the hands of an older teenage male, the two silently ricochet between anger and longing, fear and denial while on a beach vacation with their families.

FESTIVAL:
Indian Film Festival of Los Angeles 2022



Australian Premiere

Wagro

2022 | 10 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Konkani**

Director: Sainath S. Uskaikar

Cast: Shravan Fondekar, Sobita Kudtarkar, Pranav Tengse, Amodi Sanap, Sainath Somnath Uskaikar

A village boy from the marginalized strata of the society decides to move to the city. But as he spends his last day with his girlfriend, can he ever leave it all behind?

FESTIVAL:
Ottawa Indian Film Awards 2022

Streaming Australia-wide: 13 August onwards

These films are free to watch but we urge you to donate to Royal Children's Hospital if you can

Weekend

2022 | 30 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **English, Marathi**

Director: Arvind Gajanan Joshi

Cast: Anamika Dangre, Trupti Ashok Gaikwad

FESTIVAL:
International Film Festival
of South Asia Toronto
2021
Indian Film Festival
Stuttgart 2022

Arundhati and Ranjit, a couple meet in Pune to protest the rape and murder of a teenaged Dalit girl in a village close to the city. Certain events make them question their own privilege of caste and gender.

Who Am I

2022 | 122 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Hindi**

Director: Shireesh Khemariya

Cast: Chetan Sharma, Rishika Chandani, Surendra Rajan, Shashie Verma

FESTIVAL:
UK Asian Film Festival
2022

Bhavitavya, a philosophy student, is full of questions about life. When his favourite professor passes away, Bhavitavya embarks on a journey of self-discovery, wondering who he is and what his life means.

Woman with a Movie Camera

2022 | 104 Mins | Rating: MA15+ | **Malayalam**

Director: Atal Krishnan

Cast: Athira Santhosh, Mahitha UP

FESTIVAL:
International Film Festival
of Kerala 2022
Dialogue International
Film Festival 2022

Mahitha, a media student, visits her friend Athira at her house to film a day in her life as part of a documentary project which reveals the complexities of the personal and social lives of women in Kerala today.

Women Beyond Bollywood

2022 | 52 Mins | Rating: G | **Hindi, English**

Director: Rahila Bootwala

Cast: Aruna Raje, Leena Yadav, Shazia Iqbal



India's cinema industry is the largest in the world, and Bollywood is its flagship: stars, music, drama, not to mention rampant sexism, are its defining features. Today, a new generation of women filmmakers, independent and bold, are challenging the juggernaut, addressing taboo issues such as sexuality and revealing women as more than appendages to larger-than-life male heroes.

Xobdo-Nixobdo-Kolahol (Soul of Silence)

83 Mins | Rating: MA15 | **Hindi**

Director: Dhanjit Das

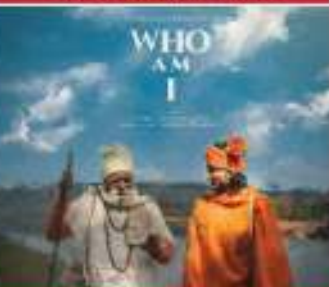
Cast: Anamika Sarania, Jeet Baruah

FESTIVAL:
International Film Festival
Thiruvur 2022

Labour families and individuals from rural Assam, India live a minimal lifestyle. Despite this, their emotional conflicts are always complex. Soul of Silence tells three stories that explore social structure of the region and the attitude of acceptance that makes their conflicts slightly chaotic.



WEEKEND
Australian Premiere



WHO AM I
Australian Premiere



WOMAN WITH A MOVIE CAMERA
Australian Premiere



WOMEN BEYOND BOLLYWOOD
International Premiere



XOBDO-NIXOBDO-KOLAHOL (SOUL OF SILENCE)
International Premiere

Indian Film Festival of
MELBOURNE
2022

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Festival Team

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Yash Raj Films, Dharma Productions, Fox Star Studios, Reliance India, Sony, Staff of Federation Square, Staff of HOYTS Chadstone, Staff of HOYTS District Docklands, Staff of HOYTS Highpoint, Staff of Palais Theatre and Staff of Arts Centre

A Big Hug to

Aditya Chopra | Ajay Jaiswal | Anuradha Sundaramurthy | Apoorva Bakshi | Ashish Chawla | Avtar Panesar | Balaji VS | Consul General of India, Melbourne, Shri Raj Kumar | Dhruv S Sinha | Gaurav Verma | Girish Singh Kavia | Imtiaz Ali | Jill Bilcock | Jinsu John | Kabir Khan | Karan Johar | Karthik Arasu | Lewis | Minu Sharma | Nadeem Ahmad Khan | Neeraj Nanda | Nelson D'Souza | Onir | Prabhat Sangam | Pradeep Jaiswal | Rajeev Masand | Ranjodh Singh | Rima Das | Ronnie | S. Manzar | Shibhashish Sarkar | Shrishti Bakshi | Simi Garewal | Stephanie Mills | Tonee Sethi | Vaibhav | Vince Colosimo

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The team at Federation Square

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And all our wonderful volunteers and interns!

And all of you who entered our various competitions to make it such a roaring success!

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Film Schedule

HOYTS District Docklands

440 Docklands Dr, Docklands VIC 3008 | Ticket information: Email info@iffm.com.au or visit <https://www.hoyts.com.au>

DATE	DAY	TIME	FILM	LANGUAGE	DURATION
August 12	Friday	7.00 pm	Dobaaraa - Opening Night	Hindi	120 mins
August 13	Saturday	3.45 pm	Gandhi & Co.	Gujarati, English	101 mins
August 13	Saturday	6.30 pm	Donkeyhead	English	106 mins
August 14	Sunday	3.45 pm	Paka (River of Blood)	Malayalam	101 mins
August 14	Sunday	6.30 pm	The Road to Kuthriyar	English, Tamil	115 mins
August 15	Monday	7.00 pm	Rehana Maryam Noor	Bengali	107 mins
August 16	Tuesday	7.00 pm	Urf	Hindi	93 mins
August 17	Wednesday	7.00 pm	Jhini Bini Chadariya (The Brittle Thread)	Hindi, English, Shqipari, Hebrew	97 mins
August 18	Thursday	7.00 pm	Shoebbox	Hindi, Bengali, English	95 mins
August 19	Friday	4.00 pm	Paraasakthi (The Goddess) with team	Tamil	43 mins
August 19	Friday	7.00 pm	Two Sisters and a Husband	Hindi	104 mins
August 19	Friday	7.00 pm	Short Film Package Bad Omen, Kicking Balls, Maasa, The Daughter		97 mins
August 20	Saturday	3.30 pm	Fairy Folk	English	100 mins
August 20	Saturday	7.00 pm	The Rapist with team - Closing Night	Hindi	132 mins

HOYTS Highpoint

Rosamond Rd, Manlybryong VIC 3032 | Ticket information: Email info@iffm.com.au or visit <https://www.hoyts.com.au>

DATE	DAY	TIME	FILM	LANGUAGE	DURATION
August 13	Saturday	4.15 pm	Ladies Only	Hindi, English, Marathi	79 mins
August 13	Saturday	6.30 pm	Two Sisters And A Husband	Hindi	104 mins
August 14	Sunday	3.45 pm	Adh Chanani Raat (Crescent Night)	Punjabi	107 mins
August 14	Sunday	6.30 pm	Kasiminte Kadal (The Small Town Sea)	Malayalam	123 mins
August 15	Monday	7.00 pm	SHORT FILM PACKAGE with Maasa team		97 mins
August 16	Tuesday	7.00 pm	The Newspaper	Sinhala	103 mins
August 17	Wednesday	7.00 pm	Jaggi with team	Punjabi	117 mins
August 18	Thursday	7.00 pm	Shut Up Sena	Hindi/English	85 mins
August 19	Friday	4.30 pm	No Ground Beneath The Feet	Bengali	90 mins
August 19	Friday	7.00 pm	Boomba Ride	Mishing	76 mins
August 19	Friday	TBC	Abharkha (Desire)	Gujarati	95 mins
August 20	Saturday	3.45 pm	Dug Dug	Hindi	107 mins
August 20	Saturday	6.30 pm	Paka (River of Blood)	Malayalam	101 mins

HOYTS Melbourne Central

Swanston St & La Trobe St, Melbourne VIC 3000 | Ticket information: Email info@iffm.com.au or visit <https://www.hoyts.com.au>

DATE	DAY	TIME	FILM	LANGUAGE	DURATION
August 13	Saturday	3.45 pm	Chhello Show (Last Film Show)	Gujrati	112 mins
August 13	Saturday	6.30 pm	Dug Dug	Hindi	107 mins
August 14	Sunday	3.45 pm	Pather Panchali (Song of the Little Road)	Bengali	122 mins
August 14	Sunday	6.45 pm	Abharkha (Desire)	Gujarati	95 mins
August 15	Monday	7.00 pm	Ayana (Mirror) with team	Hindi, Urdu	69 mins
August 16	Tuesday	7.00 pm	No Land's Man with team	Hindi, English, Urdu, Bengali, French	101 mins
August 17	Wednesday	7.00 pm	WOMB Women of My Billion with team	Hindi, English, Tamil, Telugu	97 mins
August 18	Thursday	7.00 pm	Maali (Gardener) with team	Hindi	92 mins
August 19	Friday	7.00 pm	Joyland with team	Urdu, Punjabi	126 mins

All films have English subtitles unless specified.

All programs and films are accurate while going to print but are subject to change. For updated program, please check our website www.hoyts.com.au closer to the event.

Film Schedule

HOYTS Chadstone

1341 Dandenong Road, Chadstone VIC 3148 | Ticket information: Email info@iffm.com.au or visit <https://www.hoyts.com.au>

DATE	DAY	TIME	FILM	LANGUAGE	DURATION
August 13	Saturday	4.45 pm	Niraye Thathakalulla Maram (Tree Full of Parrots)	Malayalam	90 mins
August 13	Saturday	7.00 pm	Shoobox	Hindi, Bengali, English	95 mins
August 14	Sunday	4.00 pm	Dostojee (Two Friends)	Bengali	111 mins
August 14	Sunday	6.45 pm	Pedro	Kannada	105 mins
August 15	Monday	7.00 pm	Jhini Bini Chadariya (The Brittle Thread) with team	Hindi, English, Bhojpuri, Hebrew	97 mins
August 16	Tuesday	7.00 pm	Lunana: A Yak in the Classroom	Dzongkha	109 mins
August 17	Wednesday	7.00 pm	Boomba Ride	Mishing	76 mins
August 18	Thursday	7.00 pm	Once Upon a Time in Calcutta	Bengali	129 mins
August 19	Friday	4.00 pm	Ayu	Tamil	116 mins
August 19	Friday	7.00 pm	Niraye Thathakalulla Maram (Tree Full of Parrots)	Malayalam	90 mins
August 19	Friday	TBC	Shankar's Fairies	Hindi	93 mins
August 20	Saturday	3.45 pm	Aparajito	Bengali	127 mins
August 20	Saturday	6.45 pm	Apur Sansar (The World of Apu)	Bengali	107 mins

FEDERATION SQUARE

Swanston St & Flinders St, Melbourne VIC 3000 | Ticket information: Email info@iffm.com.au or visit <https://www.hoyts.com.au>

DATE	DAY	TIME	FILM	LANGUAGE	DURATION
August 13	Saturday	3.00 pm	83	Hindi	161 mins
August 13	Saturday	6.00 pm	Badhaai Do	Hindi	147 mins

SPECIAL EVENTS – Q & A'S

DATE	DAY	TIME	GUEST	FILM	VENUE
August 15	Monday	7.00 pm	Ritu Saini, Faraha Khan, Nilanjan Bhattacharya	Ayena (Mirror)	HOYTS Melbourne Central
August 15	Monday	7.00 pm	Pradnya Dugal, Tej Dugal	Short Film Package with Maasa team	HOYTS Highpoint
August 16	Tuesday	7.00 pm	Megan Mitchell	No Land's Man	HOYTS Melbourne Central
August 17	Wednesday	7.00 pm	Apoorva Bakshi, Srishi Bakshi	WOMB Women Of My Billion	HOYTS Melbourne Central
August 17	Wednesday	7.00 pm	Anmol Sidhu, Ramnish Chaudhary, Pardeep Kumar Mannan	Jaggi	HOYTS Highpoint
August 18	Thursday	7.00 pm	Sonali Rana, Pragya Kapoor, Shiv C Shetty	Maali (Gardener)	HOYTS Melbourne Central
August 19	Friday	4.00 pm	Apoorva Bakshi	Paraasakthi (The Goddess)	HOYTS District Docklands
August 19	Friday	7.00 pm	Saim Sadiq, Apoorva Guru Charan, Ali Junejo, Rasti Farooq, Alina Khan	Joyland	HOYTS Melbourne Central

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