

Indian Film Festival of **MELBOURNE**

2023

Principal Partner



VICSCREEN



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INDIAN CINEMA



Message From The Honorable Premier

Daniel Andrews

It's my pleasure to welcome you to the 2023 Indian Film Festival of Melbourne.

Now running for its 14th edition, IFFM is the biggest celebration of Indian cinema outside of India.

Events like IFFM give Victorians from all walks of life the opportunity to come together, share their stories and celebrate different cultures – and there's nothing more Victorian than that.

From opening night to special screenings and dance competitions, IFFM showcases the very best of Indian storytelling.

Thank you to the organisers, workers, volunteers and creatives who make IFFM such a success – and enjoy the festival.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dan Andrews'.

The Hon Daniel Andrews MP
Premier of Victoria



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Camera shown with optional accessories and lens.



Steve Dimopoulos

Welcome to the 2023 Indian Film Festival of Melbourne – the biggest celebration of Indian cinema outside of the sub-continent.

The richness and diversity of Indian cinema will hit the big screen in Melbourne's iconic venues and theatres, alongside a packed program of events and cultural celebrations.

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

Thank you to the IFFM team for helping us to realise that goal by programming such a diverse and exciting festival with IFFM 2023.

I look forward to seeing you there!



Steve Dimopoulos MP
Minister for Creative Industries



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What's On



CITY OF MELBOURNE

Sally Capp

Fresh film ideas are always welcome in a city as diverse and creative as Melbourne. The Indian Film Festival of Melbourne celebrates the best of cinema in all its forms and the City of Melbourne is proud to be a longstanding supporter.

Australia's growing relationship with India is expressed in many cultural events that bring us together, from community gatherings to arts events. Against this backdrop, the festival theme of identity perfectly captures the mood of the moment.

The organisers are to be congratulated for introducing "My Melbourne", which seeks out stories from underrepresented communities. We look forward to welcoming new and regular audiences to the city.

On behalf of the City of Melbourne I wish all involved every success. You help make Melbourne a more vibrant and welcoming city for all.




Sally Capp
Lord Mayor



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Message From The Festival Director

Mitu Bhowmick Lange AM

Welcome to the 14th Indian Film Festival of Melbourne 2023!

With great pleasure, I extend my heartfelt greetings to all supporters celebrating the vibrant spirit of Indian and South Asian cinema with us, fourteen years strong! In a world embracing automation and AI, the arts and cinema offer a vital counterbalance – a space for introspection, imagination, and human connection. Our theme this year, IDENTITY, urges us to look inward, embracing our roots, values, and choices in life.

Over the course of our journey thus far, we have had the immense honour to showcase some of the most groundbreaking films, facilitate interactions with pathbreaking filmmakers, and helped discover new, budding talent through our platform, and we are ecstatic to bring you yet another wonderful season of such delightful cinema. This year, we've carefully curated a selection of films from India and the subcontinent, from thought-provoking documentaries, and soul-stirring independent films, to entertaining shorts – each film crafted to touch your soul and fill you with pride. We also bring the festival to you as we screen films on our website and App, offering you the opportunity to make the most of our program, in the comfort of your home.

Beyond cinema, join us in interactive panel discussions with India's finest writers, directors, producers, and actors. Let's unite as a community in heart-pumping, foot-tapping events like the Indian Dance Competition and the glamorous Awards Night. Our pride lies in showcasing talented works from independent filmmakers in The IFFM Short Film Competition, fostering insightful conversations and meaningful connections.

A heartfelt thanks to our sponsors, collaborators, dedicated team, and volunteers for making this festival a reality. Without them, this extravagant celebration of cinema wouldn't be possible.

So, come on over. Let our festival comfort you like a hot chai on a cold, wintry Melbourne day!



Mitu Bhowmick Lange AM
IFFM Festival Director





Abhishek Bachchan

Abhishek Bachchan is one of the most prolific and beloved actors in Indian cinema. After making his debut in 2000 with *"Refugee"*, his versatility as an actor, skills as a producer, and broad range of films over the last two decades has earned him global recognition and some of the highest accolades.

In addition to three Filmfare Awards, Bachchan also won a National Film Award for Best Feature Film in Hindi for producing the comedy-drama *"Paa"* (2009). His stellar performances have led to the international success of numerous blockbuster hit films such as *"Dhoom"* (2004), *"Bunty Aur Babli"* (2005), *"Kabhi Alvida Naa Kehna"* (2006), *"Guru"* (2007), *"Dostana"* (2008), *"Delhi-6"* (2009), and more.

With such an illustrious career, it is no surprise that Bachchan's films not only break box-office records, but also go on to become timeless classics that find 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.

Bachchan has impressed audiences with his noteworthy performances in films such as *"Manmarziyan"* (2018), *"Ludo"* (2020) and *"Dasvi"* (2022). We look forward to welcoming Abhishek Bachchan at IFFM 2023 where he showcases his exceptional talent in the Opening Night film, R. Balki's *"Ghoomer"*.





Angad Bedi

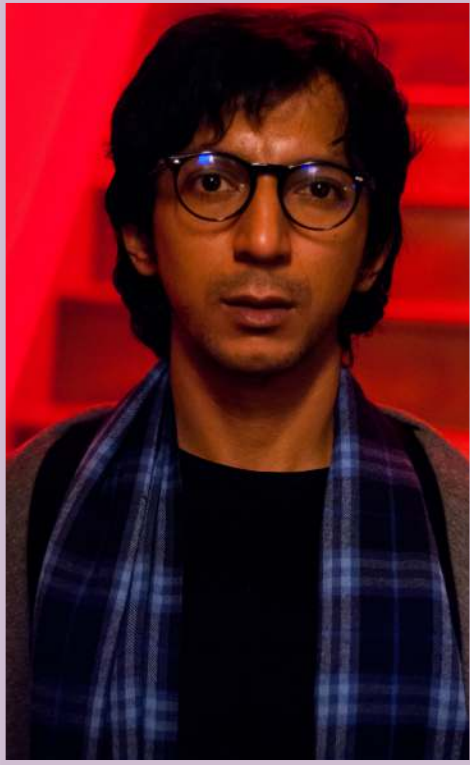
Angad Bedi made his acting debut with *"Pink"* in 2016. He is also known for his roles in *Dear Zindagi* in 2016 and *Tiger Zinda Hai* in 2017.

Bedi starred in the anthology film *"Lust Stories"* alongside Mrunal Thakur and veteran actress Neena Gupta. Meet Angad Bedi at the world premier of R. Balki's *"Ghoomer"* on opening night.

Anjali Menon

Anjali Menon is a filmmaker and screenwriter, celebrated for her authentic storytelling. From the nostalgic *"Manjadikuru"* (2008) to *"Ustad Hotel"* (2012), *"Bangalore Days"* (2014) to the recent *"Wonder Women"* (2022), her works garner critical acclaim and commercial success. Anjali's profound exploration of relationships and societal norms, along with her screenwriting brilliance in *"Happy Journey"* (2014) and *"Kooda"* (2018), have earned her numerous awards. A revered force in Malayalam cinema, she continues to inspire and entertain with her impactful narratives, leaving a lasting mark on viewers worldwide.





Anshuma Jha

Anshuman Jha, a prominent figure in Indian cinema, has enthralled audiences with versatile performances in films including "Love, Sex Aur Dhokha," (2010) "Chauranga," (2014) and "Hum Bhi Akele..." (2019). From an early start as an Assistant Director to esteemed filmmakers, he also ventured into directing stage plays such as "Kindertransport" and "Dirty Talk." As the founder of First Ray Films, he has produced thought-provoking gems like "mona_darling" and "Hum Bhi Akele, Tum Bhi Akele." With his feature directorial debut "Lord Curzon Ki Haveli" (Curzon's Manor) world premiering at IFFM 2023, His directorial debut "Lord Curzon Ki Haveli" (Curzon's Manor) pays homage to Alfred Hitchcock and will have its world premiere at IFFM 2023.

Anurag Kashyap

Anurag Kashyap, a highly acclaimed Indian director, writer, and producer, fearlessly reshapes Indian filmmaking with bold and unconventional narratives. His directorial debut "Black Friday" (2004) sparked a trailblazing journey. Films like "Dev.D" (2009), "Gangs of Wasseypur" (2012), and "Sacred Games" (2018-19) showcased his gritty realism and innovative storytelling. "Dobaaraa" (2022) was applauded by audiences worldwide for its gripping screenplay. Kashyap's contributions to cinema earned him numerous awards, including four Filmfare Awards and the Ordre des Arts et des Lettres from France. Championing independent cinema through Good Bad Films, he continues to captivate audiences, making him one of India's most influential and respected filmmakers. Meet him at IFFM 2023 on closing night for the special screening of his latest film fresh from its Cannes 2023 premiere, "Kennedy."





Arjun Mathur

Arjun Mathur is an Emmy-nominated star with training from Barry John in Delhi and Lee Strasberg in New York. In 2007, he played pivotal roles in short films by renowned filmmakers Mira Nair and Farhan Akhtar that screened at Toronto Film Festival (2007). His impressive performances in "*Luck By Chance*" (2009), "*My Name Is Khan*" (2010) and web-series "*Made In Heaven*" (2019-2023) solidified his position as a versatile and accomplished actor, garnering international acclaim.

Bhumi Pednekar

Bhumi Pednekar is an actress renowned for her powerful portrayals of headstrong women and addressing social issues. From her debut in "*Dum Laga Ke Haisha*" (2015) to versatile performances in "*Toilet: Ek Prem Katha*" (2017) and "*Sonchiriya*," (2019) she captures hearts and critics' acclaim. Ranked 5th among "Best Bollywood Actresses" in 2020, Bhumi fearlessly pushed boundaries in "*Badhaai Do*" (2022), winning the Filmfare Critics Award for Best Actress, as a bold lesbian character. Beyond the screen, she advocates for the environment, supporting sustainability and climate change initiatives. With dedication and impact, Bhumi Pednekar shines as a formidable force in Indian cinema.





Diksha Jyote Routray

Matchbox Shots co-founder Diksha Routray's 10-year career graph is a testimony of her multipotentiality. Her short film "Red Velvet" (2019) was nominated at the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne as well as the Filmfare Awards. Through her ability to recognise exceptional talent and provide it with a suitable platform at Matchbox Shots, Routray has been crucial to the success of films and series like "Monica O My Darling" (2022) and "Scoop" (2023). Her resolute commitment to bringing captivating narratives to the forefront of cinema is evident through the two mesmerizing movies produced under the Matchbox Shots label this year, which are set to be showcased at IFFM 2023 - "All India Rank" and "Three of Us."

Dinesh Vijan

Dinesh Vijan is a visionary Indian film producer, director, and co-founder of Maddock Films. With an exceptional flair for storytelling, he crafts unique and compelling narratives that capture hearts worldwide. With critically acclaimed and commercially successful films like "Cocktail" (2012), "Badlapur" (2015), "Hindi Medium" (2017), and "Stree" (2018) under his belt, Vijan has emerged as a force to be reckoned with. His latest production "Bhediya" (2022) has earned an impressive 13 nominations at the Filmfare Awards. His passion for fresh ideas leaves a lasting impact on the Indian cinematic landscape, making him an innovative and celebrated personality in the industry.





Fatima Khatun

Fatima Khatun is an indomitable embodiment of strength and resilience. Despite enduring immense challenges as a survivor of human sex trafficking, she now fights to rescue, emancipate, and support girls trafficked into Forbesganj's red-light areas. Beyond being a survivor, Fatima refuses to let her past traumas define her, courageously standing against inter-generational prostitution and systemic exploitation of young girls in her community.

Her determination and selflessness make her a true hero, inspiring positive change even in the face of adversity. Fatima Khatun's story showcases the unwavering strength of the human spirit and the potential to make a difference in the lives of others.

Gaurav Verma

Gaurav Verma is a seasoned producer and COO of Red Chillies Entertainment, behind captivating films such as *"Kaamyaab"* (2018), *"Badla"* (2019), *"Bob Biswas"* (2021), *"Love Hostel"* (2022), and *"Darlings"* (2022). Gaurav also ventured into series with binge-worthy shows including *"Bard of Blood"* (2019) and *"Betaal"* (2020). His journey began in 1997 with PVR, mastering cinema operations and distribution. At Disney-UTV, he handled blockbuster distributions like *"Raajneeti"* (2010) and *"Chennai Express"* (2013), alongside acclaimed films like *"Barfi"* and *"Paan Singh Tomar"* (2012). Get ready for his exciting upcoming projects, including *"Bhakshak," "Kartavya,"* and the highly anticipated *"Jawan"* with Shah Rukh Khan, as Gaurav Verma continues to weave cinematic magic.



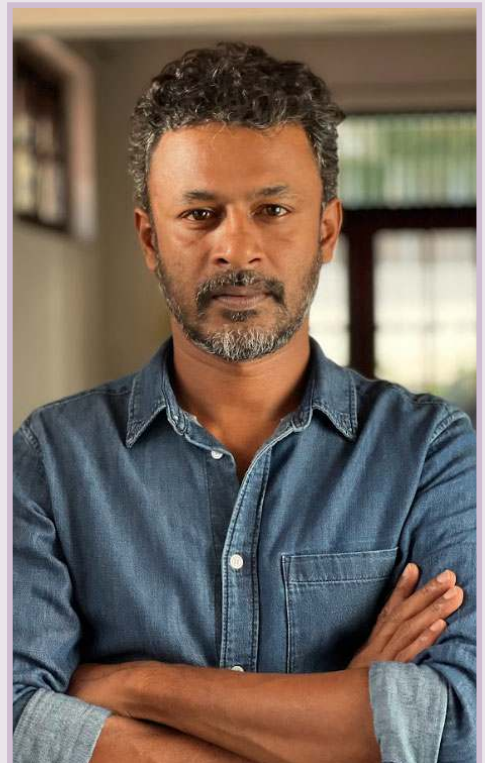


Hanu Raghavapudi

Hanu Raghavapudi, a talented Indian director and screenwriter, left his mark on the Telugu film industry with his debut *"Andala Rakshasi"* (2012) and subsequent works *"Krishnagaadi Veera Prema Gaadha"* (2016) and *"Sita Ramam"* (2022), a widely successful romance/historical drama. Known for his unique storytelling and directorial finesse, he captivates audiences and remains a sought-after talent in Telugu cinema, promising more remarkable films in the future.

Jagath Manuwarna

Jagath Manuwarna, a celebrated writer, director, and human rights activist from Sri Lanka, has acted in internationally recognized films including *"Ayu"* (2020), *"Paangshu"* (2020), *"Nikini Wessa"* (2013), and *"Karma"* (2010), which he co-wrote. His short films, focusing on suppressed youth uprisings, earned numerous awards in Sri Lanka. His feature-length debut, *"Whispering Mountains,"* premiered at the International Film Festival Rotterdam in February 2023, winning the NETPAC Award for Best Asian Feature Film, further cementing Jagath's reputation as a talented filmmaker. Meet Jagath Manuwarna at the screening of the film at IFFM 2023.





Jasmeet K. Reen

Jasmeet K. Reen, a creative force with a passion for storytelling, began her journey in advertising before making her mark in the Hindi film industry. As Chief Assistant Director, Associate Director, and Screenplay Writer, she showcased her versatile talents in the films "*Zinda*" (2006) and "*Force 2*" (2016). However, her breakthrough came with her debut film "*Darlings*," featuring an ensemble cast and captivating global audiences. Jasmeet's transition from advertising to cinema highlights her talent and unwavering love for storytelling, solidifying her position as a creative powerhouse in the industry.

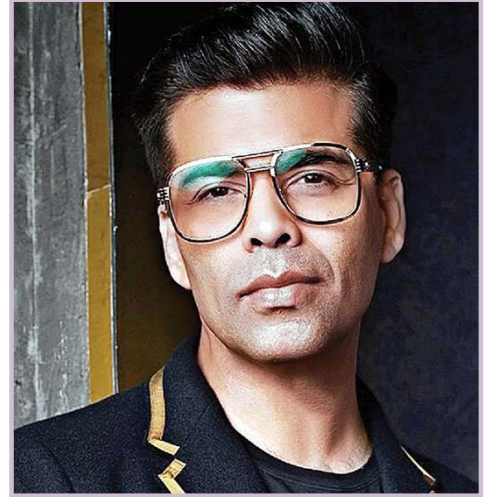
Kanu Behl

Kanu Behl, a visionary director, studied filmmaking at the Satyajit Ray Film and TV Institute. He gained recognition with the documentary "*An Actor Prepares*" (2006). He went on to produce and direct three more documentaries, earning recognition internationally. Later, he co-wrote widely appreciated and critically acclaimed "*LSD: Love Sex and Dhokha*" (2010). His feature debut "*Titli*" (2014) premiered at Cannes and earned critical acclaim. With a focus on raw emotions, unconventional narratives, and creative exploration, Kanu Behl continues to make his mark on Indian cinema. His second feature film, "*Agra*," will be screened at IFFM 2023.



Karan Johar

A filmmaker that needs no introduction, Karan Johar is a visionary storyteller that has been reshaping contemporary Indian cinema since the 90s. With a unique flair for larger-than-life productions, he effortlessly captures the audience's hearts. His directorial debut, *"Kuch Kuch Hota Hai"* (1998), not only won prestigious awards but also put Indian cinema on the global map, igniting a lasting love for Bollywood. Honored with a National Film Award and Filmfare Awards, he received the esteemed Padma Shri in 2020.



From heartwarming family dramas like *"Kabhi Khushi Kabhie Gham"* (2001) and *"Kabhi Alvida Naa Kehna"* (2006) to thought-provoking works like *"My Name Is Khan"* (2010) and romantic dramas *"Ae Dil Hai Mushkil"* (2016), each creation garners critical acclaim and commercial success, captivating audiences worldwide. As the owner of Dharma Productions, he has produced numerous diverse, successful films that have broken box-office records, transcended borders, and resonated with audiences worldwide such as *"Dostana"* (2008), *"Kapoor and Sons"* (2016), *"Raazi"* (2018), *"Brahmastra"* (2020) and many more.



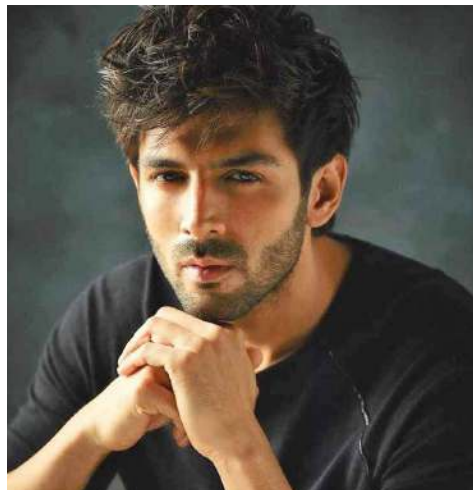
Celebrated for portraying complex emotions and societal issues with unmatched finesse, Karan leaves an indelible mark on Bollywood. Celebrate 25 glorious years of his directorial brilliance at IFFM 2023, and prepare to be spellbound as he continues to be a driving force in shaping the future of Bollywood cinema.



Kartik Aaryan

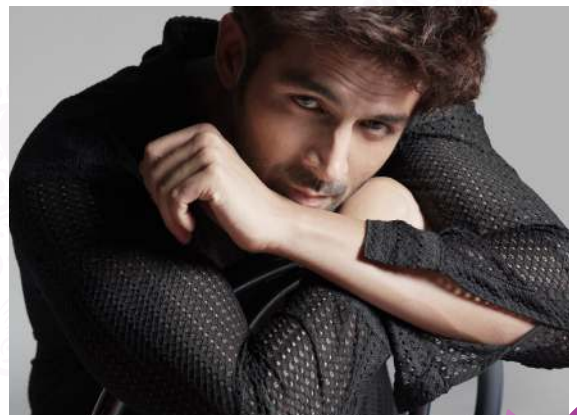
Kartik Aaryan is a highly regarded actor and a rising global superstar. The success of his most recent film "*Satyaprem Ki Katha*" has not only added to his list of box office successes but has also made him one of the youngest and most profitable global stars.

Coming from the small town of Gwalior in Madhya Pradesh, India, he made his debut with Luv Ranjan's "*Pyaar Ka PUNCHAMA*" (2011). The film, featuring complete outsiders and newbies, became a sleeper-hit at the box office, with Kartik's monologue becoming the USP of the film.



This fan-made Kartik Aaryan's journey included working with numerous newer directors, delivering hit after hit at the box office and on OTT platforms. From "*PKP 2*" (2015), "*Sonu Ke Titu Ke Sweety*" (2018), "*Luka Chuppi*" (2019), "*Pati Patni Aur Woh*" (2019), "*Bhool Bhulaiyaa 2*" (2022), "*Dhamaka*" (2022) to "*Freddy*" (2022), he always had something new for his fans, exploring different genres and roles. From the start of his career he has consistently been able to surprise audiences positively. Even his dance numbers became chartbusters, with his hook steps going viral and trending on the internet for a long time.

Kartik's reach on social media is giant amidst the netizens, reigning on all platforms with millions of followers. What makes Kartik Aaryan's journey exceptional is the fact that he swiftly climbed up the ladder without any Godfather or film connection in Bollywood, making a place for himself at the top. Known as one of the most versatile actors of the next generation, Kartik is a favourite among the masses and the heartthrob of the nation, truly an inspiration to many.





Malaika Arora

Malaika Arora, an actress, film producer, model, dancer, and TV personality, is renowned as one of Bollywood's finest dancers. Her career began as a model, featuring in ad campaigns and music videos. The iconic song "*Chaiyya Chaiyya*" from "*Dil Se*" (1998) catapulted her to fame with her sizzling dance performances. As a producer, she achieved success with "*Dabangg*" (2010), winning Filmfare and National Film Awards. Her appearance in "*An Action Hero*" (2022) was also well-received. With exceptional talent and charisma, Malaika remains an icon of beauty and grace in the Indian entertainment industry. IFFM 2023 is excited to welcome her back as the judge for IFFM Dance Competition.

Mohit Agarwal

Mohit Agarwal is a multi-talented artist who has donned the hat of a director, actor and musician throughout his career. He began his journey as an actor gaining expertise from the National School of Drama, Barry John's Acting Academy and Anupam Kher's Actor Prepares. For the past 11 years, Agarwal has been an active member of the Mumbai theatre community, acting in 25 plays, and directing three. His debut film as an actor was a Lithuanian comedy, "*Sventa Karve*." He made his directorial debut with a one-take short film based on Shakespeare's "*Midsummer Night's Dream*." After acting in music videos and advertisements, he most recently played the lead role in Kanu Behl's "*Agra*" (2023) that will be screened at IFFM 2023.





Mrunal Thakur

Mrunal Thakur gained fame for her acting through TV series "*Mujhse Kuchh Kehti... Yeh Khamoshiyaan*" (2001) and "*Kumkum Bhagya*" (2014-16). Her big screen breakthrough came with "*Love Sonia*" (2018) that showcased her acting prowess and made her an artist to watch out for. It was followed by successful, critically acclaimed films like "*Super 30*" and "*Batla House*" in 2019 "*Toofan*" and "*Dhamaka*" in 2021. Most recently, she starred in the widely acclaimed Telugu film "*Sita Ramam*" (2022) and Netflix series "*Lust Stories 2*" (2023). Boasting a compelling combination of beauty and versatility, Thakur remains a rising star in Indian cinema, set to captivate audiences at IFFM 2023.

Nelson D'Souza

Nelson D'Souza, Yash Raj Films' Vice President - International Distribution, has over 25 years of experience in the industry. His strategic vision expanded YRF's global presence in film distribution, television, and home video markets. Formerly with BMG India, he's a key figure in transforming the industry, making Indian cinema mainstream in diaspora markets. Nelson's expertise drives YRF's international success, solidifying their position as a global entertainment powerhouse.





Onir

Onir is an accomplished filmmaker challenging norms with socially relevant cinema. Renowned for "*My Brother... Nikhil*" (2005) and "*I Am*" (2010), he has garnered immense acclaim for boldly shedding light on taboos. His latest film, "*Pine Cone*" (2023), advocates for true representation of the LGBTQIA+ community and will be screened at IFFM 2023. As a producer, he nurtures independent cinema through his production company Anticlock Films, providing a platform for emerging talent and experimental narratives. With numerous accolades and 16 film awards, Onir's work continues to push boundaries and leave a lasting impact on both Indian and international film scenes. His passion for meaningful, impactful storytelling that questions gender and social constructs make him an exemplary filmmaker in the contemporary Indian industry.

Paresh Pahuja

With exceptional skills as an actor and musician, Paresh Pahuja soared to fame with his remarkable debut alongside Salman Khan in "*Tiger Zinda Hai*" (2017). His recent success in the groundbreaking film "*Lakadbagha*" (2023), the world's first Animal Lover Vigilante Film, further solidified his position in the industry.

Paresh's acting journey began with TV commercials, featuring in over thirty ads for renowned brands such as Samsung, Bajaj, 7Up, and more. His talent and presence continue to make an impact, not only in films but also in the dynamic world of advertising. Meet Paresh Pahuja at the world premiere of his latest film, "*Lord Curzon Ki Haveli (Curzon's Manor)*"





Priyanka Dutt

Priyanka Dutt, an accomplished Indian film producer, made significant contributions to Telugu cinema. She co-produced "*Balu*" at 20, and later founded Three Angels Studio, showcasing her innovation in filmmaking. Her short film "*Yaadon Ki Baraat*" was screened at Cannes in 2013, earning global recognition. Priyanka Dutt's most latest film "*Sita Ramam*" has achieved widespread acclaim.

R. Balki

R. Balki is a two-time National Award-winning Indian filmmaker and advertising maven. From crafting impactful campaigns in advertising to directing critically acclaimed films like "*Cheeni Kum*" (2007), "*Paa*" (2009), "*Shamitabh*" (2015), "*Ki & Ka*" (2016) and "*Chup: Revenge of the Artist*" (2022), Balki's thought-provoking narratives and socially relevant themes have carved a distinctive niche in Indian cinema. He has produced the widely acclaimed "*English Vinglish*" (2012) and served as creative director, writer and co-producer on "*Mission Mangal*" (2019). Balki's commendable approach to cinema has earned him numerous accolades, cementing his status as one of India's most respected and influential filmmakers. Anticipate his latest creation, the world premiere of "*Ghoomer*" at the opening night of IFFM 2023.





Rahul Bhat

With a powerful performance in *"Ugly"* (2013), Rahul Bhat emerged as a promising actor, breathing life into diverse characters on screen. From intense roles in *"Jai Gangaajal"* (2016) and *"Section 375"* (2019), to the much-anticipated *"Kennedy"* (2023), he captivates audiences effortlessly. His versatile talents extend to television, solidifying his position as one of India's most promising actors. Rahul Bhat's star continues to rise, inspiring aspiring artists nationwide with his undeniable talent.

Rajeev Masand

Rajeev Masand is a highly respected Indian film critic and entertainment journalist known for insightful reviews and in-depth interviews. His work is acclaimed for objective analysis of Indian and international films. As the COO at Dharma Cornerstone Agency, he promotes exceptional talent and impactful storytelling. Rajeev's presence at Indian Film Festival of Melbourne 2023 further establishes him as a key influencer in Indian cinema, with prestigious awards like the National Film Award for Best Film Critic recognizing his contributions to the industry.





Rani Mukerji

Rani Mukerji stands tall as a cherished and respected icon of Indian cinema. Her talent and charisma have won her critical acclaim worldwide with unforgettable performances in timeless films such as "Kuch Kuch Hota Hai" (1998), "Black" (2005), "No One Killed Jessica" (2011), "Mardaani" (2014), and more recently, "Hichki" (2018), "Mardaani 2" (2019), and "Bunty Aur Babli 2" (2021) among others.

As an acting powerhouse, Rani has been honoured with seven prestigious Filmfare awards, one of India's most esteemed achievements in cinema. In 2017, she received the Outstanding Contribution to Cinema Award from the Government of Mauritius, a testament to her lasting impact on cinema across the world.



Her most recent social drama, "Mrs Chatterjee vs Norway" (2023), has received both critical acclaim and commercial success for her bold, affecting and sensitive performance as a resolute mother fighting an unjust system to be reunited with her children.

With an illustrious career spanning decades, Rani Mukerji is one of Bollywood's most accomplished and beloved talents celebrated for her unwavering dedication and acting brilliance. Beyond her stellar career, Rani Mukerji is equally admired for her philanthropic endeavours, reflecting her compassionate and caring nature. Her commitment to supporting causes that uplift women and children highlights the depth of her generous spirit. In the ever-evolving world of Bollywood, Rani Mukerji remains an embodiment of talent and kindness, inspiring women and fans around the world.



Rima Das

Rima Das is a celebrated Indian director known for her tender storytelling and intimate portrayals of human emotions and rural stories. Her debut film "*Village Rockstars*" (2017), which she directed, wrote, and produced, earned international acclaim and was India's entry to the 91st Academy Awards. Das continues to impress with her powerful storytelling in her subsequent works, "*Bulbul Can Sing*" (2018) and "*Tora's Husband*" (2022), the latter of which will be screening at IFFM 2023. With a unique perspective and filmmaking style, Das is a significant voice in global cinema. Meet Rima Das at the screening of *Tora's Husband*.

Rithvik Dhanjani

Rithvik Dhanjani is a highly regarded actor, host, and television personality who gained fame as Arjun Kirloskar in "*Pavitra Rishta*." With a natural flair for hosting, he excelled and won awards on the shows "*Nach Baliye 6*" and "*I Can Do That*". He also explored web series and short films including "*XXX: Uncensored*," "*Cartel*," and "*Arranged*," showcasing his versatility. Rithvik's charm, talent, and dedication continues to keep audiences energised and entertained. Catch Rithvik Dhanjani's stellar hosting in action at the ANZ Plus Indian Film Festival of Melbourne Awards Night.





Saiyami Kher

Saiyami Kher is an Indian actress who primarily works in Hindi and Telugu films. She made her acting debut with the Hindi film *Mirzya* (2016), for which she received a Stardust Award for Superstar of Tomorrow – Female. Kher made her Marathi film debut with *Mauli* (2018) and went on to act in *Choked* (2020) and *Wild Dog* (2021). She made her web debut with *Special OPS* (2020). Kher initiated her career with the Telugu action movie *Rey* as Amruta in 2015. She got featured in the Hindi epic romantic fantasy film *Mirzya* directed by Rakesh Omprakash Mehra as Suchitra in 2016. In 2018, she appeared in the Marathi action drama movie *Mauli* as Renuka. She acted in the Netflix original drama movie *Choked* played the lead role of Sarita Pillai in 2020. The same year, she played the role of Ayesha Hussain in the Amazon Prime anthology movie *Unpaused* in 2020. She starred in the Netflix Telugu action thriller movie *Wild Dog* as Arya Pandit in 2021. Her most recent release was *Faadu* in December 2022, a romance-drama web series, directed by Ashwiny Iyer Tiwari. Kher has several releases scheduled this year. Meet Saiyami Kher and see her in her latest role in the world premiere of *Ghoomer* at IFFM opening night.

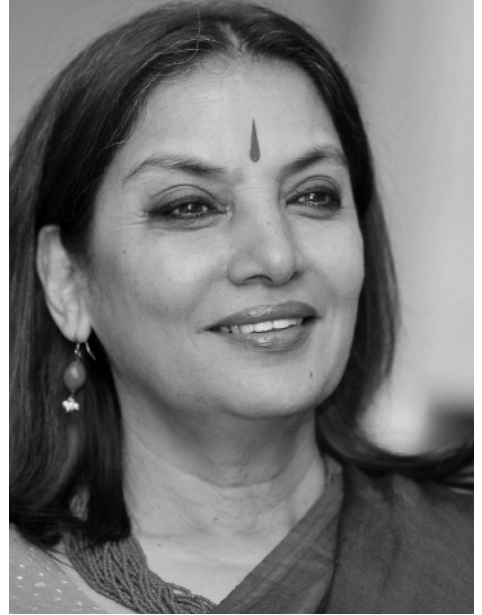
Sarita Patil

Sarita Patil is the dynamic and enterprising co-founder of Matchbox Shots, the force behind various acclaimed films and series such as "*Monica O My Darling*" (2022) and "*Scoop*" (2023). From being a part of the leadership teams of some of the biggest names in film and production houses such as Balaji Telefilms, Viacom 18, UTV Motion Pictures, to spearheading several feature films and digital content, Patil brings 28 remarkable years of experience and leadership skills to the table. Her unwavering dedication to bringing compelling stories to life on the screen is evident through the two captivating films produced under the Matchbox Shots banner this year that will be playing at IFFM 2023 - "*All India Rank*," and "*Three of Us*."



Shabana Azmi

Shabana Azmi is an Indian actress with an illustrious career across film, television, and theatre. Her career in the Hindi film industry spans over 160 films, mostly within independent and neorealist parallel cinema, but she has also worked in mainstream films and several foreign projects. One of India's most acclaimed actresses, Azmi is known for her portrayals of distinctive, often unconventional female characters across various genres. She holds a record five National Film Awards for Best Actress, in addition to five Filmfare Awards and several international accolades. The Government of India honoured her with the Padma Shri in 1998 and the Padma Bhushan in 2012.



The daughter of poet Kaifi Azmi and stage actress Shaukat Azmi, she received the gold medal for the best student in acting at the Film and Television Institute of India, Pune. Azmi made her film debut in 1974 with *"Ankur."* She was one of the first actresses to achieve success in both mainstream and parallel cinema with equal acclaim. Distinguished filmmaker Satyajit Ray wrote in his book *"Our films Their films"*: "Shabana Azmi in her first film *Ankur* pulls out all the stops and establishes herself as one of the finest dramatic actresses in the country." Recently, Shabana Azmi starred in Shekhar Kapur's *"What's Love Got To Do With It"* and Steven Spielberg's web series *"Halo."* Her latest film *"Ghoomer"* will have its world premiere at IFFM 2023.

In addition to acting, Azmi is a social and women's rights activist. She is married to poet and screenwriter Javed Akhtar and serves as a Goodwill Ambassador of the United Nations Population Fund (UNPFA). In recognition of Azmi's life and work, the President of India appointed her as a nominated (unelected) member of the Rajya Sabha, the upper house of parliament. IFFM 2023 is incredibly proud and thrilled to have her as the guest of honour, hoisting the Indian Flag at Alexandra Gardens on the 12th of August!





Sunny Leone

Sunny Leone is a multi-talented actor, producer, author, and entrepreneur. She made her Bollywood debut in "*Jism 2*" (2012) which established her as an actor to watch out for. Since then, her performance in diverse film roles such as in "*Ek Paheli Leela*" (2015) and "*Tera Intezaar*" (2017) have garnered praise from critics and audiences alike. Beyond the spotlight, Leone is also an author of a novel named "*Sweet Dreams*" (2016). Her entrepreneurial endeavors are as impressive as her artistic achievements. She successfully launched her own line of perfumes, cosmetics, and fashion products, showcasing her keen business acumen and the ability to excel in diverse domains as the co-founder of Suncity Media and Entertainment Company. Leone's latest role in Anurag Kashyap's "*Kennedy*" gained her worldwide recognition. "*Kennedy*" (2023), premiered at the prestigious Cannes International Film Festival and will screen for closing night at IFFM 2023 where you can meet Sunny Leone.

Swapna Dutt

Swapna Dutt, a prominent Indian film producer, is known for her impactful contributions to Telugu cinema. Her passion for storytelling led to the critically acclaimed films "*Mahanati*" (2018) and "*Sita Ramam*" (2022), both winning prestigious awards. Swapna's dedication to cinema and innovative storytelling have earned her respect in the industry. Audiences eagerly await her future projects, expecting excellence from this visionary producer.





Taran Adarsh

Taran Adarsh is a prominent Indian film critic and trade analyst, known for accurate box office predictions and insightful reviews. As the editor of "*Bollywood Hungama*," he provides up-to-date news and exclusive interviews, shaping the discourse on Indian cinema. Adarsh's unbiased approach and passion for promoting quality content and supporting emerging talent contribute to the industry's global growth and recognition.

Varun Grover

Varun Grover, the multi-talented Indian comedian, writer, lyricist, and poet, captivates with his sharp wit and creative brilliance. From stand-up comedy to exceptional screenplay writing to soulful lyricism, Grover is well-known for his contribution to the success of internationally acclaimed films "*Masaan*" (2015), "*Gangs of Wasseypur*" (2012) and "*Dum Laga Ke Haisha*." National-award winning Grover left a profound impact on the Indian entertainment industry with his role as the lead writer and Executive Producer of "*Sacred Games*" (2018-19). "*Kiss*," a short film written and directed by Grover, screened at IFFM in 2022. His feature directorial debut "*All India Rank*" (2023), which will be screened at IFFM 2023, further solidifies his versatile artistry.



Vignesh Kumulai

Vignesh Kumulai is the skilled cinematographer and rising director behind the triumph of *"Pebbles"* (Koozhangal, 2021), winner of the Tiger competition award at International Film Festival Rotterdam and India's entry to the Academy Awards. His directorial debut, *"Karparaa"* (2023), impressed audiences at the International Film Festival Rotterdam. With a blend of creativity and talent, Vignesh Kumulai is a multi-talented filmmaker, currently leaving an indelible mark with his striking vision. Meet Vignesh Kumulai at the screening of his film *"Karparaa"*.



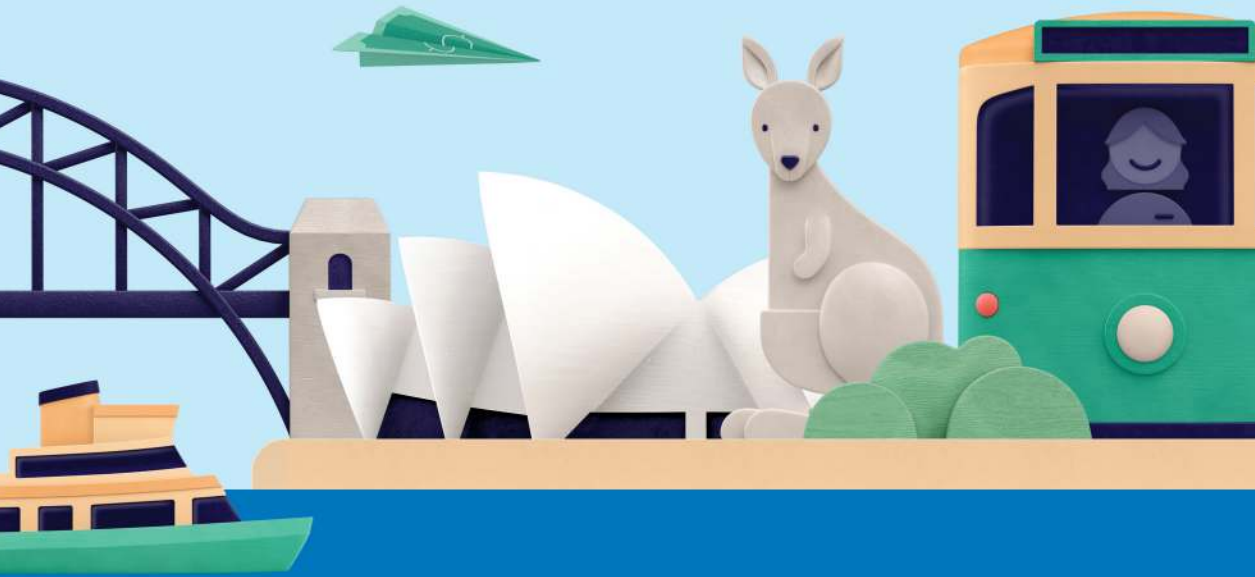
Vijay Varma

Vijay Varma is a versatile actor who has taken the Hindi cinema and webseries world by storm. Rising to prominence with *"Pink"* (2016), he continued to shine in acclaimed roles like *"Gully Boy"* (2019) and *"Baaghi 3"* (2020). His exceptional portrayal of unconventional and bold characters in *"Mirzapur"* (2020-present), *"She"* (2021), *"Darlings"* (2022) earned him widespread acclaim and a devoted fan base. Varma's recent performances in *"Dahaad"* (2023) and *"Lust Stories 2"* (2023) showcase his depth and diversity as an artist. With a promising future ahead, Vijay Varma's talent and dedication make him a rising force in the Hindi film industry. Witness this artist's undeniable talent and charm at IFFM 2023.

Zoha Rahman

Zoha Rahman is a trailblazing British-Pakistani actor and model, celebrated for her pioneering role as the first hijab-wearing character in the Marvel Cinematic Universe in *"Spider-Man: Far from Home"* (2019). Professionally trained at the Identity School of Acting, she has shattered stereotypes and brought diversity to the forefront of entertainment. With her Bollywood debut in *"Lord Curzon Ki Haveli"* (2023), Zoha continues to make a remarkable impact, inspiring audiences worldwide.

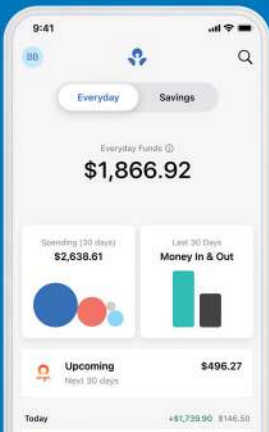




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Events – ANZ Plus IFFM Awards Night

Presented by



Friday, August 11, 6:30PM for 7PM start

Hamer Hall

100 St Kilda Rd, Southbank, Melbourne

Welcome to the most glamorous and zestful night of the year – where excellence in cinema takes centre stage!

Join us as we celebrate the very best of Indian and South Asian films, honouring the visionary directors, captivating storytellers, and passionate casts and crews that bring those stories to life.

Hosted by the charming Rithvik Dhanjani, ANZ Plus IFFM Awards Night 2023 promises to be a memorable evening filled with star-studded guests, glorious music, and the pure magic of cinema. You are bound to be mesmerized as we recognize and applaud the outstanding talents that have graced the silver screen!

Hosted by Rithvik Dhanjani

With his alluring charm, exuberant energy, and his intoxicating smiles, there's no one we trust more than Rithvik Dhanjani to make ANZ Plus IFFM Awards Night 2023 the most colourful and lively night ever!



Performances by

emotion21: Supported and promoted by The Inclusion Foundation, emotion21 provides innovative dance and fitness programs for children and young adults with Down Syndrome, aiming to enhance their lives and wellness. IFFM 2023 is overwhelmed with joy to have the talented dancers from emotion21 igniting the stage and setting the mood for ANZ Plus IFFM Awards Night 2023!



Indian Classical Dancers:

Experience the essence of Indian Classical Dance with IFFM! Join us as we proudly present the mesmerizing performances of Nithya Gopu Solomon, Sanchita Abrol, and Shyama Sasidharan, along with their respective schools – Natya Sudha, Kathaprana dance academy, and Prakalpa Samskruti. Enjoy the enchanting dance forms of Kathak, Mohiniyattom, and Kuchipudi. Lose yourself in this captivating sensory feast of rhythm and artistry!



Nithya Gopu Solomon



Shyama Sasidharan



Sanchita Abrol

IFFM Awards Jury

Feature Films Jury

Bruce Beresford

Bruce Beresford, an Australian Director with a remarkable 50-year career, has created over 30 extraordinary films. His portfolio includes acclaimed works such as "*Breaker Morant*" (1980), "*Tender Mercies*" (1983), "*Crimes of the Heart*" (1986), and the Academy Award-winning "*Driving Miss Daisy*" (1989). Among his other notable films are "*Black Robe*" (1991), "*Silent Fall*" (1994), "*Ladies in Black*" (2018), and "*Mao's Last Dancer*" (2009), which broke records at the Australian box office and earned numerous film-festival honours. In addition to films, Bruce has also directed several operas and theatrical productions.



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.



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.

IFFM Awards Jury

Streaming Platform Shows Jury

Adrienne Mckibbins

Adrienne, a film journalist, holds a keen interest in Indian Cinema. She has authored several articles on the subject and served on the nomination council for the Australia Pacific Screen Awards, advising on Indian film. Adrienne acted as a researcher for the APSA and CNN film co-production on Asian cinema. She has also been part of Asian film juries, including the FIPRESCI jury at the Delhi Film Festival. Currently, she serves as the awards manager for the Film Critics Circle of Australia.



Anna M.M. Vetticad

Anna M.M. Vetticad is an 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 such as India Today, Indian Express and India Today TV. She specialises in the intersection of cinema with feminist and other socio-political concerns.



Naman Ramachandran

Naman Ramachandran is an international correspondent with Variety with South Asia, Southeast Asia, U.K. and Ireland as territory specialities. Naman's work as an author includes *Rajinikanth: The Definitive Biography* (Penguin) and *Lights, Camera, Masala: Making Movies In Mumbai* (IBH). He is the writer and producer of the Netflix original film *Brahman Naman* (2016).



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.



Documentary Jury

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.



IFFM Awards Nominees

The core essence of the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne is to honour exceptional individuals from the Indian and South Asian film industries who fearlessly challenge norms, overcome barriers, and achieve greatness. IFFM takes pride in its diverse and captivating film collection that explores cinema from all angles and celebrates the remarkable talent of filmmakers, cast, and crew who breathe life into these stories. Carefully chosen by respected figures in Australian cinema and esteemed Indian film critics, these nominations truly embody the finest of Indian and subcontinent cinema.

Congratulations to all IFFM 2023 finalists – here are the best of Indian and South Asian cinema who made it into our nominations this year!

Best Feature Film



Bhediya
Hindi



**Brahmastra:
Part 1- Shiva** Hindi



Darlings
Hindi



Jogi
Punjabi



Kantara
Kannada



**Monica,
O My Darling** Hindi



Pathaan
Hindi



Ponniyin Selvan 1
Tamil



Ponniyin Selvan 2
Tamil



Sita Ramam
Telugu

Best Indie Film



**Aatmapamphlet (Auto-
bio-Pamphlet)** Marathi



Agra
Hindi



All India Rank
Hindi



Family
Malayalam



Gulmohar
Hindi



Hadineltu (Seventeeners)
Kannada



Joram
Hindi



Pine Cone
Hindi



Tori's Husband
Assamese



The Storyteller
Hindi



Zwigato
Hindi

IFFM Awards Nominees

Best Actor (Male) Feature



Chiyaan Vikram
Ponniyin Selvan 1 / 2



Dulquer Salmaan
Sita Ramam



Kapil Sharma
Zwigato



Manoj Bajpayee
Gulmohar



Manoj Bajpayee
Joram



Mohit Agarwal
Agra



Paresch Rawal
The Storyteller



Rajkummar Rao
Monica O My Darling



Rishab Shetty
Kantara



Shah Rukh Khan
Pathaan



Vijay Varma
Darlings

Best Actor (Female) Feature



Akshatha Pandavapura
Koli Esru



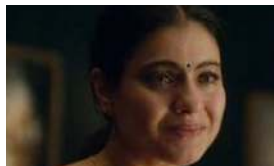
Alia Bhatt
Darlings



Aishwarya Rai Bachchan
Ponniyin Selvan 1/2



Bhumi Pednekar
Bheed



Kajol
Salaam Venky



Mrunal Thakur
Sita Ramam



Neena Gupta
Vadh



Rani Mukherjee
Mrs Chatterjee vs Norway



Sai Pallavi
Gargi



Sanya Malhotra
Kathal



IFFM Awards Nominees

Best Director



Ashish Avinash Bende
Aatmapamphlet
(Autobio-Pamphlet)



Anurag Kashyap
Kennedy



Anant Mahadevan
The Storyteller



Devashish Makhija
Joram



Don Palathara
Family



Kanu Behl
Agra



Mani Ratnam
Ponniyin Selvan 1 & 2



Nandita Das
Zwigato



Prithvi Konanur
Hadinelenutu (Seventeeners)



Rima Das
Tora's Husband



Siddharth Anand
Pathaan



Vasana Bala
Monica O My Darling

Best Documentary



Against The Tide
Marathi, Hindi



Be Kucheye Khoshbakht
(And, Towards Happy Alleys)
Persian, English



Dharti Latar Re Horo
(Tortoise Under The Earth)
Santhali



Fatima
Hindi



To Kill a Tiger
Nagpuri, Hindi



While We Watched
Hindi, English

IFFM Awards Nominees

STREAMING PLATFORM

Best Performance (Male) Series



Abhishek Bachchan
Breathe - Into the Shadows S2



Abhay Deol
Trial By Fire



Aparshakti Khurana
Jubilee



Prosenjit Chatterjee
Jubilee



Shahid Kapoor
Farzi



Sidhant Gupta
Jubilee



Vijay Sethupathi
Farzi



Vijay Varma
Dahaad

Best Performance (Female) Series



Rajshri Deshpande
Trial By Fire



Rasika Dugal
Delhi Crime S2



Shriya Pilgaonkar
The Broken News



Shefali Shah
Delhi Crime S2



Sriya Reddy
Suzhal: The Vortex



Sonakshi Sinha
Dahaad



Tillotama Shome
Delhi Crime 2



Wamiqa Gabbi
Jubilee

Best Series



Dahaad



Delhi Crime S2



Farzi



Jubilee



She S2



Suzhal: The Vortex



The Broken News



Trial By Fire



Events - Independence Day Celebrations

Saturday, August 12, 10:00AM

Alexandra Gardens

The Peppercorn Lawn, Melbourne 3004 – three minutes walk from Flinders Street station, opposite Hamer Hall and The Arts Centre.

Amidst the glitz and glamour of the festival, we gather in solidarity to pay homage to the 76th celebration of our nation's freedom – India's Independence Day.

Please join us on this momentous occasion as we unite in shared spirits with global cinema legend – Shabana Azmi, as she proudly hoists the tri-colour of saffron, white, and green, symbolising the triumph of India's unity, diversity, and resilience.



Shabana Azmi

Come and be part of this special celebration that transcends borders and brings us closer as a global community! VANDE MATARAM!



Enjoy entertaining music and vibrant performances before the flag goes up in the official ceremony! Then let's keep the party rolling at the IFFM Dance Competition right here in Alexandra Gardens.

Events - IFFM Dance Competition

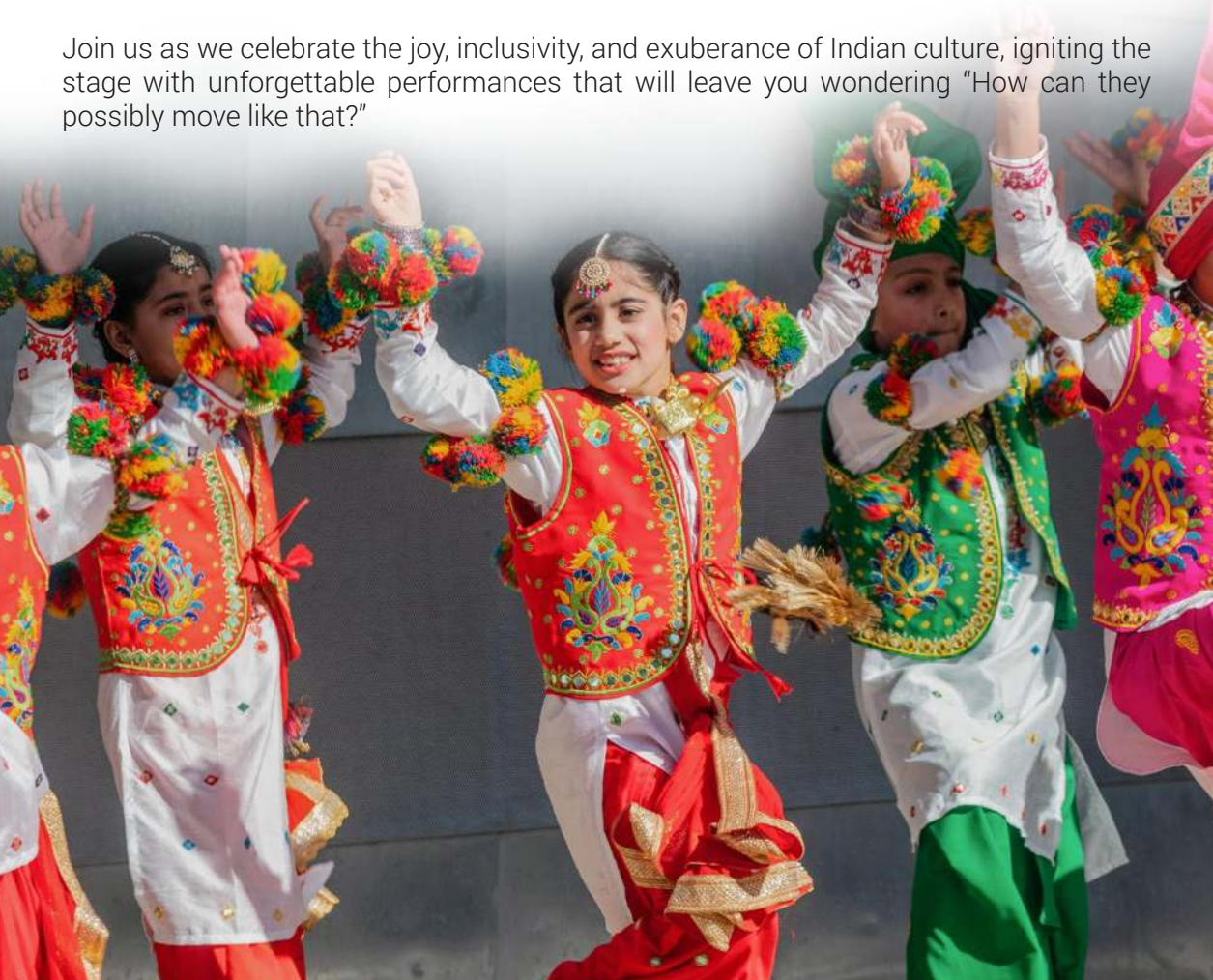
Saturday, August 12, 12PM

Alexandra Gardens

The Peppercorn Lawn, Melbourne 3004 – three minutes walk from Flinders Street station, opposite Hamer Hall and The Arts Centre.

Experience the dynamic magic of music, dancing, and the vibrant culture of India at the long-awaited IFFM Dance Competition. With the-one-and-only Malaika Arora and Aparshakti Khurana as the judge, you may want to bring your favourite pair of sunnies because you're about to be dazzled as zestful dancers and dancing enthusiasts showcase their skills, grace, and energy through the infectious rhythms of music.

Join us as we celebrate the joy, inclusivity, and exuberance of Indian culture, igniting the stage with unforgettable performances that will leave you wondering "How can they possibly move like that?"



Judges



Malaika Arora



Aparshakti Khurana



A warm reception in
a whole new language
– we know the feeling.

WELCOME TO WORLD CLASS

Events - Opening Night

Saturday, August 12, 7PM

Presented by Official Airline Partner

HOYTS District Docklands

440 Docklands Dr, Docklands, Melbourne

SINGAPORE AIRLINES



The Indian Film Festival of Melbourne kicks off its 14th year with a mesmerizing Opening Night with the World Premiere of R. Balki's highly anticipated sports drama – *Ghoomer*, starring Shabana Azmi, Abhishek Bachchan, Saiyami Kher, and Angad Bedi, setting the stage for a spectacular celebration of Indian and South Asian cinema.

WORLD PREMIERE



Join us on Opening Night for the special screening of *Ghoomer* and a very intimate Q&A session with the brilliant minds and talents behind the film afterwards.



Events - IFFM Chats With Rajeev Masand

Ready to engage with the innovative minds of the film industry? Discover the behind-the-scenes of Indian and South Asian cinema and gain fresh perspectives with the IFFM Chats series. Our engaging talks cover storytelling, filmmaking techniques, industry challenges, and opportunities. Whether you're an aspiring filmmaker or a film enthusiast, our sessions provide knowledge and inspiration. This year, esteemed film journalist Rajeev Masand returns as the moderator, ensuring insightful conversations with cinema leaders.



IFFM Curtain Raiser

Thursday, 10 August | The Immigration Museum

Rani Mukerji Masterclass: An Extraordinary Journey of the Exceptionally Talented Actress

On the eve of the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne, the iconic Rani Mukerji will guide you through an exclusive conversation on craft, characters and the power of cinema. From her early breakthroughs in acclaimed movies to her latest hit film *Mrs Chatterjee vs Norway*, Rani Mukerji's illustrious career is filled with a myriad of remarkable cinematic achievements. In conversation with Rajeev Masand, this is an unmissable opportunity to meet the versatile and talented Rani Mukerji and deep dive into the worlds and characters she has inhabited in film.



6:00 PM | 60 Minutes

Karan Johar: Celebrating 25 as a Filmmaker

It's been 25 years since Karan Johar made his directorial debut with the iconic *Kuch Kuch Hota Hai* in 1998, and we're thrilled to celebrate his career here in Melbourne! Having directed and/or produced some of the most influential Hindi films over the last three decades, Karan Johar will be here to share his invaluable insights. In conversation with Rajeev Masand, learn all about Karan Johar's journey through the film industry over his lifetime, the joys, the challenges, the stories behind some of the most memorable moments in cinema and his latest film, *Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahani*.



7:30 PM | 60 Minutes

Events - IFFM Chats With Rajeev Masand

Thursday, 10 August | The Immigration Museum

Kartik Aaryan: From a Self-Made Actor to a Rising Global Superstar

Have the exclusive opportunity to meet Kartik Aaryan and learn all about his journey from his early challenges and breakthroughs to becoming a sensation. From *Pyaar Ka Punchnama* in 2011 to his latest film *Satyaprem Ki Katha*, the charming, talented and highly sought-after actor continues to deliver hit after hit – a testament to his talent, craft and determination. In this unmissable event, Kartik will share heartfelt anecdotes, insights into the defining moments that shaped him, and glimpses into what the future holds.



9:00 PM | 60 Minutes

Sunday, 13 August | National Gallery of Victoria

In Conversation with Shabana Azmi

Celebrate the illustrious career of Shabana Azmi in an insightful conversation unpacking her journey through over 160 films. Hear Shabana Azmi herself reflect on the fascinating, powerful and unconventional roles she has portrayed, and gain insights into the skills and experiences that have made her one of India's most acclaimed talents. This unmissable conversation with a legend in world cinema and an avid social activist will leave you with unparalleled industry insights and creative inspiration.



11:00 AM | 60 Minutes | Clemenger BBDO Auditorium



Events - IFFM Chats With Rajeev Masand

Sunday, 13 August | National Gallery of Victoria

Globalisation of South Indian Cinema with The Sita Ramam Team, Anjali Menon & Prithvi Konanur

With the phenomenal success of films such as the *Baahubali* series, *Sita Ramam* and *RRR*, the rise of South Indian Cinema is making waves not only within India but globally. Dive into the contemporary landscape of South Indian cinema and unravel the secrets behind its appeal. Join the conversation with *Wonder Women* director Anjali Menon, *Hadinelentu (Seventeeners)* director Prithvi Konanur, and the team behind *Sita Ramam*, director Hanu Raghavapudi, and producers Swapna Dutt and Priyanka Dutt.



12:30 PM | 60 Minutes | Clemenger BBDO Auditorium

Bhumi Pednekar on Cinema's Role in Sustainability and the Climate Crisis

As filmmakers and creatives, what is our role in the climate crisis? How is cinema situating our place in the world, raising crucial awareness about the environment and inspiring action towards sustainable ways of living? Join the beloved and insightful actress and climate change advocate Bhumi Pednekar (*Dum Laga Ke Haisha*, *Badhaai Do*) as she delves into one of the greatest issues of our time.



2:00 PM | 60 Minutes | Clemenger BBDO Auditorium

The Darlings Team on Family Violence, Patriarchy and Empowerment

Family violence is a global health and human rights issue – we all either know someone who has been a victim of family violence, or we ourselves have been impacted. The success of the powerful and thought-provoking film *Darlings* subverted representations of gendered violence and oppression. Director Jasmeet K Reen, actor Vijay Varma, and producer Gaurav Verma from the *Darlings* team will join Dr Manjula O'connor to sensitively approach this dark reality, unpack representations of domestic violence, women, and relationships on our screens, and what cinema can do to spark urgent conversations and contribute positively.



3:30 PM | 60 Minutes | Clemenger BBDO Auditorium

Events - IFFM Chats With Rajeev Masand

Sunday, 13 August | National Gallery of Victoria

Filmmakers' Panel: Navigating Narratives that Challenge, Confront, and Break Conventions

How do filmmakers tackle stories that are complex and defy what is conventionally accepted to explore and talk about? Join acclaimed directors Anurag Kashyap (*Kennedy*), Diksha Jyote Routray (*Monica, O My Darlings*), Kanu Behl (*Agra*), Onir (*Pine Cone*), Sarita Patil (*Monica, O My Darlings*) and Vikramaditya Motwane (*Jubilee*), for an insightful discussion. These filmmakers have created compelling narratives, working with difficult and arguably contentious subject matters. Unpack the development of daring stories and the challenges and value of creating space for less represented perspectives to create impactful cinematic experiences.



5:00 PM | 60 Minutes | Clemenger BBDO Auditorium

Saturday, 19 August | National Gallery of Victoria

The My Melbourne Team on Authenticity, Belonging and Storytelling in Cinema

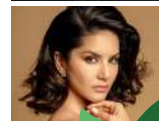
Gain exclusive insight into *My Melbourne* — an innovative upcoming anthology feature film in development, bridging India and Australia and pairing local emerging talent with prolific filmmakers from India. *My Melbourne* celebrates the true diversity of Melbourne, champions lived experience in the writing process, and digs deep into all the challenges of belonging, identity and connecting. With four key themes: Race, Gender, Sexuality and Disability, hear all about the process of working with these layered concepts and creating this film. You'll hear from key *My Melbourne* cast and crew.



12:00 PM | 60 Minutes | Community Hall

The Kennedy Team on The Changing Face of Sexuality in Indian Cinema

From breaking taboos and challenging societal norms, to the rise of diverse sexualities in Indian cinema, this groundbreaking conversation will delve into nuanced portrayals of sexuality and the dynamic shifts in culture and cinema. Hear all about the challenges, triumphs and hopes of diversifying representations of sexuality on screen. Join the conversation with the bold convention-breaking team behind *Kennedy* — Anurag Kashyap, Rahul Bhat and Sunny Leone.



1:30 PM | 60 Minutes | Clemenger BBDO Auditorium



WorldRemit
Make a world of difference

Indian Film Festival of
MELBOURNE
2023

ZERO FEES

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*Free service fee. Other charges may apply. New costumers only. Terms and conditions apply.

WorldRemit Short Film Competition



This year's IFFM WorldRemit Short Film Competition delves deep into the intricate tapestry of 'identity.'

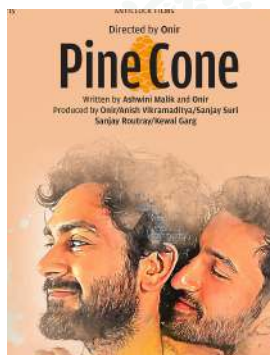
The theme aims to embrace the multifaceted dimensions of human identity by exploring its complexities, intersectionality, experiences, and the stereotypes associated with culture, ethnicity, gender, and individual and social aspects. Through the powerful medium of short films, we encouraged filmmakers to provoke thoughts, challenge perceptions, and shed light on the diverse narratives that shape who we are.

Let's celebrate the richness of human experiences and amplify voices that redefine the boundaries of identity and individuality!



Special Events - Q&As

Discover the next generation of filmmakers and immerse yourself in the mind-blowing magic of South Asian cinema. From Bollywood blockbusters to thought-provoking dramas and documentaries, our handpicked selection aims to offer audiences a glimpse into the vibrant cultural tapestry of India. Join us for exclusive Q&A sessions with filmmakers and actors after select screenings, gaining insights into their craft and enriching your experience.



Pine Cone Q&A with Onir

A leader in LGBTQIA+ cinema in India, Onir returns with an Australian premiere of his latest feature film *Pine Cone*, a celebration of queer life, love, and resilience. Join Onir to discuss the importance of authentic queer representation on screen.

6:30 PM, Sunday 13th August | HOYTS Docklands



Wonder Women Q&A with Anjali Menon

Join talented and remarkable director Anjali Menon for a thoughtful and warm conversation about sisterhood, storytelling, and all things related to her film *Wonder Women*.

7:00 PM, Monday 14th August | HOYTS Docklands



Agra Q&A with Kanu Behl & Mohit Agarwal

With a successful world premiere at the prestigious Cannes Film Festival, experience *Agra* alongside director Kanu Behl and actor Mohit Agarwal. Learn all about the filmmaking process and join the conversation on key contemporary issues that the film grapples with including gender and sexual repression.

7:00 PM, Tuesday 15th August | HOYTS Docklands



Fatima Q&A with lead cast Fatima Khatun

From the harrowing but hopeful documentary *Fatima*, meet Fatima herself – a woman who escaped a life of sex trafficking at the Indo-Nepali border and now fights for justice to bring hope to the next generation of young, vulnerable girls.

7:15 PM, Wednesday 16th August | HOYTS Docklands

Special Events - Q&As

IFFM CENTREPIECE SPOTLIGHT FILM

WORLD PREMIERE (OUT OF COMPETITION)

Thursday, August 17, 7PM

HOYTS Docklands

Join us for an unforgettable evening as we showcase the first ever screening of *Lord Curzon Ki Haveli* (*Lord Curzon's Manor*). Marking the directorial debut of Anshuman Jha, this black-comedy-thriller will be sure to leave you at the edge of your seat! The film stars exceptional actors Arjun Mathur, Rasika Dugal, Paresh Pahuja, Zoha Rahman, Tanmay Dhanania and Garrick Hagon.

Lord Curzon Ki Haveli (Lord Curzon's Manor) revolves around four Desis (South-Asians) in London who meet for a dinner party. "There is a dead body in the trunk," says the host to his guests. A revelatory night of madness ensues.

The actor-turned-director Anshuman Jha along with his cast members Arjun Mathur, Zoha Rahman and Paresh Pahuja, will be in attendance. So come on and be among the first to witness this compelling story unfold on the big screen!



Special Events - Q&As

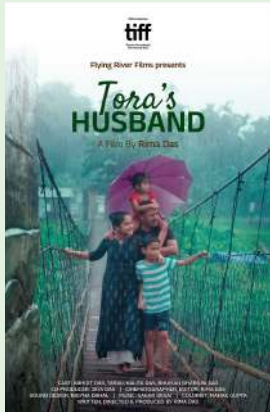


Karparaa Q&A with Vignesh Kumulai

Join director Vignesh Kumulai to discuss the creation and themes of the Tamil film *Karparaa*, unpacking elderly neglect, family and loneliness.



7:00 PM, Thursday 17th August | HOYTS Chadstone



Tora's Husband Q&A with Rima Das

Meet award-winning director Rima Das to learn all about her unique process of creating her latest film *Tora's Husband*, a sensitive portrait of family, loss, and lockdowns.



6:00 PM, Friday 18th August | HOYTS Docklands



Whispering Mountains Q&A with Jagath Manuwarna

With director Jagath Manuwarna, uncover important reflections with a deep dive into the world of *Whispering Mountains* – a darkly dystopian version of Sri Lanka plagued by corruption, political unrest and suicide.



6:30 PM, Saturday 19th August | HOYTS Docklands

Sunday, August 20, 7PM

HOYTS District Docklands

440 Docklands Dr, Docklands, Melbourne

On the last day of IFFM 2023 in-person festival, with a tinge of nostalgia and a sense of fulfilment, we bid farewell to yet another remarkable chapter of the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne.

Join us in saying goodbye to IFFM 2023 with the special screening of Anurag Kashyap's groundbreaking neo-noir thriller – *Kennedy*, starring Rahul Bhat, Sunny Leone, Megha Burman and Mohit Takalkar. Let's cherish the memories made and look forward to the cinematic wonders that await us in the coming year.

IFFM will be back and better than ever before!

KENNEDY

With a successful premiere at Cannes Film Festival 2023, *Kennedy* is a gripping neo-noir crime thriller that revolves around Kennedy, an insomniac former law enforcement officer believed to be dead, as he persistently navigates the realms of a corrupt establishment, driven by a quest for redemption.

The iconic director – Anurag Kashyap and the talented cast – Rahul Bhat, Sunny Leone and Megha Burman will be in attendance at the Closing Night so make sure you join us for one last ride!



Anurag Kashyap



Rahul Bhat



Sunny Leone



Megha Burman

Spotlight on Kartik Aaryan



Satya Prem ki Katha

2023 | 146 Mins | **Hindi**

Director: Sameer Vidwans

Cast: Kiara Advani, Kartik Aaryan, Gajraj Rao, Shikha Talsania, Rajpal Naurang Yadav, Supriya Pathak, Naveen Singh

Satya, a goofy man in his early thirties, hopes to marry Katha, who seems out of his league. His dreams come true when her parents propose marriage. Satya embarks on a journey to win her love, discovering himself and becoming a worthy husband.

9:30 PM, Wednesday, 9 August, HOYTS District Docklands



Luka Chuppi

2019 | 126 Mins | **Hindi**

Director: Laxman Utekar

Cast: Kartik Aaryan, Kriti Sanon, Aparshakti Khurana, Pankaj Tripathi

Pretending to be married in order to cohabit, a small-town couple lands in endless awkward situations to hide the truth from their orthodox families.

3:00 PM, Saturday, 12 August, Alexandra Gardens



Freddy

2022 | 124 Mins | **Hindi**

Director: Shashanka Ghosh

Cast: Kartik Aaryan, Alaya F, Karan Pandit

After falling in love with a woman in an abusive marriage, a socially awkward dentist goes to great lengths to win her affection. However, hidden secrets set him off on a dark path.

6:00 PM, Saturday, 12 August, Alexandra Gardens



Bhoor Bhulaiya 2

2022 | 143 Mins | **Hindi**

Director: Anees Bazmee

Cast: Kartik Aaryan, Kiara Advani, Tabu, Rajpal Naurang Yadav, Amar Upadhyay, Sanjay Mishra, Ashwini Kalsekar

When strangers Reet and Ruhan cross paths, their journey leads to an abandoned mansion and a dreaded spirit that has been trapped for 18 years.

3:30 PM, Saturday, 19 August, HOYTS Chadstone

Australian Premiere



A Holy Conspiracy

2022 | 143 Mins | **Hindi, Bengali, English, Santhali**

Director: Saibal Mitra

Cast: Soumitra Chattopadhyay, Naseeruddin Shah, Amrita Chattopadhyay, Sramon Chatterjee

In a small town, science teacher Kunal faces suspension for prioritizing Darwinian Evolution over the Biblical story of Creation, leading to a courtroom clash between former allies Reverend Basanta and Anton De Souza. Inspired by the Scopes Monkey Trial.

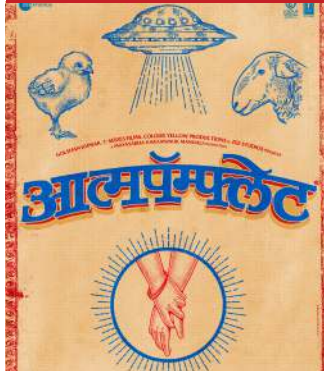
3:00 PM, Sunday, 20 August, HOYTS Chadstone

FESTIVAL:

Pune International Film Festival 2021
London Bengali Film Festival 2022

No Age restriction

Australian Premiere



Aatmapamphlet (Autobio-Pamphlet)

2023 | 90 Mins | **Marathi**

Director: Ashish Avinash Bende

Cast: Om Bendkhale, Pranjali Shrikant, Bhimrao Mude, Ketaki Saraf, Pares Mokashi

10-year-old Srushti's accidental hand-hold with Ashish at a school function sparks their first love. Witnessing societal and political changes, Ashish embarks on a quest for self-discovery and understanding of humanity.

4:00 PM, Saturday, 19 August, HOYTS District Docklands

FESTIVAL:

Berlin International Film Festival 2023
Zlin Film Festival 2023

No Age Restriction

Victorian Premiere



Against the Tide

2023 | 90 Mins | **Marathi, Hindi, Koli**

Director: Sarvnik Kaur

In Bombay, two indigenous Koli fishermen face desperation due to a decaying sea. As their families suffer, their friendship fractures, leading them on divergent paths in the pursuit of survival.

4:00 PM, Sunday, 20 August, HOYTS District Docklands

FESTIVAL:

World Cinema Documentary Special Jury Award: Verite Filmmaking - Sundance Film Festival 2023

No Age Restriction

Victorian Premiere



Agra

2023 | 132 Mins | **Hindi**

Director: Kanu Behl

Cast: Mohit Agarwal, Priyanka Bose, Vibha Chibber, Rahul Roy, Sonal Jha, Ruhani Sharma, Aanchal Goswami, Adhiraj Sharma, Devas Dixit, Babla Kochar, Gayatri, Sudhir Gulyani, Manoj Sharma, Charu, Shravan Kumar Dwivedi, Rajesh Agarwal

Guru, a young man working in a call center, faces complications when he wants to marry Mala and convert the terrace into their future bedroom, unveiling frustrations and taboos within an Indian patriarchal society.

7:00 PM, Tuesday, 15 August, HOYTS Docklands

6:30 PM, Thursday, 17 August, HOYTS Melbourne Central

FESTIVAL:

Cannes International Film Festival 2023

Restricted to persons aged 18+





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Ainaa Jhyal Ko Putali (Butterfly on the Windowpane)

2020 | 96 Mins | **Nepali**

Director: Sujit Bidari

Cast: TDinesh Khatri, Kanchan Chimariya, Siru Bista

Young Basanta risks everything to find Muna magazine, where his sister Bidya's published poem holds the hope she desperately needs to pursue her abandoned dreams of further education.

FESTIVAL:
Dhaka International Film Festival 2022,
Nepal International Film Festival 2023

No Age Restriction

9:15 PM, Sunday, 13 August, HOYTS Chadstone

Australian Premiere



All India Rank

2023 | 94 Mins | **Hindi**

Director: Varun Grover

Cast: Bodhisattva Sharma, Shashi Bhushan, Samta Sudiksha

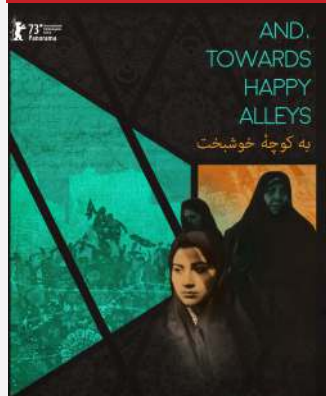
Vivek, 17, enrolls in IIT coaching in Kota, India, fulfilling his father's dream. While he grows, his parents also learn valuable lessons.

FESTIVAL:
International Film Festival of Rotterdam 2023

Restricted to persons aged 15 and over unless accompanied by an Adult

9:30 PM, Friday, 18 August, HOYTS District Docklands

Victorian Premiere



Be Kucheye Khoshbakht (And, Towards Happy Alleys)

2023 | 75 Mins | **Persian, English**

Director: Sreemoyee Singh

Cast: Afar Panahi, Nasrin Sotoudeh, Mohammad Shirvani, Jinous Nazokhar, Aida Mohammadkhani, Mina Mohammadkhani, Farhad Kheradmard

Immersed in Iranian cinema and poetry, a young filmmaker embarks on a self-reflective odyssey, capturing the lives of Tehran's filmmakers and women amidst a nation teetering on the edge of revolution.

FESTIVAL:
Berlin International Film Festival 2023
Thessaloniki Film Festival Greece 2023

Restricted to persons aged 15 and over unless accompanied by an Adult

7:00 PM, Sunday, 13 August, HOYTS Highpoint

Australian Premiere



Bhagwan Bharose

2023 | 94 Mins | **Hindi**

Director: Shiladitya Bora

Cast: Satendra Soni, Sparsh Suman, Vinay Pathak, Masumeh Makhija, Shrikant Verma, Manurishi Chaddha, Mahesh Sharma, Sawan Tank

Young, impressionable children Bhola and Shambhu question their ideas of faith as their world grows and intertwines with their nation's evolving socio-political landscape.

FESTIVAL:
Winner Best Film - UK Asian Film Festival 2023

No Age Restriction

7:00 PM, Monday, 14 August, HOYTS Melbourne Central



Bhool Bhulaiyaa 2

2022 | 143 Mins | **Hindi**

Director: Anees Bazmee

Cast: Kartik Aaryan, Kiara Advani, Tabu, Rajpal Naurang Yadav, Amar Upadhyay, Sanjay Mishra, Ashwini Kalsekar

When strangers Reet and Ruhan cross paths, their journey leads to an abandoned mansion and a dreaded spirit that has been trapped for 18 years.

3:30 PM, Saturday, 19 August, HOYTS Chadstone



Restricted to persons aged 15 and over unless accompanied by an Adult

Australian Premiere



Chaar Chappalein (Four Slippers)

2023 | 35 Mins | **Hindi**

Director: Anurag Kashyap

Cast: Randeep Jha, Sanjay Gandhi, Manav Kaul, Poonam Rajput

A psychosexual portrait of a thinking, desiring individual lost to hatred and communal polarisation.

3:00 PM, Sunday, 13 August, HOYTS Melbourne Central

FESTIVAL:
International Film Festival of Rotterdam 2023

Restricted to persons aged 18+



Chhaad (The Terrace)

2022 | 97 Mins | **Bengali**

Director: Indrani Chakrabarti

Cast: Paoli Dam, Arunnoday 'Rahul' Banerjee, Rajnandini Paul

A young schoolteacher's life revolves around the cherished Terrace, but its closure disrupts her creative journey, leading to a profound personal crisis.

9:00 PM, Sunday, 13 August, HOYTS Melbourne Central

FESTIVAL:
International Film Festival of South Asia (IFFSA) Toronto 2022

Restricted to persons aged 15 and over unless accompanied by an Adult

Australian Premiere



Dharti Latar Re Horo (Tortoise Under The Earth)

2022 | 97 Mins | **Santhali**

Director: Shishir Jha

Cast: Jagarnath Baskey, Mugli Baskey

Amidst Jharkhand's uranium mining region, a tribal couple mourns their daughter's death, finding solace in the land and forest. The film delves into the bond between indigenous communities and their ancestral home.

7:00 PM, Tuesday, 15 August, HOYTS Highpoint

FESTIVAL:
Mumbai Film Festival (MAMI) 2022, Vancouver International Film Festival

No Age Restriction

Australian Premiere



Ek Jagah Apni (A Place Of Our Own)

2022 | 88 Mins | **Hindi**

Director: Ektara Collective

Cast: Manisha Soni, Muskan, Aakash Jamra

Laila and Roshni, evicted trans women, search for a home, intertwining their quest for societal acceptance, forming new friendships, and finding help in unexpected places.

FESTIVAL:
Tokyo International Film Festival 2022
Queer Screen Sydney
Mardi Gras Film Festival 2023

Restricted to persons aged 15 and over unless accompanied by an Adult

9:15 PM, Saturday, 19 August, HOYTS District Docklands

Australian Premiere



Family

2023 | 111 Mins | **Malayalam**

Director: Don Palathara

Cast: Vinay Forrt, Divya Prabha, Nilja K Baby, K K Indira, Hridesh T B, Mathew Thomas

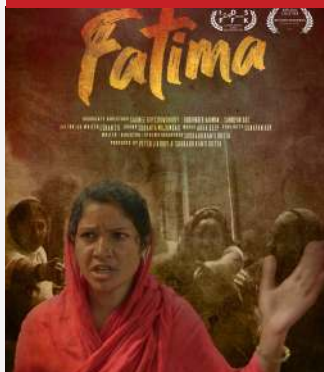
In rural central Kerala, Sony appears as a benevolent figure, but beneath his outward facade lies a hidden persona, revealing a contrasting nature.

FESTIVAL:
International Film Festival of Rotterdam 2023,
Bangalore International Film Festival 2023

No Age Restriction

7:00 PM, Tuesday, 15 August, HOYTS Chadstone

Australian Premiere



Fatima

2022 | 59 Mins | **Hindi**

Director: Sourabh Kanti Dutta

Cast: Fatima Khatun, Nagina Khatun, Jumni, Asif, Md. Maslim, Shoab Sheikh, Ravinath Lala, Mukesh Shah

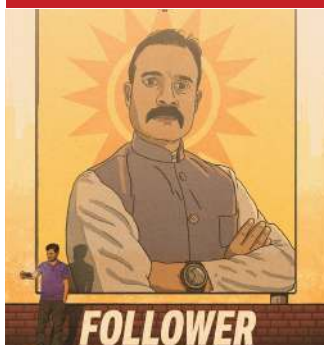
Fatima, forced into sex-trafficking at the Indo-Nepali border, defies traffickers, police, and societal norms to empower vulnerable children, becoming a beacon of hope in the face of darkness.

FESTIVAL:
International Documentary and Short Film Festival of Kerala 2022,
International Film Festival of India 2022

Restricted to persons aged 18+

7:00 PM, Wednesday, 16 August, HOYTS Docklands

Australian Premiere



Follower

2023 | 99 Mins | **Marathi, Kannada, Hindi**

Director: Harshad Nalawade

Cast: Raghu Prakash, Donna Munshi, Harshad Nalawade

In a divided town, a radical journalist seeks to expose atrocities, but his beliefs are fueled by half-truths from an extremist leader, leading to a dangerous situation.

FESTIVAL:
International Film Festival of Rotterdam 2023

Restricted to persons aged 15 and over unless accompanied by an Adult

7:00 PM, Monday, 14 August, HOYTS Chadstone



Press play to match your wavelength



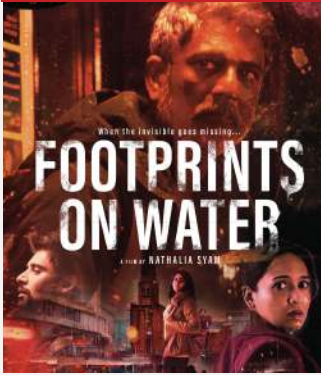
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Australian Premiere



Footprints on Water

2023 | 108 Mins | **English**

Director: Nathalia Syam

Cast: Adil Hussain, Nimisha Sajayan, Lena and Danny Sura

In the UK, an undocumented immigrant father searches for his missing daughter, navigating the constant threat of law enforcement surveillance.

FESTIVAL:

Best Debut Award - New York Indian Film Festival
2023 AWARDS: Best Actor & Best Director UK Asian Film Festival 2023

Restricted to persons aged 15 and over unless accompanied by an Adult

7:00 PM, Wednesday, 16 August, HOYTS Highpoint

Australian Premiere



Ghaath (Ambush)

2023 | 126 Mins | **Marathi**

Director: Chhatrapal Ninawe

Cast: Jitendra Joshi, Milind Shinde, Suruchi Adarkar, Janardan Kadam, Dhananjay Mandaokar

On the fringes of central India's Maoist-affected jungles, there is a tense interplay between guerrillas, civilians and the police.

FESTIVAL:

Berlin International Film Festival 2023

Restricted to persons aged 18+

7:00 PM, Sunday, 13 August, HOYTS Melbourne Central

World Premiere



Ghoomer

2023 | 140 Mins | **Hindi**

Director: R Balki

Cast: Shabana Azmi, Abhishek Bachchan, Saiyami Kher, Angad Bedi, Shivendra Singh Dungarpur, Ivanka Das, Neroli Meadows

Anina, a promising cricketer, loses her hand before her international debut. With the help of an unsympathetic and frustrated ex-cricketer, they secure her place in the Indian cricket team.



No Age Restriction

7:00 PM and 8:00 PM, Saturday, 12 August, HOYTS Docklands

Australian Premiere



Goldfish

2022 | 104 Mins | **English**

Director: Pushan Kripalani

Cast: Kalki Koechlin, Deepti Naval, Rajit Kapur

With help from a neighbourhood and a past she has shunned, a young woman returns home to deal with her mother's dementia and the scars of her childhood.

FESTIVAL:

Busan International Film Festival 2022, Raindance Film Festival 2022

Restricted to persons aged 15 and over unless accompanied by an Adult

7:00 PM, Tuesday, 15 August, HOYTS Melbourne Central



Australian Premiere



Gulmohar

2023 | 132 Mins | **Hindi**

Director: Rahul V. Chittella

Cast: Sharmila Tagore, Manoj Bajpayee, Simran Suraj Sharma, Kaveri Seth, Utsavi Jha, Santhy Jatin Goswami, Gandharv Dewan, Chandan Roy, Anuraag Arora, Devika Shahani, Sriharsh Sharma, Talat Aziz

The Batra family's departure from their longtime home prompts a rediscovery of the intricate bonds that unite them, unveiling secrets and insecurities within the family.

8:00 PM, Saturday, 12 August, HOYTS District Docklands

FESTIVAL:

New York Indian Film Festival 2023, Opening Film - Indian Film Festival of Stuttgart 2023

Restricted to persons aged 15 and over unless accompanied by an Adult

Australian Premiere



Hadinelethu (Seventeeners)

2022 | 122 Mins | **Kannada**

Director: Prithvi Konanur

Cast: Sherlyn Bhosale, Neeraj Matthew, Rekha Kudligi

The release of a leaked selfie sex video shot by two 17-year-olds in a college classroom causes irreversible harm to everyone involved.

6:30 PM, Sunday, 13 August, HOYTS Chadstone

FESTIVAL:

Busan International Film Festival 2022, International Film Festival of India 2022

Restricted to persons aged 15 and over unless accompanied by an Adult

Australian Premiere



Here is Where We Meet Again

2023 | 19 Mins | **Punjabi, Portuguese, Urdu, English**

Director: Obaid Mustafa

Cast: Rukhsana Begum, Sheikh David Munir

Away from home, the filmmaker reflects on his connections to his beloved, his motherland. Confined in a distant country because of the global pandemic, encounters bring back memories of home.

3:00 PM, Sunday, 13 August, HOYTS Melbourne Central

FESTIVAL:

People's Film Festival of Kolkata 2023

No Age Restriction

Australian Premiere



I'm Not the River Jhelum

2022 | 95 Mins | **Hindi, Kashmiri**

Director: Prabhash Chandra

Cast: Amba Suhasini K Jhala, Lokesh Jain, Hiba Qamar, Anand Kumar, Gandharv Dewan, Farooq Bilal Fazli, Syeda Hameed, Inder Salim

Afeefa grapples with the deep-rooted complexities of her surroundings, where trauma and violence are a constant presence.

7:00 PM, Friday, 18 August, HOYTS Highpoint

FESTIVAL:

Best Debut Director - International Film Festival of Kerala 2022

Restricted to persons aged 18+

Australian Premiere



iTales

2022 | 27 Mins | **Tamil, Hindi, English**

Director: Savita Singh, Pooja Shyam Prabhat, Rajshri Deshpande, Kutti Revathi, Madhumitha Venugopal

Cast: Farrukh Seyer, Vishal Prajapat, Pranjal Jain, Pooja Shyam Prabhat, Chrylsheelaa Christopher, Vamsi, Pappu, Lizzie Antony, Cable Shankar, Sowmya

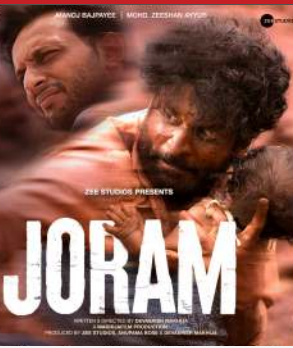
Anthology of five short films by Indian women filmmakers shot entirely on mobile phones.

3:00 PM, Sunday, 13 August, HOYTS Melbourne Central

FESTIVAL: Dharamshala International Film Festival 2022

Restricted to persons aged 15 and over unless accompanied by an Adult

Victorian Premiere



Joram

2022 | 138 Mins | **Hindi**

Director: Devashish Makhija

Cast: Manoj Bajpayee, Mohd. Zeeshan Ayyub, Smita Tambe, Megha Mathur, Tannishtha Chatterjee, Rajshri Deshpande

Migrant laborers Dasru and Vaano live anonymously with their infant daughter Joram on a Mumbai construction site. A brutal incident forces Dasru to cradle Joram in a sling and escape to the distant forests, seeking answers and survival, driven by a father's desperate determination.

7:00 PM, Monday, 14 August, HOYTS Highpoint

FESTIVAL: International Film Festival of Rotterdam 2023, Sydney Film Festival 2023

Restricted to persons aged 18+

Australian Premiere



Karparaa

2023 | 71 Mins | **Tamil**

Director: Vignesh Kumulai

Cast: Sundhrathammal, Aarumugam

An elderly bedridden couple, cared for by separate families, rely on reluctant children and grandchildren. Time passes, seasons change, and the couple waits while their caregivers prioritize smartphones over their needs.

7:00 PM, Thursday, 17 August, HOYTS Chadstone

FESTIVAL: International Film Festival of Rotterdam 2023

No Age Restriction

Victorian Premiere



Kennedy

2023 | 143 Mins | **Hindi, Marathi, English**

Director: Anurag Kashyap

Cast: Rahul Bhat, Sunny Leone, Mohit Takalkar

Kennedy, an insomniac former law enforcement officer believed to be dead, persistently navigates the realms of a corrupt establishment, driven by a quest for redemption.

7:00 PM and 8:00 PM, Sunday, 20 August, HOYTS Docklands

FESTIVAL: Cannes International Film Festival 2023, Sydney Film Festival 2023

Restricted to persons aged 18+



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Australian Premiere



Kukri

2022 | 96 Mins | **Urdu**

Director: Abu Aleeha

Cast: Yasir Hussain, Ayesha Omar

FESTIVAL:

Best Actor, Best Director - UK Asian Film Festival 2022

Restricted to persons aged 18+

The story of serial killer Javed Iqbal, who sexually abused and killed more than 100 children in Lahore between 1998 and 1999.

7:00 PM, Thursday, 17 August, HOYTS Highpoint

World Premiere



Lord Curzon Ki Haveli (Lord Curzon's Manor)

2023 | 108 Mins | **Hindi, English**

Director: Anshuman Jha

Cast: Arjun Mathur, Rasika Dugal, Paresh Pahuja, Zoha Rahman, Tanmay Dhanania & Garrick Hagon



Restricted to persons aged 18+

A dinner party in London brings together four South Asians. When Rohit reveals a dead body in the trunk, it triggers a night of wild madness.

7:00 PM, Thursday, 17 August, HOYTS Docklands

Victorian Premiere



Maagh (The Winter Within)

2022 | 99 Mins | **Urdu, Kashmiri**

Director: Aamir Bashir

Cast: Zoya Hussain, Shabir Ahmad Lone, Manzoor Ahmad

FESTIVAL:

KBS New Currents Audience Award - Busan International Film Festival 2022

Restricted to persons aged 15 and over unless accompanied by an Adult

In Srinagar, Nargis searches for her missing husband but is eventually forced to return home, finding solace and a silent escape through weaving in the haunting winter of Kashmir.

4:00 PM, Sunday, 13 August, HOYTS Chadstone

Australian Premiere



Moha (Desire)

2023 | 103 Mins | **Hindi**

Director: Santosh Sivan

Cast: Jaaved Jaaferi & Shaylea Krishen

FESTIVAL:

International Film Festival Rotterdam 2023

Restricted to persons aged 18+

A sage's encounter with a sword and a captivating maiden tests his purity and virtue, leading him down a path of violence and desire, challenging his connection with nature.

1:00 PM, Sunday, 20 August, HOYTS Melbourne Central



Australian Premiere

Nocturnal BURGER

film by REEMA MAYA



Nocturnal Burger

2023 | 27 Mins | **Hindi, English, Marathi**

Director: Reema Maya

Cast: Bebo Madiwal, Millo Sunka, Trupti Khamkar, Somnath Mandal, Shrikant Mohan Yadav, Mukesh Pachode, Pushpendra Singh

In Mumbai, a 13-year-old girl and a man in his 30s are brought to a police station by strangers. A female constable investigates the night's events and uncertain intentions.

3:00 PM, Sunday, 13 August, HOYTS Melbourne Central

FESTIVAL: Sundance Film Festival 2023

No age restriction

Australian Premiere

Opium

2022 | 77 Mins | **Hindi, English**

Director: Aman Sachdeva

Cast: Vinay Pathak, Manu Chadha, Geetika Vidya Ohlyan, Sharib Hashmi, Kabir Pahwa

Five unique stories from India intertwine in an anthology exploring religion's intoxicating effects, including a pinchpenny son, dystopian future, riots, a food delivery valet, and an innocent boy.

6:30 PM, Friday, 18 August, HOYTS Melbourne Central

FESTIVAL: Tokyo International Film Festival 2022, International Film Festival of Kerala 2022

Restricted to persons aged 15 and over unless accompanied by an Adult

Australian Premiere

PETT KATA SHAW

OFFICIAL SELECTION

Pett Kata Shaw

2023 | 120 Mins | **Bengali**

Director: Nuhash Humayun

Cast: Chanchal Chowdhury, Afzal Hossain, Sohel Mandal, Shirin Akhter Shila, Pritom Hasan

A modern revival of the mysterious and lurid plots of traditional South Asian folktales told from generation to generation.

9:00 PM, Saturday, 19 August, HOYTS Chadstone

FESTIVAL: International Film Festival of Rotterdam 2023, Fantasia International Film Festival 2023

Restricted to persons aged 18+

Australian Premiere

Pine Cone

Written by Adwait Malik and Onir
Produced by Oshin/Anish Vikramoditya/Sanjay Suri
Sanjay Rastogi/Novel Garg

Pine Cone

2023 | 95 Mins | **Hindi**

Director: Onir

Cast: Vidhur Sethi, Sahib Verma, Aniket Ghosh, Amit Gujar, Hanaan Bawra

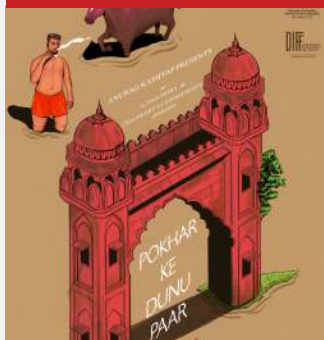
A semi-autobiographical film celebrating queer life, love, and resilience as filmmaker Sid Mehra navigates relationships across three transformative time periods.

6:30 PM, Sunday, 13 August, HOYTS District Docklands

FESTIVAL: Barcelona International Film Festival 2023, Rainbow Warrior Award - Kashish Mumbai International Queer Film Festival 2023

Restricted to persons aged 15 and over unless accompanied by an Adult

Australian Premiere



Pokhar Ke Dunu Paar (On Either Sides of the Pond)

2022 | 105 Mins | **Hindi**

Director: Parth Saurabh

Cast: Abhinav Jha, Tanaya Khan Jha, Dheeraj Kumar

FESTIVAL: Special Mention - New Directors Award at San Sebastian Film Festival 2022

Restricted to persons aged 15 and over unless accompanied by an Adult

During the 2020 pandemic, eloped couple Sumit and Priyanka seek refuge in their hometown. While Priyanka feels stifled by its familiarity, Sumit finds solace among his circle of friends.

4:00 PM, Saturday, 19 August, HOYTS Highpoint

Australian Premiere



Sanaa

2022 | 119 Mins | **Hindi**

Director: Sudhanshu Saria

Cast: Radhika Madan, Pooja Bhatt, Sohum Shah, Shikha Talsania, Nikhil Khurana, Navneet Nishan

FESTIVAL: Tallinn Black Nights International Film Festival 2022, Santa Barbara International Film Festival 2023

Restricted to persons aged 18+

Sanaa tells the story of a 28-year-old headstrong and ambitious woman working in Mumbai fighting an internal battle caused by unresolved trauma.

9:00 PM, Sunday, 13 August, HOYTS District Docklands

Australian Premiere



Shivamma

2022 | 104 Mins | **Kannada**

Director: Jaishankar Aryar

Cast: Sharanamma Chetti, Shivanand Sadar, Shivu Abbegere, Shruthi Kondenahalli

FESTIVAL: New Currents Award - Busan International Film Festival 2022, Hainan International Film Festival 2023

Restricted to persons aged 15 and over unless accompanied by an Adult

Poverty-stricken Shivamma, from a remote village in north Karnataka, risks her daughter's marriage by investing in a chain scheme, hoping to achieve success.

6:30 PM, Saturday, 19 August, HOYTS Chadstone

World Premiere



Tara The Singing Anklet

2023 | 44 Mins | **English**

Director: Vinod Mankara

Cast: Tara Rajkumar

FESTIVAL: World premiere at IFFM 2023

No age restriction

Tara Rajkumar OAM has contributed and led pioneering pathways to greater understanding of Indian arts and culture in the UK and Australia. This film sketches the artistic connections between India and Australia through the eyes of Tara Rajkumar who spent over 65 years of her life immersed in art. This is a film that will benefit multicultural communities and map the cultural links between the two nations.

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- ▶ Sponsor initiatives with a view to strengthen community spirit
- ▶ Support local artists by promoting talent
- ▶ Create a platform for meaningful debate
- ▶ Offer small and micro-businesses an affordable platform to advertise and grow their business: we have over 250 small and medium clients using our services on a regular basis.
- ▶ We keenly emphasise on celebrating ethnicity and culture, and everyone is welcome to join!



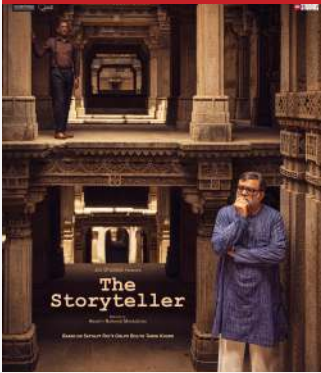
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Australian Premiere



The Storyteller

2022 | 116 Mins | **Hindi**

Director: Ananth Narayan Mahadevan

Cast: Padesh Rawal, Adil Hussain, Tannishtha Chatterjee, Revathy, Anindita Bose

Retired widower Tarini becomes a storyteller for insomniac businessman Garodia, leading to an intriguing tale of betrayal and revenge in Ahmedabad.

FESTIVAL: Busan International Film Festival 2022, International Film Festival of Kerala 2022

No age restriction

3:30 PM, Sunday, 20 August, HOYTS Melbourne Central

Australian Premiere



The Underbug

2023 | 68 Mins | **Hindi**

Director: Shujaat Saudagar

Cast: Ali Fazal, Hussain Dalal, Areenah Fatima

Amidst sectarian violence on the eve of India's Independence Day, two rioters seek shelter in an abandoned house. Haunted by an eerie presence, their sanity is pushed to its limits.

FESTIVAL: Breakouts Feature Grand Jury Prize - Slam Dance Film Festival 2023, Moscow International Film Festival 2023

Restricted to persons aged 18+

9:00 PM, Saturday, 19 August, HOYTS Highpoint

Australian Premiere



Three Of Us

2023 | 98 Mins | **Hindi**

Director: Avinash Arun Dhaware

Cast: Shefali Shah, Jaideep Ahlawat, Swanand Kirkire, Kadambari Kadam

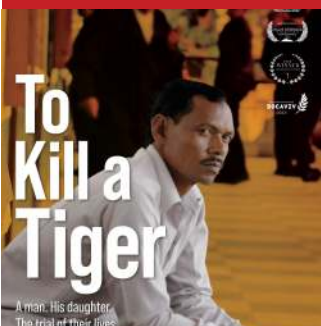
Shailaja, grappling with dementia, embarks on a confrontational journey through the Konkan coastline, seeking forgiveness and liberation from her past.

FESTIVAL: International Film Festival of India 2022, AWARDS: Best Actress - Shefali Shah, Best Director - New York Indian Film Festival 2023

Restricted to persons aged 15 and over unless accompanied by an Adult

4:00 PM, Sunday, 20 August, HOYTS Highpoint

Australian Premiere



To Kill a Tiger

2022 | 125 Mins | Rating: Adult | **Nagpuri, Hindi**

Director: Nisha Pahuja

Ranjit, a farmer in Jharkhand battles for justice after his child endures a horrific gang rape. In a country plagued by high rape rates and low convictions, his unwavering fight is extraordinary.

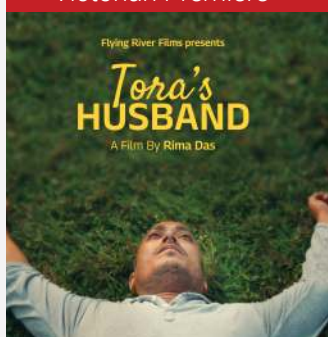
FESTIVAL: Amplify Voices Award (Canadian Film) Toronto International Film Festival 2022

Restricted to persons aged 18+

6:30 PM, Saturday, 19 August, HOYTS Highpoint



Victorian Premiere



Tora's Husband

2022 | 135 Mins | **Assamese**

Director: Rima Das

Cast: Abhijit Das, Tarali Kalita Das, Bhuman Bhargav Das, Purbanchali Das

A loving father and a kind neighbour struggles to keep his small-town business afloat while his relationships deteriorate, amidst loss and lockdowns.

6:00 PM, Friday, 18 August, HOYTS District Docklands

FESTIVAL: Toronto International Film Festival 2022, Busan International Film Festival 2022

Restricted to persons aged 15 and over unless accompanied by an Adult



Vazhakk (The Quarrel)

2022 | 93 Mins | **Malayalam**

Director: Sanal Kumar Sasidharan

Cast: Tovino Thomas, Kani Kusruthi, Sudev Nair, Baby Thanmaya, Aseez Nedumangad

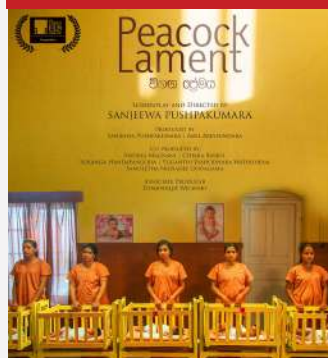
As Siddharthan faces a crucial divorce decision, a chance encounter with Sathi and her daughter reshapes his perspective on love, marriage, and life's complexities.

6:30 PM, Wednesday, 16 August, HOYTS Melbourne Central

FESTIVAL: International Film Festival of South Asia 2022, International Film Festival of Kerala (IFFK) 2022

Restricted to persons aged 15 and over unless accompanied by an Adult

Australian Premiere



Vihanga Premaya (Peacock Lament)

2022 | 103 Mins | **Sinhalese**

Director: Sanjeewa Pushpakumara

Cast: Akalanka Prabhawara, Sabeetha Perera, Dinara Punchihewa, Lorenzo Acquaviva, Mahendra perera, Lahiru Prasath, Amiththa Weerasinha

In a Sri Lankan village, 19-year-old Amila, now the sole caretaker of his younger siblings, works as a construction worker to fund his sister Inoka's urgent heart surgery in India.

7:00 PM, Friday, 18 August, HOYTS Chadstone

FESTIVAL: Best Artistic Contribution Award - Tokyo International Film Festival 2023

Restricted to persons aged 18+

Victorian Premiere



While We Watched

2022 | 94 Mins | **Hindi, English**

Director: Vinay Shukla

Cast: Ravish Kumar, Sushil Bahuguna, Deepak Chaubey, Sushil Mohapatra, Swarolipi Sengupta, Saurabh Shukla

A gripping newsroom drama that follows Ravish Kumar, a broadcast journalist, as he grapples with truth and disinformation in a chaotic world of declining factual reporting. A dignified lens into the abyss.

1:00 PM, Saturday, 19 August, HOYTS Melbourne Central

FESTIVAL: Amplify Voices Award - Toronto International Film Festival 2022, Cinephile Award - Busan International Film Festival 2022 AWARDS: Winner - DocPoint Helsinki 2023

Restricted to persons aged 15 and over unless accompanied by an Adult

Australian Premiere

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Whispering Mountains

2022 | 86 Mins | **Sinhalese**

Director: Jagath Manuwarna

Cast: Sarath Kothalawala, Priyantha Sirikumara, Dharmapriya Dias, Sampath Jayaweera, Lakmal Dharmarathne, Ananda Kumara Unnahe, Nimal Pallewatte, Aloka Gayathrie, Kalana Gunasekara, Jagath Manuwarna

In dystopian Sri Lanka, an anti-riot unit transports 19 dead bodies and 2 captives for a sacrificial killing. As tension escalates, the young men escapes.

6:30 PM, Saturday, 19 August, HOYTS District Docklands

FESTIVAL:
International Film Festival
Innsbruck 2023,
ImagineIndia International
Film Festival 2023

Restricted to persons
aged 18+

Wonder Women

2022 | 80 Mins | **Hindi, English**

Director: Anjali Menon

Cast: Amruta Subhash, Nadiya Moidu, Nithya Menen, Padmapriya Janakiraman, Parvathy Thiruvothu, Sayanora Philip, Archana Padmini

Five pregnant women attend Sumana, Nandita's prenatal class, as they embark on a journey of self-discovery, uncovering their true identities and finding solutions to deep-rooted issues.

7:00 PM, Monday, 14 August, HOYTS Docklands

FESTIVAL:
International Film Festival
of Kerala 2022

Restricted to persons aged 15
and over unless accompanied
by an Adult

Zwigato

2022 | 104 Mins | **Hindi**

Director: Nandita Das

Cast: Kapil Sharma, Shahana Goswami, Gul Panag, Sayani Gupta, Swanand Kirkire, Tushar Acharya

Amid the pandemic, Manas becomes a food delivery rider, confronting the challenges of ratings and incentives, while his wife, Pratima, seeks newfound independence through various job opportunities.

7:00 PM, Wednesday, 16 August, HOYTS Chadstone

FESTIVAL:
Toronto International Film
Festival 2022,
Busan International Film
Festival 2022

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and over unless accompanied
by an Adult

Streaming Australia-wide

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Shabana Azmi Retrospective

From her very first step into the spotlight with "Ankur" (1974), Shabana Azmi quickly became a beacon of inspiration, gracefully straddling both mainstream and parallel cinema, and earning acclaim and love in equal measure. This year, IFFM 2023 is beyond thrilled to celebrate her illustrious career with the streaming of her six iconic roles on our platform IFFM365. Prepare to be mesmerized as we unveil the brilliance of Shabana Azmi's timeless portrayals, spanning various genres, and showcasing her artistic versatility, vulnerability, and distinctive performances. Let Shabana's artistry and acting brilliance take you on a cinematic journey like no other!



Dharavi - (City of Dreams)

1991 | 116 Mins | Rating: U | **Hindi**

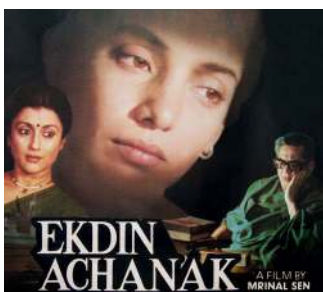
Director: Sudhir Mishra

Cast: Om Puri, Shabana Azmi, Raghuvir Yadav, Virendra Saxena, Madhuri Dixit (Special Appearance)

Dharavi, in Bombay, is the largest slum in Asia. In sub-human living conditions, each HD MOV, Film Stills, Posters, Promo man is for himself, aspiring to make it for himself. Bollywood supplies fantasies to them. Dharavi is the story of Rajkaran a taxi driver who falls into a labyrinth of urban dreams...

FESTIVAL AWARDS:

National Film Award, 1992 - Best Hindi Film, Best Editing, Best Music Direction | London Film Festival, 1992, UK | Mannheim International Film Festival, 1992



Ek Din Achanak - (One Day, suddenly)

1988 | 102 Mins | Rating: U | **Hindi**

Director: Mrinal Sen

Cast: Shabana Azmi, Dr. Sreeram Lagoo, Aparna Sen, Rupa Ganguly

Calcutta – one day the city is crippled by a heavy downpour. Everything goes topsy turvy. A professor who has gone out for a while doesn't return home for months, leaving his family in great anxiety. In the vacuum created by his absence, the family finds itself trapped in a new emotional world.

FESTIVAL AWARDS:

National Award, 1989 - Best Supporting Actress | BFJA Awards, 1989 – Best Director, Supporting Actor, Supporting Actress, Best Screenplay, Best Editor | Munich International Film Festival, Germany, 1990 | Cairo International Film Festival, 1990



Ek Doctor Ki Maut - (Death of a Doctor)

1990 | 130 Mins | Rating: U | **Hindi**

Director: Tapan Sinha

Cast: Shabana Azmi, Pankaj Kapur, Irrfan Khan, Deepa Sahi, Vijayendra Ghadge

After years of painstaking research at the cost of his domestic pleasure, Dr. Dipankar Roy discovers a vaccine for leprosy. News is flashed over television and overnight, an insignificant junior doctor receives international recognition. After suffering humiliation at the hands of his seniors, Dr. Roy suffers a mild heart attack. His wife and a few colleagues stand by him but Dr. Roy is transferred to a remote village. The last straw is two American doctors receiving credit for discovering the same vaccine.

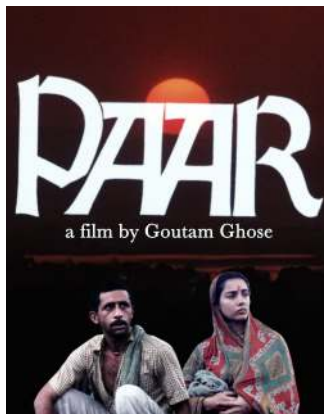
FESTIVAL AWARDS:

National Award, 1991 - Second Best Film, Best Director, Special Jury Award for Best Actor | Bengal Film Journalists Association Awards, 1991 - Best Film, Best Director | Filmfare Award, 1991 - Best Screenplay | Red Cross Film Festival - Sofia, Bulgaria, 1991

Streaming Australia-wide

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Shabana Azmi Retrospective



Paar - (The Crossing)

1984 | 124 Mins | Rating: UA | **Hindi**

Director: Goutam Ghose

Cast: Naseeruddin Shah, Shabana Azmi, Utpal Dutt, Om Puri, Mohan Agashe, Anil Chatterjee

A landlord orders the murder of a benevolent schoolmaster whose progressive influence seems to be sinking in. A very poor labourer Naurangia retaliates by murdering the landlord's brother. This turns him and his wife into fugitives overnight. After struggling for sustenance elsewhere, they decide to return home but an insurmountable task awaits them – that of crossing the wide and treacherously swift river. How Naurangia and a heavily pregnant Rama cross the river to return home to safety is what Paar as a movie takes you through.

FESTIVAL AWARDS:

National Film Award, 1985 - Best Actor, Best Actress, Best Screenplay | Volpi Cup - Best Actor for Naseeruddin Shah | UNESCO Award - Venice Film Festival, 1985 | Fipresci Award, 1985



Pestonjee

1987 | 119 Mins | Rating: U | **Hindi**

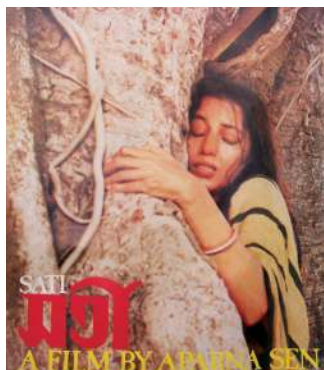
Director: Vijaya Metha

Cast: Shabana Azmi, Anupam Kher, Naseeruddin Shah, Kiran Thakur Singh Kher

Piroj and Pestonjee are two friends who get along well in spite of being so different in temperament. Piroj, an accountant, is reserved while Pestonjee, is an extrovert. Jeroo, a pretty girl and of marriageable age, is shown to both Piroj and Pestonjee on separate occasions. While Piroj dithers about marrying her, Pestonjee instantly makes up his mind, unaware that his friend has also seen and liked the same girl. Piroj is hurt, but it does not mar their friendship. Piroj is transferred to Bhusaval but continues to keep in touch. On a brief visit to Bombay he is shattered to discover that the marriage is on the verge of collapse.

FESTIVAL AWARDS:

National Award, 1988 - Best Costume Designer | Bengal Film Journalists Association Award, 1987 - Best Supporting Actor | Singapore International Film Festival, 1987 | Hong Kong International Film Festival, 1987



Sati - (Widow immolation)

1989 | 119 Mins | Rating: U | **Bengali**

Director: Aparna Sen

Cast: Shabana Azmi, Arun Banerjee, Kali Banerjee, Pradip Mukherjee

Indian village 1828 – A disastrous horoscope predicting early widowhood dictates the fate of a young Brahmin girl; the fact that she is also mute, only compounds her difficulties. As per custom she will have to commit sati – the rite where women either willingly immolate themselves on their husband's pyre or are compelled to do so by custodians of tradition. Her family devises a strategy so that she can escape this dreary fate.

FESTIVAL AWARDS:

Montreal World Film Festival, 1989 - Jury Mention

Indian Film Festival of MELBOURNE 2023

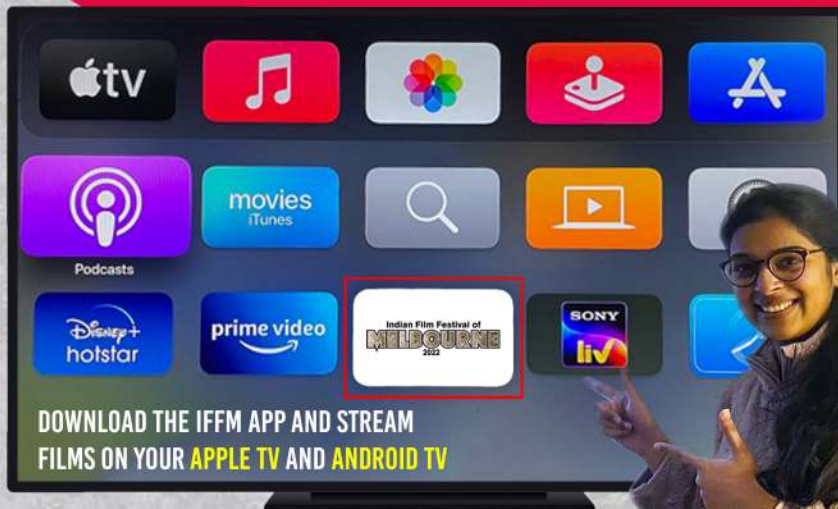
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Australian Premiere



OPENING FILM

Streaming from 9am to 4pm on 11th August

Siya

2022 | 108 Mins | Rating: 15+ | **Hindi**

Director: Manish Mundra

Cast: Pooja Pandey, Vineet Kumar Singh

FESTIVAL:

International Film Festival of India 2022,
Best Debut Director
UK ASian Film Festival 2023

Raped by a powerful politician, a girl from a rural North Indian village launches a movement against the oppressive patriarchal system in the country's most populous state, fighting for justice.

International Premiere



A Tale of Two Indians

2023 | 15 Mins | Rating: 15+ | **Hindi**

Director: Raghav Parmar

Cast: Avyan Singh, Syed Mohammad Anas, Shubham Upadhyay, Piyyush Tiwari, Rupesh Keer, Satish Malasiya

FESTIVAL:

Kerala Short Film Festival 2023

Two naive kids, transcending religion, unite to save a life. In a parallel world, a deadly communal riot erupts between their communities, driven by bloodthirsty hatred.

Australian Premiere



Anur (Eyes on the Sunshine)

2022 | 162 Mins | Rating: 15+ | **Assamese**

Director: Monjul Baruah

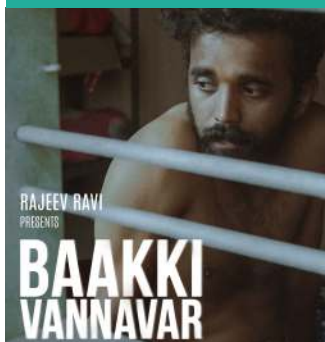
Cast: Dr. Jahanara Begum, Rajat Kapoor, Boloram Das, Udayan Duara, Bidya Bharti

FESTIVAL:

International Film Festival of Kerala 2022
Dhaka International Film Festival 2023

A chance encounter between an elderly man and a lonely widow awakens dormant desires, inviting them to trespass the boundaries of their isolated lives.

Australian Premiere



Baakki Vannavar (The Leftovers)

2022 | 88 Mins | Rating: 15+ | **Malayalam**

Director: Amal Prasi

Cast: Salmanul Faris, Anekh Bose, Lejeesh Mani, Faez Muhammed, Ansu Sabu, Rehas Muhammed, Anandhu Madhu, Mirshan Khan

FESTIVAL:

International Film Festival of Kerala 2022
Special Jury Prize -
Construir Cine Labour Film Festival Argentina 2022

A Kerala food delivery boy seeks a brighter future but confronts the limitations of the prevailing system, gradually impacting his and his friends' lives.

Streaming Australia-wide: 11 August Onwards

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Australian Premiere



Bhagwan (God)

2023 | 22 Mins | Rating: All Ages | **Marathi**

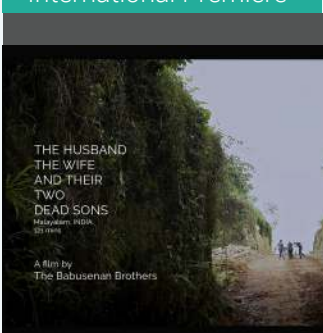
Director: Trushant Ingle

Cast: Bhushan Manjule, Sarita Masram, Saurabh Hirkhane, Snehalata Tagde, Anil Uttalwar

On a night of uncertainty, if you are caught between your duty and intuition, what would you choose?

FESTIVAL:
Stuttgart Indian Film
Festival 2023

International Premiere



Bharthaavum Bhaaryayum Maricha Randu

Makkalum (The Husband, The Wife, and Their Two Dead Sons)

2022 | 121 Mins | Rating: 15+ | **Malayalam**

Director: Satish Babusenar, Santosh Babusenar

Cast: K. Kaladharan, Thara Kalyan, Sreeram Mohan, Chinmayt

An elderly couple's serene life on a hill is disrupted when the husband communicates with their deceased sons who reveal their mother's departure is near. Naru becomes a battlefield of conflicting emotions.

FESTIVAL:
International Film Festival
of Kerala 2022
International Film Festival
of Thrissur 2023

Bi The Way



Bi The Way

2023 | 15 Mins | Rating: 15+ | **Hindi, English**

Director: Purna Saraff Chauhan

Cast: Shishir Sharma, Aadhya Anand

A young woman is faced with the daunting task of coming out to her father. Despite summoning the courage for a difficult conversation, her father's confusion and prejudices threaten to strain their relationship. Will he come to accept her for who she truly is?

FESTIVAL:
Best LGBT Short Film
Belgrade International Film Festival
2023
Best Indian Short Film - Indo French
International Film Festival 2023

Canvas

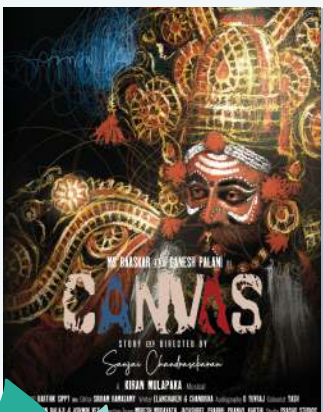
2023 | 19 Mins | Rating: All Ages | **Tamil**

Director: Sanjai Chandrasekaran

Cast: MS Baaskar, Ganesh Palani, Sriram, Irai Vignesh, Prakash, Surrender, Bala

Alagappan, a Therukoothu artist, shares the story of his son Elango's desire for canvas shoes. As things take an unexpected turn, a small diary found by a fellow artist holds the key to their hopes and dreams.

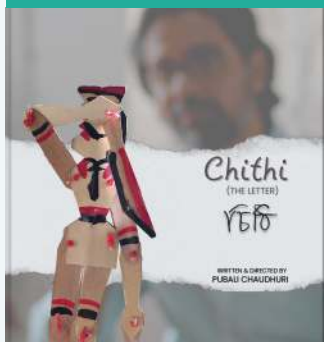
FESTIVAL:
Karnataka Youth
International
Short Film Festival 2023



Streaming Australia-wide: 11 August Onwards

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Australian Premiere



Chithi (The Letter)

2023 | 22 Mins | Rating: All Ages | **Bengali**

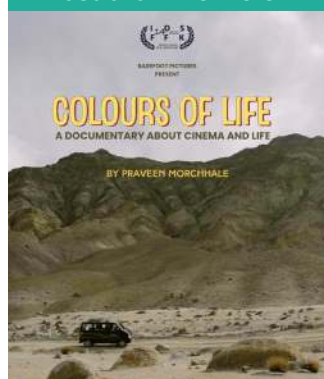
Director: Pubali Chaudhuri

Cast: Chaiti Chaudhuri, Tuhin Mukherjee

FESTIVAL:
New York Indian Film
Festival 2023

A lonely old lady lost in memories encounters a salesman who may be a con artist. Their entwined lies create a bond, exploring the potential for human connection in an isolated world.

Australian Premiere



Colours of Life

2022 | 60 Mins | Rating: All Ages | **Hindi, Ladakhi**

Director: Praveen Morchhale

Cast: Praveen Morchhale, Phunchok Toldan, Sonam Tundup, Sonam Wangyal, Ama Dolma, Stanzin Norbu, Phunchok Dolma, Sachi Joko

FESTIVAL:
International Documentary
and Short Film Festival of
Kerala 2022

Director Praveen Morchhale reconnects with Himalayan villagers who participated in his award-winning film, witnessing their lives and introducing them to cinema for the first time at The Himalayan Film Festival, Leh 2021.

Australian Premiere



Dadu

2022 | 16 Mins | Rating: All Ages | **English**

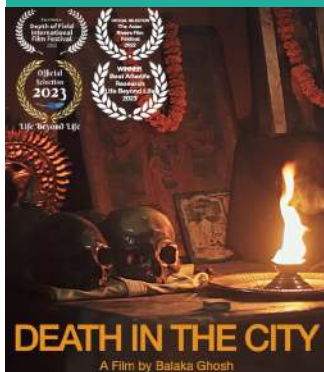
Director: Raghav Puri

Cast: Brian George, Rishan Dhamija, Christine Mirzayan, Joyce Greenleaf, Meg Evans

FESTIVAL:
Martha's Vineyard Interna-
tional Film Festival 2022
LA Shorts International Film
Festival 2022

"Dadu" follows a stubborn old Indian man, determined to walk in the park, partly to defy his grandson. It's a 'sort of' love story, bridging willing and reluctant lovers across generations.

Victorian Premiere



Death in the City

2022 | 72 Mins | Rating: 15+ | **Hindi**

Director: Balaka Ghosh

FESTIVAL:
Adelaide Film Festival 2022
Excellence Award - Depth of
Field International Film
Festival 2022

An intimate portrait of Varanasi - a film in three movements, spiritual, meta-physical, experiential - where funeral pyres have been burning non-stop for more than three millennia.

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Streaming Australia-wide: 11 August Onwards

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Australian Premiere



Desert Dreaming

2023 | 12 Mins | Rating: All Ages | **Hindi, Tamil, Sinhala**

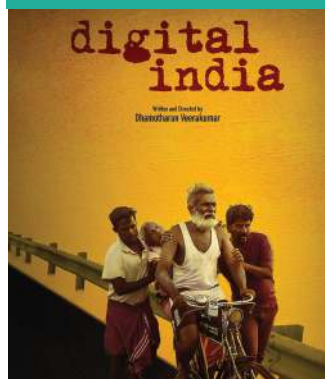
Director: Abdul Halik Azeez

Cast: Mohamed Feroze Azeez, Fareena Hamid, Mohideen Azeez, Imran Mohideen, Manikkam aka MGR

By tracing labor migration and the impacts of neoliberalization in Sri Lanka, the film challenges monolithic narratives of personal history and Muslim upbringing, delving into popular culture and intimate recollections.

FESTIVAL:
Berlin International Film Festival 2023

Australian Premiere



Digital India

2022 | 18 Mins | Rating: All Ages | **Tamil**

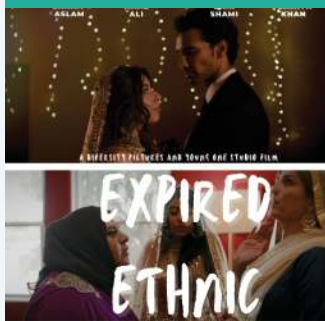
Director: Dhamotharan Veerakumar

Cast: Sivakumar Veerasamy, Nilan, Silambarasan Dhanuskodi, Balaji Veerakumar, Thirupathi

Amidst the challenges of the Covid pandemic, a family embarks on a courageous journey to save their mother's life.

FESTIVAL:
Festival del Cinema di Cefalu Italy 2022

World Premiere



Expired Ethnic

2023 | 12 Mins | Rating: All Ages | **Hindi, English**

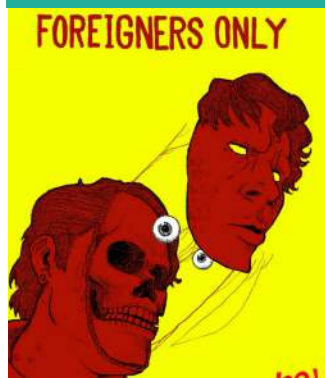
Director: Sanah Aslam

Cast: Sanah Aslam, Maaz Ali, Zain Shami, Samiya Khan, Che Johnson

Amidst a turbulent wedding, Nazia finds solace on the bathroom floor. With Parker's support, she defies societal expectations and embraces a passionate rebellion against conformity.

FESTIVAL:
World premiere at IFFM 2023

Victorian Premiere



Foreigners Only

2022 | 15 Mins | Rating: 15+ | **English, Bangla**

Director: Nuhash Humayun

Cast: Mostafa Monwar, Iresh Zaker, Rebecca Nusrat Ali

When a Bangladeshi tannery owner keeps finding apartments reserved for "foreigners only," he'll do whatever it takes to have skin in the game.

FESTIVAL:
Best Short Film - Audience Award, Fantasia International Film Festival



Streaming Australia-wide: 11 August Onwards

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Gaj Dhoond Rahe Galiyara

2022 | 8 Mins | Rating: All Ages | **Nagpuri**

Director: Narendra Singh Pardhi, Sahebaram Bediya

FESTIVAL:
Green Hub Festival India
2022

A herd of elephants came into village Pithoria in Jharkhand after 17 years. This short film looks at the rising human-elephant conflict in Jharkhand with mining, deforestation, and urban growth in the backdrop.



Ghasir Banshi (Madan Veri - Breath of the Ghasis)

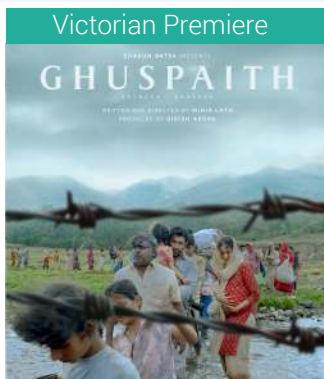
2023 | 33 Mins | Rating: All Ages | **Bengali**

Director: Somnath Mondal

Cast: Nilanjan Ganguly, Sreejita Bhadra, Priyagopal Adhikay, Motkel

FESTIVAL:
Bengal International Short
Film Festival 2023
South Asian Short Film
Festival West Bengal 2023

This documentary chronicles the struggle to preserve the heritage of 'Turi', a unique metallic blowing instrument played by the 'Ghasis' sub-caste in Jharkhand and West Bengal, during Hindu rituals and messaging traditions.



Ghuspaith (Between Borders)

2022 | 32 Mins | Rating: 15+ | **Hindi**

Director: Mihir Pawan Kumar Lath

Cast: Amit Sadh, Dibyandhu Bhattacharya

FESTIVAL:
Boston International Film
Festival 2023

In a borderland plagued by crisis, Manav, an Indian photojournalist, and Usman, a Bangladeshi smuggler, defy boundaries and risk all to save lives, challenging notions of humanity.



Hati Bondhu (Friends of Elephants)

2022 | 54 Mins | Rating: All Ages | **English, Assamese**

Director: Kripal Kalita

FESTIVAL:
International Film Festival
of India (IFFI) 2022

Amidst deforestation and over-population, non-profit organisation 'Hati Bondhu' mediates the human-elephant conflict in Assam, saving elephants' lives and supporting farmers' rice harvest for harmonious coexistence.

Streaming Australia-wide: 11 August Onwards

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Australian Premiere



Hide and Seek

2022 | 15 Mins | Rating: 15+ | **Tamil**

Director: Kingsley Paul

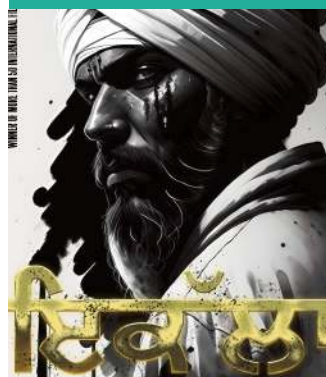
Cast: Athira Radhakrishnan, Radhika, Ravi Ezhumalai

Amidst the lockdown, a teenager faces an unexpected pregnancy but chooses to keep the baby secret from her parents, enduring confinement within her bedroom.

FESTIVAL:

Winner - Indo Singapore International Film Festival 2022,
Riyadh Short Film Festival 2023

Australian Premiere



Ikala (Solitary)

2022 | 16 Mins | Rating: 15+ | **Punjabi, English**

Director: Maninder Chana

Cast: Jag Dhaliwal, Bruno Bunicci, Angelo Altomare

With minutes left before U.S. forces level a Mujahideen camp, a Sikh prisoner trapped in solitary confinement turns to his faith to make a daring escape.

FESTIVAL:

Best Short Film Jaisalmer International Film Festival 2022

Australian Premiere



Kaadina Jeevantike (Spirit of the Forest)

2022 | 7 Mins | Rating: All Ages | **English, Kannada**

Director: Nandini Rao, Nirupa Rao, Kalp Sanghvi

Cast: Kirtana Kumar, Aviendha Asati, Vihaan Varior

In South India, a girl's encounter with a forest spirit leads to a time-traveling adventure, revealing the origins of an ancient swamp and her profound connection to its enduring legacy.

FESTIVAL:

Bengaluru International Short Film Festival 2022,
Dharamshala International Film Festival 2022

Australian Premiere



Kashmakash (Quandary)

2022 | 7 Mins | Rating: 15+ | **Hindi**

Director: Deepak Prakash

Life has thrown a predicament towards me, Should I celebrate the arrival of a new guest or should I mourn the one who departed? Suddenly the meaning of life has changed.



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International Premiere



Kida (Goat)

2022 | 122 Mins | Rating: All Ages | **Tamil**

Director: Ra. Venkat

Cast: Poo Ramu, Paandiyamma, Kaali Venkat, Vijaya, Deepan

FESTIVAL:
International Film Festival of India 2022

A grandfather, his grandson, a pet goat, and a butcher face tough choices to pursue their dreams as Diwali approaches.

Australian Premiere



Koli Esru (Chicken Curry)

2022 | 87 Mins | Rating: 15+ | **Kannada**

Director: Champa Shetty

Cast: Akshatha Pandavpura, Apeksha Nagaraj Chornahalli, Natana Manju, Prakash Shetty, Dakshayani N

FESTIVAL:
New York Indian Film Festival 2022

Huceeri, deprived of maternal love, is married off by her stepmother to a drunkard, torn from her loving father and idyllic village. Enduring sacrifices, she strives to give her daughter the simple pleasure of chicken curry.

Australian Premiere



Lakshmi

2022 | 18 Mins | Rating: 15+ | **Malayalam**

Director: Harold Antony Paulson

Cast: Remya Valsala, Aadiya Sinoj, Rajesh Azhikodan, Binu Maniyangattu, Ranjit Janardanan

FESTIVAL:
International Documentary and Short Film Festival of Kerala (IDSFFK) 2022

"Lakshmi" portrays the struggles of a migrant family and their community in Kerala. Through Lakshmi's search for her missing husband, the film delves into their hardships, memories, and the absence of a support system.

Australian Premiere



Mariam

2022 | 79 Mins | Rating: 15+ | **Hindi**

Director: Arvind Pratap

Cast: Chitrangada Satarupa, Bhupesh Singh

FESTIVAL:
Indie Meme Film Festival 2023,
Ottawa Indian Film Festival 2023

In Mumbai, Mariam and her family struggle as migrant workers. To support her children's education, she becomes an illegal pregnancy surrogate, leading to complicated issues of parental rights.

Streaming Australia-wide: 11 August Onwards

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Australian Premiere

MASK ART of MAJULI

A FILM BY UTPAL BORPUJARI

Mask Art of Majuli

2023 | 56 Mins | Rating: All Ages | **Assamese**

Director: Utpal Borpujari

FESTIVAL:
International Folklore Film
Fest Thrissur 2023
Vesoul International Film
Festival of Asian Cinema,
France 2023

In the river island of Majuli, two families preserve the dying art of crafting masks from bamboo, cloth, and river soil. These masks are integral to the 500-year-old dance drama form called "Bhaona".

Australian Premiere

मीनाक्षी

Directed & Screened By
Umang Ratilal Sangani

Meenakshi

2023 | 8 Mins | Rating: 15+ | **English, Hindi**

Director: Umang Ratilal Sangani

Cast: Mrinmoyee Biswas

FESTIVAL:
Pune Short Film Festival
2023

Meenakshi faces judgment at every life stage – for her periods, choices, and ambitions. Yet, determined, she seeks liberation, challenging patriarchy's grasp.

Australian Premiere

MUSTAFA

true story of a tiger

Mustafa - True Story of a Tiger

2023 | 27 Mins | Rating: All Ages | **Hindi**

Director: Anushree Shukla

FESTIVAL:
Student World Impact
Film Festival USA 2023
International Animal Future
Film Festival UK 2023

Based on a real event, "Mustafa - A True Tiger's Tale" portrays Mustafa's rescue from Pilibhit's jungles, highlighting human-animal conflicts and animals' unjust blame.

Australian Premiere

NAANERA

A FILM BY DEEPAANKAR PRAKASH

Naanera (Grandpaa's House)

2022 | 116 Mins | Rating: 15+ | **Rajasthani**

Director: Deepankar Prakash

Cast: Sanchay Goswami, Garima Pareek

Dinesh Pradhan, Anita Pradhan, Nikita Verma, Raman Krishna Atrey

FESTIVAL:
Best Screenplay Award -
Ottawa Indian Film
Festival Awards 2023

Manish's uncles control his life after his father's death, leading him to a risky path where he engages in a clandestine affair with a cousin, causing another tragedy in the family.

Streaming Australia-wide: 11 August Onwards

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Australian Premiere

Neither a Girl Nor a Woman



Neither a Girl Nor a Woman

2021 | 106 Mins | Rating: All Ages | **Hindi, English, Marathi**

Director: Anjali Patil

Cast: Ipshita Chakraborty-Singh, Kiran Khoje, Poorvi Bhawe

A poetic documentary exploring contemporary womanhood through three artists' interviews, personal spaces, and choreographic gestures against diverse settings, challenging gender roles and mindsets.

FESTIVAL:

River to River Florence Indian Film Festival 2022, Best Documentary Award - New Creators Film Awards France 2022

Niharika (In the Mist)

2023 | 123 Mins | Rating: 15+ | **Bengali**

Director: Indrasis Acharya

Cast: Shilajit Majumdar, Anuradha Mukherjee, Mallika Majumdar, Anindya Sengupta

Niharika seeks her voice beyond a dark past, pursuing an identity and finding a tangible, meaningful home along the way.

FESTIVAL:

International Film Festival of Kerala 2022

Other Kohinoors, the Rocks of Hyderabad

2022 | 49 Mins | Rating: All Ages | **English**

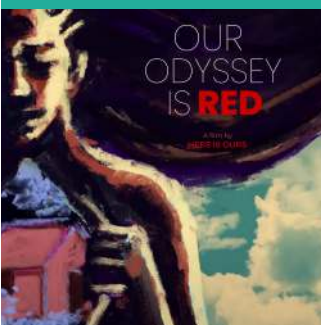
Director: Uma Magal

A documentary celebrating Hyderabad's rocks, highlighting their cultural significance and advocating for their preservation, aiming to reignite the connection between culture and landscape.



Australian Premiere

OUR ODYSSEY IS RED



Our Odyssey is Red

2022 | 40 Mins | Rating: 15+ | **Hindi, English**

Director: Hers is Ours Collective

Cast: Kranti NGO

20 young women, daughters of sex workers, embark on a transformative 800-km journey, seeking healing, independence, and defying taboos in India.

FESTIVAL:

San Francisco Sex Worker Film and Art Festival 2023, Toronto International Women's Film Festival 2023





Radio Haanji

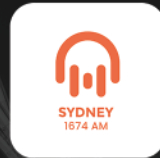
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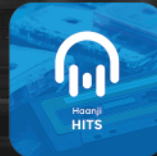
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Australian Premiere

PATH

Unless you walk out into the unknown



Path

2022 | 20 Mins | Rating: 15+ | **Silent**

Director: Pradip Kurbah

Cast: Albert Mawrie

Amid the pandemic and closed borders, a Meghalaya man faces tragedy as his wife dies in Bangladesh. He embarks on a challenging mission to bring her back home for a deserving funeral.

FESTIVAL:

Second Best Film
International Documentary
and Short Film Festival of
Kerala (IDSFFK) 2022

Australian Premiere



Rekha

2022 | 38 Mins | Rating: All Ages | **Marathi**

Director: Shekhar Babu Rankhambe

Cast: Maya Pawar, Vaishali Kendale, Tamina Pawar,
Satyappa More, Anuradha Salunkhe

Homeless Rekha defies her husband's ban on bathing and prioritizing her health. Supported by women, she fights for her dignity and seeks solutions to stay clean.

FESTIVAL:

International Film Festival
of India 2022,
New York International
Film Festival 2023

Australian Premiere



Shab e Firaq (Night of Separation)

2023 | 12 Mins | Rating: 15+ | **Hindi, Urdu**

Director: Kamil Saif

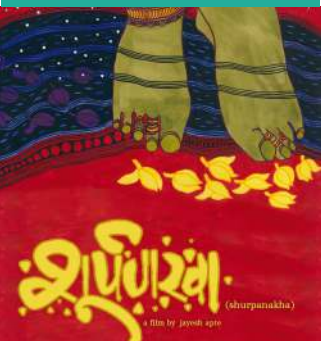
Cast: Anjum Rizvi, Uma Jhunjhunwala, Karishma
Maan, Ravi Kumar

After communal violence, a family grapples with the disappearance of a loved one. The father fears the worst, while the hopeful wife strives to hold their family together through emotional turmoil.

FESTIVAL:

Kolkata People's Film
Festival 2023, Festival del
Cinema di Cefal 2023

Australian Premiere



Shurpankha

2023 | 34 Mins | Rating: 15+ | **Marathi**

Director: Jayesh Apte

Cast: Anita Date, Chinmay Udgirkar, Sharavari Talekar, Tanishq Deshpande,
Poonam Chavhan, Prashant Kelkar, Ashish Chandrachud, Kshama
Deshpande, Agamya Patankar, Rohit Bharati, Hrishikesh Patil, Malhar Kelkar

During India's 25th Independence Day, Madhav discovers Rukmini's unconventional past, testing their loving sibling bond as buried secrets resurface.

FESTIVAL:

Best Indian Narrative Short -
Kashish International Queer
Film Festival 2023

Streaming Australia-wide: 11 August Onwards

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Australian Premiere



Siege in the Air

2022 | 30 Mins | Rating: 15+ | **English, Urdu, Kashmiri**

Director: Muntaha Amin

In Kashmir, women weave memory threads to depict life under perpetual uncertainty and lockdowns, shedding light on the 2019 communication blockade following Article 370's abrogation.

FESTIVAL:
Best Documentary
Award Himachal
Short Film Festival
2022

International Premiere



The Land of Hidden Treasures

2022 | 14 Mins | Rating: All Ages | **Assamese, Bengali**

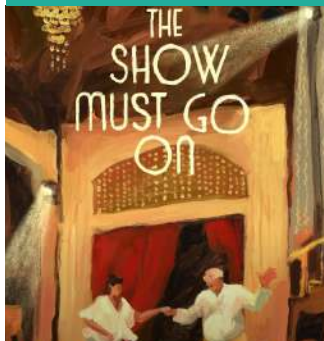
Director: Sonatan Karmakar

Cast: Dhiren Paul, Mahadev Ch. Paul, Shefali Paul

Asharikandi, an unfamiliar village in Assam, preserves a 150-year-old terracotta tradition. Despite facing challenges and livelihood shifts, this climate-friendly craft struggles to survive extinction.

FESTIVAL:
International Documentary
& Short Film Festival of
Kerala 2023

Australian Premiere



The Show Must Go On

2022 | 61 Mins | Rating: All Ages | **Hindi, English, Gujarati**

Director: Divya Cowasji

Cast: Ruby Patel, Burjor Patel, Bomi Dotiwala, Dolly Dotiwala, Dinyar Contractor, Moti Antia, Meher Marfatia

Ageing Parsi Theatre icons defy time as they return to the stage, leaving their walking sticks behind for a final curtain call. This documentary captures their resilience and determination to make a grand exit.

FESTIVAL:
Film South Asia, Kathman-
du 2022

Tumhare Bina (Without You)

2023 | 17 Mins | Rating: 15+ | **Hindi**

Director: Shailendra Kumar Jha

Cast: Sudhanva Deshpande, Sarika Singh

Amitabh is grieving the death of his wife and has trouble falling asleep alone. When even sleeping pills don't do the job, Amitabh resorts to a bizarre solution.

FESTIVAL:
Winner, Best Indian
Director,
Pune Short Film Festival
2022

Streaming Australia-wide: 11 August Onwards

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Australian Premiere



Unsaid (Avaak)

25 Mins | Rating: All Ages | **Hindi**

Director: Pankaj Khanchandani

Cast: Rakesh Ankalkoti, Madhura Tapre, Pramod Kale

Suraj defies his mother's disapproval and moves for better opportunities. With his father falling sick, the house becomes silent. Upon his return, the shared grief breaks the silence between Suraj and his mother.

FESTIVAL:
Black Cat Award International Film Festival Egypt 2022, Pune Festival 2023

Australian Premiere



Vaat

2023 | 75 Mins | Rating: 15+ | **Marathi**

Director: Miransha Naik

Cast: Arjun Radhakrishnan, Raavi Kishor, Deepti Devi

Mattu is ostracized from his conservative Hindu community for assaulting a villager. Shunned and burdened with a heavy fine, he must gather the money urgently to save his sister's wedding.

FESTIVAL:
New York Indian Film Festival 2023
Habitat Film Festival New Delhi 2023

Australian Premiere



Vettappattikal Oattakkarum (The Hounds And The Runners)

2022 | 90 Mins | Rating: 15+ | **Malayalam**

Director: Rarish

Cast: Athira Harikumar, Adith, Shaji A John, Usha TT, Kannan Nayar

This film tackles the contemporary issue of personal freedom and privacy violation, where mutual respect is diminished and ideologies reduced to empty words, as an unreal event captivates society.

FESTIVAL:
International Film Festival of Kerala (IFFK) 2022, Second Best Film - Kerala Film Critics Award 2022

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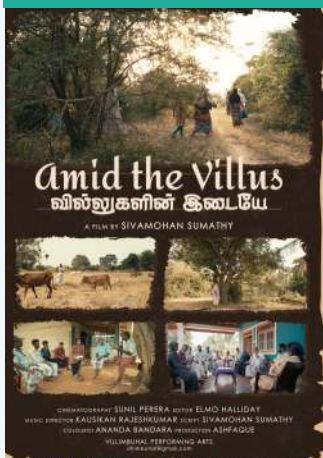
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Australian Premiere



Villuhalin Idaiye, Palaikuliyin Kathai (Amid the Villus, the Story of Palaikul)

2022 | 46 Mins | Rating: 15+ | **Tamil**

Director: Sumathy Sivamohan

Cast: Sultan Rahidhummah, Meera Sahib Harris, M.M. Mohamed Masthaan, M.M.M. Safi Maraikkar, S.H. Askiya Umma, I. Siththy Jahan

The documentary depicts the return of a displaced Muslim community to their village in Sri Lanka's former war-zone. They confront the state, bureaucracies, and environmental lobbies.

FESTIVAL:

Jaffna International Film Festival 2022, Film South Asia Kathmandu 2022

Australian Premiere



Viral

2022 | 23 Mins | Rating: All Ages | **Hindi, Marathi, Urdu**

Director: Shreyas Dasharathe

Cast: Harsh Rane, Ashitosh Gaikwad, Hammad Siddiq

Shiny and Bandu, Mumbai-based fans of egg-seller Hammad from Karachi, connect online, forging a heartfelt, borderless friendship. Hammad's local anonymity contrasts with his vast online following, uniting them in a promising bond.

FESTIVAL:

Winner - Kalpani-jhar International Short Fiction Film Festival India 2022, Indian Film Festival Stuttgart 2023

International Premiere



Xunyota

2022 | 29 Mins | Rating: All ages | **Assamese**

Director: Nabapan Deka

Cast: Hemanta Debnath, Angshu Borah, Bidya Bharati

Xunyota explores grief's unspoken nuances as young Bina's life takes a harsh turn after her mother is left bedridden by a terminal illness.

FESTIVAL:

Special Jury Award - Kolkata International Film Festival 2022



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*Offer valid during festival time only**





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Mitu Bhowmick Lange AM

IFFM Festival Curator

Uma da Cunha

IFFM Festival Publicist

Aisling Enterprises, Hardly Anonymous

IFFM Festival Team

Anmol Kachroo | Benu Bindra | Dan Nguyen |
Deepti Bhangde | Eden Dais | Leanne Tonkes |
Monique Nair | Natascha Charak | Patitta Jittanont
| Payal Lakhota | Priyanka Pereira | Sneha Ingle |
Tammy Yang

Festival Trailers and AV

Mitesh Soni

Festival Artwork

Vishakha Bhuwania

We are Very Grateful to

Yash Raj Films, Dharma Productions, Disney
Hotstar, Fox Star Studios, Maddock, NFDC,
Reliance India and Sony

A Big Hug to

Aditya Chopra | Ajay Jaiswal | Dhruv S Sinha |
Gaurav Verma | Jill Bilcock | Jinsu John | Karan
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Mark Waterson | Minu Sharma | Nadeem Ahmad
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Pradeep Jaiswal | Rajeev Masand | Ranjodh Singh
| Ronnie | Shibhashish Sarkar | Stephanie Mills |
Taran Adarsh | Tonee Sethi

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The team at the National Gallery of Victoria
The team at Immigration Museum
The Team at Hamer Hall, ACM
Our wonderful interns and volunteers!

And last but definitely not least, all of you who participated in our festival and made it such a soaring success!

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Film Schedule

HOYTS District Docklands

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

DATE	DAY	TIME	FILM	LANGUAGE	DURATION
August 9	Wednesday	9.30 pm	Satyaprem Ki Katha with Kartik Aaryan RUNTIME: 146 mins Q&A: 30 mins (XtremeScreen)	Hindi	176 mins
August 12	Saturday	7.00 pm	Ghoomer with Team - Opening Night (XtremeScreen)	Hindi	135 mins
August 13	Sunday	3.30 pm	Gulmohar	Hindi	132 mins
August 13	Sunday	6.30 pm	Pine Cone with team RUNTIME: 95 mins Q&A: 30 mins	Sinhalese	116 mins
August 13	Sunday	9.00 pm	Sanaa	Hindi	119 mins
August 14	Monday	7.00 pm	Wonder Women with team RUNTIME: 80 mins Q&A: 30 mins	Hindi	110 mins
August 15	Tuesday	7.00 pm	Agra with team RUNTIME: 132 mins Q&A: 30 mins	Hindi	162 mins
August 16	Wednesday	7.15 pm	Fatima with team RUNTIME: 59 mins Q&A: 30 mins	Hindi	89 mins
August 17	Thursday	6.30 pm	Lord Curzon Ki Haveli (Curzon's Manor) with team RUNTIME: 108 mins Q&A: 30 mins	English	138 mins
August 18	Friday	6.00 pm	Tora's Husband with team RUNTIME: 135 mins Q&A: 30 mins	Assamese	165 mins
August 18	Friday	9.30 pm	All India Rank	Hindi	94 mins
August 19	Saturday	4.00 pm	Aatmapamphlet (Autobio-Pamphlet)	Marathi	90 mins
August 19	Saturday	6.30 pm	Whispering Mountains with team RUNTIME: 86 mins Q&A: 30 mins	Hindi	125 mins
August 19	Saturday	9.15 pm	Ek Jagah Apni (A Place Of Our Own)	Hindi	88 mins
August 20	Sunday	4.00 pm	Against the Tide	Marathi, Hindi	90 mins
August 20	Sunday	7.00 pm	Kennedy with team - Closing Night RUNTIME: 143 mins Q&A: 30 mins (XtremeScreen)	Hindi	173 mins
August 20	Sunday	8.00 pm	Kennedy with team RUNTIME: 143 mins Q&A: 30 mins (XtremeScreen)	Hindi	173 mins

ALEXANDRA GARDENS

3 Boathouse Dr, Melbourne 3004

DATE	DAY	TIME	FILM	LANGUAGE	DURATION
August 12	Saturday	3.00 pm	Luka Chuppi	Hindi	126 mins
August 12	Saturday	6.00 pm	Freddy	Hindi	124 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 ifm.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	Sunday	4.00 pm	Maagh (The Winter Within)	Kashmiri, Urdu	99 mins
August 13	Sunday	6.30 pm	Hadinelentu (Seventeeners)	Kannada	122 mins
August 13	Sunday	9.15 pm	Ainaa Jhyal Ko Putali (Butterfly on the Windowpane)	Nepali	96 mins
August 14	Monday	7.00 pm	Follower	Kannada	99 mins
August 15	Tuesday	7.00 pm	Family	Malayalam	111 mins
August 16	Wednesday	7.00 pm	Zwigato	Hindi	104 mins
August 17	Thursday	7.00 pm	Karparaa with team RUNTIME: 71 mins Q&A: 30 mins	Tamil	101 mins
August 18	Friday	7.00 pm	Vihanga Premaya (Peacock Lament)	Sinhalese	103 mins
August 19	Saturday	3.30 pm	Bhool Bhulaiyaa 2	Hindi	145 mins
August 19	Saturday	6.30 pm	Shivamma	Kannada	104 mins
August 19	Saturday	9.00 pm	Pett Kata Shaw	Bengali	120 mins
August 20	Sunday	3.00 pm	A Holy Conspiracy	English, Bengali	143 mins

HOYTS Highpoint

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

DATE	DAY	TIME	FILM	LANGUAGE	DURATION
August 13	Sunday	7.00 pm	Be Kucheye Khoshbakht (And, Towards Happy Alleys)	Persian	75 mins
August 14	Monday	7.00 pm	Joram	Hindi	138 mins
August 15	Tuesday	7.00 pm	Dharti Latar Re Horo (Tortoise Under The Earth)	Santhali	97 mins
August 16	Wednesday	7.00 pm	Footprints on Water	English	108 mins
August 17	Thursday	7.00 pm	Kukri	Urdu	96 mins
August 18	Friday	7.00 pm	I'm Not The River Jhelum	Kashmiri	95 mins
August 19	Saturday	4.00 pm	Pokhar Ke Dunu Paar (On Either Sides of the Pond)	Hindi	105 mins
August 19	Saturday	6.30 pm	To Kill a Tiger	Hindi, Nagpuri	125 mins
August 19	Saturday	9.00 pm	The Underbug	Hindi	68 mins
August 20	Sunday	4.00 pm	Three of Us	Hindi	98 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	Sunday	3.00 pm	Official Short Films Package Here is where we meet again, iTales, Nocturnal Burger, Chaar Chappalein (Four Slippers)		107 mins
August 13	Sunday	7.00 pm	Ghaath	Marathi	126 mins
August 13	Sunday	9.00 pm	Chhaad (The Terrace)	Bengali	97 mins
August 14	Monday	7.00 pm	Bhagwan Bharose	Hindi	94 mins
August 15	Tuesday	7.00 pm	Goldfish	English	104 mins
August 16	Wednesday	6.30 pm	Vazhakk (The Quarrel)	Malayalam	93 mins
August 17	Thursday	6.30 pm	Agra	Hindi	132 mins
August 18	Friday	6.30 pm	Opium	Hindi, English	77 mins
August 19	Saturday	1.00 pm	While We Watched	English, Hindi	94 mins
August 20	Sunday	1.00 pm	Moha (Desire)	Hindi	103 mins
August 20	Sunday	3.30 pm	The Storyteller	Hindi	116 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 iffm.com.au closer to the event.



Indian Film Festival of
MELBOURNE
2023

Principal Partner



VICSCREEN



Image Courtesy: Toru's Husband

11-20 AUGUST
IN CINEMAS
AND STREAMING AUSTRALIA WIDE

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HOYTS District Docklands, HOYTS Melbourne Central, HOYTS Chadstone, HOYTS Highpoint