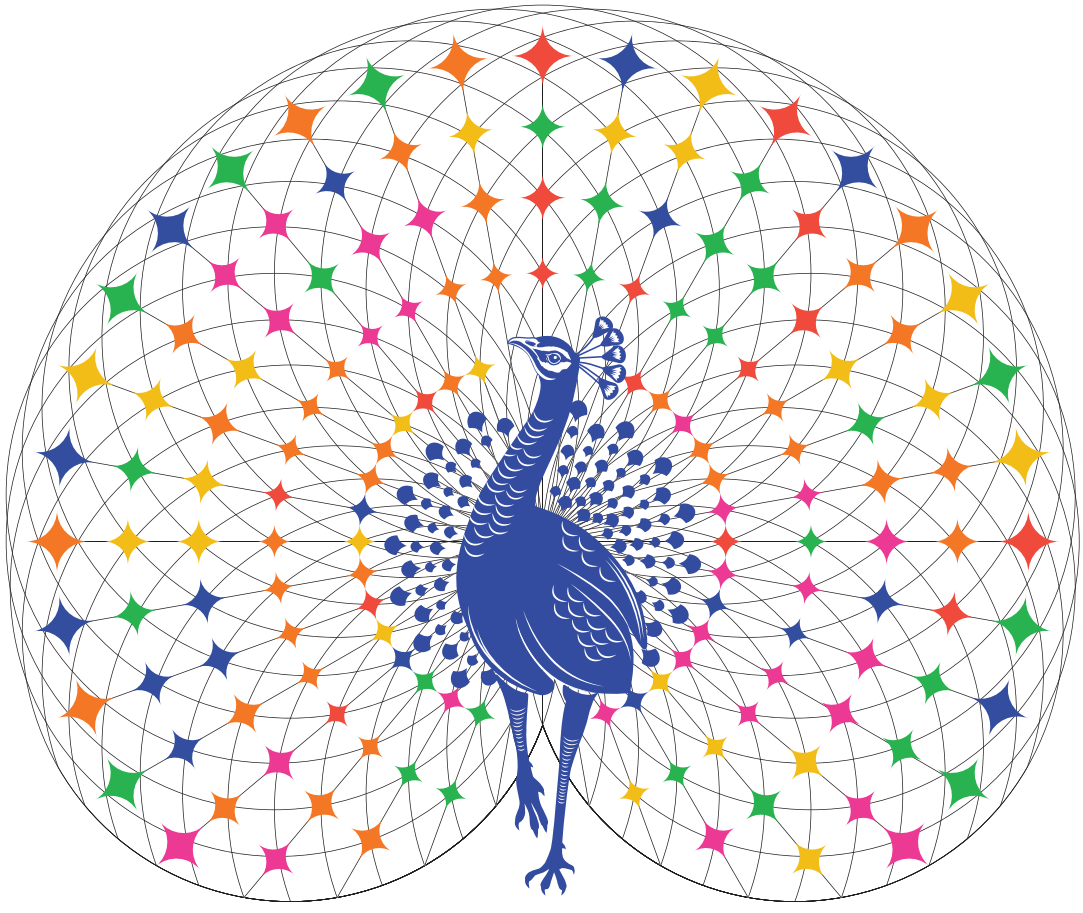
57th INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL OF INDIA

STORIES WITHOUT BORDERS



OFFICIAL CATALOGUE 2026

57TH INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL OF INDIA

20th to 28th
NOVEMBER, 2026
GOA, INDIA



सत्यमेव जयते

राष्ट्रपति
भारत गणतंत्र
PRESIDENT
REPUBLIC OF INDIA



MESSAGE

I am happy to know that the 57th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) is being held in Goa from 20 to 28 November 2026.

The International Film Festival of India has provided a distinguished platform for celebrating the art of filmmaking and showcasing India's rich cultural heritage to the world. It provides an opportunity for filmmakers and artists to showcase their creative achievements and new ideas. This year's theme "Stories Without Borders" is a fitting reminder that cinema knows no boundaries and fosters mutual understanding among cultures. I am confident that the 57th IFFI will strengthen India's engagement with global cinema and inspire stories that unite people.

I extend my warm greetings and best wishes to all those associated with the organisation of festival and wish IFFI-2026 all success.

(Droupadi Murmu)

New Delhi
16 October 2026

सत्यमेव जयते

प्रधानमंत्री
Prime Minister



MESSAGE

It is a pleasure to know that the 57th edition of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) is being organised in Goa. Warm greetings and felicitations to all officials, delegates, film industry professionals, visitors and distinguished guests on this occasion.

India has a rich tradition of storytelling. For millennia, our stories have carried the wisdom of our civilisation and expressed the aspirations and imagination of our people. Cinema has given this tradition a modern voice, taking Indian stories to audiences across languages and borders.

Over the past century, Indian cinema has found audiences around the world while remaining rooted in our own experiences and cultural ethos. As the industry grows, it is also creating new avenues for enterprise and employment.

IFFI provides a meeting ground for filmmakers and creative professionals from India and abroad. It opens avenues for collaboration. The festival also advances our vision of 'Create in India for the World', giving Indian talent greater opportunities to engage with the global film industry.

Cinema has a unique ability to help people understand lives and cultures beyond their own. Festivals such as IFFI deepen this exchange and bring people across the world closer. It also reinforces India's growing position as a hub for creative expression and a destination for collaboration in the media and entertainment sector.

My best wishes to everyone associated with the 57th IFFI.

(Narendra Modi)

New Delhi
कार्तिक 15, शक संवत् 1948
06 November, 2026

अश्विनी वैष्णव
Ashwini Vaishnaw

सत्यमेव जयते

रेल, सूचना और प्रसारण एवं इलेक्ट्रॉनिकी
और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री
भारत सरकार

**Minister of Railways, Information & Broadcasting
and Electronics & Information Technology
Government of India**



MESSAGE

I am happy to greet all the participants at the 57th International Film Festival of India being held in Goa from 20-28th November 2026.

Cinema and technology are coming together faster than ever. IFFI has kept pace with these changes. This edition's theme, "Stories Without Borders," focuses on creative economy that connects Indian talent with audiences and markets across the globe.

The WAVES Film Bazaar remains the festival's official business hub. It opens doors for co-production and content trade between Indian and international filmmakers. Initiatives like Creative Minds of Tomorrow add to this effort. Together, they are making India a natural home for content creation.

The Ministry of Information & Broadcasting is committed to helping filmmakers, storytellers and content creators thrive. We want India's orange economy to keep growing and more youth to get gainfully engaged. IFFI's growth over the years has raised India's standing on the global stage.

I congratulate the organisers, filmmakers and artists for their dedication to storytelling. I wish everyone a successful and memorable festival.

अश्विनी

(Ashwini Vaishnaw)

Room No. 23072, Kartavya Bhavan-2, New Delhi-110001
Tel.: 011-24015825, E-mail : minister.inb@gov.in

चंचल कुमार, भा.प्र.से.
सचिव
CHANCHAL KUMAR, I.A.S.
Secretary

सत्यमेव जयते

भारत सरकार
सूचना एवं प्रसारण मंत्रालय
Government of India
Ministry of Information & Broadcasting



MESSAGE

I extend my sincere greetings to all participants at the 57th International Film Festival of India, being held in Goa from November 20 to 28, 2026.

India's continued dedication to film-friendly policies has made IFFI a sought-after destination for filmmakers, producing exceptional films while building robust cultural connections between nations.

This year's Indian Panorama section highlights the diversity and dynamism of Indian cinema, showcasing films from across regions and languages while giving emerging directors a national stage. It captures the range of India's storytelling, from region to region and language to language, without losing its distinct voice.

The International Cinema section showcases the breadth and richness of world cinema, bringing together stories from across countries and cultures onto a single stage in Goa. Here too, the appeal of cinema lies in finding common ground in the human experience, even across borders and languages.

IFFI continues to exhibit India's distinctive cinematic contributions on a global scale while opening doors for the next generation of storytellers.

I extend my congratulations to all those who have contributed to the organisation of the 57th IFFI, and my best wishes to all attendees for a festival that is both successful and memorable.

22/11/26

(Chanchal Kumar)

Room No. 22042, Kartavya Bhavan-2, New Delhi-110001
Tel : +91-11-24015801, +91-11-24015802, E-mail : secy.inb@nic.in

प्रभात
अपर सचिव
PRABHAT
Additional Secretary

सत्यमेव जयते

भारत सरकार
सूचना एवं प्रसारण मंत्रालय
Government of India
Ministry of Information & Broadcasting



MESSAGE

The International Film Festival of India (IFFI) has emerged as a distinguished platform for the exchange of ideas, bringing filmmakers together to share perspectives and forge partnerships that extend beyond the festival.

This edition's line-up of films brings together a diverse range of cinematic voices from across the world. Creative Minds of Tomorrow continues to provide a platform for young storytellers, nurturing emerging talent that represents the future of India's creative economy, while the WAVES Film Bazaar brings together filmmakers, producers and financiers to explore co-production and business opportunities at the global level.

As we celebrate the power of cinema, IFFI continues to serve as a platform for creative exchange, collaboration and the discovery of emerging talent from India and across the world. Through its continued support for filmmakers and facilitation of industry interactions, IFFI provides a conducive platform for networking, collaboration and meaningful industry engagement.

Together, let us continue to celebrate stories that transcend screens, languages and cultures, and create lasting connections with audiences.

I extend my best wishes to everyone for a successful and inspiring IFFI Goa 2026.

03/11/26

(Prabhat)

कमरा सं. 23090, कर्तव्य भवन–2, नई दिल्ली–110001
Room No. 23090, Kartavya Bhavan-2, New Delhi-110001
Tel.: +91-11-24015803, 24015804, E-mail : asmib.inb@nic.in

कृष्णकुमार जी
अध्यक्ष
Krishnakumar G
Chairman



MESSAGE

For me, cinema has always been more than the art of telling stories. It is a window into human experience, allowing us to discover new worlds and build meaningful cultural connections. The International Film Festival of India (IFFI) celebrates this spirit by bringing filmmakers, artists, and audiences together on a shared platform.

As we welcome the 57th edition of IFFI in Goa, I am particularly delighted by the new non-competition section on 'Films About Films'. It offers a rare opportunity to explore cinema through its own creative lineage, storytelling processes, and the visionary people behind the screen.

This year's masterclasses and conversations will dive into the many dimensions of the craft - from memorable acting performances and sound design legacies to the evolution of filmmaking across diverse cultures.

Such encounters make IFFI far more than a festival of screenings. They create spaces to listen, learn, and exchange ideas, inspiring young filmmakers to approach their art with curiosity and courage.

NFDC remains steadfast in supporting Indian cinema and nurturing spaces where talent and storytelling thrive. I warmly welcome filmmakers, delegates, students, and cinema lovers to Goa, and hope IFFI 2026 sparks fresh inspiration and a renewed love for the timeless power of film.

(Krishnakumar G)

राष्ट्रीय फिल्म विकास निगम लिमिटेड (भारत सरकार का उद्यम)
एनएफडीसी-एफडी कॉम्प्लेक्स, 24, डॉ. गोपालराव देशमुख मार्ग, मुंबई – 400 026
National Film Development Corporation Limited (A Government of India Enterprise)
NFDC-FD Complex, 24, Dr. Gopalrao Deshmukh Marg, Mumbai – 400 026
CIN – U92100MH1975GOI022994 I GSTIN – 27AAACN3540R1Z3
www.nfdcindia.com I films.wavesbazaar.com I indiacinehub.gov.in
T 91 22 3524 8444 M 91 96457 11602 E chairman@nfdcindia.com | NFDCIndia

राष्ट्रीय फिल्म विकास निगम लि.
NFDC
cinemas of india

nfai
national film archive of india

NMIC
भारतीय सिनेमा का राष्ट्रीय संग्रहालय
National Museum of Indian Cinema

धीरज सिंह
प्रबंध निदेशक
DHIRAJ SINGH
Managing Director



Message

Cinema serves as a vital bridge across borders, bringing diverse voices together and offering new perspectives on our shared world. The International Film Festival of India (IFFI) honors this global vision by uniting outstanding cinema, creators, and audiences.

The 57th IFFI, taking place in Goa from 20 to 28 November 2026, stands as a premier celebration of international cinematic diversity. The National Film Development Corporation (NFDC), under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, plays a central role in organizing IFFI in association with the Government of Goa and the Entertainment Society of Goa. Beyond the festival grounds, NFDC continues to drive the development, production, promotion, and preservation of Indian cinema.

Our talent and market initiatives remain at the core of this growth. Initiatives like Creative Minds of Tomorrow (CMOT) nurture emerging talent, featuring an expanded cohort of 100 handpicked students from across the country. Simultaneously, the 20th WAVES Film Bazaar opens crucial pathways for networking, co-production, and trade among Indian and international industry leaders. This edition proudly features Spain as the Country of Honour and Russia as the Partner Country, highlighting their rich traditions and encouraging robust international collaboration.

In today's world where cinema is struggling to maintain its role as an art form that organizes public attention in a collective environment, Film festivals like IFFI become all the more critical. I hope we will add new dimensions to our beloved art form.

I look forward to welcoming filmmakers, industry professionals, students, and cinephiles from around the globe to Goa. May IFFI 2026 foster strong professional partnerships, innovative ideas, and a memorable experience for all participants.

(Dhiraj Singh)

राष्ट्रीय फिल्म विकास निगम लिमिटेड (भारत सरकार का उद्यम)
एनएफडीसी-एफडी कॉम्प्लेक्स, 24, डॉ. गोपालराव देशमुख मार्ग, मुंबई – 400 026
National Film Development Corporation Limited (A Government of India Enterprise)
NFDC-FD Complex, 24, Dr. Gopalrao Deshmukh Marg, Mumbai – 400 026
CIN – U92100MH1975GOI022994 I GSTIN – 27AAACN3540R1Z3
www.nfdcindia.com I films.wavesbazaar.com I indiacinehub.gov.in
T 91 22 3524 8444 I 91 22 4824 9921 E md@nfdcindia.com | NFDCindia

आशुतोष गोवारीकर
महोत्सव निदेशक
अंतर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म फेस्टिवल ऑफ इंडिया
Ashutosh Gowariker
Festival Director
International Film Festival of India



FOREWORD NOTE

I have always believed in the old adage that Cinema constantly travels beyond the boundaries of language, geography, culture, and more. A story made in one part of the world, finds its way into the imagination of someone thousands of miles away. This very ability of cinema to connect us, is at the heart of the 57th International Film Festival of India and of this year's theme, *Stories Without Borders*.

It gives me great excitement to share with you that the 57th IFFI brings together a wide range of international cinema. The **International Competition** presents 15 films, alongside 7 films in the Award for **Best Debut Feature Film** and 10 films competing for the **ICFT UNESCO Gandhi Medal**.

The Jury for the International Competition is headed by renowned Indian filmmaker Aanand L Rai and comprises of 4 other practicing film makers from different parts of the world.

Additionally, **Cinema of the World** presents 35 films, while **From Festivals Worldwide** brings 13 films recognised at festivals around the world. The programme also includes 10 **Emerging Filmmakers**, and 7 films in **Docu Montage**, 6 films in **Experimental Films**, 5 films each in **Macabre Cinema** and **Mission Life**.

In this edition, we are re-introducing **Animation** films at IFFI with a selection of 5 features from across the world; 57th IFFI will also see a new section '**Films on Films**' which includes enriching fare on David Lean and Vittorio De Sica.

IFFI 2026 will also pay a **Centenary Tribute** to the great Polish director Andrzej Wajda by showcasing 5 of his most iconic films from different time periods.

The international film programme consists of works of several major contemporary film makers including Volker Schlöndorff, Pawel Pawlikowski, Quentin Dupieux, Lucas Dhont and Takashi Miike.

Screens at Goa will also be lit by films encompassing the dazzling presence of star performers such as Jackie Chan, Sandra Huller, Channing Tatum, Juliette Benoche and Dominic West.

As I pen this piece, 18 films from the line-up have been nominated by their respective countries for the Oscars. This number may rise further by the time we meet in Goa.

Indian cinema remains central to IFFI. Indian Panorama presents 30 feature films, including 5 films from mainstream cinema and 5 films of best debut director of Indian Feature Film, and few select titles under New Horizon section that are screening for the first time anywhere either in the world or at least in India i.e. World, International, Asia or India Premieres apart from 20 non-feature films, and 5 Web Series nominated for the Best Web Series OTT Award.

This year, the Indian programme also includes special packages celebrating important moments in our film history. We will look back at some of the artists and films that have shaped our cinema. The **Centenary Celebrations** include *Thulabharam*, *Sadhi Manase, Waqt*, *Kashmir Ki Kali*, *Chowringhee*, associated with Prem Nazir, Suryakant Mandhare, Raj Kumar, Ravi, O. P. Nayyar, Shakti Samanta and Uttam Kumar. The **Golden Jubilee Celebrations** revisit Bapu's *Bhakta Kannappa* and Yash Chopra's *Kabhi Kabhie*. The festival also pays **Homage** to Shri Bharathiraja, Shri K. Bhagyaraj and Shri Nana Patekar.

The **Gala Premiere** programme further brings together different kinds of cinema and audiences. Films such as *Ray Gunn*, directed by Brad Bird, featuring the voices of Sam Rockwell, Scarlett Johansson and Tom Waits are part of the programme.

A festival is a place for conversation and learning. This year's sessions bring together filmmakers, actors, educators and practitioners including Julie Bertucelli, John Sheedy, Amala Akkineni, Ayan Mukerji, Basil Joseph, Madhur Bhandarkar, K S Chitra, Natalie Wade and Farhan Akhtar. Their conversations explore documentary cinema, film schools, Goa in cinema, experimental cinema, the legacy of Lata Mangeshkar and a Session by the Oscars Academy, as well as a Masterclass in Theatre.

For me, the value of IFFI lies in bringing these different worlds into the same space. A debut filmmaker, an established master, a restored classic, a new Indian film and a story arriving from another part of the world can all become part of the same conversation.

I invite you to experience the 57th IFFI with that spirit of discovery. To watch across languages, to listen across cultures and to find stories that remind us of what we share.

Welcome to IFFI Goa 2026!

Ashutosh Gowariker

Festival Director
Ashutosh Gowariker

CONTENT

Awards	13
Opening Film	14
Mid Fest Film	16
Closing Film	18
Jury for International Competition	20
International Competition	23
Best Debut Feature Film of a Director	39
ICFT-UNESCO Gandhi Medal	47
ICFT-UNESCO Gandhi Medal Jury	48
From Festivals Worldwide	59
Emerging Filmmakers	73
Docu-Montage	85
Creative Minds of Tomorrow (CMOT)	90
Experimental Films	91
Macabre Cinema	95
Mission Life	99
Animation	103
Films About Films	107
Cinema of the World	111
Open Air Screenings	132
Restored Classics	133

CONTENT

Andrzej Wajda Centenary Tribute	137
Country of Honour: Spain	141
Partner Country: Russia	145
Accessibility at IFFI: Cinema for All	148
Films from BRICS	149
Indian Panorama	163
Jury for Indian Panorama Feature Films	164
Indian Panorama Feature Films	171
Jury for Indian Panorama Non-Feature Films	206
WAVES Film Bazaar @ 20	210
Indian Panorama Non-Feature Films	211
Jury for Indian Panorama Web Series (OTT)	222
Best Web Series (OTT) Award	225
Gala Premieres	229
Sessions	237
Special Presentations	243

International Competitions



Golden Peacock Trophy

Best Film ₹51,00,000

Silver Peacock Trophy



Special Jury Prize
₹20,00,000

Best Director
₹20,00,000

Best Debut Director
₹15,00,000

Best Actor (M)
₹15,00,000

Best Actor (F)
₹15,00,000

ICFT - UNESCO Gandhi Medal



MEDAL

Indian Section

Best Debut Director
₹5,00,000

Best Webseries (OTT)
₹10,00,000

Non Film Specific

Silver Peacock Trophy

Indian Film Personality of the Year ₹10,00,000



OPENING FILM

FATHERLAND



Fatherland (Ojczyzna)

Poland, Germany, Italy, France I 2026 I German, English, French, Russian I 82' I B&W

Fatherland explores the relationship between the Nobel Prize-winning writer Thomas Mann and his daughter Erika, an actress, writer and rally driver. In the summer of 1949, at the height of the Cold War, father and daughter set out for a challenging and emotional road trip in a black Buick taking them across a Germany devastated by war, from US-dominated Frankfurt to Weimar controlled by the Soviet Union. Returning home after sixteen years of exile in the US, Thomas Mann has to face not only a divided fatherland, but also deep divisions within his own family.

Director
Paweł Pawlikowski

Producer
Our Films, Extreme Emotions, Nine Hours Gmbh

Screenplay
Paweł Pawlikowski, Henk Handloegten

DoP
Łukasz Żal

Editor
Paweł Pawlikowski, Piotr Wójcik

Sound Designer
Lars Ginzel, Tarn Willers

Cast
Sandra Hüller, Hanns Zischler, August Diehl, Devid Striesow, Anna Madeley

Festivals
Cannes Film Festival 2026 I San Sebastián International Film Festival 2026 I Telluride Film Festival 2026

Awards
Best Director, Cannes 2026

Premiere Status

India Premiere

Genre
Drama

Sales
Mubi

Paweł Pawlikowski



Polish filmmaker Paweł Pawlikowski began his career with documentaries before directing BAFTA-winning films Last Resort in 2000 and My Summer of Love in 2004. Ida, directed by him, became the first Polish film to win the Oscar for Best International Feature in 2013. It also won five European Film Awards, including Best Film, Best Director and Best Screenwriter. Cold War premiered in Competition at Cannes 2008 where Pawlikowski won the Best Director Award.



MID FEST FILM

I MATTER



I Matter (Eu Contez)

Romania, Germany, Belgium I 2026 I Romanian,Romani I 101' I Colour

Rebeca, a young Roma girl prepares to leave the orphanage, she calls home, hoping that her father's release from prison will finally give her the family the way she always wanted. When she gets into the university to study acting, it feels that her life is finally moving forward. But just as she starts to settle in this new world, her past catches up with her, forcing her to make choices she can no longer postpone.

Director
Alina Șerban

Producer
Ada Solomon, Carla Fotea, Harry Flöter, Jorg Siepmann, Cassandre Warnauts, Jean Yves Roubin

Screenplay
Alina Șerban

DoP
Nona Catusanu

Editor
Letiția Ștefănescu

Sound Designer
Lise Bouchez

Cast
Denisa Farcaș,Sorin Mihai,Angelina Pavel,Vanessa Dancea,Raisa Mihai, Alexandru Stancu, Alina Berzunțeanu,Natalia Călin

Festivals
Venice International Film Festival 2026

Awards
Audience Award, Venice International Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Drama

Sales
Jai Viratra Entertainment Limited

Alina Șerban



A graduate of UNATC Bucharest, NYU Tisch School of the Arts and the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, Alina Șerban is an award-winning actress, writer, and stage and film director. Her films, Alone at My Wedding, was screened at Cannes; Gipsy Queen earned multiple Best Actress awards, and Housekeeping for Beginners was screened at the Venice Film Festival. Her directorial debut, I Matter, returns her to Venice. She is a Knight of the Order of Cultural Merit in Romania.



CLOSING FILM

WE ARE ALL STRANGERS



We Are All Strangers (我们不是陌生人)

Singapore I 2026 I Mandarin, English I 157' I Colour

Set in present day Singapore, 21-year-old Junyang enjoys a carefree youth while his father struggles to support their modest life. When his relationship takes an unexpected turn, Junyang and his girlfriend face adulthood earlier than anticipated. Meanwhile, a lively woman enters his father's life, changing the balance between father and son. As both generations face love, loss and responsibility, they must redefine family and learn to navigate the imperfect bonds between those we are born to and those we choose.

Director
Anthony Chen

Producer
Anthony Chen

Screenplay
Anthony Chen

DoP
Teoh Gay Hian

Editor
Hoping Chen

Sound Designer
Lim Ting Li

Cast
Yann Yann Yeo, Koh Jia Ler, Andi Lim

Festivals
Melbourne International Film Festival 2026 I Berlin International Film Festival 2026 I Helsinki International Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Comedy, Drama

Sales
Paradise City Sales

Anthony Chen

Born in 1984, Anthony Chen is a Singaporean writer, director and producer, known for Wet Season, Drift and The Breaking Ice. He won the 2013 Cannes Caméra d'Or for his debut, Ilo Ilo. We Are All Strangers, of the "Growing Up trilogy", competed for the Golden Bear at Berlin.



JURY FOR INTERNATIONAL COMPETETION



Aanand L Rai

Jury Chairperson

Aanand L Rai is an Indian director and producer whose films explore love, aspiration and social convention through characters rooted in everyday life. His directorial work, including Tanu Weds Manu, Raanjhanaa and Tanu Weds Manu Returns, brings together the often contradictory nature of human relationships. Atrangi Re and his latest film, Tere Ishk Mein, extend his engagement with unconventional love stories.

As a Producer, and the founder of Colour Yellow, Rai has backed filmmakers working across markedly different cinematic forms. His productions extend beyond the idiom of his own films, encompassing the atmospheric horror of Tumbbad, the period adventure Laal Kaptaan, the romantic thriller Haseen Dillruba, the social comedy franchise Shubh Mangal Saavdhan, and the action satire An Action Hero. In Marathi cinema, his slate includes Jhimma 2, Aatmapamphlet and Fussclass Dabhade. These choices reflect both the breadth of his interests and the conviction to back distinctive subjects, sensibilities and voices.

His commitment to emerging filmmakers is reflected in Aatmapamphlet, the debut feature of Ashish Avinash Bende. Selected for the 73rd Berlin International Film Festival, the film subsequently received the National Award for Best Debut Film of a Director. Rai also presented Amit V. Masurkar's Newton, a political satire selected in 2017, as India's official submission to the 90th Academy Awards.

A prominent filmmaker working within mainstream Indian cinema, Rai combines an understanding of audiences with the conviction to support unconventional subjects and distinctive cinematic voices. His work as a director and producer reflects two complementary commitments; developing a distinct cinematic language of his own and enabling other filmmakers to articulate theirs. His contribution lies as much in the films that bear his signature as in the space he has made for the visions of others.



Sol Berruezo Pichon-Rivière

Jury Member

Born in 1996 in Buenos Aires, Sol Berruezo Pichon-Rivière is an Argentinian writer-director based in Iceland. Graduated in Film Direction from the Universidad del Cine Argentina, she debuted with Mamá, mamá, mama, with only women in the cast and crew, that earned the Special Mention of the Jury in Generation K Plus Competition, Berlin 2020, She was the youngest director of the 70th Berlinale. In 2021, with the support of the Biennale College Cinema she shot her second film with producer Laura Mara Tablón: Nuestros días mas felices. Which was premiered at La Biennale di Venezia.



Ratchapoom Boonbunchachoke

Jury Member

Born and based in Bangkok, Thailand, writer-director Ratchapoom Boonbunchachoke studied film at the Chulalongkorn University. His short film Red Aninsri Or, Tiptoeing on the Still Trembling Berlin Wall got selected in the competition section at Locarno 2020, earning Junior Jury award. His debut feature A Useful Ghost won the Grand Prize AMI Paris at Semaine de la Critique, Cannes 2025. His short film The Bovine Comedy won Pardino d'Oro. We Present by WeTransfer for the Best Auteur Short Film in Locarno Film Festival 2026.



María Alejandra Rojas

Jury Member

María Alejandra Rojas is a Colombian sound designer and sound supervisor based in Mexico, educated at the Jorge Tadeo Lozano University in Bogotá and the EICTV in Cuba, with participation in Berlinale Talents and Guadalajara Talents. Through her company, Sonnet, she has worked on international fiction, documentary, experimental cinema, television, and sound art projects globally. Her notable film credits include award-winning works recognized at major festivals such as the Berlinale, Sundance, and Rotterdam, featuring films like Heil Jupiter ! by Carlos Reygadas, Gabriel Mascaro's The Blue Trail, Allison O'Daniel's The Tuba Thieves, Carla Gutiérrez's Frida, among others.

Her extensive portfolio extends to major television series and audio projects for platforms such as Netflix, Amazon Prime Video, and Spotify. In addition to her post-production work, she actively engages in teaching and consulting for international institutions and film labs, and serves as a juror for awards such as the IDA Awards. As a sound artist, she has showcased works at prestigious venues including MoMA, the Venice Biennale, and the Carrillo Gil Art Museum, consolidating a multifaceted career that spans filmmaking, sound art and education.



Bogdan Mureșanu

Jury Member

Bogdan Mureșanu is a Romanian writer- director and producer who came to cinema from literature and advertising. He debuted as a screenwriter in 2008 with the The Human Torch that won the Best Romanian Short Film at the TIFF Screenplay Competition. He wrote screenplays for the animated short film Opinci winning the Best Romanian Short Film at TIFF 2019 and Young Audience Award at Clermont Ferrand, and Where is Sofia? Earning the award for the Best Screenplay at OAXACA, Mexico 2012. His short film The Christmas Present won the European Film Academy Award in 2019, and screened 200 festival selections, earning 72 awards. His feature film The New Year That Never Came got nominated for the European Discovery 2024 - Prix FIPRESCI and earned 23 international awards including the Best Film Award in the Orizzonti and the FIPRESCI Award for Best
Film in Venice, Silver Atlas and Youth Jury Prize at the Arras Film Festival; Golden Pyrami for Best Film in Cairo, Silver Peacock for Best Direction in IFFI Goa and FIPRESCI award in the Luxembourg City Film Festival. The film also won 10 trophies at the Gopo Awards, including the Best Feature Film, Debut Film, Director, and Screenplay.

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

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





3 Weeks After (3 Nedelje Posle)

Serbia, Bulgaria, Italy, Croatia, Luxembourg | 2026 | Serbian | 94' | Colour

During a school trip, a group of teenagers gets stranded in an old, run-down hotel. Zoza is still grieving the suicide of his best friend, Andrija. He confronts his classmates and teachers for staying silent about the bullying Andrija faced. His accusations turn others against him and reveal hidden secrets and tensions within the group. When the person he trusts most betrays him, Zoza runs into the forest. There, something disturbing begins to happen, threatening to change everything by morning.

Director
Miroslav Terzić

Producer
Snežana van Houwelingen, Branislav Trifunović

Screenplay
Vladimir Arsenijević, Miroslav Terzić, Bojan Vuletić

DoP
Damjan Radovanović

Editor
Marko Ferkovic

Sound Designer
Paolo Segat

Cast
Jovan Ginić, Tihana Lazović, Branislav Trifunović, Andjela Alavirević, Klara Karaulić, Andrija Marković

Festivals
Karlovy Vary International Film Festival 2026 | Pula Film Festival 2026

Awards
Europa Cinema Label Award, Karlovy Vary IFF 2026 | Best Director, Best Screenplay, Best Editing, Critics Poll Award, Pula FF 2026 | Best Script, Herceg Novi Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Thriller, Drama

Sales
Bendita Film Sales

Miroslav Terzić



Based in Belgrade, Serbian film director Miroslav Terzić made his debut with Redemption Street, which premiered at the São Paulo International Film Festival, earning Best Debut Feature at Cottbus. His second feature, Stitches, premiered in Berlin Panorama and won the Europa Cinemas Label Award and the Panorama Audience Award. Terzić has also directed a large body of commercial work across the region and internationally.



A Family

Netherland, Belgium I 2026 I Dutch I 89' I Colour

Caught in their parents' divorce, Nina and Eli struggle with anger, confusion and the need to be understood. Each retreats into their own world, while dealing with divided loyalties and emotional pain. Told from both their perspectives, the story explores how family relationships can break apart yet find a way to heal, despite the distance, hurt and silence that separate them.

Director
Mees Peijnenburg

Producer
Iris Otten, Nathalie van der Burg, Sander vanMeurs

Screenplay
Bastiaan Kroeger, Mees Peijnenburg

DoP
Jasper Wolf

Editor
Imre Reutelingsperger

Sound Designer
Job Michel

Cast
Celeste Holsheimer, Finn Vogels, Carice Van Houten, Pieter Embrechts

Festivals
Thessaloniki International Film Festival 2026 I Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival, PÖFF 2026 I Berlin International Film Festival 2026

Awards
Speical Mention, Youth Jury Generation 14 Plus Best Film, Berlinale 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Drama

Sales
Paradise City Sales

Mees Peijnenburg



Born in 1989 in Tokyo, London-based Dutch director Mees Peijnenburg graduated from the Netherlands Film Academy.His shorts A Hole in My Heart and Even Cowboys Get to Cry, got nominated for Berlinale Crystal Bear. His films have won over 50 awards including Dutch Directors' Guild Award and two Golden Calves for We Will Never Be Royals. His debut feature, Paradise Drifters, premiered at the 2020 Berlinale. He served on juries at Berlinale Generation, Cinekid and Les Arcs Film Festival.



Aquí

Portugal, France I 2026 I Spanish I 204' I Colour

In a place where people begin their lives without any memories of the past, Simón takes care of David, a child he meets while travelling to this new world. Believing the boy needs a mother, he finds Inés and feels she is the right person. She agrees, and the three slowly form an unusual family. However, society expects everyone to follow its rules, while David refuses to fit in. Through his imagination and desire for freedom, he challenges these expectations. Simón and Inés must learn that raising a child is an uncertain journey, full of questions and without easy answers.

Director
Tiago Guedes

Producer
Paulo Branco

Screenplay
Tiago Guedes, Luís Araújo

DoP
Daniela Cajías

Editor
Jackie Bastide, Tiago Augusto

Sound Designer
Jean-Paul Mugel

Cast
Manolo Solo, Patricia López Arnaiz, Álex Peláez, Hugo Encuentra, Daniel Elías, Lambert Wilson, Sergi López, Camille Decourtye

Festivals
Cannes Film Festival 2026 I São Paulo International Film Festival 2026 I Jakarta World Cinema 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Drama

Sales
Films Boutique (International), BookMyShow(India)

Tiago Guedes



Born in 1971 in Porto, Tiago Guedes is a Portuguese filmmaker working in cinema, television and theatre. His films have screened at Cannes, Venice, Rotterdam, San Sebastián and Toronto. His works include Bad Blood, Noise and The Domain, Portugal's Oscar submission. In 2021, he directed Glória, Netflix's first Portuguese original series. Remains of the Wind premiered at Cannes, Dialogues After the End at Rotterdam, and his latest film, Aquí, had a Cannes Première.



Far From the Trees (Lejos de los árboles)

Spain, Peru, Italy | 2026 | Spanish, Quecha, Catalan | 120' | Colour

Adela, a Mexican sound artist, travels from the jungle to the Peruvian Andes alongside Lucho, a guide and translator. Following the legacy of her grandfather, a Republican exiled in Mexico, she weaves a sound map of endangered languages. When the fear of death breaks in, reality fractures. The journey turns into an intimate passage that confronts her with memory, grief, uprooting and identity.

Director
Meritxell Colell Aparicio

Producer
Mayca Sanz L-Higueras

Screenplay
Meritxell Colell Aparicio

DoP
Julián Elizalde

Editor
Ana Pfaff, Meritxell Colell Aparicio

Sound Designer
Verònica Font

Cast
Angélica Castelló, Jose Luis López Cama, Teresita Sánchez, Caterina Ramirez Guallar, Ángel Santos

Festivals
Locarno Film Festival 2026 | San Sebastian International Film Festival 2026 | Chicago International Film Festival 2026

Awards
Locarno Film Festival 2026 | Best Film Award, FIPRESCI 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Drama

Sales
SplitScreen

Meritxell Colell Aparicio



Born in Barcelona, Meritxell Colell is a Spanish director and editor. Her debut feature, Con el viento, was selected for Cannes' L'Atelier and premiered at Berlin. Her films have screened at international festivals including San Sebastián, Málaga, Chicago and Nara. In 2026, her third fiction feature, Lejos de los árboles, premiered at Locarno and won the FIPRESCI Award for Best Film.



Hearing (Thính Giác)

Vietnam, Singapore, Norway, France, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia, Cambodia, Thailand, Taiwan I 2026 I Vietnamese I 128' I Colour

Ninh lives with his mother and misses his ex-wife Ngoc and their young children. As a mechanic who installs decibel meters in public spaces and homes, Ninh observes the silence that haunts relationships. Ninh hopes his separated parents will make peace and start talking again. Afraid of losing the people he loves, he must learn to face the unexpected changes life brings.

Director
Lê Bảo

Producer
Elizabeth Wijaya & Lai Weijie, Huỳnh Yến

Screenplay
Lê Bảo

DoP
Nguyễn Vinh Phúc

Editor
Carlo Francisco Manatad & Dounia Sichov

Sound Designer
Ngo Quoc Kien, Doan Ngọc Tan, Nguyen Ngoc Vinh

Cast
Nguyễn Quốc Tuấn, Ngọc Tản, Khánh Huyền, Tiểu Quyên, Minh Hùng, Nguyễn Công Uẩn, Trần Anh Dũng, Nsưt Chí Linh, Lilam Vo

Festivals
Locarno International Film Festival 2026 I Hamburg International Film Festival 2026 I BFI London Film Festival 2026 I

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Drama

Sales
Heretic

Lê Bảo



Born in 1990 in Saigon, Lê Bảo is an acclaimed self-trained Vietnamese filmmaker. In his youth, he watched foreign films on his computer and made his first short film with a borrowed camera. His short films and his debut feature, Taste, about an injured Nigerian footballer and four women in Ho Chi Minh City, won the Encounters Special Jury Award in Berlin. Hearing is his ode to the people and places he loves.



In My Father's Room (Muyou no Hito)

Japan I 2026 I Japanese I 109' I Colour

The film follows Satomi, a worker at an art museum. One day, she receives an envelope containing a mysterious key to a room that belonged to her late father, who died a month ago. Curious about the key, she begins to explore the final days of his life. Although he seemed forgotten by society, he found comfort in words, the art of tea and the small beauties of everyday life. As Satomi follows the traces he left behind, she gradually discovers the world he lived in and learns to understand him better.

Director
Maha Harada

Producer
Kumi Kobata, Shuichi Komuro, Mikiya Sato, Erika Murayama

Screenplay
Maha Harada

DoP
Yoshio Kitagawa JSC

Editor
Azusa Yamazaki

Sound Designer
Gen Komiya

Cast
Yu Aoi, Issey Ogata, Eita Nagayama, Eri Watanabe, Kami Hiraiwa, Motoki Nakazawa, Arisa Nakano, Hideki Noda, So-oku Sen

Festivals
San Sebastian Film Festival 2026 I Busan International Film Festival 2026

Awards
FIPRESCI Award, San Sebastian Film Festival 2026, Ateneo Guipuzcoano Award, San Sebastian Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Drama, Art, Family

Sales
Bitters End, Inc.

Maha Harada

One of Japan's bestselling writers, Maha Harada has sold over ten million books since her debut as a novelist in 2006. She studied Japanese literature and art history and worked at a trading company and museums, including MoMA. Later, she became a freelance curator and cultural writer. Her art-inspired novels include Canvas of Paradise and Guernica Cover Up. Her directorial debut brings one of her own short stories to the screen.





Kantara: A Legend - Chapter 1

India I 2025 I Kannada I 168.53' I Colour

During the Kadamba era, King Vijayendra enters the mystical forest of Kantara but never returns. His heir, Rajashekara, seals the forest borders. Years later, Berme, a young forest dweller, crosses into the kingdom of Bangra and discovers the cruelty of its rulers. When Prince Kulashekara attacks the forest tribes and kills many of their people, Berme rises against him. Uniting the tribes, he leads a fight for justice and Dharma. What begins as a journey of discovery soon turns into a fierce battle between two worlds, shaped by power, faith and destiny.

Director
Rishab Shetty

Producer
Hombale Films LLP

Screenplay
Rishab Shetty, Anirudh Mahesh, Shanil Goutham

DoP
Arvind Kashyap

Editor
Suresh Mallaiah

Music Director
B. Ajaneesh Loknath

Cast
Rishab Shetty, Rukmini Vasanth, Jayaram & Gulshan Devaiah

Rishab Shetty



Born in 1983 in Keradi village, Karnataka, Rishab Shetty is an actor, director and producer known for Kannada cinema. His notable films include Kirik Party, Sarkari Hi. Pra. Shaale and Kantara. He won National Film Awards for Best Children's Film and Best Actor, and the Filmfare Award for Best Director.



Paro - The Untold Story Of Bride Slavery

India | 2026 | Hindi | 109.14' | Colour

At just 13, Chand is sold into marriage and becomes a victim of the Paro bride-slavery system. Separated from her family and children, she struggles through years of abuse and loss. A researcher named Mohar helps bring her story to light, exposing the cruel practice of treating women as property. When her third husband, Rashid, betrays her, Chand must make a difficult choice to protect her child. As her story reaches a university gathering, she finds the courage to speak out. Paro – The Untold Story of Bride Slavery is about survival, dignity, freedom and a woman's fight to reclaim her life.

Director
Gajendra Ahire

Producer
Trupti Bhoir Films

Screenplay
Trupti Bhoir, Gajendra Ahire

DoP
Krishna Soren

Editor
Ballu Saluja

Music Director
Satish Chakravarthy

Cast
Trupti Bhoir, Taha Shah Badussha

Premiere Status
Asia Premiere

Gajendra Ahire

Gajendra Ahire is an Indian writer-director known for Marathi cinema. His films explore human relationships, social issues and complex emotions, often bringing overlooked stories and perspectives to the screen.





Pray For Us (Ruega Por Nosotras)

Spain, France I 2026 I Spanish I 136' I Colour

Set in 1974 in Spain, the story follows 19-year-old Ana. Her wealthy parents consider her rebellious and send her to a reformatory run by Franco's Women's Protection Board for girls labelled as "morally deviant." Under the strict control of nuns, she faces harsh rules, punishment and abuse. Struggling to survive, Ana finds hope through her fellow inmates. She forms a close friendship with Sole, a lively village girl. Their strong bond gives Ana the courage and emotional strength to face the institution's cruelty and oppressive rules.

Director
Daniel Monzón

Producer
Sandra Tapia

Screenplay
Jorge Guerricaechevarría, Daniel Monzón

DoP
Carles Gusí

Editor
Mapa Pastor

Sound Designer
Tamara Arévalo

Cast
Zoe Bonafonte, Carla Domínguez, Adelfa Calvo, Bea Segura

Festivals
San Sebastian International Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
Asia Premiere

Genre
Drama

Sales
Film Factory Entertainment

Daniel Monzón



Born in Palma de Mallorca in 1968, Daniel Monzón began as a journalist and film critic before becoming a fim director. After his award-winning debut El corazón del guerrero (1999) and the thriller La caja Kovak (2006), his Celda 211 (2009) won eight Goya Awards, including Best Picture and Best Director. He cemented his status in Spanish cinema with successful films like El Niño (2014), the hit comedy Yucatán (2018) and the multi-Goya-winning Netflix adaptation Las Leyes de la Frontera (2021).



Skylark (ЭРЕЭЕ)

Kyrgyzstan I 2026 IKyrgyz I 85' I Colour

Land disputes along the borders created after the collapse of the Soviet Union have long affected Central Asia. Skylark follows Aibek, a teenager living in a Kyrgyz village near the Tajik border. Raised by his grandmother Ene, he balances family life with the tensions surrounding their village. When Ene dies, Aibek tries to fulfil her final wish to be buried beside her husband. However, the cemetery is now in Tajikistan, across a newly drawn border. As Aibek faces this challenge, his personal struggles reflect the wider divisions in family, land and history.

Director
Narghiza Dotieva

Producer
Gulnara Kasmambetova

Screenplay
Narghiza Dotieva

DoP
Benjamin Liddell

Editor
Evgeniy Krokhmalenko

Sound Designer
Murat Ajiev

Cast
Ularbek Mirlanov, Bermet Omurova, Gulnara Satarova

Festivals
Shanghai International Film Festival 2026 I Amur Autumn Film Festival 2026 I Sao Paulo International Film Festival 2026

Awards
Grand Prix, Amur Autumn Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Drama

Narghiza Dotieva



A graduate in film from the University of Westminster, Narghiza Dotieva, a Kyrgyz filmmaker, is known for her acclaimed debut short, Blue Gate, which earned awards at the Sapporo Short Fest and Kyrgyzstan Land of Short Films and was screened at Raindance. As a director who blends deeply rooted Central Asian oral storytelling with contemporary cinematic form, Skylark, her first feature film, brings a rare and vital window into Kyrgyz independent cinema.



The Kerala Story 2 Goes Beyond

India | 2026 | Hindi | 131.24' | Colour

The Kerala Story 2 follows three young women from Kerala, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan who choose love over family expectations. Surekha hopes to become a civil servant, Neha is a national-level javelin athlete, and Divya dreams of becoming a social media star. Each believes love will help her build a better future. However, their relationships gradually become controlling and involve manipulation and betrayal. As their stories unfold, the women face difficult choices and struggle to protect their independence and ambitions. The film explores how misplaced trust and unhealthy relationships can affect personal freedom, family ties and the future they hoped to build.

Director
Kamakhya Narayan Singh

Producer
Vipul Amrutlal Shah

Screenplay
Amarnath Jha, Vipul Amrutlal Shah

DoP
Abhijeet Chaudhari

Editor
Sanjay Sharma

Music Director
Mannan Shaah, Rahul Suhas (Song Kanha)

Cast
Ulka Gupta, Aishwarya Ojha, Aditi Bhatia, Sumit Gahlawat, Arjan Singh Aujla, Yuktam Khoslla

Kamakhya Narayan Singh

Kamakhya Narayan Singh is an Indian writer-director whose work explores issues through character-driven stories. In The Kerala Story 2, he examines love, personal choices, freedom, trust and manipulation, encouraging audiences to reflect on relationships and human resilience.





The Huntress (La Cazadora)

México, USA I 2026 I Spanish I 92' I Colour

Set in Ciudad Juárez, Mexico, the story is inspired by true events and the real-life urban legend of "Diana, Hunter of Bus Drivers". In the border city of Juárez, México, where violence against women is perpetrated with impunity, an unlikely defender emerges with a desperate call for change. Inspired by true events.

Director
Suzanne Andrews Correa

Producer
Gabriela Maire, Edher Campos, Mynette Louie

Screenplay
Suzanne Andrews Correa

DoP
María Sarasvati Herrera

Editor
Gilberto González Penilla

Sound Designer
Alejandro de Icaza, Santiago Peña

Cast
Adriana Paz, Teresa Sánchez, Jennifer Trejo, Eme MalaFe, Guillermo Alonso

Festivals
Sundance Film Festival 2026 I Morelia Film Festival 2026 I Miami Gems 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Thriller

Suzanne Andrews Correa



A graduate of the Film Program at Columbia University, Suzanne Andrews Correa is a Mexican-American writer and director. Their short film Green won the US Fiction Jury Award at the Sundance Film Festival 2019. As a Sundance Directing and Screenwriting Lab fellow, they earned grants from Sundance Institute and awards from the Princess Grace Foundation and Directors Guild of America. They worked as a writer -director on the Paramount+ series 15 A La Hora. The Huntress marks their debut feature.



The Meltdown (El Deshielo)

Chile, USA, Spain, Mexico I 2026 I Spanish, English, German I 108' I Colour

Set in 1992 at Chile's remote Andean ski resort, the story follows nine-year-old Inès, who is staying at her grandparents' hotel. She befriends Hanna, a 15-year-old German skier. When Hanna suddenly disappears, the search to find her reveals secrets and hidden truths.

Director
Manuela Martelli

Producer
Ronda Cine (Chili), Cinema Inutile (USA), Wood Producciones (Chili)

Screenplay
Manuela Martelli

DoP
Benjamín Echazarreta

Editor
Yibrán Asuad

Sound Designer
Javier Umpierrez

Cast
Maya O'Rourke, Maia Rae Domagala, Saskia Rosendahl, Jakub Gierszal, Paulina Urrutia, Mauricio Pešutic

Festivals
Cannes Film Festival 2026 I Zurich Film Festival 2026 I BFI London Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Drama

Sales
Losange Films

Manuela Martelli



Manuela Martelli began her acting career as a teenager in B-Happy, winning the Coral Award for Best Leading Role at the Havana Film Festival. After working with renowned directors, she studied film at Temple University on a Fulbright scholarship. Her short film Marea, co-directed with Amirah Tajdin, premiered at Cannes 2015. Her debut feature 1976 premiered at Cannes Directors' FortnightI 2022, earning international acclaim and awards, including the Sutherland Award at BFI.



The River Train (El Tren Fluvial)

Argentina I 2026 I Spanish I 75' I Colour

Nine year-old Milo lives in a remote village in Argentina, where he trains as a Malambo dancer. But his true dreams lie elsewhere - he longs to ride trains and explore Buenos Aires, the city he has only seen in movies. To break free from his small world, he must dare to embark on a new journey: loneliness.

Director
Lorenzo Ferro, Lucas A. Vignale

Producer
Tomás Grandio, Valentine Torre, Casiana Vera

Screenplay
Lorenzo Ferro & Lucas A. Vignale

DoP
Thomas Grinberg

Editor
Andrés Medina, Lucas A. Vignale

Sound Designer
Martín García Blaya

Cast
Milo Barría, Lucrecia Pazos, Mailén Barría, Mariano Barría, Rita Pauls, Fabián Casas, Pehuén Pedre, Diego Puente

Festivals
Berlin International Film Festival 2026 I San Sebastián International Film Festival 2026 I Buenos Aires International Festival of Independent Cinema 2026 I

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Drama

Sales
Luxbox

Lorenzo Ferro



Lorenzo Ferro, Born in in 1998 in Buenos Aires, Lorenzo Ferro is an actor, director and musician. He played Robledo Puch in El ángel in 2018. His TV roles include Cristian Pardo in El marginal (2019) and Alex Hodoyan in Narcos: Mexico (2018).

Lucas A. Vignale



Lucas A. Vignale Born in Buenos Aires in 1997, Lorenzo Ferro began as an editor and became a director, focusing on the music industry. He co-directed the short, Pasión, along with Ferro, winning the Stimulus Award at the Buenos Aires International Festival.



Visitation (Heimsuchung)

Germany I 2026 IGerman I 118' I Colour

A house by a lake near Berlin witnesses a century of change. It sees the rise of Nazism, the destruction caused by war, Soviet rule, the reunification of Germany, and the beginning of a new era. Over the years, different people live in the house, including a Jewish family, an ambitious architect and his wife, a writer with strong ideals, and her granddaughter. Their lives reflect the struggles and changes of each period. As generations come and go, the house remains a place of shelter and comfort amid years of conflict and uncertainty.

Director
Volker Schlöndorff

Producer
Volker Schlöndorff, Regina Ziegler

Screenplay
Volker Schlöndorff

DoP
Axel Schneppat

Editor
Florian Miosge

Sound Designer
Thomas Neumann

Cast
Martina Gedeck, Lars Eidinger, Susanne Wolff, Michael Maertens, Wigand Witting, Detlev Buck

Festivals
Cannes Film Festival 2026 I Zurich Film Festival 2026 I Jerusalem Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Drama

Sales
Studio Canal

Volker Schlöndorff



Volker Schlöndorff is a German director who graduated in economics and political science, and later in filmmaking at the Institut des Hautes Études Cinématographiques (IDHEC) in Paris. He assisted veterans like Louis Malle, Jean-Pierre Melville and Alain Resnais. In 1973, he, along with Reinhard Hauff and Eberhard Junkersdorf, founded the film production company Bioskop. He has directed several operas in Frankfurt a/M, Berlin and Paris. Since 1992, he has served as the Chief Executive of Studio Babelsberg GmbH (former UFA/DEFA), a German production company.

BEST DEBUT FEATURE FILM OF A DIRECTOR

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





A Fading Man (Der Verlorene Mann)

Germany I 2026 I German I 102' I Colour

Hanne, an artist, and Bernd, a retired pastor, share a happy life that has become a routine. Their lives change when Hanne's ex-husband Kurt arrives at their door. Suffering from dementia, he no longer remembers that they are divorced. The couple welcomes him into their home, and his presence brings unexpected lightness to their relationship. But when Hanne discovers that she has feelings for both men, the three begin to explore a different way of living and loving, even as Kurt's condition continues to deteriorate.

Director
Welf Reinhart

Producer
Philipp Maron, Tristan Bähre, Louis Merki

Screenplay
Tünde Sautier, Welf Reinhart

DoP
Micky Graeter

Editor
Ulrike Tortora, Welf Reinhart

Sound Designer
Xavier Fleming, Thomas Möhl

Cast
Dagmar Manzel, August Zirner, Harald Krassnitzer

Festivals
International Film Festival Rotterdam 2026 I Uruguay International Film Festival 2026 I Riviera International Film Festival 2026

Awards
Students Jury Award, Riviera International Film 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Romance, Drama, Comedy

Sales
Bendita Film Sales

Welf Reinhart

Born in 1995 in Würzburg, Welf Reinhart graduated in film direction at the University of Television and Film, Munich. His short film, Rooms, screened at numerous festivals and won the Student Academy Award in Los Angeles 2022. A Fading Man is his debut feature film. It had its World Premiere at the Tiger Competition of the Rotterdam.





Atlantic Rhapsody (Da Xi Yang)

China I 2026 I Mandarin, Japanese I 101' I Colour

Ding Mao, a supermarket worker, accidentally boils the store's shark alive. That same night, he finds a missing person notice for his father and hears a strange voice. Soon, unusual events begin to disturb his life. Driven by forces he cannot understand, Ding returns to his hometown, Shenyang, after 20 years. There, he meets a series of unusual people, and their stories gradually come together, blending history, memory, fantasy and reality.

Director
Zhong Kaifeng

Producer
Wang Tianxiao, Zheng Jing

Screenplay
Zhong Kaifeng, Wu Linfeng

DoP
Hao Jiayue

Editor
Huang Bingjie

Sound Designer
Li Yan

Cast
Yin Fang,Wang Yitong,Li Xueqin,Huang Mee

Festivals
Shanghai International Film Festival 2026 I Rio de Janeiro International Film Festival 2026 I Bangkok International Film Festival 2026

Awards
Golden Goblet for Best Film and Best Cinematography, Shanghai International Film I Festival 2026 I Compétition I Nouvelles Vagues-Prix I Nouvelles Vagues, Festival I International du Film de La I Roche-sur-Yo 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Drama, Fantasy

Sales
Rediance

Zhong Kaifeng



Born in 1995, Zhong Kaifeng is a Chinese writer-director, whose creative work spans filmmaking, experimental music and fiction. His debut feature, Atlantic Rhapsody, won the Golden Goblet for Best Film and Best Cinematography at the 28th Shanghai International Film Festival 2026. His works include the short films Swimming in the Whale (2022) and Chorus (2021), reflecting his interest in exploring different forms of artistic expression through cinema.



Birds on Ice

India | 2026 | Ladakhi | 85.3' | Colour

Tashi, a young girl from Ladakh, lives with her grandfather while waiting for her shepherd parents to return. When she gets a pair of borrowed ice-hockey skates, a new dream takes shape. As she faces the challenges of growing up in the harsh Himalayan winter, she discovers difficult truths about family, grief and survival. Determined not to give up, Tashi and her best friend find their own way to pursue her dream.

Director
Sahil Shah

Producer
Cameo Films

Screenplay
Shaan Pasricha

DoP
Srijan Chaurasia

Editor
Divyashree Samantaray

Music Director
Joel Crasto

Cast
Semzang Skitdon as Tashi, N. Chopal as Grandfather, Kunga Choskyab as Norbu, Padma Chorol as Paami, Sonam Stobgais as Dorje

Sahil Shah

Sahil began filmmaking through street photography and spent over a decade creating films and campaigns for leading brands. Birds on Ice marks his feature debut, shaped by the ice-hockey community.





Paris, Paris

Belgium I 2026 I English, French, Mandarin I 78' I Colour

In an evicted building in the City of Lights, three men, Yi-En from China, Junior from Congo and Hamzah, of Palestinian origin, try to turn their squatted apartment into a home. The trio shares everything, from scarce belongings and jokes about the future to memories of the past. In this lively milieu, time, space and personal histories overlap, offering a political allegory on displacement and the meaning of home.

Director
Isabelle Tollenaere

Producer
Bo de Group, Hans Everaert

Screenplay
Isabelle Tollenaere

DoP
Thomas Verijke

Editor
Isabelle Tollenaere

Sound Designer
Kwinten Van Laethem

Cast
Yi-En Chen, Mahmoud Beshtawi, David Mutamba

Festivals
Karlovy Vary International Film Festival 2026 I Czech Republic 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Drama

Sales
Square Eyes

Isabelle Tollenaere

Born in 1984 in Ghent, Belgium, Isabelle Tollenaere is an independent filmmaker based in Antwerp. She studied documentary making at the Sint Lukas Brussels University College of Art and Design. Her films include Still Ife, Trickland, Viva Paradis. Her hybrid short and feature length films are poetic, political, and playful. Paris Paris is her first feature film as a writer.





Sledge

India | 2026 | Kashmiri | 75.38' | Colour

In a snow-covered village near Gulmarg, Ali's wooden sledge is his family's only source of income. When he leaves home for a few days, his three children - Haziq (11), Eashel (9), and Raima (8) - are left with a freedom they don't fully understand. In a moment of play, they accidentally break the sledge. What begins as fear of their father's anger soon turns into something heavier. Desperate to repair it before he returns, the children venture into the tourist world of Gulmarg, trying to earn money in small, uncertain ways while enduring rejection, encounters with strangers, and quiet humiliations. When they find a lost bag filled with money and chocolates, the solution to their problem suddenly seems within reach. But as their father's return draws closer, the temptation to use the money collides with the growing weight of their conscience.

Director
Raja Shabir Mohammad Khan

Producer
Ryhana Productions

Screenplay
Raja Shabir Khan

DoP
Manas Bhattacharyya

Editor
A Sreekar Prasad

Music Director
Tarali Sarma

Cast
Haziq Mohammad Khan, Eashel Khan, Raima Khan

Premiere Status
Asia Premiere

Raja Shabir Mohammad Khan



An alumnus from the Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute Kolkatha, Raja Khan is an award-winning Kashmiri filmmaker. His documentary, Shepherds of Paradise, won the National Award. He works in documentary and fiction filmmaking.



The Black Sea (El-Baḥr El-Aswad)

Egypt I 2026 I Arabic I 83' I Colour

Set in a frightening future where people must stay indoors after sunset because the air outside carries a deadly virus, the film follows a mysterious app that allows people to hire others to fulfil their wishes or experience things on their behalf. The app takes advantage of people's emotions and personal needs, drawing them into strange and disturbing situations that reveal the darker side of human nature.

Director
Aladdin Mostafa

Producer
Hamdy Sameh

Screenplay
Aladdin Mostafa

DoP
Ahmed Rami

Editor
Moataz Nashe

Sound Designer
Ahmed Osa

Cast
Khaled El-Sawy, Yosra El-Lozy, Hamza El-Eily, Tharaa Goubail, Youssef Omar, Mohamed El-Geddawy, Karim Aly

Premiere Status
World Premiere

Genre
Sci fi, Drama

Aladdin Mostafa

Aladdin Mostafa is an Egyptian filmmaker who worked as an assistant director for eight years on feature films and television series. He has directed five award-winning short films. The Black Sea is his debut feature film.





The Golden Age (L'Age d'Or)

France, Italy I 2026 I French I 108' I Colour

Born at the beginning of the 20th century in a village butcher's shop, Jeanne Lavaur dreams of becoming a countess. Inspired by the fearless Céleste and guided by her love for Guillaume de Barante, she sets out on a journey that takes her from the lively Paris of the 1920s through two world wars. As she faces the major changes of the century, Jeanne grows into an independent and strong-willed woman who refuses to let others decide how she should live her life.

Director
Bérenger Thouin

Producer
Carine Ruszniewski

Screenplay
Bérenger Thouin, Mehdi Ben Attia, Virginie Legeay, Rémi Langlade

DoP
Martin Roux

Editor
Rémi Langlade

Sound Designer
Marco Fiumara, Erwan Kerzanet

Cast
Souheila Yacoub, Vassili Schneider, Yile Yara Vianello, Véronique Coronel, Pierre-Antoine Billon, Léa Millet

Festivals
Cannes Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Drama

Sales
Films Boutique

Bérenger Thouin

A graduate of the École Nationale Supérieure Louis-Lumière Paris, Bérenger Thouin is a French writer-director. His short films include Guillaume le désespéré, La Course and Le Zoo de Monsieur Vanel. His work focuses on history and archival images. He made his feature debut with the Franco-Italian co-production The Golden Age.



ICFT - UNESCO GANDHI MEDAL

A selection of 10 international and Indian fiction feature films that encompass the ideals promoted by UNESCO - Tolerance, Intercultural Dialogue and Culture of Peace.



ICFT-UNESCO GANDHI MEDAL JURY



Dr. Prof. Ahmed Bedjaoui

Algeria
Jury President
Professor at Universities
Film and Television Director/Producer
Artistic Director of International Film Festival of Algiers
Journalist, Film Critic, Author of numerous publications



Maria Cristina Iglesias

Argentina/France
Former Head of Programme at UNESCO's Cultural Sector



Georges Dupont

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



Manouj Kadaamh

India
International award winning filmmaker and jury member
Writer, director, producer and distributor.
Member of ICFT.



Call Me Queen

Germany, France, UK, Kenya I 2026 I English, Swahili I 105' I Colour

Queen is a single mother living in Nairobi in the 1990s, struggling to support herself and her two children. Her life changes when she meets Anna, an Irish journalist, and the two develop an unexpected friendship. When Queen discovers that she has AIDS, Anna helps her get medical treatment. Queen survives, while many of her friends and neighbours die from the disease. Her experience changes the way she sees life, and she becomes determined to stand up against injustice. The film explores friendship, support and how people can help one another through difficult times.

Director
Emily Atef

Producer
Gian-Piero Ringel, David Thion, Catherine Townsend, Alexandra Stone

Screenplay
Jeannine Dominy, Emily Atef, Josune Hahnheiser, Hawa Essuman

DoP
Hélène Louvart

Editor
Anne Fabini

Sound Designer
Anne Gibourg

Cast
Eliane Umuhire, Denise Gough, Charlie Carrick, Michelle Tiren, Nice Githinji, Lwanda Jawar Kotengo

Festivals
Torronto International Film Festival 2026 I Filmfest Hamburg 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Drama

Sales
Global Constellation

Emily Atef

Emily Atef is an Iranian-German-French writer and director who won many awards, including for her films The Stranger in Me (2008) and 3 Days in Quiberon (2018). Since 2025, she has been a member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.





Kabir Sir ka Akhri Lesson (Kabir Sir)

India I 2026 I Hindi I 103.52' I Colour

Old teachers struggle with the world of smart education.

Director
Sarfaraz Alam

Producer
Kartina Entertainment And Sports Private Limited

Screenplay
Rajnish, Sarfaraz

DoP
Aseem Bajaj

Editor
Aseem Sinha

Music Director
Pavel Chernykh, Sarfaraz

Cast
Vinay Pathak

Premiere Status
World Premiere

Sarfaraz Alam

Sarfaraz Alam studied at the New York Film Academy and is the CEO of Kartina Entertainment and Sports Private Limited. Kabir Sir ka Akhri Lesson is his first film as director.





Marie Madeleine

Haiti, France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Canada I 2026 I
Haitian Creole, French I 104' I Colour

In Jacmel, Haiti, the sea, churches and spiritual beliefs are part of everyday life. Marie Madeleine is an independent woman who earns her living as a sex worker and refuses to follow the rules imposed by religious authorities. Her life changes when she meets Joseph, a young evangelist. Despite their different beliefs and lifestyles, they develop a relationship. As Joseph begins to question his faith, Marie Madeleine introduces him to a world where desire and the search for freedom offer new possibilities for both of them.

Director
Gessica Généus

Producer
Jean-Marie Gigon (Sanosi Productions, France), Gessica Généus (Ayizan Productions, Haiti), Anton Iffland Stettner (Stenola Productions, Belgique), Lilian Eche Et Christel Henon (Bidibul, Luxembourg), Sylvain Corbeil (Metafilms, Canada)

Screenplay
Gessica Généus

DoP
Nicolas Canniccioni

Editor
Martial Salomon

Sound Designer
Thomas Van Pottelberge

Cast
Gessica Généus, Béonard Monteau, Edouard Baptiste, Mélissa Mildort, Ginou Jules, Eder Romeus, Gaëlle Bien-Aimé, Kevin Mesidor

Festivals
Cannes International Film Festival 2026 I Toronto International Film Festival 2026 I BFI London Film Festival 2026

Awards
Grand Prix du Jury, Festival de Cabourg 2026

Premiere Status
Asia Premiere

Genre
Drama

Sales
Pyramide international

Emily Atef

Haitian actress, writer, director and producer Gessica Généus supported reconstruction after the 2010 earthquake. She founded Ayizan Production, directed Vizaj Nou and the documentary Douvan jou ka leve. Her debut feature, Freda, premiered at Cannes' Un Certain Regard 2021, winning many awards.





Our Time Will Come (Ego Reach We All)

Ghana, France, Saudi Arabia I 2026 I Twi, Ga, Pidgin I 104' I Colour

Two orphans, Owusu and Adobea, travel through the Ghanaian countryside in search of their last living parent, hoping to regain their identities. When they reach the busy city of Accra, they meet the Jackals, a gang of young people who survive by breaking into places and stealing. This unexpected encounter changes their journey and turns their original plan upside down..

Director
Amartei Armar

Producer
Yemoh Ike, Sébastien Hussenot

Screenplay
Amartei Armar

DoP
John Kwame Markin

Editor
Marie-Pierre Frappier

Sound Designer
Thomas Robert

Cast
Idrissu Tontie Jr., Dorothy Adobea Tandoh, Emmanuel Wilberforce, Barbara Yong-Jin, Emmanuel Owusu Ofori, O'Bryan Nana Kwame Enyan, Gabriel Narh Addo, Nelly Bilson

Festivals
Locarno Film Festival 2026

Awards
Pardo for Change/ Pardo for Best Performance, Locarno Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
Asia Premiere

Genre
Drama, Coming of Age

Sales
MMM Film Sales

Amartei Armar

Born in 1991 in Maryland USA, Amartei Armar is a Ghanaian-American writer-director who often explores themes linked to cultural identity, immigration, and a deep-rooted need to belong. After graduating from UBC, he returned to Ghana in 2017 and co-founded AKA Entertainment. He has since become a pioneering force in the growth of Ghanaian and African new wave cinema.





Rahma

Turkey, Bulgaria, Greece, Italy I 2026 I Turkish, Arabic, Kurdish, English I 121' I Colour

Meryem is an archaeologist working in Şanlıurfa who dreams of becoming a mother. After several surgeries and unsuccessful IVF treatments, she begins to lose hope. Despite her husband İbrahim's objections, she decides to try surrogacy in Georgia as a last resort. Meanwhile, she meets Rahma, a nine-year-old Syrian orphan struggling to survive on her own. When Meryem discovers the secret of Rahma, a special and mysterious bond develops between them. As their relationship grows, Rahma's presence brings comfort to Meryem and helps heal her emotional pain.

Director
Faysal Soysal

Producer
Faysal Soysal, Selman Alimoğlu, Barış Yıldırım, Ivan Tonev, Michael Sarantinos, Giuseppe Lepore

Screenplay
Faysal Soysal

DoP
Vedat özdemir

Editor
Osman Bayraktaroğlu

Sound Designer
Boris Trayanov

Cast
Deniz Işın, Feyyaz Duman, Uğur Aslan, Nagam Bireç, Sogol Khaligh, Özlem Taş

Festivals
Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
Asia Premiere

Genre
Drama

Sales
Fortissimo films, Balkon Film

Faysal Soysal

Turkish filmmaker Faysal Soysal shifted from medicine to film and poetry. He holds an MA in Film Directing from Tehran Art University and studied at New York Film Academy. His award-winning shorts include Crossroads and Silenced Tree. Rahma is his debut feature.





Scroll

India I 2026 I Tamil I 127.29' I Colour

Aravind is addicted to his smartphone and spends most of his time scrolling through it. One day, he discovers an app called Dopa Rush, which claims to help people overcome smartphone addiction. Curious, he joins the game along with a group of strangers. At first, they face simple challenges to stay away from their phones and earn points and rewards. But as they move to higher levels, the challenges become strange, personal and disturbing. Soon, the game begins to control their lives, turning what seemed like a harmless way to break an addiction into a frightening experience.

Director
Kannan S

Producer
Kannan S

Screenplay
Kannan

DoP
Kannan

Editor
Pachai

Music Director
Dhinakaran

Cast
Aravinth, Kavya, Murugan Govindasamy, Megha Rajan, Surrendhar

Kannan S

Kannan is an independent filmmaker known for exploring technology and human relationships. He directed the short films Penpaal and Pazhaiya Mugam, and his feature film Password gained popularity on YouTube.





Sev Micchar

India I 2026 I Hindi I 103.25' I Colour

Kailash Sharma runs a shop opposite his business rival, Saini. Both compete to attract tourists while trying to make the other look bad. However, Kailash faces serious financial problems after a crisis hits his family. At home, he also struggles to understand his elder son, a Gen Z youngster with different ambitions and ideas about life. Their constant disagreements create a growing distance between them. As the story moves towards its climax, personal rivalries and family conflicts give way to a larger purpose. The characters come together, realising the importance of understanding, cooperation, peace and harmony.

Director
Muskan Asthana

Producer
Roaring Reels, Rohit Kumar

Screenplay
Muskan Asthana

DoP
Shashi Chaurasiya

Editor
Aseem Sinha

Music Director
Rahul Suhas

Cast
Atul Shrivastav, Paritosh Sand, Apara Mehta, Meenal Kapoor, Rahul Asthana, Gauri Chousariya, Jishaan Hassan Cho

Muskan Asthana

Muskan Asthana is a writer-director who founded Roaring Reels Production at 16. With 12 short films, writing credits and second-unit directing experience, her work has earned international festival recognition and over 10 million digital views. Sev Micchar marks her directorial debut.





Strawberries (La más dulce)

France, Morocco, Spain, Belgium I 2026 I Arabic, Spanish I 101' I Colour

Hasna and Meriem leave their native Morocco to work as seasonal laborers picking strawberries in Southern Spain. Hoping to return home and provide a better life for their families, their dreams clash with a harsh reality: abuse, harassment, and undignified working conditions at the hands of their employers. The bond they share as a unified sisterhood, empowers them to rise above their situation, despite the risks that are needed to advocate for their rights. They must make the difficult decision to speak out against a powerful patriarchal system, risking everything for their own personal justice.

Director
Laïla Marrakchi

Producer
Juliette Schrameck, Mathieu Verhaeghe, Thomas Verhaeghe

Screenplay
Laïla Marrakchi, Delphine Agut

DoP
Tristan Galand - SBC

Editor
Jean-François Elie, Nicolas Chaudeurge

Sound Designer
Malo Thouémont, Gregory Lacroix, Nils Fauth

Cast
Nisrin Erradi, Hind Braik, Fatima Attif, Larbi Mohammed, Itsaso Arana. Paco Morac, Fran Cantos, Nando Perez

Festivals
Cannes Film Festival 2026 I Ghent Film Festival 2026 I Sydney Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Drama

Sales
Lucky Number

Laïla Marrakchi

Born in Casablanca, Laïla Marrakchi studied film in Paris. Her debut film Marock screened in Cannes, 2005 and Rock the Casbah. She directed episodes of The Bureau, The Eddy and Apple's historical series Carême.





The Farm (Süt Çiftliği)

Turkey I 2026 I Turkish I 82' I Colour

After suddenly losing her parents, 12-year-old İrem moves in with her estranged grandmother on a dairy farm near an industrial area. She becomes upset when she sees newborn calves being separated from their mothers so the farm can produce more milk. Troubled by this everyday cruelty, İrem decides to free the pregnant cows from the farm. With the help of Halid, an orphan working as an apprentice to the farm's veterinarian, she sets out to carry out her plan.

Director
Elif Eda

Producer
Enes Erbay

Screenplay
Elif Eda

DoP
Emre Pekçakır

Editor
Bünyamin Bayansal

Sound Designer
Demir Baran Kutlu

Cast
Mira Saikali, Derya Alabora

Festivals
Istanbul International Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
International Premiere

Genre
Coming of age

Sales
Summerside Media

Elif Eda

Born in 1981 in İstanbul, Elif Eda is a writer-director and single mother. She got her Masters in Cognitive Psychology and her MFA at Tisch School of Arts in Filmmaking. Since 1995, she has been writing short stories, producing and directing radio plays, short movies, video art, and feature films. She teaches scriptwriting and hosts a TV show about cinema.





Will You Still Be My Friend (Ri guang)

Taiwan, Singapore I 2026 I English, Mandarin Chinese, Taiwanese Hokies I 100' I Colour

In a rural Taiwanese village, thirteen-year-old Jun tries to preserve his friendship with Jasper, his new best friend, who has recently moved to the village. Growing up in Singapore in a way more wealthy environment, Jasper is different from the other children and is therefore not well accepted. But when tensions between the adults in the village begin to escalate, their friendship is also caught up in a conflict that threatens to tear them apart.

Director
Lu Po-Shun

Producer
Su Yu-Hao and Eric Chou Tseng-Chen

Screenplay
Elvens Chen, Lu Po-Shun

DoP
Shyan Tan

Editor
Huang Paulie Chic-Chia and Lu Po-Shun

Sound Designer
Chang Mei Yi-Ting, Ou Chien-Chi, Chen Yen-Ju Sylvia, Li Chun-Yi

Cast
Jaden Wang, Aloysius Looi, Lung Tien Hsiang, Lu Yi-Ching, Andie Chen, Kate Pang, Xing Chang

Festivals
San Sebastian Film Festival 2026 I Busan International Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Drama

Sales
Moveria Film - Yasmin Porangaba

Lu Po-Shun



Born in 1992 in Yunlin, Taiwanese filmmaker Lu Po-Shun made his debut with Will You Still Be My Friend, screened in the Ties That Bind Workshop and the Hong Kong-Asia Film Financing Forum, where it earned the HAF Goes to Cannes Award. His short film, Wild Tides, won the Best Director Award at Taipei Film Awards 2016. He directed Way Home (2018), a segment of the omnibus feature film, Ten Years Taiwan, presented at the Busan and Far East festivals.

FROM FESTIVALS WORLDWIDE

Award winning and critically acclaimed films screened at the top international film festivals, through the past one year.





Elephants In The Fog (तनिहरू)

Nepal, France, Germany, Brazil, Norway I 2026 I Nepali, Bhojpuri I 103' I Colour

Set in a Nepalese village surrounded by forests inhabited by wild elephants, the film follows Pirati, the matriarch of a Kinnar community in Thora, who dreams of beginning a new life with a local percussionist, whom she loves. When one of her daughters Apsara disappears, she is forced to confront the conflict between personal freedom and responsibility towards her community.

Director
Abinash Bikram Shah

Producer
Anup Poudel, Justin Pechberty, Michael Henrichs

Screenplay
Abinash Bikram Shah

DoP
Noé Bach

Editor
Andrew Bird, Paris J. Ludwig

Sound Designer
Henrique Chiurciu

Cast
Pushpa Thing Lama, Deepika Yadav, Jasmin Bishwokarma, Aliz Ghimire, Dura Sanjay Kumar Gupta

Festivals
Festival de Cannes 2026 I Karlovy Vary International Film Festival 2026 I Toronto International Film Festival 2026

Awards
Jury Prize - Un Certain Regard, Cannes Film Festival 2026 I Best Film, Audience Award, New Zealand International Film Festival 2026 I Best Film, Bangkok International Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Thriller

Sales
Best Friend Forever (International), EFAR Films Distribution (Indian)

Abinash Bikram Shah



Abinash Bikram Shah, based in Kathmandu, is a Nepali screenwriter, director and producer known for his films that explore marginalized communities and the complexities of contemporary Nepali society. His short film Lori earned a Special Jury Mention and competed for the Short Film Palme d'Or in Cannes in 2022. Elephants in the Fog, his debut feature film, won the Jury Prize in the Un Certain Regard in Cannes. He is an alumnus of the Asian Film Academy, Berlinale Talents and Locarno Filmmakers Academy. He is the Programming Director for the Ekadeshma International Short Film Festival.



Everybody Digs Bill Evans

Ireland, UK | 2026 | English | 102' | B&W, Colour

In June 1961, New York, jazz pianist Bill Evans has found his musical style and formed an exceptional trio with bassist Scott LaFaro, his closest musical partner. During a residency at the Village Vanguard, they record two landmark jazz albums in a single night. Ten days later, LaFaro dies in a car accident. Overwhelmed by grief, Evans stops playing for the first time in his life. The film explores what happens next in the life of one of the most gifted and influential musicians of the 20th century.

Director
Grant Gee

Producer
Janine Marmot, Alan Maher

Screenplay
Mark O'Halloran

DoP
Piers McGrail

Editor
Adam Biskupski

Sound Designer
James Olivier

Cast
Anders Danielsen Lie, Bill Pullman, Laurie Metcalf

Festivals
Berlin International Film Festival 2026 | Dublin International Film Festival 2026 | Karlovy Vary International Film Festival 2026

Awards
Silver Bear for Best Director, Berlinale 2026 | Film & Literature Award, Film by the Sea 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Drama, Biopic

Sales
Mister Smith Entertainment

Grant Gee



Grant Gee is an award-winning documentary filmmaker whose debut feature is Everybody Digs Bill Evans. His film, The Gold Machine, won the Outstanding Documentary Award at IFFNY. He is known for the music documentaries Joy Division and Meeting People Is Easy, about Radiohead. Gee also collaborates with the theatre director Katie Mitchell on films and live cinema projects at leading European theatres and opera houses. He is Senior Tutor in Documentary Filmmaking at University College London.



Everytime

Austria, Germany I 2026 I German, Spanish I 121' I Colour

After a tragedy brings a mother, daughter and teenage boy together, they struggle with grief, blame and forgiveness. The unlikely trio sets on a journey to Tenerife for a family holiday that never happened. As they spend time together under the warm sun, memories of the past mix with the present. Their journey helps them face their pain, understand each other and find a way to heal, revealing a deeply affecting portrait of loss, healing and family bonds.

Director
Sandra Wollner

Producer
Lixi Frank, Viktoria Stolpe, David Bohun, Sandra Wollner

Screenplay
Sandra Wollner

DoP
Gregory Oke

Editor
Hannes Bruun

Sound Designer
Dominik Leube

Cast
Birgit Minichmayr, Tristán López, Lotte Shirin Keiling, Carla Hüttermann

Festivals
Cannes Film Festival 2026 I Sydney Film Festival 2026 I Karlovy Vary International Film Festival 2026

Awards
Un Certain Regard Prize, Cannes 2026 I CICAE Award; Heart of Sarajevo for Best Narrative Feature Film, Sarajevo 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Psychological Drama

Sales
Charades (International), EFAR Films Distribution (Indian)

Sandra Wollner

Born in 1983 and based in Berlin, Sandra Wollner is an Austrian film director and screenwriter. Her debut feature, The Impossible Picture, won the German Film Critics' Award for Best Feature Film 2018. The Trouble with Being Born won the Special Jury Award in the Encounters section at Berlinale 2020. Everytime won the Un Certain Regard Prize at Cannes 2026.





Fruit Gathering (Thit-thee Khu)

Myanmar, Czechia, France I 2026 I Burmese I 97' I Colour

In the industrial city of Yangon, young factory worker San Kyi dreams of returning to her home village. She shares a close friendship with her co-worker Theint Theint Oo, but their relationship gradually becomes strained as their hopes for the future begin to differ. Both women struggle with long working hours, financial problems and social restrictions. San Kyi also faces family pressure and confusion about her feelings and future. As they search for love, freedom and a better life, the film explores female friendship, personal dreams and the difficulties faced by working women in present-day Myanmar.

Director
Aung Phyoe

Producer
Thu Thu Shein, Thaiddhi (producers), Vít Janeček, Michal Mocňák (co-producers)

Screenplay
Aung Phyoe

DoP
Thaiddhi

Editor
Emily Swe

Sound Designer
Jan Richtr

Cast
Nandar Myat Aung, Nandar Myint Lwin

Festivals
BFI London International Film Festival 2026 I Rome International Film Festival 2026 I Stockholm International Film Festival 2026

Awards
Grand Prix - Crystal Globe, Karlovy Vary International Film Festival 2026 I Best ASEAN Film- Special Mention, Bangkok International Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Drama

Sales
D1 Film

Aung Phyoe



Based in Yangon Myanmar, Aung Phyoe is a writer-director-editor. He is an alumnus of Whistling Woods International, Mumbai. His short film Cobalt Blue premiered at the Locarno International Film Festival 2019 and Evening Clouds premiered at the Singapore International Film Festival 2022. From 2018 to 2025, he worked with 3-ACT, a collective he co-founded, contributing to a film magazine, organizing workshops and film programs. He translates literature and writes short stories in Burmese.



Josephine

USA I 2025 I English I 121' I Colour

When eight-year-old Josephine witnesses a brutal crime in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park, her world is turned upside down. As she struggles to make sense of what she has seen, her parents, Damien and Claire, struggle to protect her from a painful reality they can barely explain. With Josephine's testimony playing a key role in the upcoming trial, this intimate family drama explores childhood trauma, parental helplessness, and the challenges of seeking justice.

Director
Beth de Araújo

Producer
Josh Peters, David Kaplan, Joshua Beirne-Golden, Beth de Araújo, Maddie Browning, Crystine Zhang, Marina Stabile, Mark H. Rapaport, Alexandra Silverman, Gemma Chan, Channing Tatum, Heidi Erl, Laura Klein

Screenplay
Beth de Araújo

DoP
Greta Zozula

Editor
Anisha Acharya, Nico Leunen, Kyle Reiter

Sound Designer
William Tabanou

Cast
Mason Reeves, Channing Tatum, Gemma Chan, Philip Ettinger, Syra McCarthy

Festivals
Sundance Film Festival 2026 I Berlin International Film Festival 2026 I Toronto International Film Festival 2026

Awards
Dramatic Competition Grand Jury Prize, U.S. Dramatic Audience Award, Sundance Film Festival 2026 I Breakthrough Director Award, Montclair Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Drama, Crime Thriller

Sales
Goodfellas (International), Fragrant Nature Film Creations (Indian)

Beth de Araújo



Born and raised in San Francisco, Beth de Araújo is a Brazilian-American writer-director. A graduate of UC Berkeley and the American Film Institute, she debuted with Soft & Quiet , which premiered at SXSW 2022 and earned her a Gotham Award nomination for Breakthrough Director. Her second feature, Josephine, premiered at Sundance's U.S. Dramatic Competition, winning the Grand Jury Prize and Audience Award. It was nominated for the Berlinale Golden Bear and Melbourne's Bright Horizons Award.



Nowhere to Lay My Eyes (Nun Dul Dega Eomne)

South Korea I 2026 I Korean I 72' I Colour

Sanghee visits her mother on Jeju Island with her brother after ten years. Her mother's restaurant is now popular, while her stepfather is making a film about a grass tomb and his daughter has started painting. During their conversations, family members exchange unexpected news, unwanted advice and casual compliments. On the morning Sanghee leaves, the family watches one of her films.

Director
Hong Sang-soo

Producer
Hong Sang-soo

Screenplay
Hong Sang-soo

DoP
Hong Sang-soo

Editor
Hong Sang-soo

Sound Designer
Hong Sang-soo

Cast
Kim Minhee, Choi Myeonggil, Kwon Haehyo Shin Seokho, Park Miso

Festivals
Locarno International Film Festival 2026 I New York Film Festival 2026 I Vancouver International Film Festival 2026

Awards
Pardo for Best Performance, Ecumenical Jury Prize, Pardo for Best Direction, Locarno International Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Drama

Sales
Finecut

Hong Sang-soo



Born in 1960 in Seoul, Korea, writer-director Hong Sangsoo studied theatre at Chungang University and pursued to California College of Arts and The School of The Art Institute of Chicago. The Day a Pig Fell into the Well in 1996 was his feature debut. Woman is the Future of Man screened in Cannes in 2004 and Hahaha earned the Prix Un Certain Regard in 2010. Our Sunhi won the Silver Leopard, and Right Now, Wrong Then won the Golden Leopard in Locarno.



Nuisance Bear

USA, Canada, UK I 2026 I Inuktitut, English I 88' I Colour

Since centuries, Polar bears have migrated along the shores of Hudson Bay in northern Canada. Today, that ancient rhythm collides with a human world of tourism, surveillance, and control. Nuisance Bear follows a polar bear as it moves through areas shared with tourists, wildlife officers and hunters. As climate change delays the freezing of the sea, the bear is forced to spend more time near human settlements in search of food. When people label the bear a "nuisance," the film raises questions about who really belongs in this shared environment: humans or wildlife.

Director
Gabriela Osio Vanden, Jack Weisman

Producer
Michael Code, Will N. Miller, Teddy Leifer, Jack Weisman, Gabriela Osio Vanden

DoP
Gabriela Osio Vanden, Jack Weisman

Editor
Andres Landau

Sound Designer
David Rose

Cast
Mike Tunalaaq Gibbons, Deacon Daudrich, Ian Van Ness, Chantal Mclean, Augaaj Karetak, Nap Karetak, April Karetak, Leo Ikhakik, Ludovic Onerk, Jordan Too, Doreen Ikhakik

Festivals
Sundance Film Festival 2026 I San Francisco International Film Festival 2026 IVancouver International Film Festival 2026

Awards
U.S. Grand Jury Prize: Documentary, Sundance Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Documentary

Sales
Mubi

Jack Weisman



A US-Canadian documentary filmmaker and cinematographer, Jack Weisman is the co-founder of Documist, an Emmy-and-Peabody-winning production company based in New York and Toronto. His works have premiered at Sundance, SXSW, TIFF and IDFA. He executive-produced The Territory.

Gabriela Osio Vanden



Venezuelan-Canadian director and cinematographer Gabriela Osio Vanden, based in Toronto, is a HotDocs 2022 Fellow and York University film graduate. Her works have screened at TIFF, Camerimage, SXSW, IDFA, Sheffield DocFest and True/False.



Salvation (Kurtuluş)

Turkey, France, Netherlands, Greece, Sweden, Saudi Arabia I 2026 I Turkish, Kurdish I 120' I Colour

In a remote Turkish mountain village, the return of an exiled family brings back a long-running dispute over land. Old anger and rivalries begin to surface. Mesut, the brother of the village leader, starts having strange visions that he believes are messages from God. He begins to question his brother's authority, creating tension within the community. As religious beliefs and the struggle for power divide the villagers, the conflict threatens to end in either tragedy or salvation.

Director
Emin Alper

Producer
Nadir Öperli

Screenplay
Emin Alper

DoP
Ahmet Sesigürgil, Barış Aygen

Editor
Özcan Vardar

Sound Designer
Nardi Van Dijk

Cast
Caner Cindoruk, Berkay Ateş, Feyyaz Duman, Naz Göktan, Özlem Taş, Eren Demir

Festivals
Berlin International Film Festival 2026 I San Francisco International Film Festival 2026

Awards
Silver Bear Grand Jury Prize, Berlin International Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
Asia Premiere

Genre
Drama

Sales
Lucky Number (International), Jai Viratra Entertainment Limited (Indian)

Emin Alper



Born in 1974 in Karaman Emin Alper is a Turkish filmmaker and historian. Gaining experience from watching other filmmakers and taking roles in their short films, Emin Alper made his first independent short films,The Letter in 2005, and Rıfat in 2006, the latter won Best Short Film at the Bucharest International Film Festival 2008 and the Special Audience Award at the !F Istanbul International Film Festival. His Salvation won the Silver Bear Grand Jury Prize in Berlin in 2026.



Shame and Money

Germany, Kosovo, Slovenia, Albania, North Macedonia, Belgium | 2026 | Albanian | 129' | Colour

A couple in their forties live with their extended family on a small farm in rural Kosovo. Following a familial dispute, they lose their livelihood and are forced to move to Pristina. There they struggle to find jobs and a place to live while trying to support their family. As they adjust to the city life, they face the challenges of surviving in a hyper-capitalist society.

Director
Visar Morina

Producer
Fabian Altenried, Sophie Ahrens, Kristof Gerega, Pia Hellenthal, Visar Morina

Screenplay
Visar Morina, Doruntina Basha

DoP
Janis Mazuch

Editor
Joëlle Alexis

Sound Designer
Julij Zornik

Cast
Astrit Kabashi, Flonja Kodheli, Kumrije Hoxha, Fiona Gllavica, Alban Ukaj

Festivals
Sundance Film Festival 2026 | Karlovy Vary Film Festival 2026 | Sydney Film Festival 2026

Awards
Grand Jury Prize: Dramatic, Sundance Film Festival 2026 | Cine Masters Award, Filmfest Munich 2026 | Best Film and Best Actor (Astrit Kabashi), PriFest 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Drama

Sales
World Sales: The Yellow Affair

Visar Morina



Born in Pristina, Kosovo, Visar Morina graduated in Film Direction from the Academy of Media Arts in Cologne, Germany. His feature and short films premiered at Berlin, Sundance, Locarno, Karlovy Vary. He won the German Film Academy Award for best screenplay, Best Director at Karlovy Vary and the Heart of Sarajevo awards. He was listed as Variety's 10 Europeans to Watch in 2020.



The Dreamed Adventure (Das Geträumte Abenteuer)

Germany, France, Bulgaria, Austria | 2026 | Bulgarian, German | 167' | Colour

In Svilengrad, a small town on the Bulgarian border, Veska meets Said, an old acquaintance whose car has been stolen. She offers to help him and takes him to the archaeological site where she works. As they reconnect, Veska becomes involved in his criminal world and begins to uncover hidden links between crime and the town. When people from her past reappear, she must face the truth about the town and her own experiences.

Director
Valeska Grisebach

Producer
Maren Ade, Jonas Dornbach, Janine Jackowski

Screenplay
Valeska Grisebach, Lisa Bierwirth

DoP
Bernhard Keller

Editor
Bettina Böhler

Sound Designer
Atanas Tcholakov, Momchil Bozhkov, Kai Tebbel

Cast
Yana Radeva, Syuleyman Letifov, Stoicho Kostadinov, Nikolay Shekerdjiev, Denislava Yordanova, Tiana Georgieva

Festivals
Cannes Film Festival 2026 | Toronto International Film Festival 2026 | Karlovy Vary International Film Festival 2026

Awards
Jury Prize, Cannes Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Drama

Sales
The Match Factory

Valeska Grisebach



A graduate of Philosophy and German studies in Berlin, Munich and Vienna, Valeska Grisebach studied direction at the Film Academy Vienna, under Peter Patzak, Wolfgang Glück and Michael Haneke. Her graduation film, Be My Star, received awards at the Toronto and Turin film festivals in 2001. Her second feature, Longing, competed at the Berlinale 2006 and won awards in Buenos Aires, Gijón and Warsaw. Western premiered in Cannes' Un Certain Regard section in 2017, earning international recognition and several distinctions.



Variations on a Theme (Variasies op' n Tema)

South Africa, Netherlands, Qatar I 2026 I Afrikaans I 65' I Colour

An elderly goat herder living in the mountains of Namaqualand, South Africa, is tricked by a scam promising compensation for her father's service in the Second World War. As she waits for money that never arrives, the events surrounding her 80th birthday threaten her independence. Told through a series of repeated visual scenes, the film explores her long wait, her strength in facing hardship, and the losses she experiences as she grows older.

Director
Jason Jacobs, Devon Delmar

Producer
Annemarie du Plessis, Jason Jacobs, Devon Delmar, Mira Mendel

Screenplay
Jason Jacobs, Devon Delmar

DoP
Gray Kotze

Editor
Devon Delmar

Sound Designer
James Olivier

Cast
Hettie Farmer

Festivals
International Film Festival Rotterdam 2026 I Joburg International Film Festival 2026 I Hong Kong International Film Festival 2026

Awards
Tiger Award, International Film Festival of Rotterdam 2026 I Best African Film, Joburg 2026 I Best Film,Wild Dreamer Award, Zagreb Subversive 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Drama

Jason Jacobs, Devon Delmar

Jason Jacobs and Devon Delmar are co-writers and directors under the collective KRAAL, based between Namaqualand and Cape Town, South Africa. Their productions reflect a strong connection to local culture and the natural world, integrating themes of consciousness and the non-human in their narratives.







Woman Unknowan (Kvinde Ukendt)

Denmark, Sweden, Latvia I 2026 I Danish I 124' I Colour

Marie, a young nanny and housemaid, is about to marry the wealthy older widower, Christian, for whom she is working. But Marie guards a shameful secret. During World War II, she was in an intimate relationship with a German soldier. Now Marie's past threatens to catch up with her, and she is forced to do everything in her power to preserve her new status as lady of the house in post-war anarchy.

Director
May El-Toukhy

Producer
Mikael Rieks

Screenplay
Maren Louise Käehne, May el-Toukhy

DoP
Jasper Spanning

Editor
Rasmus Stansegaard Madsen

Sound Designer
Oskar Skriver, Morten Pilegaard

Cast
Mathilde Arcel, Carsten Bjørnlund, Thorbjørn Hedegaard, Marina Bouras

Festivals
Venice Film Festival 2026 I TIFF 2026 I BFI London Film Festival 2026

Awards
Golden Lion, Venice 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Drama

Sales
Jai Viratra Entertainment Limited

May El-Toukhy

Born in 1977 in Charlottenlund, Denmark,May el-Toukhy is a writer-director, known for The Crown (2016), Queen of Hearts (2019) and Long Story Short (2015).





You Don't Belong Here (Nu e locul tău aici)

Romania I 2026 I Romanian I 154' I Colour

Marius is the chief medical officer at a hospital in his small hometown. Since his wife's death, he has been raising his teenage son, Ioan, alone. While he focuses on his profession, he knows nothing about his son's night life. Ioan rides through the town with a gang of masked vigilantes, vandalizing cars. Marius's world is shaken when he learns that the police suspect his son of murder.

Director
Florin Şerban

Producer
Florin Şerban

Screenplay
Florin Şerban

DoP
Liviu Marghidan

Editor
Florin Şerban

Sound Designer
Marius Leftărache

Cast
Adrian Văncică, Teodor Butănescu

Festivals
Locarno Film Festival 2026 I Sarajevo Film Festival 2026

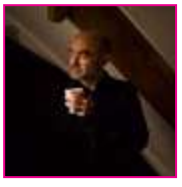
Awards
Golden Leopard, Youth Jury Prize, Europa Cinema Label Award, Locarno Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Drama

Sales
REASON8 Films

Florin Şerban



A graduate in Philosophy from Babeș-Bolyai University in Cluj-Napoca, Florin Șerban is a Romanian film director-writer. After his Masters in Philosophy of Culture and Hermeneutics, he studied film directing at the National University of Theatre and Film in Bucharest, before moving to New York to pursue MFA in Film Direction at Columbia University. His I Want to Whistle, I Whistle, won the Silver Bear and the Alfred Bauer Prize at Berlin 2010, and You Don't Belong Here won the Golden Leopard at Locarno 2026.

EMERGING FILMMAKERS

First and second works of emerging auteurs with distinctive styles and bold narratives, giving a glimpse of cinemas to come.





Atonement

USA I 2026 I English I 117' I Colour

Inspired by true events, based on Dexter Filkins' acclaimed New Yorker article, Atonement follows a former U.S. Marine who seeks forgiveness years after a split-second decision during the Iraq War devastates an Iraqi family. He begins an extraordinary journey to meet the survivors and face the consequences of his actions. Through his journey, the film explores deep human guilt, accountability and possibility of reconciliation, showing how the impacts of war continue to shape lives long after the fighting ends.

Director
Reed Van Dyk

Producer
Reed Van Dyk, Tim White, Trevor White, Steven Demmler, David Wulf

Screenplay
Reed Van Dyk

DoP
Jon Peter

Editor
Chelsi Johnston

Sound Designer
Ugo Derouard

Cast
Boyd Holbrook, Kenneth Branagh, Hiam Abbass

Festivals
Cannes Film Festival 2026 I Melbourne International Film Festival 2026 I Toronto International Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
War Drama

Sales
Kavita Sharma Gandhi, Effar Films Distribution

Reed Van Dyk

Reed Van Dyk is an American filmmaker, writer, editor and producer based in Los Angeles. His DeKalb Elementary, inspired by a real-life school incident, earned an Oscar nomination for the Best Live Action Short Film in 2018. His short film, Interior, premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival 2018.





At Night (La Nuit)

UK, France I 2026 I English, French, Bambara, Tibetan, Mandarin I 87' I Colour

At Night follows six women as they move through Paris after dark, each dealing with personal struggles. A filmmaker tries to make sense of the film she is creating, a Black single mother challenges the labels society places on her, a former sex worker looks back on her past, and a poet gives up her hope of having a child. Set over a single night, Beatrice Gibson's first feature film draws inspiration from the writings of Alice Notley, June Jordan, Kathy Acker and Bernadette Mayer. The film blends dreams, fiction and reality to explore the women's experiences and inner lives.

Director
Beatrice Gibson

Producer
Scott O'Donnell, Denna Cartamkhoob

Screenplay
Beatrice Gibson

DoP
Ben Rivers

Editor
Liyo Gong

Sound Designer
Andy Neil, Elvin Brandhi

Cast
Diocouda Diaoune, Kátia Belo Cardoso, Beatrice Gibson, Sophie Robinson, Amy Gwatkin

Festivals
Locarno Film Festival 2026 I Toronto International Film Festival 2026 I BFI London Film Festival 2026

Awards
Best Emerging Director award, Locarno 2026 I Best Feature Film award (ex-aequo), Bucharest International Experimental Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Experimental, Docufiction

Sales
Split Screen

Beatrice Gibson

Beatrice Gibson is a London-based experimental filmmaker, twice winner of Rotterdam's Tiger Award for Best Short Film. She received the Baloise Art Prize and Marian McMahon Akimbo Award, and was shortlisted for the Jarman Award. At Night is her debut feature.





Congo Boy

Central African Republic, France, Congo, Italy I 2026 I Sango, French, Lingala, Swahili I 91' I Colour

Bangui, Central African Republic. 17 year-old Robert dreams of a career in music, but civil war is tearing the country apart. When both his parents are thrown into prison, he is left to look after his four younger siblings on his own, juggling daily life, odd jobs, school exams and concert stages, determined to follow his dream.

Director
Rafiki Fariala

Producer
Makongo Films, Unité - Kiripi Films - Karta Film

Screenplay
Rafiki Fariala,Tommy Baron

DoP
Adrien Lallau

Editor
César Simonot

Sound Designer
Ari Cuffini-Fabre, Aaron Koyassoukpengo, Martinez Faïmon, Tiphaine Depret, Solen Chouvet, Cristiano Ciccone

Cast
Bradley Fiomona, Christy Djomanda Louba, Pétruche Mbomba, Rosiana Kotozia, Gloria Ambacko and Dieufera Sana

Festivals
Cannes Film Festival 2026 I Sydney Film Festival 2026 I Sarajevo International Film Festival 2026

Awards
Best Actor, Un Certain Regard, Cannes Film Festival 2026 Best Film, Pingyao International Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Drama

Sales
The Party Film Sales

Rafiki Fariala

In Bangui, Central African Republic, 17-year-old Robert dreams of becoming a musician, but civil war is disrupting life in the country. When both his parents are imprisoned, he must care for his four younger siblings alone. Despite the challenges, he balances family responsibilities, odd jobs, school exams and music performances, determined to achieve his dream.





Forever Your Maternal Animal (Siempre Soy tu Animal Materno)

Belgium, France, Mexico I 2026 I Spanish I 108' I Colour

After her student years in Europe, Elsa returns to Costa Rica to reunite with her family. She finds her younger sister living alone in the family home, becoming more distant and withdrawn, as if living in her own world. Their parents are busy in their own lives. Her father drifts through a series of affairs, while her mother is immersed in republishing the erotic poems of her youth, neither fully grasping the seriousness of the situation. Elsa's return draws the three women into a confrontation with what still binds them, despite everything.

Director
Valentina Maurel

Producer
Benoit Roland, Grégoire Debailly

Screenplay
Valentina Maurel

DoP
Nicolás Wong

Editor
Betrand Conard

Sound Designer
Erick Vargas, Ingrid Simon, Sabrina Pauwels

Cast
Daniela Marín, Mariangel Montero, Marina De Tavira, Reinaldo Amién

Festivals
Cannes Film Festival 2026 I Filmfest München 2026 I Karlovy Vary International Film Festival 2026 I New Horizons International Film Festival 2026 I Lima Film Festival 2026 I Melbourne International Film Festival 2026

Awards
Un Certain Regard – Best Actress, Cannes Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Drama

Valentina Maurel



A graduate in filmmaking from the INSAS in Brussels, Valentina Maurel is a French-Costa Rican director. Her first film, Paul is Here, won the First Cinefondation Prize at Cannes 2017. Her short film, Lucia en el limbo, screened at the Critics' Week at Cannes 2019, the Toronto International Film Festival, and the Premiers Plans Film Festival 2020. I Have Electric Dreams, her debut feature film, won three awards, including Best Direction at International Competition in Locarno 2022.



I Grew An Inch When My Father Died

Philippines I 2026 I Cebuano I 73' I Colour

In a remote village in Leyte, Philippines, two brothers struggle to move on after their father is murdered. Kenken, the younger brother who witnessed the killing, stopped talking. He finds comfort in a mysterious, unseen presence that offers him a way into the supernatural world. His older brother Ge, struggles to reconcile with his best friend, Ricor, the murderer's son. Ge dreams of starting anew in Manila. Meanwhile, Ricor seeks forgiveness from Ge and his family but is haunted by the fear that he will become like his father.

Director
P. R. Monencillo Patindol

Producer
Giancarlo Abrahan

Screenplay
P. R. Monencillo Patindol, Giancarlo Abrahan

DoP
P. R. Monencillo Patindol

Editor
Jon Lazam

Sound Designer
Daryl Libongco

Cast
James Kenneth Cayunda, Gerald Polea, Ricor Ventilanon

Festivals
International Film Festival Rotterdam 2026 I Neuchâtel International Fantastic Film Festival 2026 I Debut22 Film Festival Klosters 2026 I Filmfest Aachen 2026 I Lima Alterna International Film Festival 2026 I Warsaw International Film Festival 2026

Awards
NETPAC Award, International Film Festival Rotterdam 2026, Jury Special Mention, Filmfest Aachen 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Drama, Coming-of-age, Magic realism

Sales
Salida MAPA

P. R. Monencillo Patindol



Based in Leyte, Philippines, filmmaker P. R. Monencillo's short film, Hilom, won the Youth Jury Prize at the Singapore International Film Festival, the Best Short Feature award at Cinemalaya 2017, and the FAMAS Award in 2018. Abogbaybay won the NETPAC Award at Cinemalaya 2024, earned four NABIFILMEX 2025 awards at Busan and won Best Philippine Short at the Ngilngig Asian Fantastic Film Festival. His debut feature won the NETPAC Award in the Bright Future section at Rotterdam 2026.



Oasis (Oase)

Germany, Austria I 2026 I German I 118' I Colour

When a video of a student threatening his classmates goes viral, violence spreads through the school. Under pressure from teachers and parents, three lonely students find shelter in a nearby forest. Their games become strange rituals, and they use pain to escape their problems. But as past hurts come to the surface, their relationships change and the distance between them grows.

Director
Jannis Lenz

Producer
Markus Kaatsch, Alexandra Rilli, Christian Bachmann

Screenplay
Jannis Lenz, Alexander Dirninger

DoP
Alexander Dirninger

Editor
Jannis Lenz, Melisa Krasniqi

Sound Designer
Benedikt Palier, Nora Czamler

Cast
Florian Geißelmann, Anton Petzold, Mathilda Smidt, Godehard Giese, Ioana Iacob,Britta Hammelstein,

Festivals
Venice Film Festival 2026 I Busan Film Festival 2026 I Tallin Black Nights Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Drama

Sales
Totem Films

Jannis Lenz

A graduate of the Vienna Film Academy, Jannis Lenz studied under Jessica Hausner and worked as an assistant to Michael Haneke. Drawing on his background in parkour and freerunning, his films explore physical limits, urban spaces, control, vulnerability and the complexities of masculinity. Moving between fiction and documentary, Lenz combines observation and staging to examine the fragile and often contradictory nature of human experience.





Ria

Philippines, Netherlands, Saudi Arabia, Japan, Norway I 2026 I Tagalog I 95' I Colour

Ria, a young folk-punk musician, faces the threat of losing her home when a property developer plans to demolish the last surviving building in her ruined neighbourhood. Along with her foster mother and their punk community, she fights to save it. Torn between fear, grief and determination, Ria must decide how far she is willing to go to protect the place she calls home and the community that stands together against the threat.

Director
Arvin Belarmino

Producer
Kristine De Leon, Alemberg Ang, Wesley Yap, Pavel Feldman, Alexander Seliverstov, Maria Sophia Atayde, Jossette Atayde, Yuka Mikami, Jefferson Moneo, Rafa Laperal

Screenplay
Arvin Belarmino, Kyla Danelle Romero

DoP
Geia De Vera

Editor
Renard Torres

Sound Designer
Fedor Troshinkin, Nikolai Lantano

Cast
Nour Hooshmand, Sylvia Sanchez, Iana Bernardez, Veronica Reyes, Anastasia Bartolome

Festivals
Busan International Film Festival 2026

Awards
The Heart of Eurasia Award, Busan International Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Drama

Sales
Lights On

Arvin Belarmino



Arvin Belarmino, a Filipino filmmaker, is an alumnus of international programs for emerging filmmakers, including La Résidence of the Cannes Film Festival. His short film, Radikals, competed in Cannes Critics' Week 2024, while Silig screened at the Cannes Directors' Fortnight 2024 as part of Directors' Factory Philippines. Agapito (2025), a short drama, co-directed with Kyla Danelle Romero, was selected for the Cannes Short Film Competition and the Toronto International Film Festival.



Roid

Bangladesh I 2026 I Bengali I 109' I Colour

Sadhu, a lonely middle-aged man, marries a woman with mental illness and builds a house on an empty plot far from the village. However, her behaviour disturbs his peaceful life, so he abandons her in a distant place. After several days, a palm fruit falls from the tree near their house, and strangely, his wife returns. This happens again and again. The woman, the palm tree, and Sadhu's life seem trapped in a mysterious, endless cycle.

Director
Mejbaur Rahman Sumon

Producer
Mushfiqur Rahman, Shimul Chandra Biswas, Tanveer Hossain, Tanveer Ahmed Shovon

Screenplay
Mejbaur Rahman Sumon, Selina Banu Moni

DoP
Joaher Musavvir Jyoti

Editor
Sazal Alok

Sound Designer
Rasheed Sharif Shoaib

Cast
Nazifa Tushi, Mostafizur Noor Imran

Festivals
International Film Festival of Rotterdam 2026 I Seattle International Film Festival 2026 I Vancouver International Film Festival 2026

Awards
Critics' Award for Best Asian Film, Da Nang Asian Film Festival, 2026, Best Actress, Best Cinematography, Best Music, Mosaic International South Asian Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Mystery, Drama

Sales
Facecard, Bongo

Mejbaur Rahman Sumon

Mejbaur Rahman Sumon is a Bangladeshi writer-director- visual artist and musician. While studying in the Painting Department at the Faculty of Fine Arts, he started his career by directing TV fiction. Later, he emerged as one of the strongest voices of Bangladesh's New Wave Cinema movement. Since 2011, his production company FACECARD has been producing popular and acclaimed TV commercials. His Hawa was Bangladesh's entry to Oscars 2022.





Titanic Ocean

Greece, Germany, Romania, France, Spain,Japan I 2026 I Japanese I 131' I Colour

In the scintillating, pop-infused world of a Japanese boarding school that trains teenage girls to become professional mermaids, 17-year-old Akame learns to hold her breath, perform for adoring crowds, and swim alongside sharks. Under her silicone mermaid tail, Akame will find her siren voice, discover first love, and experience a metamorphosis, turning performance into transformation.

Director
Konstantina Kotzamani

Producer
Maria Drandaki, Nina Frese, Radu Stancu, Luisa Romeo, Keisuke Konishi, Hiroto Ogi

Screenplay
Konstantina Kotzamani

DoP
Raphaël Vandenbussche

Editor
Livia Neroutsopoulou, Vincent Tricon,Julie Wuillai

Sound Designer
Marius Leftărache, Liviu Lupșa, Victor Miu, Dragoș Știrbu

Cast
Arisa Sasaki, Melina Mardini, Haruna Matsui, Kotone Hanase, Hanna Muro, Riku Nakamura, Aki Kigoshi, Masahiro Higashide, Sei Matobu

Festivals
Budapest International Film Festival 2026 I Busan International Film Festival 2026 I Cannes Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Drame, Fantastique

Konstantina Kotzamani

Born in 1983, Greek director Konstantina Kotzamani's films have premiered at Cannes, Berlinale, Venice, Locarno, etc., winning many awards. Her films include Washingtonia, Limbo, Electric Swan and What Mary Didn't Know. She won the Hellenic Film Academy Best Short Film award and was nominated by the European Film Academy for best short of the year. Her films have been broadcast on European channels ARTE and FRANCE TV.





Until the Day Ends (Do kraja dana)

Serbia, Bulgaria, Slovenia, Montenegro, Germany, Croatia I 2026 I Serbo-Croatian I 90' I Colour

Belgrade is a city divided by protests and social tensions. Lena fights for a better world, joining protests and occupying buildings. Stefan, who lives in the same neighbourhood, struggles between his personal dreams and the forces drawing him away from the protests. When they meet, they discover they share a sense of unease and a desire for change, though neither fully understands these feelings.

Director
Jelena Maksimović

Producer
Jelena Angelovski

Screenplay
Jelena Maksimović, Ivan Salatić, Olga Dimitrijević

DoP
Paul Spengemann

Editor
Jan Klemsche

Sound Designer
Vladimir Živković

Cast
Lena Trifunović, Andrija Krivokapić, Irina Hotomski, Stefan Tarabić, Miodrag Miša Dragičević

Festivals
Venice International Film Festival 2026 I Viennale 2026 I Sao Paulo International Film Festival 2026

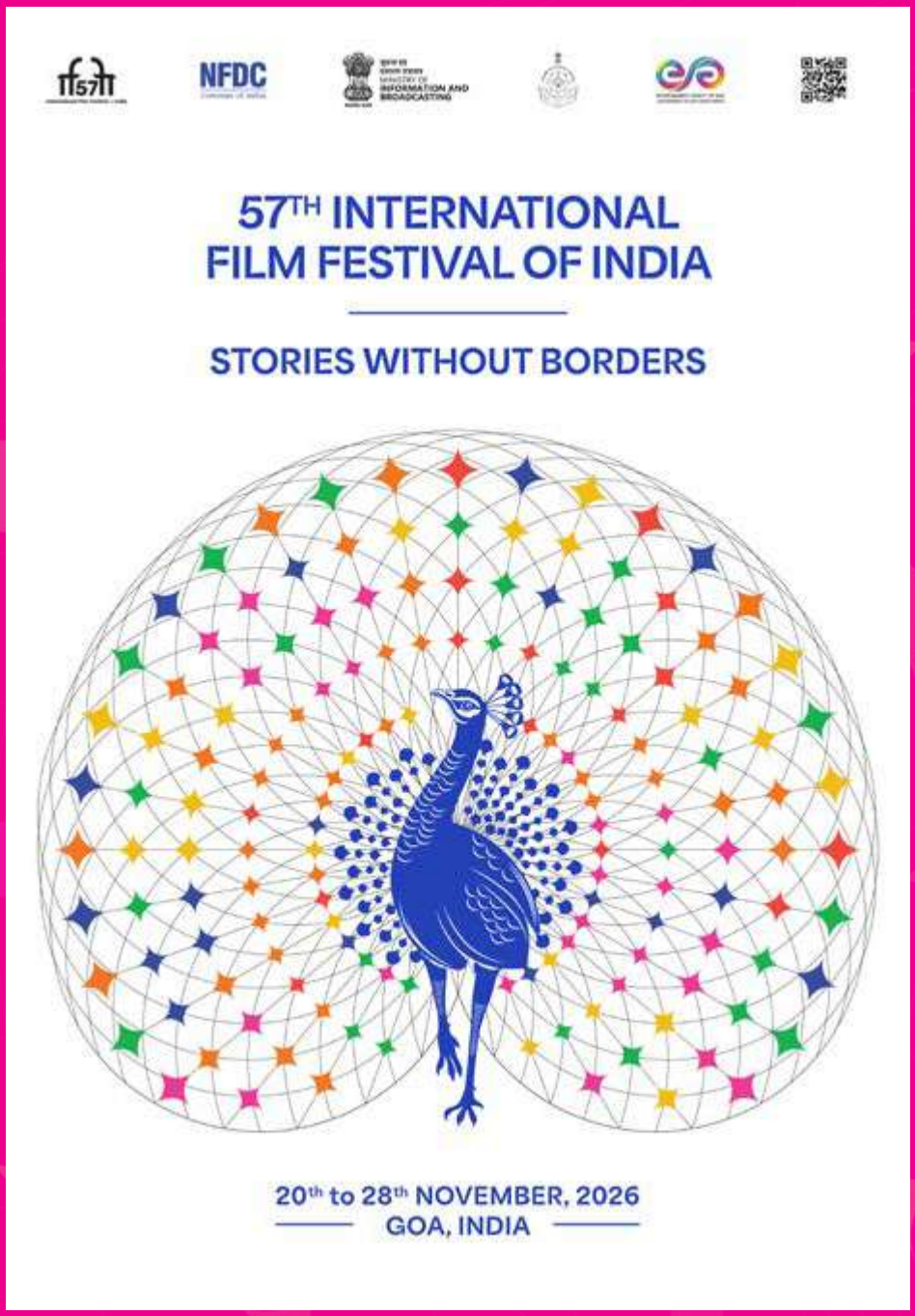
Awards
Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Drama

Jelena Maksimović



Graduated from the Faculty of Dramatic Arts in Belgrade, Serbian editor-director Jelena Maksimović has taught at the Faculty of Media and Communications since 2015. Her editing credits include films screened at Cannes, Venice, Berlinale, Locarno, Rotterdam and Toronto. Her films include The Load, You Have the Night, Celts, and Landscapes of Resistance. She also creates video and spatial art and conducts regional film workshops.



57TH IFFI POSTER DESIGN CONCEPT

The official poster of the 57th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) 2026 captures the spirit of this year's theme, "Stories Without Borders." Featuring IFFI's iconic peacock motif in a vibrant contemporary design, the poster reflects the festival's celebration of cinematic excellence, cultural diversity, and global storytelling.

DOCU-MONTAGE

Documentaries that excel in form and aesthetics while delving into the complex structures of lived social experiences.



Dust (Weichen)



Taiwan, Spain I 2026 I Spanish I 80' I Colour

The eleventh film in the "Slow Walker" series follows the Walker through San Sebastián, Spain. He wanders around the Comb of the Wind, where the sea rises and breaks against the shore. Along the way, he passes an old Basque farmhouse, a silent man, a woman drinking water, a woman smoking, punks gathered in a rock bar, and people young and old in the city. The Diamond Sutra speaks of all living beings in these words: "Specks of dust are not specks of dust; therefore, they are called specks of dust." The Walker keeps walking, and crosses paths with Anong.

Director
Tsai Ming-liang
Producer
Claude Wang, Julieta Juncadella, Silvia Cruz
DoP
Adrián Cores, Nestor Urbieta
Editor
Jhong-Yuan Chang
Sound Designer
Lu Chih-Hao
Cast
Lee Kang-sheng



Tsai Ming-Liang is an Malaysian director based in Taiwan, whose films include Rebels of the Neon God, Vive L'Amour and The River. His films won awards at Venice and Berlinand earned Locarno's Leopard of Honour 2023. Slow Walk series began in 2012.

Festivals
Venice Film Festival 2026 I San Sebastián International Film Festival 2026 I Lima Alterna International Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Documentary, Avant-Garde
Sales
Homegreen Films

Jaripeo



Mexico, US, France I 2026 I Spanish I 75' I Colour

Every Christmas, the town of Penjamillo in Michoacán, Mexico, hosts a jaripeo, a traditional rodeo that brings together local people and migrants returning from the US. The event celebrates cowboy culture and masculinity while a hidden queer community exists beneath the surface. Filmmaker Efraín, who grew up between Penjamillo and Riverside, California, combines personal memories, Super 8 footage and documentary scenes to explore machismo. Through his encounters with Noé, a cowboy who hides part of his identity, and Joseph, an openly expressive rodeo enthusiast and respected community member, the film explores identity and self-discovery in a traditionally masculine world.

Director
Efraín Mojica, Rebecca Zweig
Producer
Sarah Strunin
Screenplay
Efraín Mojica, Rebecca Zweig
DoP
Josué Eber Morales, Gerardo Guerra
Editor
Analía Goethals
Sound Designer
Maria Rojas



A Michoacán-born artist based in Mexico City, Efraín Mojica explores light and sound through multidisciplinary art. Jaripeo is his feature debut.



Rebecca Zweig is a Mexico City-based filmmaker, writer and An Iowa Writers' Workshop graduate. Jaripeo is her feature debut.

Festivals
Sundance Film Festival 2026 I Berlin International Film Festival 2026 I CPH: DOX 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Documentary
Sales
Indox films

Masayume (まさゆめ)



Japan I 2026 I Japanese I 110' I Colour

Nao Yoshigai, who lost her mental and physical balance at 34, starts training at a Zen temple. Through Zen, she reexamines "eating," "sleeping," and "breathing", viewing her body and mind as a "bag of flesh." Inspired by Michizo Noguchi, founder of the Noguchi Taiso movement method, she sees the body as a skin bag of fluid—free to expand and contract—where bones, organs, and the brain float.

Director
Nao Yoshigai
Producer
Nao Yoshigai, Eijun Sugihara
Screenplay
Nao Yoshigai
DoP
Kaori Oda, Nao Yoshigai
Editor
Nao Yoshigai
Sound Designer
Masaya Kitada
Cast
Nao Yoshigai



Born in 1987 in Yamaguchi Prefecture, Japan, Nao Yoshigai studied dance at Japan Women's College of Physical Education and earned a Master's from Tokyo University of the Arts. Her films Shari, Grand Bouquet, and Hottamaru Days earned festival screenings and awards.

Festivals
Berlinale Forum 2026 I Punto de Vista, International Documentary Festival Navarra 2026 IRhodope International Documentary Film Fest 2026

Awards
Special Jury Mention, Punto de Vista, Festival Internacional de Cine Documental de Navarra 2026 I Special Jury Mention, Rhodope International Documentary Film Fest 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Documentary, Essay Film
Sales
Parallax Films

Shumei: The Living Legacy of Kabuki (襲名)



Japan I 2026 I Japanese I 97' I Colour

SHUMEI: The Living Legacy of Kabuki follows the 2022 succession ceremony of the Thirteenth Ichikawa Danjūrō Hakuen. In his first documentary feature, director Takashi Miike offers an intimate portrait of Danjūrō and his son, Shinnosuke, capturing both the grandeur of the Shūmei ceremonies and the personal responsibilities, pressures, and sacrifices involved in carrying forward one of Japan's oldest performing traditions.

Director
Takashi Miike
Producer
Muneyuki Kii, Denjiro Tanaka, Misako Saka, Yoshikatsu Date
DoP
Noguchi Takashi, Douglas Ideguchi
Editor
Yohei Shina, Naoichiro Sagara
Sound Designer
Shintaro Yamaguchi
Cast
Ichikawa Danjuro XIII, Ichikawa Shinnosuke VIII



Born in Osaka in 1960, Japanese filmmaker Takashi Miike is a member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. He made his directorial debut with Toppū! Minipato tai - Aikyacchi jankushon (1991), followed by his first theatrical release, Shinjuku kuroshakai: Chaina mafia sensō (1995). With a filmography exceeding one hundred titles, Miike's diverse work spans violent action, animation and children's television dramas. His cinema has earned critical acclaim globally, winning numerous international film festival awards; in 2007, Time magazine named Ōdishon one of the top twenty-five horror movies of all time.

Festivals
Venice International Film Festival 2026 I Hot Springs Documentary Film Festival I Festival du Nouveau Cinema 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Art Documentary
Sales

Vanishing Tracks (Radd-e-pâ)



Iran, France, Norway, South Korea, Qatar I 2026 I Qashqai, Persian I 93' I Colour

Vanishing Tracks follows a nomadic Qashqai family living near Iran's Zagros Mountains, torn between their traditional way of life and the attraction of city living. Their three sons, studying at a school in Shiraz and drawn to city life and digital technology, begin to question their parents' customs. As the family prepares for its twice-yearly journey along ancient migration routes, the theft of 12 sheep sets the story in motion. Mixing realistic scenes with dreamlike moments, the film uses the wandering sheep lost in city streets to reflect the family's struggle to find their place in a changing world.

Director
Hamed Zolfaghari
Producer
Valérianne Boué, Hamed Zolfaghari, Verona Meier
Screenplay
Hamed Zolfaghari
DoP
Pooyan Ranjbar
Editor
Gladys Joujou, Pouya Parsamagham
Sound Designer
Carole Verner, Amin Behrouzzadeh
Cast
Valiollah, Dorna



Hamed Zolfaghari is a Tehran-based Iranian writer-producer-director. His last feature, Women of the Sun: A Chronology of Seeing, premiered at Hot Docs 2020. The Lost Season earned him the Audience Award at the Jean Rouch Film Festival 2025, as co-writer.

Festivals
Hot Docs Toronto 2026 I Tribeca NYC 2026 I Flahertiana International Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Family
Sales
Rise And Shine World Sales

Revolutionaries Never Die (La Yamouton Abada)



Palestine, Belgium, Qatar I 2026 I French, English, Arabic I 81' I Colour

A filmmaker sets out to understand why the renowned Lebanese director Jocelyne Saab invited him to collaborate just two months before her death. Unable to respond to her invitation now, he takes the audience on a personal journey through her life, political struggles and artistic vision. The film revisits the work and ideas of a filmmaker whose cinema was deeply connected to the revolutionary spirit of her time.

Director
Mohanad Yaqubi
Producer
Sami Saeed, Mohanad Yaqubi
Screenplay
Mohanad Yaqubi, Mathilde Rouxel
DoP
Hassan Naamani, Gérard Simon, Jocelyne Saab, Olivier Guéneau
Editor
Elettra Bisogno, Mohanad Yaqubi, Rita Maria Habib
Sound Designer
Raf Enckels



Mohanad Yaqubi is a Palestinian producer, director and co-founder of Idioms Film, based in Ramallah. A member of Subversive Film, he teaches at KASK School of Art, Ghent. His films include Off Frame AKA Revolution Until Victory and R21 AKA Restoring Solidarity.

Festivals
Locarno International Film Festival 2026 I BFI London Film Festival 2026 I Vancouver International Film Festival 2026

Awards
Special Jury Prize CINE+OCS, Locarno International Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
Asia Premiere
Genre
Documentary
Sales
Square Eyes

Waking Hours (Ore di veglia)



Italy | 2025 | Pasthu, Dari | 78' | Colour

Set in a forest along the Serbian-Hungarian border, the film follows a group of Afghan smugglers who help migrants cross into Hungary and the European Union. Shot entirely in darkness, it captures their lives as they wait through long, sleepless nights for migrants attempting the dangerous journey. The smugglers are themselves former migrants who once travelled the same route and faced similar risks. Rather than telling the stories of those trying to cross the border, the film focuses on these men, their uncertain existence and their constant state of waiting in the shadows of a heavily guarded border.

Director
Federico Cammarata, Filippo Foscarini

Producer
Federico Cammarata, Filippo Foscarini, Stefano Centini, Serena Alfieri, Dario Zonta, Roberto Minervini

DoP
Federico Cammarata

Editor
Federico Cammarata, Filippo Foscarini

Sound Designer
Filippo Foscarini





Federico Cammarata and Filippo Foscarini met at the Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia in Palermo, graduating in documentary filmmaking. Their first collaboration, Late August, gained international recognition. Waking Hours is their first feature documentary, selected for the 40th International Critics' Week.

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Hybrid

The Next Chapter of Indian Cinema Begins Here

Every film begins with someone who isn't famous yet: an editor refining a frame long after the day has ended, a singer preparing for a first recording, an animator building an entire world one pixel at a time. Creative Minds of Tomorrow (CMOT) exists for these emerging voices and creative talents.

An initiative of the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, implemented by the National Film Development Corporation (NFDC), CMOT returns to Goa for its sixth edition at the 57th International Film Festival of India (IFFI), bringing together 100 young creative talents from across the country. The 2026 cohort represents 13 diverse film crafts: Direction, Acting, Cinematography, Editing and Subtitling, Scriptwriting, Playback Singing, Music Composition, Sound Recording, Costume Design, Hair & Makeup, Art Direction, Animation, Visual Effects (VFX), Augmented Reality (AR) and Virtual Reality (VR), and Voice Over/Dubbing. This diversity reflects a fundamental belief: cinema is a collaborative art form, shaped by countless creative contributions, each deserving recognition and opportunity.

The selection process brings together expertise from across the film education and industry landscape. A 13-member Selection Jury, comprising faculty members from the Film and Television Institute of India (FTII), evaluates applications across the respective crafts. This is followed by a 12-member Grand Jury of established industry practitioners, which undertakes the next stage of evaluation to identify the selected participants. The filmmaking challenge and its final awards are further evaluated by an eminent Great Grand Jury comprising 5 distinguished film professionals. Together, these stages bring the perspectives of educators, industry practitioners and accomplished filmmakers into the process of identifying and celebrating emerging talent.

Since its inception in 2021, CMOT has steadily evolved into a platform connecting emerging creative professionals with the wider Media & Entertainment industry. Its alumni have progressed to international productions and received recognition at prestigious platforms and festivals, including Cannes, the Berlinale, the Toronto International Film Festival and the International Emmy Awards.

At IFFI, the participants experience filmmaking beyond the classroom through specially curated masterclasses, workshops and interactive sessions with leading film personalities and industry experts. A major highlight of this year's edition is the 48-Hour Filmmaking Challenge, which will be executed by the Film and Television Institute of India (FTII), Pune, in collaboration with NFDC. Bringing participants together across diverse crafts, the challenge requires them to conceptualise and produce short films within a tightly defined 48-hour production window. With expert mentorship and institutional support, the challenge offers an intensive, hands-on experience of collaborative filmmaking, mirroring the creative demands and dynamics of professional film production. The completed films will receive a special screening at IFFI and will be evaluated by an eminent jury of film industry professionals, with awards recognising excellence across various categories.

The CMOT Talent Camp further strengthens the bridge between emerging talent and the industry, connecting participants with leading production houses, studios, music labels, OTT platforms, broadcasters and other Media & Entertainment stakeholders. It provides a platform to present original creative work, engage with industry representatives and explore potential professional opportunities.

As India advances through Amrit Kaal, the growth of its creative economy will increasingly depend on a skilled, innovative and confident generation of creative professionals. CMOT contributes to this vision by nurturing talent, encouraging collaboration and creating pathways from creative potential to professional opportunity.

The hundred selected participants of CMOT 2026 are not merely part of the audience at IFFI. They are the emerging storytellers, artists and filmmakers who will shape the next chapter of Indian cinema. And their journey begins in Goa.

CREATIVE MINDS OF TOMORROW

EXPERIMENTAL FILMS

Films that dare to speak with original, idiosyncratic voices, and push the boundaries of cinematic expression.



Chronovisor

USA I 2026 I English, French, Italian, German I 99' I Colour



Blending mystery, philosophy and elements of the occult, the film tells the story of Béatrice Courte, a philosopher with a deep research interest in books of Borges and Eco. Her life is linked to the alleged story of the chronovisor, a device said to have been built in Italy in the 1950s to photograph the past. Through books, audio cassettes, newspapers, magazines and VHS tapes, the film explores this mysterious invention. As Béatrice investigates the chronovisor, her academic interests lead her into increasingly strange and unsettling territory.

Director
Jack Auen and Kevin Walker
Producer
Jason Zuriff
Screenplay
Jack Auen, Kevin Walker
DoP
Leo Zhang
Editor
Jack Auen, Kevin Walker
Sound Designer
Eric Zhang
Cast
Anne-Laure Sellier, Nicholas Tebben, Nicole Dimbrowski Risser, Alex Kolodkin, José Pacheco de Almeida



Baltimore-born filmmakers Jack Auen and Kevin Walker are a directing duo based in New York City. They co-founded the filmmaking collective and production company Cosmic. Their films have screened at Rotterdam, Sarajevo, Thessaloniki and other international festivals.

Festivals
International Film Festival of Rotterdam 2026 I New Directors New Films 2026 I Visions du Réel 2026

Awards
2nd Best Film, Jeonju International Film Festival 2026, Best Feature Film Award, Bucharest International Experimental Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Drama, Horror
Sales
Lights On

Erratics (Bloques Erráticos)

Chile, France, Argentina I 2026 I French, Spanish I 92' I Colour



Freed from a glacier after one hundred years, the ghost of filmmaker Lucien Castelnau drifts across a futuristic Patagonia, where technological progress collides with forgotten histories. Unable to find peace while his unfinished cinematic legacy remains unseen, he wanders through a world that has erased him, searching for a place in history and for the audience that might finally bring his lost work back to life.

Director
Thomas Woodroffe
Producer
Rodrigo Díaz, Pascual Mena, Thomas Woodroffe, Jérome Blesson
Screenplay
Thomas Woodroffe, Valeria Hofmann, Antonio Luco
DoP
Emilia Martín
Editor
Pablo Paniagua, Thomas Woodroffe
Sound Designer
Romina Castro, Hugo Rossi, Miguel Martins
Cast
Denis Lavant, Francesca Bozzano, Dominique Legoupil, Reinaldo Caro, Daniel Muñoz, Dominga Sotomayor, Felipe Gálvez



Thomas Woodroffe is a Chilean director, writer, and cinematographer who studies film preservation at EQZ Spain. His short film Austral Fever premiered at the Venice Biennale, received a Special Mention in the San Sebastián NEST competition, and was selected for TIFF 2019. Erratics is his feature debut.

Festivals
San Sebastián International Film Festival 2026 I Mostra de São Paulo 2026 I Rome Film Fest 2026

Awards
Slobodan Novaković Award for Best Debut Film, Belgrade International Film Festival - FEST 2026.

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Hauntology
Sales
MPM Premium

Heil Jupiter

Mexico, Poland, Portugal, Norway, Sweden I 2026 I Invented language, Spanish I 156' I Colour



Set against a remote coastline of crashing waves and massive rocks, the film follows two young couples whose lives unfold through strange and shifting realities. As they move between different worlds, an unseen presence watches over them like a powerful judge. The story brings together contrasting elements of modern life and ancient traditions, technology and rural existence, and the physical and the mythical. Through striking images and dreamlike sequences, the film explores human experience, power and control. Its moments of natural beauty and freedom stand in sharp contrast to scenes of authoritarian violence, creating an unusual and thought-provoking cinematic experience.

Carlos Reygadas is a Mexican writer, director and producer. His films include Japón, Silent Light, Post Tenebras Lux and Our Time. He won the Cannes Jury Prize for Silent Light and Best Director for Post Tenebras Lux.



Director
Carlos Reygadas
Producer
Cristina Velasco, Carlos Reygadas, Stella Schnabel, Olmo Schnabel, Marco Perego, Dan Wechsler, Andreas Roald, Jamal Zeinal-Zade
Screenplay
Carlos Reygadas
DoP
Daniel Valdés Serrano
Editor
Carlos Reygadas
Sound Designer
María Alejandra Rojas, Arturo Salazar
Cast
Neli de la Rosa, Alexis Sánchez Alonso, Flor de León, Alexis Said Villa de León, Alejandra de la Mora, Ediberto Muñoz Nava, Lina Pérez Áviles

Festivals
New York Film Festival 2026 I Stockholm International Film Festival 2026

Awards
Best Script, MIX Mexico 2026, Best Documentary, Subversive Festival Zagreb 2026, Audience Award for Best Documentary, Honorable Mention, Wicked Queer: Boston's LGBTQ+ Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
Asia Premiere
Genre
Drama, Avant-Garde
Sales
mk2 films

Joy Boy: A Tribute To Julius Eastman

Belgium, Democratic Republic of Congo, France I 2026 I English I 63' I Colour



Six filmmakers enter in conversation about the transcendent music, queer activism and vibrant black spirituality of Julius Eastman, creating a number of eclectic, interconnected film scenes and audio interludes. Joy Boy first came alive as a video installation accompanying a live performance of Eastman's music in 2024. Since then, the project has continuously been transforming and now lives as a 5-channel installation in 2025 and feature-length film.



Victoire Karera Kampire, Fallon Mayanja, Mawena Yehouessi, Anne Reijniers, Paul Shemisi and Rob Jacobs are friends working across film, sound, performance, research and collective creation. They explore questions of identity, spirituality, decolonization and belonging, bringing personal and political histories together.

Director/ Producer / Screenplay/ DoP/ Editor
Mawena Yehouessi, Fallon Mayanja, Rob Jacobs, Anne Reijniers, Paul Shemisi, Victoire Karera Kampire
Sound Designer
Music by Juliues Eastman, SEM Ensemble
Cast
Mawena Yehouessi, Fallon Mayanja, Thony Yondo, Sanders Coccinelle, Naomie Kulemfuka , Dan Monga

Festivals
Berlin International Film Festival 2026 I Olhar de Cinema Curitiba 2026 I Courtisane Ghent 2026

Premiere Status
Asia Premiere
Genre
Experimental Documentary

Suzhou Quartet (Si Fen Zhi Si)

China I 2026 I Mandarin I 132' I Colour



During the long rainy season in the ancient Chinese city of Suzhou, four people at different stages of life face their own struggles. Eight-year-old Chunyu seeks a foster home after his parents' divorce. Twenty-five-year-old Lixia tries to live independently but struggles with life's challenges. Forty-five-year-old Lu Fengshou, facing a failed marriage and an uncertain future, unexpectedly meets his first love. Sixty-five-year-old Li Xuemei lives with her daughter and hopes for her happy marriage, while ignoring her own need for love. Their lives gradually connect, revealing how time brings people together in unexpected ways.

Director
Cai Chengjie
Producer
Wang Yan
Screenplay
Cai Chengjie
DoP
Jiang Zhang
Editor
Xinzhu Liu
Sound Designer
Yin Jie
Cast
Wang Ziming, Huang Bo, Eva Du, Shen Jiani, Xiao Dingchen, Chen Youwang, Wang Jiayi, Ge Zhaomei



Cai Chengjie is a Chinese writer-director who debuted with The Widowed Witch (2018), winning Best Narrative Feature and Director at FIRST Xining and Rotterdam's Tiger Award. He made Huawei's Wukong and became the Netherlands Film Festival Ambassador in 2022, promoting Dutch cinema in China.

Festivals
Pingyao International Film Festival 2026 I Warsaw International Film Festival 2026

Awards
Best Director Award, Warsaw International Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Drama
Sales
Rediance

Uchronia

Greece, Netherlands I 2026 IEnglish, French, German, Italian, Russian I 97' I Colour



In this docu-essay inspired by French Poet Arthur Rimbaud's prose-poetry Une Saison en Enfer, (A Season in Hell), we meet the poet's ghost embarking on a time-travel adventure, encountering revolutionary figures such as Emma Goldman, David Wojnarowicz, and Marsha P. Johnson. These encounters create a multilayered collage that raises questions about identity, the meaning of revolution, and the role of the artistic avant-gardes.

Director
Fil Ieropoulos
Producer
Spyros Patsouras, Fil Ieropoulos
Screenplay
Foivos Dousos
DoP
Yorgos Koutsaliaris
Editor
Fil Ieropoulos
Sound Designer
Pantelis Pilavios
Cast
Kristof, Flomaria Papadaki, Robert Carrithers, John Macklin Kowal, Marisha Triantafyllidou, Parakatyanova, Mahdi M'kinini, Dorothea Voutsadopoulou, Eva H.D., Pierre Magendie, Arileia Buséu



Born in Athens in 1978, Fil Ieropoulos studied film in the UK, earning a PhD from University of Kent. A senior lecturer at Buckinghamshire New University, his films have earned Greek Film Academy nominations and have been screened at Berlin, Raindance, Sarajevo, BFI Flare.

Festivals
Berlin Film Festival 2026 I BFI Flare 2026 I Madrid International LGBTIAQ+ Film Festival

Awards
Best Script, MIX Mexico 2026, Best Documentary, Subversive Festival Zagreb 2026, Audience Award for Best Documentary, Honorable Mention, Wicked Queer: Boston's LGBTQ+ Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Experimental, LGBT+, History, Social Issue

MACABRE CINEMA

For genre enthusiasts chasing thrills - cinema that is uncanny, bizarre and audacious.



Arrested Memory (狂忘警探)

Taiwan, Japan I 2026 I Mandarin, Taiwanese, Japanese I 87' I Colour



Lee is a well-known police detective in Taipei. After losing his team during an investigation, he struggles with guilt and is transferred to a rural police station. The incident leaves him traumatised, and he develops amnesia but keeps it a secret. Soon, he is assigned to investigate the kidnapping of a Japanese businessman's son. As his memory gradually fades, Lee relies on his instincts to follow the clues and track down the criminals.

Director
Sabu
Producer
Roger Huang, Shozo Ichiyama, Justine O.
Screenplay
Sabu
DoP
Jai Ip
Editor
Matthieu Laclau
Sound Designer
Tu Chun-Tang, Tu Duu-Chih
Cast
Ethan Juan, Moon Lee, Hsieh Ying Xuan, Shinichi Tsutsumi, Reika Kirishima



Sabu made his directorial debut with D.A.N.G.A.N. Runner (1996), which screened at the Berlinale. His films include Monday (2000), recipient of the Berlinale FIPRESCI Award, The Blessing Bell (2003), which won the Berlinale NETPAC Award, Kanikosen, Miss Zombie and Mr. Long.

Festivals
Venice International Film Festival 2026 I Tokyo International Film Festival 2026 I Sitges - Catalonian International Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Crime, Comedy, Action
Sales
Lucky Number

Drag

USA I 2026 I English I 86' I Colour



Two sisters in a contentious relationship decide to rob a rural home in upstate New York. The simple robbery turns into a nightmare when one of them throws out her back and becomes immobilised on the second floor. The night spirals out of control as they embark on a painful journey to make it out before the homeowner returns.

Director
Raviv Ullman, Greg Yagolnitzer
Producer
Jake DeVito, Lucy DeVito, Danny DeVito
Screenplay
Raviv Ullman, Greg Yagolnitzer
DoP
Ben Goodman
Editor
Malinda Zehner Guerra
Cast
Lizzy Caplan, Lucy DeVito, John Stamos, Christine Ko



Raviv Ullman is an actor-director,developing projects with Jim Henson Company and working with OTTs.



Greg Yagolnitzer is a writer-director-animator who has worked on Superjail!, directed Weezer and Green Day videos, created Hulu's Walt, among other work with studios and networks.

Festivals
SXSW Film Festival 2026 I Fantasia Film Festival 2026 I Sitges Catalonian International Film Festival 2026
Awards
Special Jury Prize, Sitges 2026
Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Horror, Comedy
Sales
Blue Finch Films

Nightborn (Yön Lapsi)

Finland, Lithuania, France, UK I 2026 I Finnish, English I 92' I Colour



Saga and her British husband Jon dream of having a perfect family. They move out to an isolated house in the Finnish forest where Saga spent much of her childhood. After the baby is born, Saga senses that there is something is wrong with him, despite others reassuring her. As their marriage starts to crack, Jon tries to support her, but only Saga suspects the frightening truth about her son.

Director
Hanna Bergholm
Producer
Daniel Kuitunen, Noëmie Devide
Screenplay
Ilja Rautsi, Hanna Bergholm
DoP
Pietari Peltola
Editor
Jussi Rautaniemi
Sound Designer
Micke Nyström
Cast
Seidi Haarla, Rupert Grint



Finnish filmmaker Hanna Bergholm's debut horror film, Hatching, premiered at Sundance in 2022 and sold to over 75 countries. It won international awards, including at Gérardmer and Sitges. Bergholm has also directed award-winning short films and television dramas.

Festivals
Berlin International Film Festival 2026 I Karlovy Vary International Film Festival 2026 I Sitges - Catalonian International Film Festival 2026

Awards
Best Film, Outstanding Performance Award, Fantasia Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Horror, Drama, Thriller
Sales
BookMyShow

The Blood Countess (Die Blutgräfin)

Austria, Luxembourg, Germany I 2026 I German, French I 119' I Colour



The Blood Countess and her maid begin a new vampire adventure. They search for a special red liquid that promises eternal life, the hidden history of their ancestors, and a book that could destroy their vampire world. They are chased by a vegetarian nephew, his therapist, two vampire experts, a police inspector and his assistants.

Director
Ulrike Ottinger
Producer
Alexander Dumreicher-Ivanceanu, Bady Minck, Bettina Brokemper, Ulrike Ottinger
Screenplay
Ulrike Ottinger; Dialogues in participation with Elfriede Jelinek
DoP
Martin Gschlacht
Editor
Pia Dumont
Sound Designer
Karim Weth
Cast
Isabelle Huppert, Birgit Minichmayr, Thomas Schubert, Lars Eidinger, André Jung, Marco Lorenzini, Tom Neuwirth aka Conchita Wurst



Ulrike Ottinger is a German filmmaker and visual artist, internationally recognised for her acclaimed Berlin Trilogy: Ticket of No Return (1979), Freak Orlando (1981) and Dorian Gray in the Mirror of the Yellow Press (1984). Her films and artworks have been presented at major festivals and institutions worldwide.

Festivals
Berlin International Film Festival 2026 I BFI London Film Festival 2026 I Zurich Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Fantasy, Mystery, Comedy
Sales
MAGNIFY

We Are Aliens (我々は宇宙人)

Japan, France I 2026 I Japanese I 117' I Colour



In a quiet Japanese town, third-graders Tsubasa, a shy boy, and Gyōtarō, his outgoing classmate, share a close friendship. But one careless incident changes their relationship. The film follows how this event affects them as they grow up, exploring the lasting impact of childhood experiences on their lives through adolescence and adulthood.

Director
Kohei Kadowaki

Producer
Emmanuel-Alain Raynal, Pierre Baussaron, Kentaro Hayashi, Yuuri Shimojo

Screenplay
Kohei Kadowaki

DoP
Kenichiro Tachikawa

Editor
Kohei Kadowaki, Kenichiro Tachikawa

Sound Designer
Hiroyuki Ishizaka

Cast
Ryota Bando, Amane Okayama, Yûto Maki



Born in 1996, Kohei Kadowaki graduated in design from the University of the Arts Tokyo and worked as an animator. He designed theatre sets and advertising videos before focusing on animated films that combine live-action movement with 3D CGI references.

Festivals
Cannes Film Festival 2026 I São Paulo International Film Festival 2026 I Annecy International Animation Festival 2026

Awards
Best Animated Feature Film, Sitges International Fantastic Film Festival 2026 I Grand Prize, Ottawa International Animation Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Drama, Animation

Sales
BookMyShow

MISSION LIFE

Films exploring ecological transformations, nature's agency and human–non-human relations, reimagining sustainable coexistence beyond the human-centred gaze.



Like Any Other Mortal (Como Todo Mortal)



Netherlands, Spain I 2026 I Spanish, English I 93' I Colour

Como Todo Mortal moves between a distant planet and one of the world's oldest mining areas in Andalusia. On the planet, a robot searches for minerals and signs of life. On Earth, people live near abandoned towns buried beneath piles of mining waste, while scientists investigate a hidden form of life that could change our understanding of evolution. Blending documentary, flamenco and science fiction, the film explores the history of mining and its impact on people and nature. It draws parallels between Andalusia and Mars, raising questions about human exploration, the search for resources and the consequences of exploiting the natural world.



María Molina Peiró is a Spanish artist, filmmaker and researcher whose films screened in film festivals and institutions, including the Rotterdam Festival, BFI London Film Festival, Louvre Museum, MACBA and National Gallery of Art in Washington.

Director
María Molina Peiró
Producer
Manon Bovenkerk, María Molina Peiró, Carlota Coloma, Adrià Lahuerta
Screenplay
María Molina Peiró
DoP
Juan Palacios
Editor
Diana Toucedo
Sound Designer
Sergio González Cuervo

Festivals
CPH:DOX 2026 I Festival de Málaga 2026 I Docs Barcelona 2026

Awards
Silver Biznaga for Best Director – Documentary Competition, Festival de Málaga 2026 I Best Film Award – Olhar de Cinema 2026 I EYEMystic Award - DokuEcho, DokuBaku 2026

Premiere Status
Asia Premiere
Genre
Documentary, Sci-Fi
Sales
Gargantua Film Distribution

Nunkui (Nunkui)



Ecuador, Chile, Alemania I 2026 ISpanish, Shuar I 91' I Colour

Nunkui lives in a Shuar community in the Amazon and dreams of a female spirit of the orchard who shares her name. Her aunt teaches her traditional songs and farming skills. Meanwhile, mining companies begin taking over the forest, forcing local people to leave their homes. Through her dreams, her grandfather's guidance and her connection with the plants, animals and spirits of the forest, Nunkui begins to understand herself and her place in the world as she grows into adolescence.



Verenice Benítez is an Ecuadorian film director, writer and musician. She studied film direction in Paris, series writing in Madrid, and fine arts in Ecuador and Cuba. A professional clarinettist, she co-founded the short film collective Cámara-Shuar in 2013.

Director
Verenice Benítez
Producer
Isabela Parra
Screenplay
Verenice Benítez
DoP
Pascale Marin
Editor
Carlos Ruiz-Tagle
Sound Designer
Juan José Luzuriaga
Cast
Sana Maiche, Domingo Ankuash, Entsa Maiche, Diana Mashenda, Blanca Lewin, Lenin Tsamarenia.

Festivals
Guadalajara Film Festival 2026 I International Frauen Filmfest Dortmund + Köln 2026 I Festival de Cine de Biarritz 2026

Awards
Honorable Mention, Ibero-American Fiction Feature Film Competition, Guadalajara International Film Festival 2026 I Best Screenplay, FicLaPaz, La Paz International Film Festival 2026 I DAMA Silver Lighthouse Award, Best Screenplay, Santander Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
Asia Premiere
Genre
Drama
Sales
Camila Santillán

The Clearing



Netherlands, Indonesia I 2026 I Dutch, Láadan, Indonesian, English I 89' I Colour / B&W

In the early 20th century, Dutch colonial rulers transformed Sumatra's rainforests into large rubber plantations. Men from the Netherlands came to manage the plantations, where local workers faced harsh conditions similar to slavery. The exploitation of women for sex became part of this colonial system but it remained largely hidden. The racial inequalities and abuses created a silence that continued across generations. Using both found and newly filmed footage, the film explores the hidden histories of colonialism, the memories of those who suffered, and their struggle for recognition and resistance.

Director
Sabine Groenewegen
Producer
Manon Bovenkerk (near/by film)
Screenplay
Sabine Groenewegen
DoP
Sabine Groenewegen, Juan Palacios, Jimged Sendy
Editor
Diana Toucedo
Sound Designer
Malu Peeters



Dutch filmmaker, visual artist and researcher Sabine Groenewegen made Odyssey in 2018, which won the Doc Alliance Award, and Remanence (2024), about an antifascist women's movement. Her work has been featured internationally. Her second feature, The Clearing, premieres at FIDMarseille 2026.

Festivals
FIDMarseille 2026 I Doclisboa International Film Festival 2026 I Archivio Aperto Festival 2026

Awards
Best Film Award (Human Rights Dox Competition), DokuFest International Documentary and Short Film Festival Kosovo 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Documentary
Sales
Kino Rebelde

Tropical Fractals (Fractais Tropicais)



Portugal, Brazil I 2026 I Portuguese I 72' I Colour

A group of scientists travels through space to study the last surviving traces of life from Earth. Their artificial intelligence system, Museo, gives them access to the crew's diaries and scattered records of human history. Meanwhile, on Earth, a person believed to be the last surviving human wanders across the ruined planet. As the planet slowly recovers from the apocalypse, the story explores the remains of humanity and the possibility of a world beginning to heal.

Director
Leonardo Pirondi
Producer
Paulo Carneiro, Zazie Ray-Trapido
Screenplay, DoP, Editor, Sound Designer
Leonardo Pirondi
Cast
Ivo Müller, Valentina Rosset, André Bohn, Fernando Siqueira, Utkarsh



Born in São Paulo, Leonardo Pirondi is a Brazilian filmmaker and artist. His films were screened at Toronto, Rotterdam, New York, Vienna, BFI London, Mostra São Paulo, Mar del Plata, Edinburgh, IndieLisboa and FICUNAM festivals.

Festivals
IndieLisboa, 2026 I BFI London Film Festival 2026 I Mostra São Paulo International Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Experimental, Sci-Fi
Sales
Bam Bam Cinema

We Are the Fruits of the Forest (Nous Sommes les Fruits de la Forêt)

Cambodia, France I 2025 I Bunong I 87' I Colour



Rithy Panh returns to documentary filmmaking to tell the story of the Bunong, an Indigenous community in Cambodia whose culture and way of life are at risk of disappearing. A few families still live in the remote mountains, following their ancestral traditions. However, their lives are becoming increasingly difficult as international companies take over their land. Climate change also disrupts the seasons and affects farming. With less land available and the soil becoming less fertile, the community struggles to grow crops and preserve its traditional way of life. The film highlights their suffering and the urgent need to protect their heritage.



Born in Phnom Penh, Rithy Panh fled the Khmer Rouge genocide to Paris in 1980 and studied at IDHEC. His films include S21, the Oscar-nominated The Missing Picture and Irradiated. He co-founded Cambodia's Bophana Centre and co-authored The Elimination.

Director
Rithy Panh

Producer
Catherine Dussart

Screenplay
Rithy Panh

DoP
Prum Mésar, Mourng Vet, Cheng Socheat, Sok Chan Rado, Rithy Panh

Editor
Rithy Panh, Eang Pisith

Sound Designer
Vann Sereyratanak, Kon Srey Nith, Mang Sarith, Mourng Ve

Cast
Pa Kreb, Mak Kreb, Yeay Kreb, Mak Lisa, Pouk Choeut, Mak Choeut, Pouk Noas, Mak Noas, Pouk Pritch, Mak Pritch, Pouk Vath, Pouk Loun, Lisa Choeut, Noas Pritch Kreb

Festivals
Tokyo International Film Festival 2025 I Hong Kong International Film Festival 2026 I Cinéma du Réel 2026

Awards
Special Jury Prize, Tokyo International Film Festival 2025

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Ethnic Minorities, Culture, Environment, Human Rights

Sales
Playtime

ANIMATION

Contemporary animated films traversing diverse perspectives and imaginative worlds, painting an eclectic canvas of human experience through the myriad and evolving possibilities of the form



Cherry and Virgin



Japan I 2026 I Japanese I 87' I Colour

Ryo, a 32-year-old artist who draws erotic manga, struggles to talk to women. Ami, 28, finds it difficult to interact with men in real life. Despite their fears and lack of romantic experience, the two meet and slowly begin to understand each other. As they spend time together, they learn to overcome their insecurities and discover the happiness of forming a genuine connection. Told with humour and warmth, the film uses a distinctive style that combines live-action footage with manga animation, offering a fresh and unconventional take on love, loneliness and human relationships.

Director
Masanao Kawajiri
Producer
Gen Sato
Screenplay
Masanao Kawajiri, Misato Kaga
Character Design
Katsuya Takayanagi, Ryo Nakaharu
Editor
Masashi Omura
Sound Designer
Masaki Kawasaki, Kei Sasaki
Cast
Takashi Okado, Yaeko Kiyose



A graduate of Osaka University of Arts, Masanao Kawajiri gained recognition for his 2018 short film, A Japanese Boy Who Draws, which earned numerous festival awards. His unique style, blending animation, live-action, and manga, has drawn attention in Japan and abroad.

Festivals
Fantasia International Film Festival 2026 I Tokyo International Film Festival 2026 I Chicago International Film Festival 2026

Awards
Gold Audience Award for Best Animated Feature, Special Mention of the Jury (Satoshi Kon Competition), Fantasia 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Romance
Sales
Toei

Jim Queen



France I 2026 I French I 85' I Colour

Jim is a popular fitness influencer in Paris's gay community, admired for his looks and lifestyle. His life changes when a strange virus called Heterosis begins turning gay men straight. Almost overnight, he loses his followers, friends and social status. With only Lucien, a loyal but less popular young man, by his side, Jim sets out to find a doctor who is believed to have a cure. Their search takes them through the lively streets of the Marais, where they encounter the confusion and challenges caused by the strange outbreak.

Director
Nicolas Athané, Marco Nguyen
Producer
David Alric, Arthur Delabays
Screenplay
Simon Balteaux, Marco Nguyen, Nicolas Athané, Brice Chevillard
Editor
Ivy Buirette
Sound Designer
Mathieu Rosenzweig, Benjamin Nakache
Cast
Alex Ramirès, Jérémy Gillet, Shirley Souagnon, Elisabeth Wiener, Harald Marlot, François Sagat, Alex Brik, Philippe Katerine



Nicolas Athané, an animation student at Gobelins, Nicolas Athané has worked on Rayman games, The Rabbi's Cat, and The Red Turtle, and co-directed the animated series Mr Flap, Startup Heroes and Peepoodo.



Marco Nguyen studied animation at Gobelins, worked with Joann Sfar, and contributed to The Rabbi's Cat, Ernest & Celestine, and The Summit of the Gods.

Festivals
Cannes Film Festival 2026 I Karlovy Vary International Film Festival 2026 I Vancouver International Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Adventure, Comedy, Sci-Fi, LGBTQ+
Sales
Global Constellation

Light Pillar



China I 2026 I Chinese I 90' I Colour

In the future, space travel has become common. Zha, a lonely cleaner, looks after the grounds of an old film studio that has gone bankrupt. He begins a romantic relationship with a woman he meets in a beautiful virtual world. After a few dates, she invites him to travel to the Moon. Zha works extra hours to pay for the trip, but discovers that his ticket is invalid. As the studio prepares to close, a film crew arrives to shoot a movie, using the studio's destruction for its final scene. On the day of filming, Zha decides to stay behind and disappear with the world he knows.

Director
Xu Zao
Producer
Lu Xiaowei
Screenplay
Xu Zao
DoP
Hao Jiayue
Editor
Yang Chao
Sound Designer
He Wei
Cast
Da Peng as Lao Zha, Qing Yi as Female Player

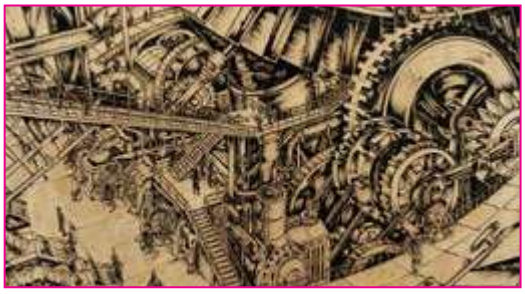


Born in 1991 in Anshan, China, Xu Zao is a screenwriter, director and production designer with a master's degree from Beijing Film Academy. His award-winning animated short No Changes Have Taken In Our Life premiered at IFFR. Light Pillar is his debut feature.

Festivals
Berlin International Film Festival 2026 I Toronto International Film Festival 2026 I Karlovy Vary International Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Drama, Romance
Sales
Cercamon

Magic Atlas



Singapore I 2026 I Chinese I 85' I Colour

A magician arrives in the isolated coal kingdom of Luocha, causing fear and unrest in a society already troubled by tension. He is arrested and meets an orphan boy named Xiao Zhi in prison. During the Mimeng festival, when people are made to forget their past, the magician secretly gives Xiao Zhi a magical atlas before he is burned at the stake.

Director
Sun Xun
Producer
Sun Xun, Eric Zhang Xiaobo
Screenplay
Sun Xun, Gong Mingchun, Kuai Yuehao
DoP
Xu Chong, Dai Tianwei, Zhao Liang
Editor
Xu Chong, Chen Xingye, Sun Xun
Sound Designer
Yang Yicheng



Born in 1980 in Fuxin, China, Sun Xun is a Beijing-based artist and graduate of China Academy of Fine Arts. He founded π Animation Studio in 2005, gaining international recognition. His films screened at Venice and Berlin, while Magic Atlas competed at Locarno and Tokyo film festivals.

Festivals
Locarno International Film Festival 2026 I Tokyo International Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Ray Gunn



USA I 2026 I English I 116' I Colour

In the futuristic city of Metropia, humans and aliens live together, flying cars fill the skies, and everything comes at a price. Behind the city's modern appearance, corruption is widespread. Ray Gunn, an old-fashioned private detective, struggles to find his place in a world where his profession and values seem outdated. Despite his difficult circumstances, Ray soon becomes involved in the biggest case of his career.

Director
Brad Bird

Producer
John Lasseter, Brad Bird, Lisa Beroud, David Ellison, Dana Goldberg

Screenplay
Brad Bird, Matthew Robbins

DoP
Erik Smitt

Editor
Darren Holmes, Karl Armstrong

Sound Designer
Ben Burtt

Cast
Sam Rockwell, Scarlett Johansson, Tom Waits, Bobby Cannavale, Alan Tudyk, Matt Berry, Michelle Rodriguez



Brad Bird is an Oscar-winning American filmmaker, writer, producer and voice actor, known for blending emotion, humour and action in animated films like The Incredibles and Ratatouille, and live-action films like Mission: Impossible – Ghost Protocol.

Festivals
BFI London Film Festival 2026 I Busan International Film Festival 2026 I Chicago International Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Science Fiction

Sales
Netflix

FILMS ABOUT FILMS

Reflexive study of cinema, where the medium is both – the content as well as the form.



Maverick: The Epic Adventures of David Lean

UK, USA I 2026 I English I105' I Colour



David Lean, one of the greatest film directors, changed the way films were made and experienced. Known for his strong vision and determination, he often took on difficult and ambitious projects. He became famous for epic films that combined grand stories with love, beauty and human emotions. However, his personal life was often troubled and unsettled. At a time when filmmakers are encouraged to avoid risks, Lean remains an example of an artist who dared to push boundaries. His story explores both the brilliance and struggles of a gifted filmmaker and his lasting influence on modern cinema.

Director
Barnaby Thompson
Producer
Nick Taussig, Jack Heller, Barnaby Thompson
Screenplay
Barnaby Thompson
DoP
Geoffrey Sentamu
Editor
Paul van Dyck
Sound Designer
Sophie-Alice Davies
Cast
Steven Spielberg, Francis Ford Coppola, Denis Villeneuve, Greta Gerwig, Alfonso Cuarón, Steven Soderbergh, Wes Anderson, Joe Wright, Brady Corbet, Paul Greengrass, Céline Song, Nia DaCosta, Autumn Durald Arkapaw



Barnaby Thompson is a British producer-director whose directing credits include Vanished, Mad About the Boy and St Trinian's. He has also produced Wayne's World, An Ideal Husband and Fisherman's Friends. His documentary The Forgotten Holocaust won a New York Festival Silver Medal, while he produced the Oscar-nominated short Dear Rosie.

Festivals
Cannes Film Festival 2026 I Telluride Film Festival 2026 I Middleburg Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Documentary
Sales
Embankment Films

Sidney Lumet's Birthday (День рождения Сидни Люмета)

Russia I 2025 I Russian I 92' I Colour



Dato, a 17-year-old Georgian, and his grandmother are trying to find common ground in the ruins of a once-large family. Everything goes according to plan, until Dato's mother appears on the doorstep after a long gap. The drama of growing up is about how to remain human in spite of everything.

Director
Raul Geidarov
Producer
Alexey Uchitel, Anastasia Akopyan, Kira Saksaganskaya
Screenplay
Raul Geidarov, Lydia Yartseva
DoP
Sasha Neguch
Editor
Mukharam Kabulova, Maria Revyakina, Maria Epifanova
Sound Designer
Mikhail Ogonkov
Cast
Artem Koshman, Marietta Tsigal-Polishchuk, Julietta Stepanyan, Jan Garakhmanov, Artem Fedotov, Kazbek Bagayev



Born in 1990 in Abinsk-Krasnodar, Raul is a Russian filmmaker. After graduating in geology, he studied direction at VGIK (Kott-Fenchenko class). His short films have participated in many festivals. Sidney Lumet's Birthday is his debut feature film.

Festivals
Vyborg National Film Festival 2025 I Shanghai International FIlm Festival 2026

Awards
Grand Jury Prize, Vyborg National Film Festival 2025

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Drama
Sales
Eastwood Agency

Supporting Role (Meorekhariskhovani Roli)

Georgia, Estonia, Turkey, Switzerland, USA I 2026 I Georgian, Armenian I 139' I Colour



After a long break from acting, a famous Georgian actor attends an audition for a young director's first film. He is surprised and annoyed when she offers him an unusual supporting role instead of the heroic characters he usually plays. He dismisses her idea as unrealistic and foolish. However, as he spends more time with the character, he becomes increasingly interested. Without realising it, he begins to change and slowly becomes the very character he once refused to play. Before long, he finds himself deeply drawn into the strange and unfamiliar role.

Director
Ana Urushadze
Producer
Davit Tsintsadze, Ivo Felt, Bacho Meburishvili, Sophio Bendiashvili, Zeynep Özbatur Atakan, Andrei Epifanov, Eleonora Granata-Jenkinson, Dato Bakhtadze
Screenplay
Ana Urushadze
DoP
Rein Kotov
Editor
Levan Uchaneishvili
Sound Designer
Harmo Kallaste
Cast
Dato Bakhtadze, Nato Murvanidze, Lasha Mebuke, Elene Maisuradze, Irakli Kvirikadze



Born in Tbilisi, Georgia, in 1990, Ana Urushadze graduated from Shota Rustaveli Theatre and Film State University. Her debut, Scary Mother, won Locarno's Best First Feature 2017, Heart of Sarajevo and San Francisco's Golden Gate Award.

Festivals
International Film Festival Rotterdam 2026 I BFI London Film Festival 2026

Awards
Tiger Competition - Special Jury Award, FIPRESCI Award, IFFR 2026 I Heart of Sarajevo for Best Director, Sarajevo 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Drama
Sales
Split Screen

The Mad Dog of Europe (The Mad Dog of Europe)

France, Germany I 2026 I English I 83' I Colour



In 1932, Herman J. Mankiewicz, who later wrote the screenplay for Citizen Kane, wrote The Mad Dog of Europe. The film was about a German-Jewish family facing the rise of Hitler and Nazism. Hollywood studios never made the film because of political pressure and business interests. Its story remains relevant today as ideological divisions grow around the world. In this new documentary which spans the 1930s, Rubika Shah shines a light on Mankiewicz's revolutionary screenplay, and the myriad reasons it was never produced by Hollywood.

Director
Rubika Shah
Producer
Bertrand Faivre, Bettina Brokemper
Screenplay
Rubika Shah, Ed Gibbs
DoP
Janis Mazuch
Editor
Giles Gardner
Music
Aisling Brouwer
Cast
N/A



Rubika Shah is a British-Saudi filmmaker who directed White Riot (2020), a documentary about the Rock Against Racism movement, which earned a BAFTA nomination. She later directed The Mad Dog of Europe, based on Herman J. Mankiewicz's anti-Nazi screenplay.

Festivals
Ghent Film Festival 2026 I Munich Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
Asia Premiere
Genre
History
Sales
Le Bureau Films

Vittorio De Sica - Staging Life (Vittorio De Sica - La Vita In Scena)



Italy | 2026 | Italian, French, English, Russian, Farsi | 100' | Colour

A documentary feature film about Vittorio De Sica, one of the greatest masters of world cinema. Through a new access to his family, rare archives and testimonies of contemporary artists and filmmakers from the entire world, the film retraces his life, his work and legacy. An intimate portrait of an author able to transform the observation of the real into a universal emotion. It reveals the modernity of a gaze which keeps on illuminating cinema and our way of seeing the world.

Director
Francesco Zippel
Producer
Francesco Zippel, Federica Paniccia
Screenplay
Francesco Zippel
DoP
Marco Tomaselli
Editor
Michele Castelli
Sound Designer
N/A



Francesco Zippel is an Italian documentary producer and director, known for Friedkin Uncut, Sergio Leone -The Italian Who Invented America and Volonté. Paving the Way premiered in Doha; Ellroy vs L.A. won a Nastro d' Argento.

Cast
Christian De Sica, Isabella Rossellini, Eleonora Baldwin, Ruben Östlund, Jean-Pierre Dardenne, Luc Dardenne, Brando De Sica, Maria Teresa De Sica, Andrej Zvjagincev, Andrea De Sica, Wes Anderson, Gian Luca Farinelli, Jean A. Gili, Francis Ford Coppola, Nicola Piovani, Luciano De Ambrosis, Carlo Verdone, Asghar Farhadi, Dominique Sanda, Eleonora Brown

Festivals
Cannes Film Festival 2026 | Doc lisboa International Film Festival 2026 | DMZ International Documentary Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Documentary
Sales
Fandango

CINEMA OF THE WORLD

A bouquet of outstanding contemporary cinema from all over the globe; curated meticulously for ardent cinephiles.



17

North Macedonia, Slovenia, Serbia I 2026 I Macedonian I 105' I Colour



Sara is a 17-year-old girl is hiding a secret during a school trip. When the school trip spirals out of control and she witnesses her friend Lina being sexually assaulted, the two girls try to break the cycle of casual violence. This will seal an everlasting bond between them.

Director
Kosara Mitic

Producer
Tomi Salkovski, Miroslav Mogorovic, Vlado Bulajic, Lija Pogacnik

Screenplay
Kosara Mitić, Ognjen Svilicic

DoP
Naum Doksevski

Editor
Vladimir Pavlovski

Sound Designer
Igor Popovski, Julij Zornik

Cast
Eva Kostić, Martina Danilovska, Dame Joveski



North Macedonian writer-director Kosara Mitić made short films, which screened in several festivals. Her debut feature, 17, was developed at Midpoint Feature Launch, CineLink Work in Progress at the Sarajevo Film Festival. She is an alumnus of Berlinale Talents.

Festivals
Berlinale 2026 I Sarajevo Film Festival 2026

Awards
Heart of Sarajevo for Best Actress, Special Award for Promoting Gender Equality, Sarajevo 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Drama

Sales
Totem Films

A Few Days in the Sun (Unos días al sol)

Mexico, Dominican Republic, Germany, USA I 2026 I English, Spanish I 85' I Colour



In Mexico's Riviera Maya, a wealthy European couple uses illegal ways to force a local community off land planned for development. Meanwhile, a working-class Mexican family makes a risky deal with a corrupt police officer to keep a teenager out of prison. When their paths cross, both couples become involved in a violent kidnapping that quickly gets out of control. Trapped in a harsh landscape, they must face the consequences of their actions and discover how privilege and the struggle to survive can bring them closer than they expected.

Director
Mauro Mueller

Producer
Leslie Holleran, David Figueroa García, Cristina Velasco, Rafael Elías Muñoz, Eike Goreczka, Christoph Kukula

Screenplay
David Figueroa García, Mauro Mueller

DoP
Juan Pablo Ramírez

Editor
Gilberto González Penilla, Gina Giudicelli

Sound Designer
Sebastian Schmidt



Swiss-Mexican filmmaker Mauro Mueller, a Columbia University graduate, won a Student Academy Award for A World for Raúl. His feature 111: Echoes from Halifax won the Gordon Parsons Award 2026. He co-founded Fidelio Films and is an AMPAS member.

Cast
Mabel Cadena, Matilda Lutz, Harold Torres, Costa Ronin, Benny Emmanuel, Jorge A. Jiménez, Pedro Hernández, Héctor Aníbal

Premiere Status
World Premiere

Genre
Thriller

A Place To Heal (15/18)

France I 2026 I French I 104' I Colour



Police bring the 17-year-old Lucia to the adolescent psychiatric ward in a public hospital, a place she knows all too well. Fragile bonds form between patients and caregivers, creating a delicate balance, offering rays of hope, recovery, and even laughter. But one day the arrival of Enzo, a mysterious new patient, threatens to turn everything upside down.

Director
Cédric Kahn
Producer
Alexandra Henochsberg
Screenplay
Cédric Kahn, Kahina Le Querrec
DoP
Patrick Ghiringhelli
Editor
Géraldine Mangenot
Sound Designer
Olivier Goinard, Erwan Kerzanet, Sylvain Malbrant
Cast
Malou Khebizi, Zoé Monpart, Kenji Peyran, Cédric Kahn, Sophie Guillemin, Jennifer Decker



Cédric Kahn is a French director-writer-actor, who debuted with Bar des Rails (1991), selected for the Venice Film Festival. His films include L'Ennui, winner of the Prix Louis-Delluc 1998, Roberto Succo, A Better Life, The Prayer and The Goldman Case.

Festivals
Venice Film Festival 2026 I BFI London Film Festival 2026 I Busan International Film Festival 2026

Awards
Marcello Mastroianni Award for Best Young Actor, Venice Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Drama
Sales
Charades

Al Baraneya (البرانية)

Belgium, Egypt, Netherlands, Saudi Arabia I 2026 I Arabic I 84' I Colour



Pregnant Amal lives with her family in Al Baraneya, a village near Cairo surrounded by jasmine fields. Their chaotic yet loving life is disrupted when a landowner offers to buy their land, creating tensions within the family. When Amal's cousin Rania visits from Cairo, her modern lifestyle and stories of city life captivate Amal and her younger sisters. Inspired by Rania, Amal become skeptical about her future in the village and dreams of moving to Cairo. As they consider selling their land, the family begins to question the rural life they have always known.

Director
Ashgan El-Hamus
Producer
Frank Hoeve, Kesmat Elsayad, Eurydice Gysel
Screenplay
Ashgan El-Hamus, Roelof-Jan Minneboo
DoP
Douwe Hennink
Editor
Dieter Diependaele
Sound Designer
Taco Drijfhout



A graduate of the Netherlands Film Academy, Ashgan El-Hamus is a Dutch Egyptian writer-director. Her films include Birdland, which won the Grand Prix de la Ville de Brest 2020 and Lois Lane, part of the anthology Onze Straat.

Cast
Reema Amer, Fatma Ibrahim El-Hamus, Nadia Ahmed El-Hadary, Asmaa Ahmed El-Hadary, Farida Alsayed El-Hamus, Fatma Farahat El-Hadary, Sara Ali El-Hadary, Alsayed Mohamed El-Hamus, Salma Khattab, Mostafa Noureldin

Festivals
Venice Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Drama
Sales
MAD Solutions

Anesthesia (Anestéza)

Slovakia I 2026 I Slovak I 98' I Colour



Dávid, an anesthesiologist, loses a young boy during surgery. The circumstances point to his fatigue and lack of attention as possible causes of the tragedy. Unable to cope with the guilt, he retreats to a remote village known for its pilgrimage site. There, he faces his own conscience and questions his faith and relationship with God. Set against the quiet and solemn atmosphere of the village, the story explores his inner struggle while also capturing the everyday life, humour and irony of the local community.

Director
Jaro Vojtek
Producer
Mátyás Prikler
Screenplay
Marek Leščák, Jaro Vojtek
DoP
Tomáš Stanek ASK
Editor
Martin Piga
Sound Designer
Dušan Kozák
Cast
Milan Mikulčík, Vlado Zboroň, Bronislava Kováčiková, Jevgenij Libezňuk, Éva Bandor, Szilvia Kiss, Linda Rybová, Peter Čižmár, Sofia Shakhun, Eva Landlová, Tamás Gál, Ondřej Kokorský, Jana Oľhová, István Olasz, Matej Šuba, Dorota Vojteková



A graduate of the Film and Television Faculty at Bratislava's Academy of Performing Arts, Jaro Vojtek is a Slovak filmmaker, documentary film teacher and member of the Slovak Film Academy. His films include The Border and Children. Anesthesia is his second fiction feature.

Premiere Status
World Premiere
Genre
Drama
Sales
MPhilms

Chica Checa

Czech Republic, France, Slovakia I 2026 I Czech, French I 96' I Colour



Widowed Zdena lives a quiet life as a postwoman in a small Czech village. When her beloved son Lukas returns home from France to say goodbye to his dying grandmother, his determination to make her seemingly impossible wish come true leads him to reveal a secret that challenges the values of the village: his queer life in Paris and his drag queen alter ego, Chica Checa.

Director
Šimon Holý
Producer
Alžběta Janáčková
Screenplay
Šimon Holý
DoP
Jana Hojdová, AČK
Editor
Sabina Mladenová
Sound Designer
Anna Jesenská, Samuel Škubla
Cast
Pavla Tomicová, Jan Cina, Alexandra Borbély, Erwan Kepoa Falé



A graduate from FAMU, Šimon Holý founded První řada production company. A European Film Academy member, he directed Mirrors in the Dark screened at Karlovy Vary 2021, And Then There Was Love etc. As DJ-composer, he co-created podcasts and Radio series.

Festivals
Karlovy Vary International Film Festival 2026 I European Film Festival Palic 2026 I Czech and Slovak Film Festival in Australia 2026

Awards
Audience Award & Jury Special Mention Finále Plzeň Film Festival Czech Republic 2026

Premiere Status
Asia Premiere
Genre
Comedy
Sales
Pluto Film

Children Untold (わたしの知らない子どもたち)

Japan I 2026 I Japanese I 150' I Colour



12-year-old Kotoko loses his family in war and becomes an orphan. Disguised as a boy, she meets a group of orphaned boys surviving under the protection of a local gang (yakuza). Living on the streets and among the ruins, they find a small sense of freedom. Meanwhile, Sone, her former teacher, is struggling through the post-war chaos. Pregnant with her fiancé's child, she loses her job and falls into poverty after his death. Driven by guilt and a sense of duty, Sone sets out to find Kotoko, whom she once failed to protect.

Director
Miwa Nishikawa
Producer
Daiju Koide, Taichi Ito
Screenplay
Miwa Nishikawa
DoP
Norimichi Kasamatsu
Editor
Tomomi Kikuchi
Sound Designer
Mitsugu Shiratori
Cast
Ami Koyae, Fumi Nikaido, Yutaka Takenouchi, Kaito Sakurai, Kotone Hanase



Miwa Nishikawa who worked with veterans like Hirokazu Kore-eda, debuted as director with Wild Berries in 2003. Her film, Sway, was screened at Cannes 2006 and Dear Doctor was a hit in 2009. Dreams For Sale premiered in TIFF in 2012.

Festivals
Toronto International Film Festival 2026 I Haifa International Film Festival 2026 I Rio International Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Drama, History
Sales
Intramovies

Come With Me (Anda daí)

Portugal I 2026 I Portuguese I 81' I Colour



Two actors from a theatre company on the verge of closing, wander through the streets of Lisbon after the final performance directed by their mentor, a father figure whose departure leaves them feeling lost. As they walk through the night, they talk about theatre, life, love and death. They meet unusual people, stop for drinks at a bar and even rehearse a scene. But their conversation eventually turns bitter, leading to a quarrel. Blending comedy and drama, Anda daí offers a fresh look at male friendship, grief and ageing.

Director
João Lameira
Producer
Daniel Pereira
Screenplay
João Lameira
DoP
Manuel Pinto Barros aip
Editor
Diogo Vale
Sound Designer
Martim Crawford
Cast
Adriano Carvalho, António Simão, Julie Sergeant, Jaime Freitas, Sofia Marques



João Lameira is a Portuguese writer-director. Anda daí is his first feature. He directed O Travelling de Capô, screened at DocLisboa 2021, and co-created miniseries De Mal a Pior. As a critic, he co-founded À pala de Walsh and writes for Público and Revista Ler.

Premiere Status
World Premiere
Genre
Drama

Coward

Belgium, France, Netherlands I 2026 I French, Dutch, English I 120' I Colour



As the First World War continues, Pierre, a young soldier arriving at the front, wants to prove his courage. Behind the front lines, he meets Francis, who plans a theatre show to cheer up his fellow soldiers. As the fighting goes on, both men look for moments of relief from the horrors of war.

Director
Lukas Dhont
Producer
Michiel Dhont
Screenplay
Lukas Dhont, Angelo Tijssens
DoP
Frank Van den Eeden
Editor
Alain Dessauvage
Sound Designer
Valérie De Loof, Flavia Cordey
Cast
Emmanuel Macchia, Valentin Campagne, Jef Jacobs, Willem De Schryver, Liam Jacqmin, Mistral Guidotti, Jonas Wertz, Boris Bouchat



Born in Ghent, Belgium, filmmaker Lukas Dhont studied audiovisual arts. His short films won several awards. His debut feature, Girl, exploring dance, transformation and identity, premiered at Cannes in 2018, winning the Caméra d'Or for best first feature.

Festivals
Cannes Film Festival 2026 I Toronto International Film Festival 2026 I San Sebastián International Film Festival 2026

Awards
Best Actor, Cannes Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Drama
Sales
The Match Factory

Diane In The Loop (Un Detour Par Diane)

Belgium, France I 2026 I French I 92' I Colour



Diane both hates and desires men. Her mother was raped three years before Diane was born. When Diane learns the truth, she becomes determined to avenge her mother. But her mother has a different wish: to reclaim the life she never had. As Diane wants to remember the painful past and her mother tries to forget it, tensions grow between them.

Director
Ann Sirot, Raphaël Balboni
Producer
Delphine Tomson, Jean-Pierre & Luc Dardenne (Les Films du Fleuve - Belgique), Alice Bloch (Marianne Productions - France)
Screenplay
Ann Sirot, Raphaël Balboni
DoP
Fiona Braillon
Editor
Sophie Vercruysse, Raphaël Balboni
Sound Designer
Aline Huber, Josefina Rodriguez, Laure Arto
Cast
Ninon Borsei, Sandrine Blancke, Lucas Meister, Peter Van Den Begin, Naidra Ayadi, Jo Deseure



Belgian filmmaking duo, Ann Sirot and Raphaël Balboni, have created eight short films and three features, known for quirky storytelling and spontaneous performances. Their films include Madly In Life, The (Ex)perience of Love and Diane In The Loop, which played at the 2026 Venice Film Festival.

Festivals
Venice Film Festival 2026 I Namur Francophone Film Festival 2026 I Cinémania 2026

Awards
Orizzonti Best Film Award, Venice Film Festival 2026 I Best Screenplay Award, Namur Francophone Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
Asia Premiere
Genre
Drama
Sales
Pyramide International

Djinn Wedding (Cinlerin Düğünü)

Türkiye I 2026 I Turkish I 132' I Colour



Four estranged siblings reunite in their remote Anatolian village for their sister's wedding. As the celebrations begin, memories of the past resurface, bringing old feelings and unresolved issues to light. Two of the siblings find themselves drawn back to the close bond they once shared. As family secrets emerge, they are forced to face their grief and understand the deep connections that link one generation to the next.

Director
Ferit Karahan
Producer
Ferit Karahan, Berkin Kaya, Kanat Doğramacı, Gülistan Acet Karahan
Screenplay
Ferit Karahan
DoP
Serdar Özdemir
Editor
Ferit Karahan, Marco Spoletini, Ahmet Boyacıoğlu, Yusuf Ziya Kaya, Mustafa Umut Ay
Sound Designer
Noyan Çoşarer
Cast
Demit Özdemir, Kaan Yildirim, İlhan Şen, Sarp Bozkurt, Helin Kandemir



Ferit Karahan from Eastern Anatolia is a Turkish filmmaker, who debuted with The Fall From Heaven winning the Best Film Award at the Antalya Film Festival and the Best First Film Award at the Ankara Film Festival in 2013.

Festivals
Toronto International Film Festival 2026 I Haifa International Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Drama
Sales
Luxbox

Drumskin (Cuero)

Argentina I 2026 I Spanish I 83' I Colour



Milena's life changes after her husband, Juan, is left in a vegetative state following a road accident. Two years later, while her family and friends encourage her to move on, the driver responsible is released from prison. Milena decides to follow him, setting out on a dangerous journey where revenge and desire become difficult to separate.

Director
Joaquín Cambre
Producer
Joaquín Cambre, Matías Tamborenea
Screenplay
Joaquín Cambre, Juan Pablo Basovih Marinaro
DoP
Pablo Bernst
Editor
Francisco D'Eufemia
Sound Designer
Emiliano Biaiñ, Marcos Zoppi
Cast
Justina Bustos, Daniel Elías, Silvia Pérez, Máximo Pardo



Born in Buenos Aires in 1977, Joaquin Cambre directed music videos since 2003, working with leading Spanish musicians. His debut feature, A Trip to the Moon, won Best First Film at the Mar del Plata International Film Festival 2017.

Festivals
PÖFF Black Nights 2026 I Mar del Plata IFF 2026 I CIFF Cairo 2026

Premiere Status
Asia Premiere
Genre
Drama, Psychological Thriller

From Inside Out: The Architecture of Peter Zumthor (Die Architektur von Peter Zumthor)



Germany, Switzerland I 2026 I German, Swiss, German, English I 114' I Colour

From Inside Out explores the work and creative philosophy of Swiss architect Peter Zumthor, winner of the prestigious Pritzker Prize. Filmed over 14 years, the documentary takes viewers inside his remarkable buildings through immersive 3D cinematography. From private homes to the David Geffen Galleries at LACMA in Los Angeles, it examines his attention to materials, craftsmanship and the relationship between architecture and its surroundings. Through the experiences of visitors, residents and craftspeople, the film reveals how buildings influence human emotions, memories and everyday life. It offers a fresh perspective on architecture as an experience rather than simply a physical structure.

Director
Wim Wenders
Producer
Marc Schmidheiny, Christoph Daniel, Karsten Brünig, Wim Wenders
Screenplay
Wim Wenders
DoP
Franz Lustig
Editor
Maxine Goedicke
Sound Designer
Gina Keller
Cast
Peter Zumthor, Anna Trauffer, Carin Caduff, Tarek Atoui, Karl Schlögel, Suzanne Ziellenbach, David Regehr



Born in Düsseldorf in 1945, Wim Wenders is a leading figure of New German Cinema. A filmmaker, photographer and writer, his films include Summer in the City (1970). A co-founder of Filmverlag der Autoren, he is a four-time Oscar nominee and internationally acclaimed filmmaker.

Festivals
Venice Film Festival 2026 I Busan International Film Festival 2026

Awards
Best Screenplay-International Narrative Feature, Tribeca 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Documentary
Sales
The Festival Agency

Full Phil

France, Belgium, Luxembourg I 2026 I English, French I 78' I Colour



Philip Doom, a wealthy American business magnate, tries to reconnect with his daughter Madeleine during an opulent trip to Paris. But French cuisine, a 1950s horror film, and an invasive hotel employee soon threaten to disrupt the smooth running of their stay

Director
Quentin Dupieux
Producer
Hugo Sélignac
Screenplay
Quentin Dupieux
DoP
Quentin Dupieux
Editor
Quentin Dupieux
Sound Designer
Alexis Place
Cast
Woody Harrelson, Kristen Stewart, Charlotte Le Bon



Quentin Dupieux started filmmaking at 12, using a camera to explore unconventional ideas. He directed music videos with Michel Gondry. As electronic musician Mr Oizo, he earned fame in the French Touch movement. His first film, Nonfilm, features the musician Sébastien Tellier.

Festivals
Cannes Film Festival 2026 I São Paulo International Film Festival 2026 I Viennale 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Drama, Comedy
Sales
The Festival Agency

Furies

Lebanon, Brazil I 2026 I Arabic I 133' I Colour



During Lebanon's real-life corruption-fueled economic collapse, all the banks freeze accounts overnight, trapping millions of people's life savings. Maro, a determined single mother, tries to access her own money to pay for her wild-hearted younger sister Dalia's life-saving surgery. When the bank refuses, the sisters scheme an elaborate all-night heist to reclaim what is rightfully theirs. As they recruit an ex-militia member and truck driver into their plan, it triggers a chain of events that quickly spirals out of control in a city already on the brink.

Director
Rami Kodeih
Producer
Rodrigo Teixeira, Rami Kodeih, Nora Mariana
Screenplay
Rami Kodeih, Nora Mariana
DoP
Tony Kopec
Editor
Rami Kodeih
Sound Designer
Haitham Atmeh
Cast
Maria Nakouzi, Rym Mroue, Hasan Akil, Issam Bou Khaled



Rami Kodeih is a Lebanese filmmaker born in Beirut, now based in Los Angeles. His award-winning films have screened at Cannes, BFI London and Clermont-Ferrand. A Sundance Institute and Berlinale Talents alumnus, Furies marks his feature debut.

Festivals
Venice Film Festival 2026 I Toronto International Film Festival 2026 I BFI London Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
Asia Premiere
Genre
Drama
Sales
Jai Viratra Entertainment Limited

Good Trip (Buen viaje)

Hong Kong I 2026 I Cantonese I 108' I Colour



Shan works as an art assistant on a film set and cares for her father, Kueng, who has cancer. One day, she leaves the hospital with him to fetch a large bowl from the prop studio. At Kueng's request, they continue an unexpected trip to Macau and Okinawa, helping him fulfil his wishes. After he passes away peacefully, Shan carries his memories and his courage, hope, and imagination with her.

Director
Norris Wong, Wong Hoi
Producer
Mabel Cheung
Screenplay
Norris Wong
DoP
Yu Jing Pin
Editor
Wenders Li
Sound Designer
Tu Duu-Chih
Cast
Nick Cheung, Chung Suet Ying



Norris Wong
As an MFA graduate and Hong Kong filmmaker, Norris Wong won Best New Director for My Prince Edward. She has also directed The Lyricist Wannabe.



Wong Hoi
Hong Kong writer, director and producer Wong Hoi debuted with Let It Ghost. He also produced My Prince Edward and The Lyricist Wannabe.

Festivals
Pingyao International Film Festival 2026
Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Comedy, Family
Sales
Golden Scene Company Limited (World Sales excluding Mainland China)

Goodbye Cruel World (Adieu Monde Cruel)

France, Belgium I 2026 I French I 93' I Colour



14-year-old Otto addresses a suicide letter to his family and classmates but who ultimately fails in his attempt. He goes into hiding, too ashamed to return home and, by night, he haunts the streets of his town, like a ghost. Until Léna, a girl from his high school, recognises him.

Director
Félix de Givry
Producer
Manon Messiant, Ugo Bienvenu, Félix de Givry
Screenplay
Félix de Givry, Marie Stephane Imbert
DoP
Tara Jay Bangalter
Editor
Sanabel Cherqaoui
Sound Designer
Lucas Domejean, Yannis do Couto, Flavia Cordey, Daniel Sobrino
Cast
Milo Machado Graner, Jane Beever, Françoise Lebrun, Maïa Sandoz, Emmanuelle Destremau, Erwan Kepoa Falé



A student of the Sciences Po Paris, Félix de Givry is a French writer-director-producer. After acting in Olivier Assayas's Something in the Air (2012) and Mia Hansen-Løve's Eden (2014), he directed shorts and co-wrote and produced the César-winning animation Arco.

Festivals
Cannes Film Festival 2026 I São Paulo International Film Festival 2026 I Edinburgh International Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Drama
Sales
Playtime

Ground Floor (Földszint)

Hungary, Italy I 2026 I Hungarian I 108' I Colour



Just before leaving for their summer holiday, Kristóf discovers black mold on the wall behind the wardrobe in his apartment, which he shares with his wife, Vera. Believing it is caused by a water leak somewhere in the building, he starts knocking on his neighbours' doors to find the source. What begins as a simple repair problem soon turns into a chaotic and often funny fight among the residents. As the conflict grows, Kristóf faces not only the problems of a deteriorating apartment building but also the deeper issues affecting Hungarian society.

Director
Gábor Reisz
Producer
Júlia Berkes
Screenplay
Gábor Reisz, Éva Schulze
DoP
Kristóf Becsey
Editor
Gábor Reisz
Sound Designer
Stefano Grosso, Dániel Cziczó
Cast
Ádám Tompa, Rodrigo Crespo, Bettina Józsa, Tünde Bacskó, György Gazsó, Júlia Kindl, Éva Tímár, Marcello Fonte



A graduate of film history and theory from ELTE and direction from the University of Theatre and Film Arts, Gábor Reisz is a Hungarian filmmaker who joined Cannes' residency in 2015. His Explanation for Everything won the Venice Orizzonti's Best Film in 2023.

Festivals
Venice Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Tragicomedy
Sales
Films Boutique

Hold Onto Me

Cyprus, Denmark, Greece, United States I 2025 I Greek I 102' I Colour



During summer, 11-year-old Iris spends her days roaming the streets with her older friend Danae. She learns that her estranged father, Aris, has returned to town for his father's funeral. Eager to meet him, Iris finds him living alone in a run-down shipyard. Her determination to reconnect with him gradually leads to a fragile but meaningful relationship between father and daughter.

Director
Myrsini Aristidou
Producer
Monica Nicolaidou, Myrsini Aristidou, Anders N.U Berg, Konstantina Stavrianou, Rena Vougioukalou
Screenplay
Myrsini Aristidou
DoP
Lasse Ulvedal Tolbøll
Editor
Jenna Mangula
Sound Designer
Kostas Varympopiotis
Cast
Christos Passalis,Maria Petrova



Myrsini Aristidou, a Cypriot filmmaker, studied film and art history at Pratt Institute and earned an MFA from NYU Tisch. Her award-winning shorts Semele and Aria screened at major international festivals. Hold Onto Me is her feature debut.

Festivals
Sundance Film Festival 2026 I Karlovy Vary International Film Festival 2026 I Istanbul Film Festival 2026

Awards
Audience Award-World Cinema Dramatic, Sundance Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Drama, Family
Sales
Cercamon

La Chaleur

France, Italy, Belgium, Switzerland I 2026 I French I 93' I Colour



Based on Victor Jestin's novel Heatwave, the movie follows 17-year-old Marouane who is spending the last days of a family holiday at a seaside campsite. As a heat wave sets in, a clash with another teenager leads to a death. Panicked, Marouane hides the body and tries to act normally. As suspicion grows, he struggles to hide his secret. Even as he feels drawn to Giulia, he longs only to go home.

Director
Stéphane Demoustier
Producer
Jean des Forêts, Amélie Jacquis, Sonia Rovai, André Logie, Gaetan David, Matthias Erny, Christof Neracher
Screenplay
Stéphane Demoustier
DoP
David Chambille
Editor
Damien Maestraggi
Sound Designer
Olivier Dandré, Sarah Lelu, Julie Brenta, Ingrid Simon, Emmanuel de Boissieu



Born in Lille, France, in 1977, Stéphane Demoustier directed several shorts before debuting with 40-Love (2014). The Girl with a Bracelet won a César for Best Adapted Screenplay.The Great Arch was screened in Un Certain Regard at the Cannes 2025.

Cast
Hadrien Hussein, Tristan Richard, Martina La Manna, Noé Houssard, Zakariya Gouram, Cécile Ducrocq, Marguerite Demoustier, Rida Elmanawehly

Festivals
São Paulo International Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
Asia Premiere
Genre
Drama, Thriller, Crime
Sales
Charades

Look Back (ルックバック)

Japan I 2026 I Japanese I 100' I Colour



Fujino is a talented and confident teenager who dreams of becoming a manga artist. Kyomoto, a shy girl who rarely leaves her room, spends most of her time drawing. Though they have very different personalities, their love for drawing brings them together. Over the next 13 years, the two girls from a small town work towards their dream of becoming manga artists.

Director
Hirokazu Koreeda
Producer
Daiju Koide
Screenplay
Hirokazu Koreeda
DoP
Senzo Ueno
Editor
Hirokazu Koreeda
Sound Designer
Kazuhiko Tomita
Cast
Natsuki Deguchi, Aju Makita, Furi Nanase, Rokka Okada, Masaki Suda, Kankuro Kudo, Kayo Noro



Tokyo-born Hirokazu Koreeda directed Maborosi, After Life, Nobody Knows, Still Walking, I Wish, Like Father, Like Son, Our Little Sister, The Third Murder, Shoplifters, The Truth, Broker and Monster, screened at various international festivals. He won the Jury Prize at the 66th Cannes Film Festival.

Festivals
Venice International Film Festival 2026 I Toronto International Film Festival 2026 I Busan International Film Festival 2026

Awards
Cinema & Arts Award, SIGNIS Award, CinemaSara Award, UNIMED Award, Special Mention, Fanheart3 Awards,Venice International Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Drama
Sales
Goodfellas (International), K2 Picture Inc.(Asian)

Magazine

USA I 2026 I English I 105' I Colour



At 21, Nora Miller gets an internship at Platen, one of New York's most sought-after literary magazines. She enters a world of famous writers, glamorous parties and fierce competition, hoping to find her place in it. But when she begins a secret relationship with an older editor, her career and ambitions are put at risk. Nora must decide how much she is willing to sacrifice to succeed and whether the life she wants is worth the cost

Director
Alexandra Pechman
Producer
Anne Alexander, Alexandra Pechman, Tess Cohen
Screenplay
Alexandra Pechman
DoP
Alex Ashe
Editor
Blair Mcclendon
Sound Designer
Eli Cohn
Cast
Lily McInerny, Lukita Maxwell, Joshuah Melnick, Iris Apatow, Ruby Cruz, Daniel Zolghadri, AnnaSophia Robb, Delaney Rowe, Jake Lacy, Sasha Bhasin, Alex Edelman



Alexandra Pechman is a writer-director whose debut feature, Magazine, premiered at TIFF 2026. She wrote for major studios, and directed the shorts Thumb and Sleep. A former magazine writer, she contributed to Vogue, The New York Times, Vanity Fair and The New Yorker.

Festivals
Torronto International Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Drama
Sales
Global Constellation

Mudras. Dancing To Invisible Threads (Mudras. Bailando Hilos Invisibles)

Spain, India I 2026 I Spanish, English I 77' I Colour



In the early 1990s, Spanish dancer Mónica de la Fuente travelled to India, where she discovered classical dance traditions and a new way of understanding the body and artistic expression. Thirty years later, her daughter Nazaré follows the same path, exploring her mother's memories and her own connection to this journey. Through old footage and a new dance performance, *Mudras: Dancing To Invisible Threads* brings together two generations, linking Spain and India, past and present. The film reflects on heritage, identity and the lasting influence of art, showing how dance can connect people across cultures, time and distance.

María Salgado Gispert is a Spanish documentary editor-director, specialising in dance and performing arts. She directed films for RTVE and collaborated with leading Spanish dance institutions. Her short films have screened at international festivals. Mudras is her debut feature-length documentary.

Director
Maria Salgado Gispert
Producer
Anna Saura, Marino García, Bobby Bedi
Screenplay
Monica De La Fuente
DoP
Isabel Ruiz
Editor
Maria Salgado Gispert
Sound Designer
Francisco Ruiz Musulén
Cast
Monica De La Fuente, Nazaré De La Fuente



Festivals
Festival de Cine de Málaga 2026 I Festival de Almería (FICAL) 2026 I Festival de Valladolid (Seminci) 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Documentary
Sales
Donya Tecla

Nobody's Violence (Violence du corps de l'autre)

Canada I 2026 I French I 118' I Colour



Mira is a quiet, lonely woman who travels from place to place, meeting desperate people with whom she seems to have made unusual agreements involving death. With no clear destination, she meets Madeleine and Ludo, two free-spirited people living deep in the forest. During her stay, she meets an unusual and intriguing young man who unsettles her. Taking a break from her journey, Mira begins to question her way of life and reconsider the dark agreements she has made with others.

Director
Denis Côté
Producer
Guillaume Vasseur, Gabrielle Tougas-Fréchette
Screenplay
Denis Côté
DoP
Vincent Biron
Editor
Terence Chotard
Sound Designer
Stephen De Oliveira
Cast
Larissa Corriveau, Philippe Rebbot Xavier, Bergeron Gabrielle Lazure Pierrette Robitaille, Eve Pressault, Amélie Dallaire, Christian Lapointe



Former Canadian journalist and film critic, Denis Côté made short films before debuting with Drifting States (2005). Curling won Locarno honours; Vic+Flo Saw a Bear earned Silver Bear in Berlin and Prix Albert-Tessier too won international reputation.

Festivals
Locarno International Film Festival 2026 I Bangkok International Film Festival 2026 I Doclisboa International Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Drama

Queen at Sea

UK, USA I 2026 I English, French I 121' I Colour



Amanda and her stepfather, Martin, face a difficult disagreement about Amanda's mother, Leslie, who has advanced dementia. They must decide whether Leslie can still make important decisions for herself. If she cannot, they must determine who should take responsibility for her choices: her husband, her daughter or an institution. As they struggle to make these decisions, the situation becomes increasingly complicated, with unexpected consequences.

Director
Lance Hammer
Producer
Tristan Goligher, Lance Hammer
Screenplay
Lance Hammer
DoP
Adolpho Veloso, ABC AIP
Editor
Lance Hammer
Sound Designer
Kent Sparling
Cast
Juliete Binoche, Tom Courtenay, Anna Calder- Marshall, Florence Hunt



A graduate in architecture, Lance Hammer is a Los Angeles-based filmmaker. His debut, Ballast, won Sundance's US Dramatic Directing Award, and six Independent Spirit Award nominations. His second film, Queen at Sea, stars Juliette Binoche and Tom Courtenay.

Festivals
Berlin International Film Festival 2026 I Transilvania International Film Festival 2026 I Karlovy Vary International Film Festival 2026

Awards
Silver Bear Jury Prize, Silver Bear for Best Supporting Performance I Berlinale 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Drama
Sales
The Match Factory

Serpenti

Italy I 2026 I Italian I 88' I Colour



Paolo Marra kills his wife for no clear reason. Filled with guilt, he gives himself up to the police, hoping to face punishment and restore dignity to both himself and his victim. But the police do not take him seriously, while lawyers, fortune tellers and endless paperwork make matters worse. Caught in an absurd situation, Paolo discovers that getting arrested is almost impossible. The film presents a strange and darkly comic society that refuses to listen to someone who wants to accept responsibility for his actions.

Director
Roberto de Paolis Maino
Producer
Isabella Cocuzza, Arturo Paglia, Mattia Guerra
Screenplay
Damiano D'Innocenzo, Fabio D'Innocenzo, Roberto De Paolis Maino
DoP
Gianluca Rocco Palma
Editor
Paola Freddi
Sound Designer
Antonio Barba, Francesco Vallocchia
Cast
Leonardo Lidi, Alessandro Borghi, Pietro Castellitto, Valeria Golino



Born in Rome, Roberto De Paolis Maino studied filmmaking in London and acting with Beatrice Bracco. A photographer and video artist, he directed Venice-screened shorts Bassa Marea and Alice. His films Pure Hearts and Princess premiered at Cannes and Venice.

Festivals
Mostra de Venice 2026 I Festival do Rio 2026

Premiere Status
Asia Premiere
Genre
Dark Comedy, Thriller
Sales
Elle Driver

Skintown

Ireland, UK I 2026 I English I 99' I Colour



It is the summer of 1994, and best friends Vinny and Jonty are eager to escape their small hometown of Enniskillen, Northern Ireland, which is caught in the conflict. When a ceasefire is announced, bringing hope for a better future, the two friends carry out a risky plan to leave their town behind. Just as their escape seems possible, an unexpected turn of events changes everything.

Director
Kieron J Walsh
Producer
Yvonne Donohoe, Brendan J. Byrne
Screenplay
Ciarán McMenamin
DoP
Ruairí O'Brien
Editor
John O'Connor
Sound Designer
Roberto Herrador
Cast
Jack Rowan, Chris Walley, Hope Ikpoku Jnr, Jamie Lee O'Donnell



Born in 1969 in England, Kieron J Walsh is an award-winning film and TV director. His film, The Racer, premiered at SXSW 2020 and When Brendan Met Trudy was nominated for an IFTA and premiered at Toronto.

Festivals
Edinburgh International Film Festival 2026 I Busan International Film Festival 2026 I Festival du Film Britannique de Dinard 2026

Awards
Sean Connery Award, Edinburgh 2026 I Prix Hitchcock du Public Long-Métrage, Festival Du Film Britannique De Dinard 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Drama, Comedy
Sales
Visit Films

Small Gods

Uganda, UK I 2025 I Kinyarwanda, English I 106' I Colour



Florence, a struggling single mother, finds new hope when she meets Bizimana, a charming street performer. She joins his performing troupe, where singing for international tourists gives her a chance to earn money and support her young son. As they spend time rehearsing and performing together, Florence and Bizimana fall in love. However, their happiness is short-lived when Bizimana demands a fair share of the troupe's earnings. The organiser responds by dismissing both of them. Once again, they find themselves trapped in poverty and uncertainty. As they struggle to rebuild their lives, their relationship faces a difficult test.

Director
Asher Rosen
Producer
Andreas Roald, Dan Wechsler, Ian Prior, Shema Faustin, Jack Pollington
Screenplay
Asher Rosen, Chimpaye Florence Mariserena, Bizimana Hussain, Luke Reilly
DoP
Mateusz Czuchnowski
Editor
Abolfazl Talooni
Sound Designer
Dario Swade
Cast
Chimpaye Florence Mariserena, Bizimana Hussain, Turinayo Jotham



Asher Rosen is a writer-director based in London and Kisoro. He directed the award-winning short films Meat and The Rabbi's Son, screened at BAFTA and Oscar-qualifying festivals, earning international recognition and awards.

Festivals
Beijing International Film Festival 2026 I American Black Film Festival 2026 I Zanzibar International Film Festival 2026 I Uganda Film Festival 2026 I British Urban Film Festival 2026

Awards
Best Leading actress, African Movie Academy Awards 2025 I Best Director, Beijing International Film Festival Forward Future Section 2026 I Grand Jury Prize, American Black Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Drama
Sales
Sovereign Film Distribution

Sunspots (Sonnenflecken)

Germany I 2026 I German, English I 91' I Colour



A death, a drug trip and an accident turn Marie's life upside down in a single day. She decides to return to her childhood home, her late grandmother's house in Slovakia. Accompanied by her ex-boyfriend Jerome, she begins hitchhiking. With no rules or clear plans, they travel from place to place, meeting unusual people along the way. As the journey continues, Marie takes greater risks and tests both her own limits and those of others, until things gradually spiral out of control.

Director
Anton von Heiseler

Producer
Justus Hagemann, Ben-Alexander Hüttig, Anton von Heiseler

Screenplay
Anton von Heiseler, Maximilian Rummel

DoP
Konrad Waldmann

Editor
Benedikt Strick

Sound Designer
Wenzel Krah, Maximilian Knepper, Richard Meyer

Cast
Dana Herfurth, Daniel Prussak, Michaela Caspar, Christian Maria Goebel, Bohdan Artur Świderski, Emilia von Heiseler, Jernej Kogovšek



Premiere Status
World Premiere

Genre
Drama, Road Movie

After graduating in Philosophy and Art, Anton von Heisele learned film direction at the Film University Babelsberg. 153 Meter, his debut feature film, earned a Hof Critics' Award nomination. His award-winning films have been screened at Busan, Sapporo and Flickerfest.

Tago

Georgia I 2026 I Georgian I 85' I Colour



In a remote Georgian village surrounded by misty mountains, a local man discovers the body of a young stranger on the riverbank and takes him home to his wife and young son. The arrival of this unexpected guest disturbs the family's already fragile life, forcing each member to make difficult and extreme decisions.

Director
Aleksandr Anisimov

Producer
Giorgi Bakuradze

Screenplay
Aleksandr Anisimov, Veronika Oznobishina

DoP
Alina Chebotareva

Editor
Natalya Belova

Sound Designer
Kristina Fel'k

Cast
Lasha Abuladze, Magdalena Bolqvadze, Egor Skorokhodov, Luka Tsetskhladze



Premiere Status
World Premiere

Genre
Drama

A graduate of St.Petersburg State Institute of Film and St.Petersburg School of New Cinema, Aleksandr Anisimov made short films and worked at KINOTV. He made films on Serebrennikov's Summer and Dvortsevoy's My Little One. He migrated to Georgia in 2022.

The Daughters Of Abraham (Les Filles D'Abraham)

France I 2026 I French, Arabic I 93' I Colour



After years apart, Myriam, a young woman from a Muslim background living in Marseille, reconnects with Eva, who comes from a Jewish family. During the summer holidays, they enjoy their youth and try to live beyond the limits set by their families and communities. But their carefree days come to an end when a crisis affects their families and friends, changing their lives and threatening their friendship.

Director
Hanaël El Yousfi
Producer
CG Cinéma et France 2 Cinéma
Screenplay
Hanaël El Yousfi, Raphaël Chevènement, Mia Grace Brown
DoP
Fabien Faure
Editor
Julien Lacheray
Sound Designer
Paul Le Borgne Cueff, Olivier Voisin, Elias Boughedir
Cast
Mélissa Guers, Ava Baya, Gabrielle Cohen, Bilel Chegrani, Syrus Shahidi, Jalila Talemsi, Younès Bouab, Hiba Bennani, Bryan Stora, Vanessa Liautey, Michel Mimran



Hanaël El Yousfi, born in Provence to a Moroccan heritage family, studied law before turning to filmmaking. Her award-winning short Mazel Brouk explored Jewish-Muslim relations. Her debut feature, The Daughters of Abraham, follows two young women from these communities.

Festivals
Toronto International Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Drama
Sales
Losange Films

The Fortunate Isles (Las islas afortunadas)

Spain, Greece I 2026 I Spanish, French, Arabic I 80' I Colour



In the arid Canary Islands of the 15th century, Fátima is enslaved by a decadent marquis who controls the island's only source of fresh water. When rebellion erupts and the well runs dry, she ventures into the barren landscape in search of water, giving hope of survival for the entire community.

Director
Helena Girón, Samuel Delgado
Producer
Jose Alayón, Samuel Delgado, Jairo López, José Miguel Viña, Jamie Weiss
Screenplay
Helena Girón, Samuel Delgado
DoP
Jose Alayón
Editor
Manuel Muñoz Rivas
Sound Designer
Stefanos Ethymiou, Leandros Ntounis
Cast
Luisa Ahl Laabiad, Lou Castel, Grégoire Colin, Ayoze Carrillo



Director duo, Helena Girón and Samuel Delgado, explore mythology, history and materialism focusing on the Canary Islands. Their films include They Carry Death, which premiered at Venice Critics' Week, Bloom, which screened at Rotterdam, and A Hundred-Headed Dragon, which premiered at Visions du Réel.

Festivals
Toronto Film Festival 2026 I Cinespaña Toulouse 2026 I São Paulo International Film Festival 2026

Awards
Best Direction, Cinespaña Toulouse 2026

Premiere Status
Asia Premiere
Genre
Historical Drama
Sales
Bendita Film Sales

The Quiet Applause (Aahn-ui Sohn-Bbyohk)

South Korea I 2026 I Korean I 80' I Colour



San, a 4-year-old girl, spends her days roaming freely across her family's rural sheep ranch, amidst the wonders of nature. Yet she feels that her mother gives most of her attention to her autistic older brother, Pul. One day, San overhears her father considering sending Pul to a community living home. From that moment, San begins to plot a tiny, innocent but daring plan.

Director
Byun Sung-bin
Producer
Lee Kyeong-min
Screenplay
Byun Sung-bin
DoP
Kim Woo-young
Editor
Lee Young-hoo
Sound Designer
Kim Jae-hwan
Cast
Yang Hae-bom, Yang Jo-a, Lee Han-joo, Park Ji-ho



Byun Sung-bin studied Eastern Philosophy and Film. His award-winning shorts include Horn, The Chicken of the Wuzuh, Hands and Wings and God's Daughter Dances. His debut feature, Peafowl, won the Watcha Award at the Busan International Film Festival 2022.

Festivals
Vancouver International Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
Asia Premiere
Genre
Drama
Sales
M-LINE Distribution

The Samurai and the Prisoner (Kokurojo)

Japan I 2026 I Japanese I 147' I Colour



Murashige Araki, lord of Arioka Castle, rebels against the powerful ruler Oda Nobunaga and prepares to defend his fortress. Surrounded by enemy forces, he struggles to protect the people inside while keeping his restless samurai under control. When a young samurai is murdered, a series of strange incidents creates fear and suspicion within the castle. With enemies outside and possible traitors among his own people, Murashige turns to Kanbei Kuroda, a brilliant strategist held prisoner in the dungeon, for help in uncovering the truth and solving the mysteries.

Director
Kiyoshi Kurosawa
Producer
Satoko Ishida, Takuro Owaki
Screenplay
Kiyoshi Kurosawa
DoP
Kiyoshi Kurosawa
Editor
Koichi Takahashi
Sound Designer
Mikisuke Shimadzu



Born in Kobe in 1955, Kiyoshi Kurosawa began making independent films while studying sociology. After working as an assistant director, he gained international recognition with Cure (1997). His films include Charisma, Pulse, Tokyo Sonata, Wife of a Spy and Cloud.

Cast
Masahiro Motoki, Masaki Suda, Yuriko Yoshitaka

Festivals
Cannes Film Festival 2026 I Fantasia International Film Festival 2026 I Sitges International Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Drama, Period
Sales
Charades Films(International), Shochiku Co., Ltd.(Asia)

The Shadow's Edge (Bǔ fēng zhuō yǐng)

China, Hong Kong I 2025 I Mandarin, Cantonese I 141' I Colour



A clever gang led by Fu Longsheng, known as The Shadow (Tony Leung Ka Fai), steals billions in cryptocurrency and escapes the police by hacking their advanced surveillance systems. Unable to catch the criminals using modern technology, the police turn to retired surveillance expert Wong Tak-Chung (Jackie Chan). He is brought back to train and lead an elite team known as the Adorable Unit, using old-fashioned methods to track the thieves. Set against the streets of Macau, the film follows an exciting battle of intelligence and strategy between the criminals and the police, where experience, teamwork and loyalty are put to the test.



Born in Baoquanling, Heilongjiang, China, Larry Yang is a writer, director, actor and art designer. He began his career acting in the short horror film Dimension 13. He is a graduate in film from Beijing Film Academy and the University of Edinburgh.

Director
Larry Yang
Producer
Zhang Chao, Victoria Hon
Screenplay
Larry Yang
DoP
Qian Tiantian
Editor
Zhang Yibo
Sound Designer
Wang Yanwei
Cast
Jackie Chan, Zifeng Zhang, Leung Ka Fai Tony

Festivals
International Film Festival Rotterdam 2026 I Transilvania International Film Festival 2026 I Busan International Film Festival 2025

Awards
Best Screenplay-International Narrative Feature, Tribeca 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Action
Sales
Golden Network Asia Ltd.

The State of Us

UK I 2026 I English I 89' I Colour



Set over one eventful night in Bradford, this coming-of-age drama follows two childhood friends facing love, loss and the fear of separation. Twenty-year-old Frankie is struggling with life, while his best friend Taylor is seriously ill and nearing the end of his life. Determined to keep their annual tradition alive, Frankie takes Taylor out of the hospice to watch fireworks at their favourite hilltop. As they spend the night together, Frankie confronts his deepest fears, while Taylor encourages him to find hope and choose life despite the pain of losing someone he loves.





Ollie Gardner is a theatre and film director, former Billy Elliot performer and National Theatre producer. The State of Us is his feature debut.

Jake Harvey is a producer-director whose credits include Bookish. His feature directorial debut is The State of Us.

Director
Ollie Gardner, Jake Harvey
Producer
Pippa Cross, Dylan Rees, Jake Harvey
Screenplay
Jake Harvey
DoP
Yunus Roy Imer
Editor
Abi Wright, Chris Gill A.C.E
Sound Designer
Peter Gates
Cast
Samuel Bottomley, Callum Scott Howells, Safia Oakley-Green, Frances Barber, Seamus O'Hara, Sunetra Sarker

Festivals
Edinburgh International Film Festival 2026

Awards
Sorriso Diverso Roma Award, Rome Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
Asia Premiere
Genre
Comedy, Drama

Too Many Beasts (L'espèce explosive)

France I 2026 I French I 95' I Colour



In the French countryside, farmers and hunters are in conflict as wild boars destroy crops. Brun, a grain farmer who can no longer bear the situation, suddenly disappears. A year later, a troubled police officer, Fulda, and a struggling psychologist, Stéphane, investigate his disappearance. What they discover is far more shocking than they expected. As they work together, an unexpected bond also develops between them.

Director
Sarah Arnold
Producer
Helen Olive, Martin Bertier
Screenplay
Sarah Arnold, Jérémie Dubois, Olivier Seror, Romain Winkler, Mehdi Ben Attia
DoP
Noé Bach A.F.C
Editor
Isabelle Manquillet
Sound Designer
Jérôme Petit, Raphaël Sohier, Matthieu Fichet, Marc-Olivier Brullé, Simon Apostolou



A graduate of the École Supérieure d'Audiovisuel in Toulouse, the French filmmaker Sarah Arnold has won awards for Leçon de ténèbres (2010) and Totems (2014), which was selected at Locarno. Her L'Effort commercial won France TV's Best Short Film Award in 2021.

Cast
Alexis Manenti, Ella Rumpf, Vincent Dedienne, Jean-Louis Coulloc'h, Pascal Rénéric, Bertrand Belin, Jade Fiess, Bernard Blancan, Thierry Godard, Mathieu Perotto

Festivals
Cannes Film Festival 2026 I BFI London Film Festival 2026 I Busan International Film Festival 2026
Awards
Year Europa Cinemas Label for Best European Film, Cannes Directors' Fortnight 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Drama
Sales
Book My Show

Ulya (Uļa)

Latvia, Estonia, Poland, Lithuania I 2026 I Latvian, Russian I 102' I B&W



Set in Latvia in 1964, the film follows Ulya, a teenage girl from an Old Believer family who grows up on a remote farm. Nearly two metres tall, she struggles to fit in, and her family worries about her future. When basketball coaches see her class photograph, they take her to Riga to join a well-known team. Ulya trains hard but soon realises that basketball may not give her the normal life she wants. She returns home, only to find that people there also judge her by her height. Ulya must learn to accept herself and decide whether to hide or pursue her dream of becoming a world-class basketball player.

Director
Viesturs Kairišs
Producer
Guntis Trekteris
Screenplay
Kārlis Arnolds Avots, Livia Ulman, Andris Feldmanis
DoP
Wojciech Staroń (PSC)
Editor
Armands Začs
Sound Designer
Siim Skepast
Cast
Kārlis Arnolds Avots, Chulpan Khamatova, Aleksas Kazanavičius



Born in Riga in 1971, Viesturs Kairišs graduated from the Latvian Academy of Culture. His theatre productions toured international festivals. His opera debut, Eugene Onegin, won Latvia's Grand Music Award (1999), and The Magic Flute was screened at the Venice Biennale.

Festivals
Cannes Film Festival 2026 I Jerusalem Film Festival 2026 I Cinematik International Film Festiva 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Drama
Sales
B-Rated International

Zejtune (Żejtune)

Malta, Germany, Qatar I 2026 I Maltese I 108' I Colour



After her estranged mother dies, Mar decides to leave Malta for good and sell the farmland she has inherited. While travelling across the island to claim her land, she meets Nenu, an energetic 80-year-old folk singer. His music and lively spirit make her question her decision to leave. As they grow closer, Mar begins to reconnect with her past and slowly develops a new appreciation for the homeland she once wanted to leave behind.

Director
Alex Camilleri
Producer
Oliver Mallia, Ramin Bahrani, Alex Camilleri
Screenplay
Alex Camilleri
DoP
Quentin Devillers, SBC
Editor
Alex Camilleri
Sound Designer
Ryan Billia
Cast
Michela Farrugia, Nenu Borg, Michael Azzopardi, Frida Cauchi



Maltese-American filmmaker Alex Camilleri debuted with Luzzu, premiering at Sundance 2021 and winning the Special Jury Award for Acting. Released in 20+ territories, it represented Malta at the 94th Oscars. Camilleri has also won a 2022 Independent Spirit Award and 2023 Guggenheim Fellowship.

Festivals
Tribeca Film Festival 2026 I Göteborg Film Festival 2026

Awards
Best Screenplay-International Narrative Feature, Tribeca 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Drama
Sales
Films Boutique

Open Air Screenings

CINEMA COMES ALIVE BENEATH GOA'S OPEN SKIES

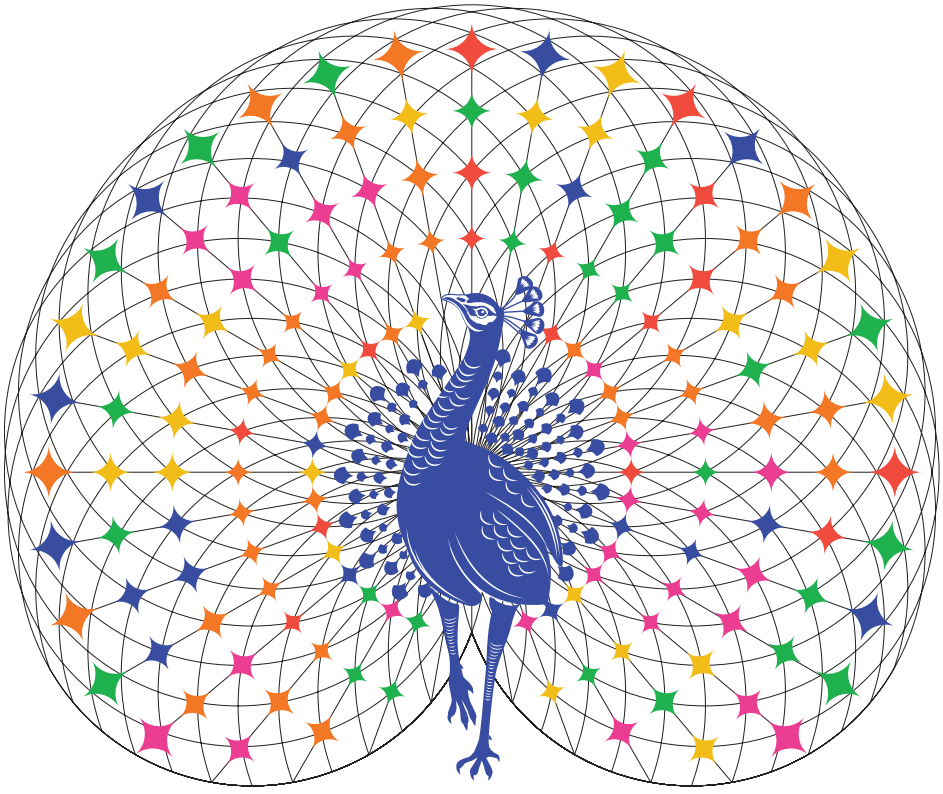
The Open Air Screenings at the 57th International Film Festival of India extend the festival experience beyond conventional theatres, bringing cinema to some of Goa's prominent outdoor locations. As an integral part of IFFI's wider programme of film and cultural activities across the state, this initiative provides residents and visitors with an opportunity to engage with cinema in accessible public spaces.

This year, a curated selection of entertaining, inspirational and family-friendly films will be screened at Miramar Beach, Ravindra Bhavan(Adjacent Open Space) and Vagator Beach (Helipad Area). Screenings at all three venues will take place between 7:00 PM and 10:00 PM.

The programme reflects IFFI's commitment to broadening access to cinema and encouraging participation beyond the festival's regular screening venues. By bringing film presentations into shared public spaces, the initiative creates opportunities for local communities, festival delegates and visitors to experience the festival together.

The Open Air Screenings also demonstrate how technological innovation can enhance film exhibition in outdoor settings. Advanced projection and sound systems transform beaches and community spaces into open-air theatres, enabling audiences to experience films with clarity and precision. Set against Goa's distinctive coastal and cultural landscapes, these facilities bring together the technical standards of contemporary cinema presentation and the unique ambience of an outdoor setting.

Whether at a beachfront venue or a community space, the screenings offer audiences an opportunity to experience cinema in an informal yet professionally presented environment. By combining accessible locations, curated programming and modern screening technology, the initiative reinforces IFFI's inclusive approach and its commitment to bringing cinema closer to audiences across Goa.



RESTORED CLASSICS

A varied collection of legendry films, restored in the past year, using the latest, cutting-edge technology.



Invasion Of The Body Snatchers

USA I 1956 I English I 80' I B&W



In the quiet town of Santa Mira, California, Dr. Miles Bennell hears reports from residents who believe their loved ones have been replaced by people who look the same but show no emotions. At first, he thinks these fears are unfounded. But he soon discovers that alien pods are creating copies of humans while they sleep. As more people are replaced, Miles and his friends race to uncover the truth and stop the invasion before it spreads further.

Director
Don Siegel
Producer
Walter Wanger
Screenplay
Daniel Mainwaring
DoP
Ellsworth Fredericks
Editor
Robert S. Eisen
Sound Designer
Ralph Butler
Cast
Kevin McCarthy, Dana Wynter, Larry Gates, King Donovan, Carolyn Jones, Jean Willes, Ralph Dumke, Virginia Christine, Tom Fadden, Kenneth Patterson and others



Don Siegel was an American director-producer- editor, known for science fiction, crime and thrillers. His films include Invasion of the Body Snatchers (1956), Dirty Harry (1971), The Shootist (1976) and Escape from Alcatraz (1979).

Festivals
Berlin International Film Festival 1991 I Locarno International Film Festival 1985, 2015

Awards
Entered in National Film Registry, National Film Preservation Board 1994

Premiere Status
Asia Premiere
Genre
Science Fiction, Horror, Thriller
Sales
Jonetsu Entertainment

Sunrise: A Song Of Two Humans

USA I 1927 I English Intertitles I 94' I B&W



This silent film (with synchronised sound) follows a farmer tempted by a woman from the city, who persuades him to drown his wife and start a new life with her. Unable to carry out the plan, he reconciles with his wife during a trip to the city. On their return, a storm overturns their boat, and the wife disappears. Believing she is dead, the farmer is overcome with grief. When news arrives that she has survived, he rushes to her side. Their reunion offers hope of forgiveness, love and a fresh beginning.

Director
Friedrich Wilhelm Murnau
Producer
Fox Film Corporation
Screenplay
Carl Mayer
DoP
Charles Rosher, Karl Struss
Editor
Harold D. Schuster
Cast
George O'Brien, Janet Gaynor, Margaret Livingston, Bodil Rosing, J. Farrell MacDonald, Arthur Housman



German writer-director F. W. Murnau pioneered silent cinema with Nosferatu in 1922, The Last Laugh (1924) and Faust (1926). In Hollywood, he directed Sunrise, 4 Devils and City Girl, before making Tabu in Bora Bora.

Festivals
Budapest Classics Film Marathon 2026 I China Film Archive Classic Film Festival 2026 I Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Drama
Sales
San Francisco Film Preserve

To Be Or Not To Be

USA I 1942 I English, German I 99' I B&W



To Be Or Not To Be is a black comedy set in Nazi-occupied Warsaw, where a Polish theatre troupe led by the Tura couple uses acting and disguises to trick the Gestapo and help the Polish resistance. The actors must deliver the performance of their lives to survive and save others.

Director
Ernst Lubitsch
Producer
United Artists Pictures
Screenplay
Edwin Justus Mayer, Ernst Lubitsch
DoP
Rudolph Maté
Editor
Dorothy Spencer
Sound Designer
Frank Maher
Cast
Carole Lombard, Jack Benny, Robert Stack, Felix Bressart, Lionel Atwill, Stanley Ridges, Sig Ruman



Ernst Lubitsch was a German filmmaker known for sophisticated Hollywood comedies, earning the reputation of having the "Lubitsch touch." His films include Trouble in Paradise, Ninotchka, The Shop Around the Corner and To Be or Not to Be, blending romance, satire and social commentary.

Festivals
Venice Film Festival 2026 I Locarno International Film Festival 1995

Awards
Entered National Film Registry, National Film Preservation Board 1996

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Comedy, War, Romance
Sales
StudioCanal (Jean-Pierre Boiget, Sophie Boyer)

Trainspotting

UK I 1996 I English I 94' I Colour



Mark Renton is a clever, funny guy, who is often unwell, and sometimes completely unaware of his actions. His story follows a group of friends who are mostly liars, thieves, troublemakers and drug addicts. As they struggle with addiction and their own problems, their friendship slowly falls apart. Mark has a chance to escape this life, but the question remains: does he really want to choose a better future

Director
Danny Boyle
Producer
Andrew Macdonald
Screenplay
John Hodge
DoP
Brian Tufano B.S.C
Editor
Masahiro Hirakubo
Sound Designer
Jonathan Milelr
Cast
Ewan Mcgergor, Ewen Bremner, Jonny Lee Miller, Kevin Mckidd, Robert Carlyle, Kelly Macdonald



British filmmaker Danny Boyle gained international fame with Trainspotting (1996). His films include 28 Days Later, Sunshine, and 127 Hours. His Indian-set film Slumdog Millionaire won Oscars for Best Director, Music by A. R. Rahman, and Sound Mixing by Resul Pookutty.

Festivals
Cannes Film Festival 1996 I Karlovy Vary International Film Festival 2026

Awards
Best Adapted Screenplay, BAFTA Awards 1996 I Best Director, Seattle International Film Festival 1996

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Drama, Crime, Cult, Comedy
Sales
Park Circus

Wild At Heart

USA I 1990 I English I 125' I Colour



Sailor Ripley and Lula Fortune are passionate young lovers who set off on a road trip across the US, seeking freedom and a life together. When Lula's disapproving mother, Marietta, conspires to separate them and hires people to kill Sailor, their journey becomes increasingly dangerous. Blending romance, crime, dark humour and surreal imagery, David Lynch's Wild at Heart explores love, violence and rebellion against a disturbing, dreamlike landscape.

Director
David Lynch

Producer
Monty Montgomery, Steve Golin, Sigurjón Sighvatsson

Screenplay
David Lynch

DoP
Frederick Elmes

Editor
Duwayne Dunham

Sound Designer
Randy Thom

Cast
Nicolas Cage, Laura Dern, Willem Dafoe, J. E. Freeman, Crispin Glover, Diane Ladd, Calvin Lockhart, Isabella Rossellini, Harry Dean Stanton and others



David Lynch was an acclaimed US writer-director and artist renowned for his unconventional narrative. His films include Eraserhead, Blue Velvet, Mulholland Drive, and The Elephant Man. His film Wild at Heart won the Palme d'Or at the Cannes Film Festival in 1990.

Festivals
Cannes Film Festival 1990 I Locarno International Film Festival 1990, 2026 I Edinburgh International Film Festival 1990

Awards
Palme d'Or, Cannes Film Festival 1990 Independent Spirit Award, Best Cinematography 1991

Premiere Status
International Premiere

Genre
Dark Comedy, Psychological Drama, Crime

ANDRZEJ WAJDA CENTENARY TRIBUTE

Celebrating the centenary of the great Polish auteur with 5 of his masterpiece classics.





Andrzej Wajda

Andrzej Wajda (1926–2016) was one of Poland's most influential filmmakers and a leading figure in world cinema. His work explored the country's history, national identity and political struggles, examining how historical events shape individual lives and collective memory. His early films, including A Generation (1955), Kanal (1957) and Ashes and Diamonds (1958), helped establish the Polish Film School. Later works, such as Man of Marble (1977) and Man of Iron (1981), confronted political power and social change. Wajda received the Palme d'Or at Cannes and an Academy Honorary Award for his contribution to cinema.

Kanal (Kanał)



Poland I 1956 I Polish I 95' I B&W

During the final days of the 1944 Warsaw Uprising, Lieutenant Zadra leads a small unit through the city's sewers in a desperate attempt to reach safety. The soldiers encounter toxic air, corpses, disorientation and German forces at every exit. As Zadra struggles to decide whether to continue towards freedom or turn back for the wounded, the group's journey becomes a harrowing fight for survival. Based on writer Jerzy Stefan Stawiński's experience as a soldier in the uprising, the film combines documentary-like realism with apocalyptic drama.

Director
Andrzej Wajda
Producer
Zespół Filmowy „Kadr"
Screenplay
Jerzy Stefan Stawiński
DoP
Jerzy Lipman
Editor
Halina Nawrocka
Sound Designer
Józef Bartczak
Cast
Teresa Iżewska, Tadeusz Janczar, Wieńczysław Gliński, Tadeusz Gwiazdowski, Stanisław Mikulski

Festivals
Cannes International Film Festival 1957

Awards
Jury Prize, Cannes International Film Festival 1957

Genre
War, Drama
Sales
Wytwórnia Filmów Dokumentalnych i Fabularnych

Ashes and Diamonds (Popiół I Diament)



Poland I1958 I Polish I 99' I B&W

In the final days of World War II, young Polish Home Army soldier Maciek Chełmicki is ordered to assassinate a communist party official. At a hotel, he meets Krystyna, a barwoman, and finds himself torn between his duty and a budding romance. As celebrations mark the end of the war, Maciek must choose between his mission and the possibility of another life. The consequences prove tragic in a story of moral ambiguity and Poland's uncertain transition from wartime resistance to communist rule.

Director
Andrzej Wajda
Producer
Zespół Filmowy „Kadr"
Screenplay
Andrzej Wajda, Jerzy Andrzejewski
DoP
Jerzy Wójcik
Editor
Halina Nawrocka
Sound Designer
Bohdan Bieńkowski
Cast
Zbigniew Cybulski, Ewa Krzyżewska, Wacław Zastrzeżyński, Adam Pawlikowski, Bogumił Kobiela

Festivals
Venice International Film Festival 1959

Awards
FIPRESCI Award, Venice International Film Festival 1959

Genre
Drama
Sales
Wytwórnia Filmów Dokumentalnych i Fabularnych

The Promised Land (Ziemia Obiecana)



Poland I 1974 I Polish I 179' I Colour

Set in 19th-century Lodz, the film follows Karol Borowiecki, an ambitious Polish engineer who dreams of owning a textile factory. He teams up with two friends, a German mill owner and a Jewish businessman, to make money from a predicted rise in cotton prices. However, personal affairs, rising costs, business rivals and workers' protests threaten their plans. Andrzej Wajda's film, based on Władysław Reymont's novel, portrays the struggle for wealth during a period of rapid industrial growth and social change.

Director
Andrzej Wajda
Producer
Zespół Filmowy „X"
Screenplay
Andrzej Wajda
DoP
Witold Sobociński, Edward Kłosiński, Wacław Dybowski
Editor
Halina Prugar-Ketling, Zofia Dwornik
Sound Designer
Krzysztof Wodziński, Leszek Wronko
Cast
Daniel Olbrychski, Wojciech Pszoniak, Andrzej Seweryn, Kalina Jędrusik, Anna Nehrebecka-Człowacka

Festivals
Locarno Film Festival 1975 I Moscow International Film Festival 1975

Awards
Golden Prize, Moscow International Film Festival 1975

Genre
Drama
Sales
Wytwórnia Filmów Dokumentalnych i Fabularnych

Man of Marble (Człowiek z marmuru)



Poland I 1976 I Polish I 153' I Colour

Agnieszka, a young film student, sets out to make a graduation documentary about Mateusz Birkut, a once-celebrated "shock worker" held up by 1950s Stalinist propaganda. By interviewing people who knew him and tracking down archival footage, she uncovers contradictions in the official story. Her investigation brings her into conflict with the authorities, who seize her equipment and shut down the production. Undeterred, Agnieszka follows new leads to Birkut's son and continues her search for the truth.

Director
Andrzej Wajda
Producer
Zespół Filmowy „X"
Screenplay
Aleksander Ścibor-Rylski
DoP
Edward Kłosiński
Editor
Halina Prugar-Ketling
Sound Designer
Piotr Zawadzki
Cast
Krystyna Janda, Jerzy Radziwiłowicz, Tadeusz Łomnicki, Jacek Łomnicki, Michał Tarkowski

Festivals
Cannes International Film Festival 1978 I Polish Film Festival, Gdańsk 1977

Awards
FIPRESCI Award, Cannes International Film Festival 1978

Genre
Political Drama
Sales
Wytwórnia Filmów Dokumentalnych i Fabularnych

Afterimage (Powidoki)



Poland I 2016 I Polish I 98' I Colour

Set in post-war Poland, the film follows Wladyslaw Strzemiński, a respected painter and teacher who refuses to change his artistic style to please the Communist government. Although his students admire him, the authorities dismiss him from his job and remove him from the artists' union. He continues to share his ideas through private lessons, supported by loyal students. But without work, Strzemiński struggles with poverty and poor health. Despite his difficulties, he remains committed to his beliefs and refuses to compromise his art.

Director
Andrzej Wajda
Producer
Michał Kwieciński
Screenplay
Andrzej Mularczyk
DoP
Paweł Edelman
Editor
Grażyna Gradoń
Sound Designer
Maria Chilarecka, Kacper Habisiak, Marcin Kasiński
Cast
Bogusław Linda,Zofia Wichłacz, Andrzej Konopka, Krzysztof Pieczyński, Szymon Bobrowski, Mariusz Bonaszewski, Anna Majcher, Paulina Gałązka

Festivals
Toronto International Film Festival 2016 I Transilvania International Film Festival 2017 I Edinburgh International Film Festival 2017

Genre
Biography, Drama
Sales
Akson Studio

COUNTRY OF HONOUR SPAIN

An especially curated selection of the best of Spanish cinema today.



Bitter Christmas (Amarga Navidad)

Spain I 2026 I Spanish I 112' I Colour



Raúl is a cult filmmaker struggling to find ideas for his next film. When one of his close collaborators dies, he uses the tragedy as inspiration for a new script. As he writes, he creates Elsa, a filmmaker working on her own story, whose experiences begin to resemble his. Gradually, the lives of the two characters overlap, blurring the line between fiction and reality. Through this story, the film explores the risks of using personal experiences and real events in filmmaking, asking how much of someone's life a filmmaker can reveal in the search for an honest story.

Director
Pedro Almodóvar
Producer
Agustín Almodóvar
Screenplay
Pedro Almodóvar
DoP
Pau Esteve Birba
Editor
Teresa Font (Amae)
Sound Designer
Sergio Bürmann
Cast
Bárbara Lennie, Leonardo Sbaraglia, Aitana Sánchez-Gijón, Victoria Luengo, Patrick Criado, Milena Smit, Quim Gutiérrez



Pedro Almodóvar is a two time Oscar-winning Spanish filmmaker known for exploring identity, desire, family and relationships through dark humour and distinctive visuals. His films include Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown, All About My Mother, Talk to Her, and Volver

Festivals
Cannes Film Festival 2026 I Toronto International Film Festival 2026 I San Sebastián International Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Drama, Comedy
Sales
Book My Show

Looking for Michael (Persiguiendo a Michael)

Spain I 2026 I Spanish I 100' I Colour



Looking for Michael tells the story of Sonia, a young woman diagnosed with Parkinson's disease. Instead of giving in to fear and sadness, she decides to live life differently. With the support of her music therapy group, whose members also live with the disease, and their teacher Pedro, Sonia sets out on a journey to meet Michael J. Fox, one of the best-known people living with Parkinson's.

Director
Juana Macías
Producer
Kiko Martínez
Screenplay
Marta Libertad
DoP
Manel Aguado
Editor
María Macías
Sound Designer
Vicent Ortiz Gimeno
Cast
Nuria Herrero, Miche Noher, Lorena López, Paco Tous, Vito Sanz, Sara Robisco



A graduate in Audiovisual Communication from Complutense University of Madrid, Juana Macías is a Spanish writer-director. She won a Goya Award in 2000 for the short film Siete cafés por semana and earned a Goya nomination for Best New Director for Planes para mañana in 2010.

Premiere Status
World Premiere
Genre
Comedy, Drama
Sales
Filmax

The Bad Son (El Mal Hijo)

Spain I 2026 I Spanish I 106' I Colour



Eleven-year-old Rubén lives with his father in a suburbs until his father suddenly disappears. Rubén then moves in with his grandmother, a woman he hardly knows and with whom he must learn to live with. In a place where time seems to be still, their relationship gradually reveals a family history shaped by wounds passed down through generations. As Rubén grows older, he tries to understand this past has shaped his life. By facing the painful memories, he searches for a way to break the cycle, and heal the emotional wounds inherited from earlier generations.

Director
Jaime Lorente
Producer
Frank Ariza, Manu Vega, Carmen Aguado
Screenplay
Salvador S. Molina
DoP
Elías M. Félix AEC
Editor
Regino Hernández AMMAC
Sound Designer
Steve Miller, Juan Ferro
Cast
Miguel Ángel Puro, Susi Sánchez



Jaime Lorente is a Spanish actor-director known for La casa de Papel, 42 Segundos, Disco, Ibiza and La Silla. He worked with Asghar Farhadi and Dani de la Torre. El Mal Hijo, based on a novel, is his directorial debut.

Festivals
San Sebastian International Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
Asia Premiere
Genre
Drama
Sales
Film Factory Entertainment

Trinidad

Spain I 2025 I Spanish, English I 115' I Colour



In the late 19th century, Trinidad, a young Spanish woman flees to the Wild West and discovers an extraordinary talent with firearms. Accused of a crime she did not commit, she gathers an unusual gang of female outlaws and embarks on an adventure filled with action, danger and revenge.

Director
Laura Alvea, José Ortuño
Producer
Silvia Carvalho
Screenplay
Laura Alvea, José Ortuño
DoP
David Azcano
Editor
Fátima de los Santos, Carlos Crespo Arnold
Sound Designer
Miguel Herrera
Cast
Gabriela Andrada, Karla Sofía Gascón, Milena Smit, Guillermo Bedward



Laura Alvea:
Born in Sevilla, Spain, in 1976, she is the director of La chica de Nieve, La Peste and Arde Madrid!.



José Ortuño:
A Spanish writer-director known for Mamacruz and 548 Días: Captada Por Una Secta. Alvea and Ortuño have co-directed Ánimas and Fernando Torres.

Premiere Status
World Premiere

Genre
Action, Adventure

Sales
Deep Com Roots

NFDC
cinemas of india

सूचना एवं प्रसारण मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
INFORMATION AND
BROADCASTING

FILM IN INDIA
इंडिया सिने हब
INDIA CINE HUB

India Cine Hub

Simplifying Filming, Amplifying Cinema
Your Single-Window Filming Destination in India



For more information contact
India Cine Hub

www.indiacinehub.gov.in
ich@nfdcindia.com

PARTNER COUNTRY RUSSIA

A spectrum of films from Russia that truly reflects its rich cinematic traditions.



Bo Bo (Бо Бо)

Russia I 2026 I Russian I 98' I Colour



Nadia was born with a large, maroon hemangioma on her face. Living in a rural village, she faces constant hostility and ridicule. Even her family rejects her true self: her grandmother relies on religious rituals to cure her, while her mother obsessively dreams of a Moscow surgery. Meanwhile, Nadia just wants to sing in a choir. After a series of troubles, she ends up in a Moscow hospital, meeting children with similar conditions. However, removing the physical mark changes nothing in her family's dynamic. Ultimately, they realise the true problem was never her birthmark but their own inner attitudes.

Director
Anastasia Kuzina
Producer
Aleksandr Prosianov
Screenplay
Anastasia Kuzina
DoP
Innokentii Smirnov
Editor
Anastasia Kuzina
Sound Designer
Evgenii Pereyaslavtsev
Cast
Daria Alkhova, Aleksandr Tsyganov, Marina Lebedeva, Olga Lapshina



Graduated from the Russian State University of Cinematography, Anastasia Kuzina is a Russian director- writer- editor. During her studies, she was trained by directors Alexei Fenchenko and the Kott brothers. Her short films got screened at St. Petersburg festival.

Festivals
Pingyao International Film Festival 2026 I Koroche Film Festival 2026

Awards
Special Mention, Koroche Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Drama

Cherry Town (Cheryomushki)

Russia I 1962 I Russian I 91' I Colour



Cheryomushki is a Soviet musical comedy-drama based on Dmitri Shostakovich's 1959 operetta Moscow, Cheryomushki. Set in post-war Moscow, it follows four couples hoping to escape their cramped homes by moving into new apartments in the Cheryomushki housing estate. Young architect Lida Baburova and her father are among the new residents. However, their hopes are threatened when building manager Barabashkin and corrupt official Drebednev manipulate apartment allocations for their own benefit. The residents join forces to expose the corruption and reclaim their homes, leading to a joyful musical ending. The film uses humour and music to highlight Moscow's housing shortage and bureaucratic corruption.

Director
Herbert Rappaport
Producer
Lenfilm Studio
Screenplay
Vladimir Mass, Mikhail Chervinsky
DoP
Anatoly Nazarov
Editor
K. Kozyreva
Sound Designer
Dmitri Shostakovich
Cast
Olga Zabotkina, Vladimir Vasiliev, Vladimir Zemlyanikin, Vasili Merkuryev, Yevgeny Leonov, Rina Zelyonaya, Sergei Filippov



Herbert Rappaport was an Austrian-born Soviet writer-director. After assisting G. W. Pabst, he moved to the Soviet Union in 1936 and worked at Lenfilm. His films include Professor Mamlock, Musical Story and Cheryomushki, based on Shostakovich's operetta.

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Musical
Sales
Lenfilm Studio

New Home (Novyy Dom)

Russia I 2026 I Russian I 101' I Colour



After spending seven years in prison, Anna is released with nothing to return to. She has no money, family or direction in life. Social services help her find a job, accommodation and a support group, where she meets Roman. With his support, she begins to understand that rebuilding her life means facing her past and inner struggles. Anna must now make a difficult choice that could change her future.

Director
Nikita Grushin
Producer
Katia Filippova
Screenplay
Nikita Grushin
DoP
Ekaterina Smolina
Editor
Ekaterina Volkova
Sound Designer
Mikhail Ogonkov
Cast
Daria Savelyeva, Petar Zekavica, Aleksandr Yatsenko



Born in 1989 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, Nikita Grushin studied directing at the Saint Petersburg School of New Cinema and screenwriting at the Moscow School of New Cinema. His short films was screened at international festivals, including Moscow and Go Short.

Premiere Status
World Premiere
Genre
Drama

Sidney Lumet's Birthday (День рождения Сидни Люмета)

Russia I 2025 I Russian I 92' I Colour



Dato, a 17-year-old Georgian, and his grandmother are trying to find common ground in the ruins of a once-large family. Everything goes according to plan, until Dato's mother appears on the doorstep after a long gap. The drama of growing up is about how to remain human in spite of everything.

Director
Raul Geidarov
Producer
Alexey Uchitel, Anastasia Akopyan, Kira Saksaganskaya
Screenplay
Raul Geidarov, Lydia Yartseva
DoP
Sasha Neguch
Editor
Mukharam Kabulova, Maria Revyakina, Maria Epifanova
Sound Designer
Mikhail Ogonkov
Cast
Artem Koshman, Marietta Tsigal-Polishchuk, Julietta Stepanyan, Jan Garakhmanov, Artem Fedotov, Kazbek Bagayev



Born in 1990 in Abinsk-Krasnodar, Raul is a Russian filmmaker. After graduating in geology, he studied direction at VGIK (Kott-Fenchenko class). His short films have participated in many festivals. Sidney Lumet's Birthday is his debut feature film.

Festivals
Vyborg National Film Festival 2025 I Shanghai International FIlm Festival 2026

Awards
Grand Jury Prize, Vyborg National Film Festival 2025

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Drama
Sales
Eastwood Agency

Accessibility at IFFI: Cinema for All

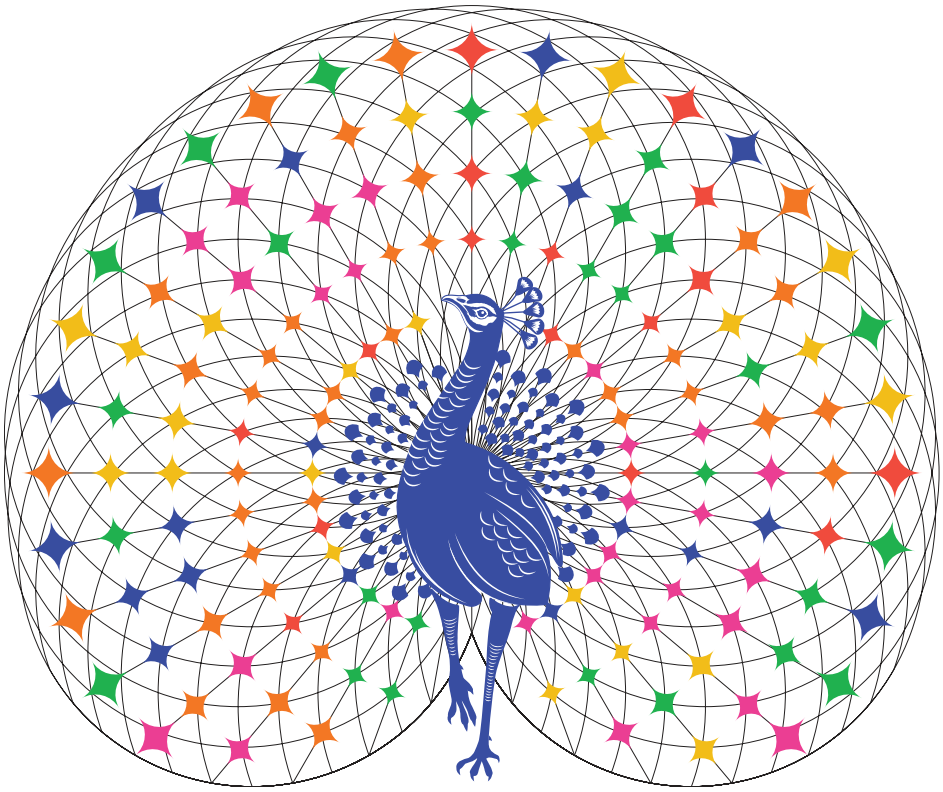
The International Film Festival of India (IFFI) believes that cinema is a universal medium of expression and storytelling, meant to be experienced and enjoyed by everyone. Upholding the spirit of entertainment for all, IFFI continues to strengthen its commitment towards creating an inclusive, welcoming and accessible festival experience for audiences from all walks of life.

Accessibility at IFFI goes beyond the screening of films. It encompasses an inclusive approach to film viewing, festival venues, events, interactions and digital platforms, ensuring that all can participate in and enjoy the festival.

Over the years, IFFI has undertaken several initiatives to make cinema more accessible, including screenings featuring audio descriptions, subtitles, closed captions and Indian Sign Language. Efforts have also been made to facilitate accessible festival spaces, provide sign language interpretation at selected events and enhance assistance for delegates and visitors with diverse accessibility needs.

Through collaborations with accessibility partners and the adoption of assistive technologies, IFFI continues to explore ways of bridging barriers and making the cinematic experience more inclusive. These efforts recognise that every individual should have an equal opportunity to engage with films, interact with the filmmaking community and be part of the larger celebration of cinema.

IFFI remains committed to advancing accessibility across the festival, reaffirming its belief that cinema has no barriers and that the joy of storytelling belongs to everyone.



FILMS FROM BRICS

A showcase of contemporary cinema, as practiced in the 11 BRICS member countries and the 10 partner countries.



Ramayana: Rise of a Legend (Part 1)

Opening Film

India I 2026 I Hindi I 195' I Colour



The immortal story of Rama and Ravana defined a culture and moved generations. It now arrives as a cinematic landmark of our time. Ramayana is a timeless saga reborn through the lens of modern Indian cinema.

Director
Nitesh Tiwari
Producer
Namit Malhotra
Screenplay
Shridhar Raghavan, Nitesh Tiwari, Shreyas Jain
DoP
Pankaj Kumar, Mahesh Limaye
Editor
Huzefa Lokhandwala
Sound Designer
Hayden Collow, Pritam Das, Chris Diebold, M.S. Aravind
Cast
Ranbir Kapoor, Yash, Sai Pallavi, Ravi Dubey, Sunny Deol



Born in 1973, Nitesh Tiwari is an Indian writer, director and lyricist. He co-directed Chillar Party, winner of the National Film Award for Best Children's Film. His films include Bhoothnath Returns and Dangal, a major international box-office success.

Festivals
Busan International Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Action , Adventure , Drama , Mythological

1982

Vietnam I 2026 I Vietnamese I 88' I Colour



Yến, a filmmaker struggling with financial problems, tries to balance caring for her mother, who has Alzheimer's, with the demands of her own troubled family. When her mother disappears amid disagreements over selling the family home, Yến and her two siblings set out to find her. Their search brings old secrets and unresolved family tensions to the surface. A year later, Yến enters a forest with her 16mm camera and encounters an ageing mother elephant. As she calls out "Mom!", a faint voice answers from the distance, leading her into a strange and dreamlike world.

Director
Nguyen Hoang Diep
Producer
Nguyen Hoang Diep
Screenplay
Nguyen Hoang Diep
DoP
Sven Zellner
Editor
Pham Hong Hao Nhien
Sound Designer
Vu Thanh Long
Cast
Do Thi Hai Yenguyen Thi Chieu Xuan, Nguyen Thuy Anh, Nguyen Truong Khang, Bui Thac Phong



Nguyễn Hoàng Điệp is a Vietnamese producer-director. Her debut, Flapping in the Middle of Nowhere, won the Best Film Award at Venice Critics' Week 2014 and Best Director at Bratislava. She produced Rom, winning Busan's New Currents Award 2019.

Festivals
Busan International Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Drama, Thriller

9 Temples to Heaven (Kao Wat Su Sawan)

Thailand, Singapore, France, Norway, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Qatar I 2026 I Thai I 141' I Colour



After hearing a prophecy that his elderly mother may die soon, Sakol sets out on a one-day pilgrimage to nine temples as a remedy. Just two weeks before her birthday, he brings his ailing mother, along with his wife, brother, sister, and children, on the journey, moving through the splendor of Thai temple architecture. From one temple to another, the nine family members continue their rituals, while the grandmother of the family grows increasingly weary, both physically and mentally.

Director
Sompot Chidgasornpongse
Producer
Kissada Kamyoung, Apichatpong Weerasethakul
Screenplay
Sompot Chidgasornpongse
DoP
Jonathan Ricquebourg
Editor
Tham Kattiyakul, Jirapat Mekkrajai, Daniel Hui, Sompot Chidgasornpongse
Sound Designer
Akritchalerm Kalayanamitr, Chalermrat Kaweewattana, Lim Ting Li
Cast
Amara Ramnarong, Surachai Ningsanond, Jirawut Chiwaruck, Yaneenan Jiraphatjittrin, Klaichan Phunman, Sompop Songkampol, Poon Sirapob, Yada Karnjanisakorn, Nichmon Shintadapong



Bangkok-based Chidgasornpongse (Boat) studied architecture at Chulalongkorn University and earned an MFA from California Institute of the Arts. His debut documentary, Railway Sleepers, premiered in Busan and Berlin. He has worked as assistant director to Apichatpong Weerasethakul on several films.

Festivals
Cannes Film Festival 2026 I BFI London Film Festival 2026I

Awards
Sutherland Award, First Feature Competition, BFI London Film Festival 2026

Genre
Drama
Sales
Playtime

Amadeo and the Hypothetical New World (Amadeo e o Hipotético Mundo Novo)



Brazil I 2026 I Portuguese I 104' I Colour

Set in the 19th century, when slavery still exists, the story follows Amadeo, a brilliant young African man, who invents the camera before the Europeans do. He uses his creation to help liberate enslaved people, all while struggling with his impossible love for the daughter of a powerful baron. Unable to overcome the pain of love, he throws himself deeper into work, determined to perfect his invention.

Director
Brenda Lígia, Edu Felistoque
Producer
Edu Felistoque
Screenplay
Brenda Lígia, Edu Felistoque
DoP
Gab Felistoque, Will Prado
Editor
Thais Zanoni, Edu Felistoque
Sound Designer
Marcelo Cyro, Fernando Ianni, Rodrigo "Funai" Costa
Cast
Sérgio Menezes, Naruna Costa, Edmilson Filho, Paolla Oliveira, Antônio Fagundes, Adriana Lessa



Brenda Lígia.A graduate in social communication, Brenda Lígia is a director, writer and actress. Amadeo is her animation debut featuring her son Raul's voice as young Amadeo.



Edu Felistoque is a Brazilian director, writer, producer and cinematographer. He has directed award-winning works in cinema, TV and online spaces.

Festivals
Shanghai International Film Festival 2026 I Brasília Film Festival 2026 I Tokyo International Film Festival 2026
Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Adventure, Historical, Comedy, Drama, Romance, Animation
Sales
Burdigala Production

And the Snow was Falling (Ee Pah-dahl Snyek)

Belarus I 2026 I Russian I 80' I Colour



Ricard is a brave knight guarding his king's lands. During a patrol, he discovers that winter is approaching. But winter brings more than cold; it also brings terrifying human-like creatures called Fireflies. To save his people, Ricard sets out to find a new home in unknown lands. Along the way, he makes discoveries that challenge everything he has believed about the world.

Director
Andrei Egorov
Producer
Andrei Egorov
Screenplay
Andrei Egorov
DoP
Rastsislau Saukin
Editor
Andrei Egorov
Sound Designer
Andrei Egorov
Cast
Andrei Egorov, Nikita Protko, Ilya Alekseyevich, Rastsislau Saukin, Lizaveta Saukina, Andrei Dzenisenka



An auto-mechanical engineer by profession, Andrei Egorov is a self-taught Belarusian filmmaker who pursues cinema. After making short films, he moved into low-budget features. His debut feature, Echo 2026, received a limited theatrical release in Minsk.

Festivals
Catacombs Film Festival 2026 I Bakunawa Fest 2026 I Peshawar International Film Festival 2026.I

Awards
Winner, Catacombs Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Drama, Sci-Fi, Action, Adventure, Horror

Baab (باب)

UAE I 2026 I Arabic I 97' I Colour



Since her twin sister Nisma died, Wahida has struggled to overcome her grief. She suffers from constant ringing in her ears. One day, she finds a set of cassette tapes that may explain what happened to Nisma. She begins investigating to discover the truth about her sister's death.

Director
Nayla Al Khaja
Producer
Nayla Al Khaja, Sultan Saeed Al Darmaki, Jude S. Walko
Screenplay
Nayla Al Khaja, Masoud Amralla Al Ali
DoP
Rogier Stoffers
Editor
Sebastian Funke
Sound Designer
Krishnan Subramanian
Cast
Shaimaa El Fadul, Huda Alghanem,.Meera Almidfa, Mansoor Alnoamani, Sabiha Majgaonkar, Elham Al Marzooqi



Nayla Al Khaja, the first female film director in the UAE, debuted through Three (2024),which was widely released.including Turkey. Her latest feature, Baab, is a psychological drama that balance horror and beauty and explore social stigma and personal transformation.

Festivals
Cairo International Film Festival 2025 I Berlin Women Cinema Festival 2025 I Belgrade International Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
Asia Premiere
Genre
Psychological Drama, Mystery

Baga: Tomorrow Belongs to No One (Baga: Esok Untuk Siapa)



Malaysia I 2026 I Malay I 94' I Colour

Set in a conservative seaside village on Malaysia's East Coast, Baga follows Jani and Melur, a young couple who dream of building a life together. When an unexpected pregnancy forces them to make difficult choices, Jani turns to the drug trade in search of a better future. Living amid poverty and addiction, they struggle to escape their circumstances and find a way towards a different life.

Director
Ariff Zulkarnain
Producer
Syafiq Kyle, Ariff Zulkarnain
Screenplay
Ariff Zulkarnain
DoP
Tan Teck Zee
Editor
Safwan Salleh
Sound Designer
Ayem Ismail
Cast
Amir Ahnaf, Amirah Razak, Wan Hanafi Su, Cech Adrea, Idham Maulana, Asrul Faizal, Kimal Margasatwa



Ariff Zulkarnain is a Malaysian filmmaker whose TV series include One Cent Thief (2022) and Good Boys Go To Heaven (2026), both recognised by the industry. Baga marks his feature debut, continuing his focus on ordinary lives and social realities.

Festivals
Miffest 2026 I Taoyuan Film Festival 2026 I Asian Film Festival Barcelona 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Neo-Noir, Romance
Sales
Skop Productions / Mm Square

Baracoa

Cuba, Italy I 2025 I Spanish, Italian I 107' I Colour



The death of Felipe, an Italian revolutionary who became a Cuban citizen, sets off an unexpected journey for his son Pepe and the doctor Jimmi into the lesser known parts of the island.. Through intense landscapes, eloquent silences, and unexpected encounters, their journey to remote Baracoa becomes a life-changing experience. Suspended between the dream and reality, they discover a way to bring different worlds together. Because true revolutions never end.

Director
Luis Ernesto Doñas
Producer
Francesco Papa, Carlos de la Huerta, Umberto Guido, Filippo Ascione
Screenplay
Filippo Ascione, Luis Ernesto Doñas
DoP
Lorenzo Casadio
Editor
Francesco Galli
Sound Designer
Matteo Lugara
Cast
Giancarlo Giannini, Carlos Luis González, Yadier Fernández



A graduate from ISA and EICTV, Luis Ernesto Doñas is a Cuban film and opera director and an alumnus of Guadalajara and Berlinale Talents. His short films, Oslo and La Trucha, earned recognition at international festivals. He edited several acclaimed Cuban films and collaborated with renowned stage directors Deborah Warner and Mario Martone at the Teatro dell' Opera di Roma.

Festivals
Havana Film Festival 2025 I Taormina Film Festival 2026 I Festival Stelle d'Argento 2026I

Awards
Súmate Diversity Award, Havana Film Festival 2025

Premiere Status
Asia Premiere
Genre
Drama
Sales
Outsider Pictures / White Lion Media

Bo Bo (Бо Бо)

Russia I 2026 I Russian I 98' I Colour



Nadia was born with a large, maroon hemangioma on her face. Living in a rural village, she faces constant hostility and ridicule. Even her family rejects her true self: her grandmother relies on religious rituals to cure her, while her mother obsessively dreams of a Moscow surgery. Meanwhile, Nadia just wants to sing in a choir. After a series of troubles, she ends up in a Moscow hospital, meeting children with similar conditions. However, removing the physical mark changes nothing in her family's dynamic. Ultimately, they realise the true problem was never her birthmark but their own inner attitudes.

Director
Anastasia Kuzina
Producer
Aleksandr Prosianov
Screenplay
Anastasia Kuzina
DoP
Innokentii Smirnov
Editor
Anastasia Kuzina
Sound Designer
Evgenii Pereyaslavtsev
Cast
Daria Alkhova, Aleksandr Tsyganov, Marina Lebedeva, Olga Lapshina



Graduated from the Russian State University of Cinematography, Anastasia Kuzina is a Russian director- writer- editor. During her studies, she was trained by directors Alexei Fenchenko and the Kott brothers. Her short films got screened at St. Petersburg festival.

Festivals
Pingyao International Film Festival 2026 I Koroche Film Festival 2026

Awards
Special Jury Prize – For Fidelity to the Traditions of Auteur Cinema, Koroche Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Drama

Cotton (Pahta)

Uzbekistan I 2025 I Uzbek I 79' I Colour



Set in a remote village in Uzbekistan, the film follows Gulchehra, a woman who spends her days picking cotton to support herself and her ailing mother-in-law. Her husband has left the village to find work abroad, leaving her waiting for his return. When her mother-in-law dies, Gulchehra is left alone in a society shaped by gossip, harsh attitudes and strict traditions. She continues her tiring daily work, with little hope of a better future. Through her quiet struggle, the film portrays a woman's loneliness, the pressures of a male-dominated society and her determination to live with dignity despite the difficulties she faces.

Director
Rashid Malikov
Producer
Dmitryi Vorobyov
Screenplay
Yan Milenin, Rashid Malikov
DoP
Boris Litovchenko
Editor
Vitalyi Borodkin
Sound Designer
Dmitryi Timonin, Anvar Fayzullayev
Cast
Xurshida Arabshoyeva



Born in Moscow in 1958, Rashid Malikov is an Uzbek writer and director. A VGIK graduate, he trained in the USA, earning Uzbekistan's Dustlik Order, he has taught directing at VGIK's Tashkent branch since 2023. His films include Cotton, Captivity and Fortitude.

Festivals
Cairo International Film Festival 2025 I Eurasia-Kinofest 2026 I X Eurasian Bridge International Film Festival 2026

Awards
Best Screenplay, III Eurasia-Kinofest 2026 I Grand Prix, Best Feature Film, X Eurasian Bridge International Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
Asia Premiere
Genre
Drama

Dreaming of Serenada (Drømmen om Serenada)

Uganda, Denmark, USA I 2026 I Danish, English, Luganda I 73' I Colour



Dreaming of Serenada is a personal documentary about climate change, family and belonging. When floods damage her father's resort on Lake Victoria, Luba Mukibi Lynch begins to question what she can do in the face of the climate crisis. Living in Copenhagen, she finds herself thinking about Uganda, where she grew up, and her father's rainforest. She reflects on her responsibilities as a daughter and as a human being, and wonders whether it is time to return to her homeland.

Director
Katrine Weber
Producer
Kirstine Barfod, René Odgaard
DoP
Dror Kasinsky
Editor
Jacob Tschernia, Jeppe Bødskov
Music
Joaquin Garcia



Katrine Weber is a Danish director-producer with a background in visual anthropology. Her character-driven documentaries explore family, womanhood and social change. Founder of FAIRFEMMES, she works internationally on documentary films and series for global distribution.

Festivals
Copenhagen International Documentary Film Festival DOX 2026

Premiere Status
Asia Premiere
Genre
Documentary
Sales
Nordland Pictures

Embers (我们仅有一次的人生)

China I 2026 I Chinese I 114' I Colour



Huang Yan manages the furnace at a crematorium. On one fateful afternoon, she mixes two sets of ashes at work, with the families of the dead receiving wrongful remains. The woman believes the bad luck coming from the mix-up is causing the deadly illness ravaging her body and, on a desperate attempt to save her life, sets out to undo her mistake with the unexpected help of a young girl caught in the embroil. Aoqian Sun expertly traverses the lines between social drama and thriller to prod at questions of death and family within contemporary Chinese society.

Director
Sun Aoqian
Producer
Zhang Siyang, Yan Yunfei
Screenplay
Sun Aoqian
DoP
Zhou Cong
Editor
Du Guangwei
Sound Designer
Yang Zhaoyue, Guo Linglong
Cast
Song Jia, Wen Qi, Zu Feng, Zhang Zhanyi



Born in 1992, Sun Aoqian, Chinese director and screenwriter graduated from the Directing Department of Communication University of China. His debut Feature Over the Sea premiered at Busan New Currents Competition 2019. Embers is his second feature film.

Festivals
Beijing International Film Festival 2026 I SXSW London 2026 I Sao Paulo International Film Festival 2026I

Awards
Best Cinematography, Beijing International Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Drama
Sales
Parallax Films

Faya Dayi

Ethiopia, USA, Qatar I 2021 I Oromiffa, Harari I 120' I Colour



Faya Dayi explores the traditions and trade surrounding khat, a stimulant leaf widely used in Ethiopia. Blending documentary and drama, the film follows people who chew khat for spiritual comfort, social connection and escape from difficult lives. Once linked to Sufi traditions, khat has become part of everyday life across communities. For many unemployed and struggling people, the temporary high offers a space where their hopes and dreams can survive.

Director, Producer, Screenplay, DoP
Jessica Beshir
Editor
Jeanne Applegate, Dustin Waldman
Sound Designer
Tom Efinger
Cast
Mohammad Arif, Hashim Abdi, Ibrahim Mohamamed, Biniam Yonas



Jessica Beshir is a Mexican-Ethiopian filmmaker based in Brooklyn. Her short films screened at Sundance, Hot Docs, IDFA and Tribeca. Supported by Sundance, Doha and Jerome foundations, she made her feature debut with Faya Dayi.

Festivals
Sundance Film Festival 2021 I International Film Festival of Rotterdam 2021 I Vancouver International Film Festival 2021I

Awards
Truer Than Fiction Award, Independent Spirit Awards 2022 I Grierson Award - Documentary Film, BFI London Film Festival 2021

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Documentary
Sales
Mubi

Hijra

Saudi Arabia, Iraq, UK, Egypt I 2025 I Arabic, Urdu, Turkish, English I 114' I Colour



Twelve-year-old Janna travels across Saudi Arabia on a pilgrimage with her strict grandmother, Sitti, and rebellious older sister, Sarah. When Sarah suddenly disappears, Janna and Sitti set out to find her, fearing their father's reaction. Their journey through ancient routes and harsh deserts brings hidden family secrets and old conflicts to light. As Janna learns more about her grandmother's past, the journey becomes a search for understanding, forgiveness and reconciliation, bringing the family closer.

Director
Shahad Ameen
Producer
Faisal Baltyuor
Screenplay
Shahad Ameen
DoP
Miguel I. Littin-Menz
Editor
Hervé de Luze, Mohamed Jabrah Al-Daradji
Sound Designer
Roland Vajs
Cast
Lamar Faden, Khairia Nathmy, Nawaf Al-Dhufairy



Shahad Ameen is an award-winning filmmaker from Jeddah,Saudi Arabia. Her debut, Scales, won the Verona Film Club Award at Venice Critics' Week 2019. Her second feature, Hijra, won Venice's NETPAC Award and represented Saudi Arabia at the Oscars.

Festivals
Venice International Film Festival 2025 I Stockholm International Film Festival 2025 I Red Sea International Film Festival 2025.I

Awards
NETPAC Award for Best Asian Film, Venice 2025 I Yusr Jury Prize, Film AlUla Audience Award -Saudi Film, Red Sea 2025

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Drama
Sales
IIFC

Lady

Nigeria, United Kingdom I 2026 I English I 96' I Colour



A determined taxi driver in Lagos forms an unexpected bond with a group of free-spirited women, leading her into a world of friendship and self-discovery despite the risks along the way.

Director
Olive Nwosu
Producer
John Giwa-Amu, Stella Nwimo, Alex Polunin
Screenplay
Olive Nwosu
DoP
Alana Mejía González
Editor
Colin Monie, Gareth C. Scales
Sound Designer
Ines Adriana
Cast
Jessica Gabriel's Ujah, Amanda Oruh, Tinuade Jemiseye, Binta Ayo Mogaji, Seun Kuti, Bucci Franklin



Born in Lagos, Olive Nwosu is a filmmaker based between London and Lagos. A Columbia University graduate, her award-winning short films include Troublemaker (2019) and Masquerade(2021), screened at TIFF and Sundance, exploring African culture, identity and belonging.

Premiere Status
Asia Premiere
Genre
Drama
Sales
The Festival Agency

Poultry Farm (هاوار)

Iran I 2026 I Persian I 97' I Colour



Havar, a homeless child without legal documents, crosses the border from Iraq into Iran and finds work at a poultry farm outside Tehran. There, he becomes friends with Yaghoub, an adult worker. When Yaghoub suddenly disappears without explanation, Havar sets out to find out what happened to him. However, his search for the truth soon puts his own life at risk.

Director
Mohammadreza Ardalan
Producer
Mohammadreza Ardalan, Baman Ardalan
Screenplay
Mohammadreza Ardalan
DoP
Ehasan Kafash
Editor
Bahram Dahghani
Sound Designer
Baman Ardalan
Cast
Bahzad Dorani, Mehrdad Ziaei, Alireza Mehran, Yasin Toloei, Hamid Ebrahimi



Born in 1982 in Ravansar, Iran, Mohammadreza Ardalan is a writer, director and editor. He studied Cinema at Tehran University of Art and earned a Master's degree in cinema from Soore University, Tehran. His research explores Pasolini's cinema and Walter Benjamin's political theology.

Festivals
Lisbon International Horror Film Festival Portugal 2026 I Puerto Rico Film Festival 2026 I Rico Film Festival Puerto Rico 2026 I Asian Film Festival Barcelona 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Drama
Sales
Madakto Pictures

Safe Exit (Khoo-rooj Aa-men)

Egypt, Germany, Libya, Qatar, Tunisia



Samaan is a young Coptic Christian who works as a security guard in a residential building in downtown Cairo. At night, he writes stories and dreams of publishing his first novel. He suffers from long-term trauma after witnessing his father's murder by a terrorist group that targeted Christians in Libya during his childhood. Amid Cairo's busy streets, he meets Fatimah, a young Muslim woman. Their simple encounter develops into an unusual friendship that gradually helps Samaan face his painful past and overcome the emotional barriers he has built around himself.

Director
Mohammed Hammad
Producer
Kholoud Saad
Screenplay
Mohammed Hammad
DoP
Mohammed Elsharkawy
Editor
Dina Farouk
Sound Designer
Mohamed El Tawil
Cast
Marawan Walid ,Noha Ahmad,Hazim Essam, Magda Mounir, Samer El Miniawy, Sayed Aly Abd El Khalik, Amr Wahba, Mohamad Zakaria, Hind Arafa, Saly Samy,



Mohammed Hammad is an Egyptian writer and director. He made his debut with Withered Green, nominated for Locarno's Golden Leopard, earning the Best Director award at the Dubai Festival and the Cairo National Festival. Safe Exit premiered at Berlinale 2026.

Festivals
Berlin International Film Festival 2026 I Shanghai International Film Festival 2026 I Bolzano International Film Festival 2026I

Awards
Golden Award, Gouna Film Festival Egypt 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Psychological Thriller, Drama

The Condor Daughter (La hija cóndor)

Bolivia, Peru, Uruguay I 2025 I Quechua, Spanish I 109' I Colour



Clara is a teenager living in a small Indigenous community high in the Andes. Her adoptive mother, a midwife who raised her from infancy, has taught her ancient songs sung during childbirth and passed down through generations. While Clara carries on this musical tradition, she has a different dream. She hopes to leave the mountains and become a folkloric music star in the city.

Director
Álvaro Olmos Torrico
Producer
Álvaro Olmos Torrico, Cecilia Sueiro Mosquera, Diego Sarmiento Pagán, Federico Moreira, Iris Sigalit Ocampo Gil
Screenplay
Álvaro Olmos Torrico
DoP
Nicolas Wong Díaz
Editor
Álvaro Olmos Torrico, Irene Cajías
Sound Designer
Álvaro Rivero, Federico Moreira
Cast
María Magdalena Sanizo, Marisol Vallejos Montaño, Nelly Huayta



Born in Cochabamba, Bolivia, Álvaro Olmos Torrico is a producer and director whose second feature, The Condor Daughter, won awards at Ventana Sur and Cinélatino Toulouse Work in Progress sections. He founded BoliviaCine.com and has taught at two film institutions.

Festivals
Göteborg Film Festival 2026 I Toronto International Film Festival 2025 I Vancouver International Film Festival 2025I

Awards
Best Feature Film, Biarritz Latin American Film Festival 2025 I Youth Jury Award, Special Jury Award, Sofia International Film Festival 2026

Genre
Drama
Sales
Bendita Film Sales

The Cord (Кіндік)

Kazakhstan I 2026 I Kazakh, Russian, English I 120' I Colour



After three teenagers are arrested for murder following a fight, their parents work together to clear their children's names. However, Dinara, a middle-class single mother, discovers that the wealthier mothers plan to use their money and influence to blame her son, Kuanysh, for the crime. Determined to protect him, she begins to cross the limits of law and morality, as her unconditional love for her son leads her down a destructive path.

Director
Darkhan Tulegenov
Producer
Igor Tsay, Kuat Sadykov, Rustem Omarov, Anel Sartayeva
Screenplay
Anel Sartayeva, Perizat Myrzakhmet, Luiza Zaripova
DoP
Satbek Bakyt
Editor
Yerkin Sagindykov, Almatbek Amangeldy
Sound Designer
Andrey Kiryukhin, Aleksandr Proskuryakov
Cast
Aigerim Mustafa, Tolkyn Nurbekova, Assel Akbarova, Ansar Bolatbekuly, Damir Amangeldin, Dana Amirkul, Olzhas Abai, Kadirgali Kobentay, Zhanat Ospanov, Nushanbek Zhybanayev



Darkhan Tulegenov is a renowned film and television director from Kazakhstan. His debut feature, Brothers, earned him a Best Director nomination at the Asia Pacific Screen Awards 2022. His other feature films include Sheker: The Last Chance (2024) and Zhaza (2025).

Festivals
Busan International Film Festival 2026 I Mar del Plata International Film Festival 2026I

Awards
Vision Asia Award, Busan International Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Drama
Sales
NIET Distribution

The Sea Speaks His Name (Laut Bercerita)

Indonesia I 2025 I Indonesian I 135' I Colour



After three activists are arrested for distributing banned books, tensions rise at a university in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. Biru Laut, a student, joins a discussion group called Winatra with his friends Daniel, Alex and Sunu, and his girlfriend Anjani. Together, they fight for freedom of expression despite growing risks. One night, Laut and his friends suddenly disappear. Their families and friends search for them but find no answers. Years later, Laut's sister, Asmara Jati, joins others in their efforts to discover the truth about the disappearance and understand what happened to their loved ones.

Director
Yosep Anggi Noen
Producer
Budi Setyarso, Leila S. Chudori, Gita Fara, Wisnu Darmawan
Screenplay
Leila S. Chudori, Yosep Anggi Noen
DoP
Batara Goempar, I.C.S
Editor
Dinda Amanda
Sound Designer
Akritchalerm Kalayanamit, Garren Hayes
Cast
Reza Rahadian, Yunita Siregar, Arswendy Bening Swara, Christine Hakim, Eva Celia, Dian Sastrowardoyo, Ben Nugroho, Kevin Julio, Dewa Dayana,



Yosep Anggi Noen is an Indonesian director, writer and producer from Yogyakarta. His films, including Peculiar Vacation and Other Illnesses, Solo, Solitude and 24 Hours with Gaspar, have received recognition at several international festivals.

Festivals
Busan International Film Festival 2026 I Jakarta Film Week 2026.I

Premiere Status
India Premiere
Genre
Drama

The Trek

South Africa I 2026 I English, Afrikaans & Khoekhoegowab I 105' I Colour



In 1846, a Dutch-Afrikaans family and their British supporter cross the dangerous Kalahari Desert to claim a piece of land. During their journey, they encounter two mysterious spirits who make a deadly bet involving their lives. As hunger, thirst and exhaustion take their toll, the group accepts help from Atshumao, a mysterious Khoen man they meet in the desert. But trouble and tragedy follow them. With fear, mistrust and strange forces closing in, the travellers must fight to survive. As danger grows and their attackers draw nearer, they face a difficult question: how far will they go to stay alive?

Director
Meekaaeel Adam

Producer
James C. Williamson, Warren Gray, Michael Wenning

Screenplay
James C. Williamson, J. Hannah Massyn, Sandulela Asanda

DoP
Meekaaeel Adam

Editor
Gantry Rat

Sound Designer
Albert Michael M. Idioma, Nicole Rosacay

Cast
Morné Visser, Maurice Carpede, Rob van Vuuren,Trix Vivier



Born in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, Meekaaeel Adam is a filmmaker inspired by cinema since childhood. He cinematographed The Last Victims, Skaapboer and The Score. He directed Netflix's Stories of a Generation with Pope Francis and works across Africa, the USA and UAE.

Festivals
Joburg Film Festival 2026 I Shanghai International Film Festival 2026 I Bucheon International Fantastic Film Festival 2026

Awards
Best Cinematography, Jury's Special Award, Fantasporto International Film Festival 2026

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Genre
Western, Horror


waves
WORLD AUDIO VISUAL & ENTERTAINMENT SUMMIT
Connecting Creators, Connecting Countries
सूचना एवं प्रसारण मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
सत्यमेव जयते
WAVES
2027
IS COMING SOON
October, Mumbai
For more information,
visit: wavesindia.org

सूचना एवं प्रसारण मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

NFDC
cinemas of india

waves bazaar

Connecting Creators, Connecting Countries

Government-backed e-marketplace for the Media & Entertainment industry under the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.

Connects buyers and sellers, facilitating B2B engagement, business conversations and co-production opportunities.

Covers films, television, OTT, animation, gaming, music and immersive media.

Strong network of 16,000+ active users, 6,700+ buyers, 8,000+ sellers and 3,500+ projects.

AI-powered matchmaking for project discovery, networking and global partnerships.

1,328 crore in reported business deals during WAVES Summit 2025, supported by 3,000+ B2B meetings.

4,334 crore in potential business and investment discussions through 2025 outreach.

9,000+ structured B2B meetings through domestic and international outreach.

Organised 10+ webinars and online masterclasses under its Knowledge Series.

A year-round platform for showcasing Indian creative talent and promoting global business opportunities.

For more information,
visit: www.wavesbazaar.com

INDIAN PANORAMA



JURY FOR INDIAN PANORAMA FEATURE FILMS



Madhur Bhandarkar

Jury Chairperson

A recipient of five National Film Awards and the prestigious Padma Shri, Madhur Bhandarkar is one of Indian cinema's most distinctive and influential filmmakers. Celebrated for his uncompromising vision and incisive portrayal of society, he has carved a unique space for himself through a body of cinema that fearlessly explores the complexities of human life and contemporary realities.

His acclaimed filmography includes landmark films such as Chandni Bar, Page 3, Corporate, Traffic Signal, Fashion, Heroine, and Indu Sarkar, alongside his recent OTT ventures Babli Bouncer and India Lockdown. Known for blending compelling narratives with thought-provoking social commentary, Bhandarkar continues to leave an indelible mark on Indian cinema and contemporary storytelling.



M. S. Prabhu

Jury Member

M. S. Prabhu is an Indian cinematographer, born in Madurai, who has a career spanning over three decades. His quest for photography began from his school days., jumped to pursue Cinematography at FTIT Madras, and assisted Shri. P. C. Sreeram.

Introduced by actor Kamalhaasan in his 1994 feature Mahaanadhi (debut), he subsequently worked in Tamil, Hindi and Telugu films.

He served as DoP for eminent directors like, Cheran, A.R.Murugadas, Gautam menon, K.V. Anand, in movies like Ramanaa, Thavamai Thavamirundu, Ayan, Ek Deewana Tha, Yetto velli poindhi manasu, Kaappaan and many.

M. S. Prabhu possesses a distinct understanding on cinematic storytelling, shares his wisdom to film students, alongside his filming schedules.



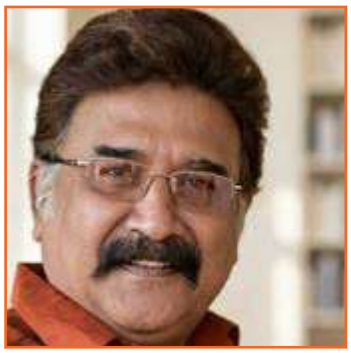
K. S. Sivaraman

Jury Member

K. S. Sivaraman is an accomplished cinematographer-producer-director. A graduate of the Adyar Film and Television Technology Institute, Tamil Nadu, he worked as a cinematographer on over 30 films, spanning South Indian cinema, Bollywood and international documentaries. His notable works include Urmai Geetham, Vetri Mel Vetri, Naalaya Seidhi, Managara Kaaval and Naan Kadavul.

Under his banners of Shiva Shree Pictures and Vasans Visual Ventures, he produced over 35 films. Including the National Award-winning Naan Kadavul. He also served as a jury member of the National Awards Committee in 2009, reflecting his standing and contribution to Indian cinema.

With an enduring passion for filmmaking, Sivaraman continues to enrich the cinematic landscape. His journey stands as a testament to a remarkable legacy, sustained by dedication, artistic vision and an unwavering love for cinema.



U. Ravindhar

Jury Member

Ravindhar started his career in 1978 as an apprentice at Karpagam Studio, Chennai, and made his independent debut with 1989's Kaval Poonaigal. In his prolific three-decade career, he collaborated with legendary directors like K. Balachander and P. Vasu, lensing massive South Indian blockbusters including Chinna Thambi.

Embracing the digital era, Ravindhar successfully directed telefilms and crafted impactful documentaries. A devoted family man and passionate supporter of international film festivals, his artistic merit and enduring dedication to the craft culminated in his prestigious appointment as a jury member for India's 70th National Film Awards.



Bindu Chandramouli

Jury Member

An actor with over a decade of experience in the Telugu film industry, Bindu Chandramouli's body of work extends to feature films, OTT originals, series and independent cinema. Having been associated with around 80 projects, she portrayed a range of versatile characters across commercial and alternative storytelling formats.

Her artistic journey also includes theatre. Prior to entering cinema, she spent nearly a decade in the corporate sector, working in IT and business domains. She holds a Doctorate in Marketing Management, along with postgraduate qualifications in Business Management and Management Information Systems, bringing a multidisciplinary perspective to her engagement with cinema and storytelling.



Jayanta Goswami

Jury Member

Founder of Darpan Cine Production, established in 2002, Jayanta Goswami is a film producer who has produced feature films, documentaries, TV serials, reality shows and government films. His debut as a producer was the National Award-winning Assamese film Mon Jai, which was selected for the Indian Panorama at the IFFI 2008.

His productions include Dhunia Tirotabor and the internationally acclaimed documentary Mayong: Myth/Reality, directed by Utpal Borpujari. That was archived by the Royal Anthropological Institute of Britain and Ireland and screened at prestigious festivals and academic institutions.

Goswami has produced numerous TVprogrammes for Doordarshan, including Seuji Asom, highlighting Assam's natural heritage, alongside fiction serials and documentaries on the region's culture and traditions. As Executive President of the Producers' Council and Assistant General Secretary of the Cine Revival and Development Association of Assam, he actively contributed to Assam's film industry.



Oinam Gautam Singh

Jury Member

An Award-winning Filmmaker from Manipur, Oinam Gautam Singh's film Phijigee Mani won National Film Award in 2012 and was selected to many film festivals including Iffier He is also won the Manipur State Film Awards, seven times for his films and has directed more than 25 feature films. He has the experience of serving as a jury in different film festivals including Indian Panorama and National Film Awards.

He has been associated with Manipur State Film and Television Institute as a resource person in various training programs and workshops in the field of editing, cinematography, direction and screen writing, acting, etc.He initiated several important activities during his tenure as general secretary of Film Forum, Manipur. Although known as a contemporary filmmaker he has keen interest in making of serious films too.



Niladri Roy

Jury Member

Niladri Roy, born and raised in Kolkata, grew up in the city's rich cultural and musical fabric, where he developed a deep affinity for storytelling. This passion eventually led him to pursue a career in film editing.

An alumnus of Patha Bhavan and Calcutta University, Roy stepped into the world of cinema at an early age, immersing himself in projects that tested his craft and broadened his perspective. Over the years, he has edited feature films, documentaries, music videos, ad films, and corporate films. His most notable feature films include Shankhachil (winner of the Best Bengali Film award at the 63rd National Film Awards), Raahgir, Mahalaya, and the Italian–Indian co-production Parikrama, starring Chitrangda Singh and Marco Leonardi.
In 2025, Roy's work on Moving Focus, a documentary on the eminent filmmaker Goutam Ghose, won the National Film Award for Best Editing (Non-Feature). This recognition marked an important milestone in his journey.

Apart from editing, he is passionate about music. He plays multiple instruments and enjoys experimenting with sounds. This musical sensibility informs his approach to editing, infusing his work with rhythm, flow, and emotional resonance.
Looking ahead, he envisions exploring the intersection of music and cinema even further, finding new ways to blend music with storytelling.



Dr. Ayash Arif

Jury Member

Dr. Ayash Arif is a prominent producer- director-actor and multifaceted creative personality from Jammu & Kashmir, with a career spanning over five decades. Over the years, he made a significant mark in films, TV and theatre. As a producer-director, he has been associated with films, TV serials, documentaries etc. His contribution to theatre is noteworthy, both as an artist and as a creative practitioner. He is a member of the General Council of the Sangeet Natak Akademi, New Delhi, and a member of the Jammu & Kashmir Film Council.

Dr. Arif won several awards and honours over the years, including the Jammu & Kashmir State Award, acknowledging his long-standing contribution to the cultural and creative landscape of the Union Territory. He has also contributed to journalism, reflecting his versatility and commitment to creative expression and public discourse. With nearly fifty years of experience across different forms of media and performing arts, Dr. Ayash Arif stands as a respected and enduring figure in the cultural life of Jammu & Kashmir.



Rahul Bhole

Jury Member

Rahul Bhole is a National Award-winning Gujarati writer- director-editor, and a founding member of Baroda Talkies, a Gujarat-based production house. His directorials include Chor Bani Thangat Kare, Reva and Vickida No Varghodo, as well as Bachubhai for Jio Studios. His film Reva earned National recognition, while Vickida No Varghodo brought him the GIFA 2022 Awards for Director of the Year and Editor of the Year. He also earned four Gujarat State Awards for his contributions as a director, editor and writer.

With experience spanning feature films, television, documentaries, short films and advertising, he has written over 400 episodes of a Gujarati TVshow for Viacom18 and directed more than 15 short films, documentaries, advertising films and corporate films. He has also adapted professional plays into different languages, authored four books in the Gujarati-language Amazing Science series, and created science-story podcasts for the Jalso app. In 2023, he served on the jury for the selection of India's official entry to the Oscars



Bharathi Pradhan

Jury Member

Senior Critic, Columnist and Author Bharathi S Pradhan has over 50 years of experience in writing on cinema. Former editor of Star & Style, Showtime, Lehren, Film Street Journal, Movie and Consulting Editor of Savvy, She continues to be a Sunday columnist with The Telegraph. She is also a Founding Member of the Film Critics Guild and was an advisory member of the Censor Board of Film Certification. Bharathi has authored several inspirational books including Anything But Khamosh, the official biography of actor-politician Shatrughan Sinha; Ramesh Chandra Agarwal who founded Dainik Bhaskar and co-wrote 'Turbulence & Triumph: The Modi Years'.



Soham P. Shah

Jury Member

With an experience of over two decades, Soham Shah is a filmmaker- author-artist, and founder of Simba Studios, whose creative journey spans advertising, cinema, literature, and fine art. A graduate in Commercial Arts from Sir J. J. School of Art, Mumbai, he began his career by founding the advertising agency Able & Will, creating campaigns for leading brands and landmark film projects.
He started as an assistant with Karan Johar in Kabhi Khushi Kabhie Gham and Ram Gopal Varma in Bhoot and made his directorial debut with the supernatural thriller Kaal, followed by Luck and Kartam Bhugtam, establishing himself as a versatile filmmaker and storyteller.

Soham also directed over 100 TV commercials for leading brands and continues to pursue his passion for fine art. As an author, his debut supernatural horror novel, Bloodmoon, became a bestseller and earned acclaim for its vivid, spine-chilling narrative. ONE, his second novella is a paranormal horror story inspired by true incidents. He has been invited to prestigious literary festivals, including the Chandigarh Literature Festival, and featured as a TEDx speaker, continuing to explore the limitless possibilities of storytelling across mediums.



Arun Gongade

Jury Member

A Graduate Diploma in Commercial Art from Sir J. J. School of Art, Mumbai, Arun S. Gongade is a renowned artist and advertising professional. His achievements include five National Awards (1984, 1988, 1989, 1997 and 1999, and a Golden Statuette at the 19th Tehran International Film Festival.

He also received four Maharashtra State Awards for Best Documentary. In recognition of his contribution to social awareness advertising, he was honoured with The Times of India's Ashok Jain Award for Best Press Campaign. Additionally, he received a Gold Medal for Excellence in Advertising from the Commercial Artists Guild.

INDIAN PANORAMA
FEATURE FILMS





Director
Aditya Dhar

Producer
Jio Studios (RIL), B62 Studios

Screenplay
Aditya Dhar

DoP
Vikas Nowlakha

Editor
Shivkumar V. Panicker

Music Director
Shashwat Sachdev

Cast
Ranveer Singh, Sara Arjun, Sanjay Dutt, R Madhavan, Arjun Rampal, Rakesh Bedi

Dhurandhar

Opening Film

India I 2025 I Hindi I 208.56' I Colour

Following the 1999 IC-814 hijacking and the 2001 Parliament attack, intelligence chief Ajay Sanyal launches a secret mission called Operation Dhurandhar. He recruits Jaskirat Singh Rangi, who takes on the identity of Hamza Ali Mazari and infiltrates Karachi's criminal underworld. Gaining the trust of gangster Rehman Dakait, Hamza navigates dangerous rivalries while secretly gathering information about terrorist networks and an ISI conspiracy. Over the years, he rises to power, but his growing influence attracts enemies. Blending espionage, action and betrayal, the film follows his dangerous mission and its unexpected consequences.

Aditya Dhar

Aditya Dhar is a filmmaker, writer and producer known for the Dhurandhar duology and Uri: The Surgical Strike, which won him the National Film Award for Best Direction. Co-founder of B62 Studios, his credits include Article 370, Baramulla and Dhoom Dhaam.



Jio Studios (RIL), B62 Studios

Jyoti Deshpande (Jio Studios),President, Media and Content Business, RIL, Jio Studios, Jyoti Deshpande is a leading industry figure behind India's biggest films. Aditya and Lokesh Dhar (B62 Studios)
Founders of B62 Studios, they produced films including Article 370, Baramulla, Dhoom Dhaam and Dhurandhar.



Director
Mahesh Limaye aka Shivkumar Limaye

Producer
SH Enterprises, Mahesh Limaye (aka Shivkumar Limaye), Aniket Marathe

Screenplay
Sankarshan Karhade

DoP
Mahesh Limaye

Editor
Rushiraj Joshi

Music Director
Avinash-Vishwajeet

Cast
Ashok Saraf, Sankarshan Karhade, Sakhi Gokhale, Yogesh Shirsat

Aadi Anant

India | 2026 | Marathi | 138.46' | Colour

Aadi Anant tells the story of Aditya, an aspiring actor who struggles to find success despite his talent and hard work. His grandfather, Anant Rao, is a cheerful and caring man who brings happiness into his life. Though they face financial and personal difficulties, their bond is filled with love and humour. When Anant Rao suffers an accident and becomes bedridden, Aditya finds it difficult to manage his responsibilities alongside his acting ambitions. The pressure and frustration gradually affect their relationship. The film explores family bonds, the challenges of caregiving and the meaning of success in today's world.

Mahesh Limaye aka Shivkumar Limaye

An alumnus of the J. J. School of Art, Mumbai, Mahesh Limaye, is a cinematographer and director. His directorial debut, Yellow, won three National Film Awards. His third feature, Aadi Anant, follows Jaggu Ani Juliet, which won seven Maharashtra State Awards in 2024.



SH Enterprises, Mahesh Limaye, Aniket Marathe

Sameer Hampi comes from a family rooted in performing arts and has produced several Marathi theatre productions. He entered film production with Aadi Anant, driven by a personal connection to the story and a desire to connect theatre and cinema.









Director
Bharatbala Ganapathy

Producer
BBP Studio Virtual Bharat Private Limited, Shiv Hans Pictures LLC

Screenplay
Ravinder Randhawa, Sriram Rajan

DoP
Marc Koninckx

Editor
A Sreekar Prasad

Music Director
AR Rahman

Cast
Neeraj Kabi, Shahana Goswami, Abhishek Banerjee

Banaras

India | 2026 | Hindi | 100.42' | Colour

A family, broken apart by patriarchy and the question of inheritance of musical legacy, goes on a journey and seeks answers on the banks of the Ganges. Banaras is a film that unravels at the largest confluence of humanity, the Maha Kumbh Mela, where the eternal spirit of the Ganges, sacred, searching, and alive in every note of music, brings the family's search to its end.

Premiere Status
India Premiere

Bharatbala Ganapathy

Bharatbala is an Indian filmmaker known for blending culture with visual storytelling. His works include Vande Mataram, Jana Gana Mana, Hari Om, Soulmates and Maryan, spanning music, cinema and international collaborations.



BBP Studio Virtual Bharat Private Limited, Shiv Hans Pictures LLC

ShivHans Pictures, founded by Shivani Rawat, is a production, financing and distribution company supporting distinctive storytelling across film, television and theatre. Its credits include The Trial of the Chicago 7, Captain Fantastic, To Kill a Tiger and Hit Man.



Director
Sahil Shah

Producer
Cameo Films

Screenplay
Shaan Pasricha

DoP
Srijan Chaurasia

Editor
Divyashree Samantaray

Music Director
Joel Crasto

Cast
Semzang Skitdon as Tashi, N. Chopal as Grandfather, Kunga Choskyab as Norbu, Padma Chorol as Paami, Sonam Stobgais as Dorje

Birds on Ice

India | 2026 | Ladakhi | 85.3' | Colour

Tashi, a young girl from Ladakh, lives with her grandfather while waiting for her shepherd parents to return. When she gets a pair of borrowed ice-hockey skates, a new dream takes shape. As she faces the challenges of growing up in the harsh Himalayan winter, she discovers difficult truths about family, grief and survival. Determined not to give up, Tashi and her best friend find their own way to pursue her dream.

Sahil Shah

Sahil began filmmaking through street photography and spent over a decade creating films and campaigns for leading brands. Birds on Ice marks his feature debut, shaped by the ice-hockey community.



Cameo Films

Tanvi Aggarwal is a fourth-generation film producer who began her career making advertisements and music videos. She makes her feature debut with Birds on Ice, driven by a passion for human stories that build empathy, inspire conversations and carry meaning.



Director
Sarfaraz Alam

Producer
Kartina Entertainment And Sports Private Limited

Screenplay
Rajnish, Sarfaraz

DoP
Aseem Bajaj

Editor
Aseem Sinha

Music Director
Pavel Chernykh, Sarfaraz

Cast
Vinay Pathak

Kabir Sir ka Akhri Lesson (Kabir Sir)

India | 2026 | Hindi | 103.52' | Colour

Old teachers struggle with the world of smart education.

Premiere Status
World Premiere

Sarfaraz Alam

Sarfaraz Alam studied at the New York Film Academy and is the CEO of Kartina Entertainment and Sports Private Limited. Kabir Sir ka Akhri Lesson is his first film as director.



Kartina Entertainment And Sports Private Limited

Kartina Entertainment and Sports Private Limited is a Goa-based company incorporated in Calangute on 2019. It operates in the media and publishing sector, focusing on film and digital content production.



Director
Hardik Gajjar

Producer
Creativeland Studio, Athashrikatha Motion Pictures

Screenplay
Prakash Kapadia, Raam Mori, Hardik Gajjar

DoP
Ayananka Bose

Editor
Hardik Gajjar,Kanu Prajapati

Music Director
Prasad S

Cast
Siddharth Gupta, Sanskruti Jayana, Sushmitha Bhat, Nivaashiyni Krishnan

Krishnavataram

India | 2026 | Hindi | 149.2' | Colour

Based on Raam Mori's Satyabhama, Krishnavataram Part 1: The Heart tells Krishna's story through Satyabhama's eyes. She reflects on his life as both a divine figure and a man who experiences love and separation. The story begins in Vrindavan, where Krishna shares a deep bond with Radha. He later leaves for Mathura, following his duty and destiny. From Dwarka, Satyabhama recalls his life as a ruler, his marriage to Rukmini and her own relationship with him. Drawing from the Srimad Bhagavatam and Harivamsa, the film explores Krishna's emotions, sacrifices and devotion.

Hardik Gajjar

Hardik Gajjar is an Indian director with a visual effects background, known for combining emotion and technology. His films include Bhavai, Atithi Bhooto Bhava, Amar Prem Ki Prem Kahani, Aachari Baa and Krishnavataram, celebrating Indian culture, music and universal themes.



Creativeland Studio and Athashrikatha Motion Pictures

Sajan Raj Kurup is an Indian advertising executive, entrepreneur, and film producer. He is the Founder and Creative Chairman of Creativeland Asia, an independent advertising and brand communications company established in Mumbai in 2007, and the Founder and Managing Director of Creativeland Studios Entertainment, its filmed entertainment division. He also chairs Creators Inc., a London-based content production company affiliated with the Creativeland Group.





Director
Ankit Bhupatbhai Sakhiya

Producer
Manifest Films, Jay Vyas, Ajay Balavantbhai Padariya

Screenplay
Ankit Sakhiya, Krushansh Vaja, Vicky Joshi

DoP
Shubham Gajjar

Editor
Ankit Sakhiya, Krushansh Vaja

Music Director
Smmit Jay

Cast
Karan Joshi, Reeva Rachh, Shruhad Goswami

Laalo - Krishna Sada Sahaayate

(Laalo - Krishna Is Always Ready To Help)

India I 2025 I Gujarati I 135.15' I Colour

Laalo, a poor rickshaw driver troubled by his past, gets trapped in a remote farmhouse while trying to earn quick money. Alone in the unfamiliar place, he begins to face his guilt, regrets and forgotten dreams. During this time, he starts seeing Lord Krishna in visions and dreams. Krishna becomes a silent guide, helping him understand himself and find peace. As Laalo struggles to escape, he realises that his real battle is within himself. His experience becomes a journey of self-discovery, faith and redemption, giving him a chance to confront his past and find new meaning in life.

Ankit Bhupatbhai Sakhiya

Ankit Sakhiya, from Meta Khambhaliya village near Gondal, pursued filmmaking despite criticism. When producers rejected his ambitious scripts, he chose a modest budget and focused on meaningful storytelling, resulting in Laalo, a film that reflects his determination and vision.



Manifest Films, Jay Vyas, Ajay Balavantbhai Padariya

Manifest Films: A production house behind Laalo – Krishna Sada Sahaayate, supporting Gujarati cinema through content-driven filmmaking. Jay Vyas Productions: A production banner that contributed to bringing Laalo to audiences, demonstrating the potential of modest-budget regional cinema. Ajay Balavant Padariya: A producer of Laalo, supporting a film that highlights the value of meaningful storytelling in Gujarati cinema.







Director
Amit Rai

Producer
Babulal Biscope LLP, Thinking Hats Entertainment Solutions Limited

Screenplay
Amit Rai

DoP
Máté Herbai

Editor
Suvir Nath

Music Director
Aman Pant

Cast
Maahi Rai, Pankaj Tripathi, Rajesh Kumar, Geeta Agrawal, Pavan Raj Malhotra, Vijay Mishra, Shree dhar Dubey, Sulakhyana Baruah, Bruno, Oscar & 250 Heroes

Ohh My Dog

India | 2026 | Hindi | 150.18' | Colour

Ohh My Dog tells two stories about the bond between humans and dogs. In Assam, 14-year-old Apu sets out to rescue his beloved dog, Momo, after it is kidnapped. In Bihar, Oscar, a loyal dog, begins a dangerous journey to find his owner, 15-year-old Prince, who has also been kidnapped. Though their journeys take place far apart, both stories show the courage and determination that come from love. The film explores friendship, loyalty and the deep connection between humans and animals, reminding us that love can help overcome fear, distance and difficult challenges.

Amit Rai

A graduate of theatre from Pune University, Amit Rai worked for fourteen years as an actor, director and playwright before entering cinema. He directed Road to Sangam in 2010, I-pad and OMG 2. His recent film is Ohh My Dog.



Babulal Biscope LLP, Thinking Hats Entertainment Solutions Limited

Babulal Biscope enters film production with Ohh My Dog, focusing on meaningful storytelling and social themes. Thinking Hats, founded in Delhi in 2012, has moved from live events to films and OTT content exploring crime, relationships, family and regional stories.



Director
Sekhar Das

Producer
Swabhumi Entertainment

Screenplay
Sekhar Das

DoP
Supratim Bhol

Editor
Arghyakamal Mitra

Music Director
Indraadip Dasgupta

Cast
Gargee Roychawdhury, Sujan Mukhopadhaya, Rajotavo Dutta, Jayanto Hor, Rwitobroto Mukherjee, Chandriyee Ghosh, Sri, Dirghoyee Pal

Pagla Ghora (Wild Horse)

India | 2026 | Bengali | 109' | Colour

A woman, overwhelmed by the lack of love in her life, takes her own life. Four men carry her body to a crematorium deep inside a forest. As her body burns, her spirit appears and forces the men to face their past. One by one, their secrets come out, revealing that each of them has betrayed the woman he loved. They begin to feel sorry for their actions, but their regret comes too late. Set in a forest at night, the film unfolds slowly, building an atmosphere of tension and reflection. It is based on a play by renowned Indian playwright Badal Sircar.

Premiere Status
Asia Premiere

Sekhar Das

Sekhar Das is an acclaimed writer-director and playwright. He has served on National Film Awards and international festival juries, contributed to film education and helped select India's official entry to the Oscars.



Swabhumi Entertainment

Dr. Prabir Bhowmik is a pediatrician with over 30 years of clinical experience. His passion for cinema led him to explore the entertainment industry before becoming a prominent producer in Bengali films and television.





Director
Gajendra Ahire

Producer
Trupti Bhoir Films

Screenplay
Trupti Bhoir, Gajendra Ahire

DoP
Krishna Soren

Editor
Ballu Saluja

Music Director
Satish Chakravarthy

Cast
Trupti Bhoir, Taha Shah Badussha

Paro - The Untold Story Of Bride Slavery

India | 2026 | Hindi | 109.14' | Colour

At just 13, Chand is sold into marriage and becomes a victim of the Paro bride-slavery system. Separated from her family and children, she struggles through years of abuse and loss. A researcher named Mohar helps bring her story to light, exposing the cruel practice of treating women as property. When her third husband, Rashid, betrays her, Chand must make a difficult choice to protect her child. As her story reaches a university gathering, she finds the courage to speak out. Paro – The Untold Story of Bride Slavery is about survival, dignity, freedom and a woman's fight to reclaim her life.

Premiere Status
Asia Premiere

Gajendra Ahire

Gajendra Ahire is an Indian writer-director known for Marathi cinema. His films explore human relationships, social issues and complex emotions, often bringing overlooked stories and perspectives to the screen.



Trupti Bhoir Films & Sandesh Sharda International Pvt ltd

Trupti Bhoir is an award-winning Indian actress, producer and filmmaker known for socially relevant stories. Her work explores women's lives, social injustice and overlooked issues, combining meaningful storytelling with emotionally engaging performances.

Mr. Sandesh Sharda is a serial entrepreneur and philanthropist who successfully exited his US Federal Government IT Business in March 2023. Mr. Sandesh Sharda was the President and Owner of Miracle Systems a US Government Vendor in the Washington DC Area.



Director
Anupama Sharadhi

Producer
Bhavishya Cinemas

Screenplay
Anupama Sharadhi

DoP
PVR Swamy

Editor
Sanjeev Reddy

Music Director
Atishay Jain

Cast
Naveen D Padeel, Vijay Hari Rai, Radha Krishna Kumble, Shilpa Nagraj, Anupama Sharadhi, Bhavani Shankar Adtale, Gangadhar Nellikod

Pili Channe

India I 2026 I Tulu I 108' I Colour

Pili Channe tells the story of a tribal woman who learns traditional herbal healing from her grandmother. Before her death, the grandmother gives her a sacred stone believed to hold the healing knowledge of the forest. Pili Channe uses her skills to help her community, earning their trust. However, a greedy village doctor and the village chief try to take the stone for themselves. Determined to protect her heritage, she refuses to give in. In the end, she places the stone in a nearby river, hoping its healing power will continue to benefit others. The film explores traditional wisdom, courage, sacrifice and greed.

Premiere Status
World Premiere

Anupama Sharadhi



Anupama Sharadhi is a producer, director, playback singer and advocate who entered the film industry in 2000. Her work spans film, television, and music, including the award-winning Kannada album Manasaagide and the films Nadubettu Appanna and Pili Channe.

Bhavishya Cinemas

Anupama Sharadhi is a producer, director, playback singer and advocate who entered the film industry in 2000. Her work spans film, television, and music, including the award-winning Kannada album Manasaagide and the films Nadubettu Appanna and Pili Channe.



Director
P Sheshadri

Producer
P Sheshadri

Screenplay
P Sheshadri

DoP
Mahen Simha

Editor
BS Kemparaju

Music Director
Pravin Godkhindi

Cast
HG Dattatreya, Vidyamurthy, Raadhya, Dev Devaiah

Ruby-Cube

India | 2025 | Kannada | 105' | Colour

Set during a short holiday in a hill station, three generations gather under one roof. Rohini, a psychologist, meets her former husband Moorthy again through their daughter Chitra, who is facing problems in her marriage. As they spend time together, old feelings and unresolved issues slowly come to the surface. The film explores family ties, aging, emotional distance and the responsibilities people carry in relationships. A Rubik's Cube serves as a symbol of life, showing how complicated things can become and how patience, rather than control, can help people find their way forward.

P Sheshadri

P. Sheshadri is an acclaimed Kannada filmmaker whose films often explore social issues. Eight of his 13 feature films have won National Film Awards. His notable works include Munnudi, Bettada Jeeva and Mookajjiya Kanasugalu.



P Sheshadri

Prathama Films: A Kannada film production company established by film technicians and artist friends, Prathama Films has been involved in filmmaking for nearly two decades. Its productions include Atithi, Beru and Mohandas. Mitrachitra: Founded by technicians and artists from the film industry, Mitrachitra has supported Kannada cinema for nearly twenty years, producing films including Atithi, Beru and Mohandas.



Director
Akhil Sathyan

Producer
Firefly Films

Screenplay
Akhil sathyan

DoP
Sharan Velayudhan

Editor
Akhil Sathyan, Rathin Radhakrishnan

Music Director
Justin Prabhakaran

Cast
Nivin Pauly, Riya Shibu, Priety Mukundan, Aju Varghese

Sarvam Maya (Everything is a Delusion)

India | 2025 | Malayalam | 147.37' | Colour

Sarvam Maya is a supernatural drama about faith, love and self-discovery. Prabhendu, a talented musician and atheist, gives up his musical dreams when family circumstances force him to become a traditional Hindu priest, a role he does not believe in. His life changes when he meets Maya, the spirit of a young woman unable to move on because of unresolved feelings. As they grow closer, Maya begins to challenge his beliefs, while Prabhendu helps her face her past. Their unusual friendship leads both to confront their struggles, understand their emotions and find peace. The film explores love, loss and human connection.

Akhil Sathyan

Akhil Sathyan is a Malayalam writer-director and editor who moved from IT to cinema. Son of veteran filmmaker Sathyan Anthikad, he made his directorial debut with Pachuvum Athbutha Vilakkum (2023), followed by Sarvam Maya (2025).



Firefly Films

Ajayya Kumar and Rajeev Menon are producers behind Kerala-based Firefly Films. They support Malayalam cinema through fresh storytelling and creative collaborations. Their production Sarvam Maya (2025) reflects their interest in combining engaging narratives with themes that connect with audiences.









Director
Kannan S

Producer
Kannan S

Screenplay
Kannan

DoP
Kannan

Editor
Pachai

Music Director
Dhinakaran

Cast
Aravinth, Kavya, Murugan Govindasamy, Megha Rajan, Surrendhar

Scroll

India | 2026 | Tamil | 127.29' | Colour

Aravind is addicted to his smartphone and spends most of his time scrolling through it. One day, he discovers an app called Dopa Rush, which claims to help people overcome smartphone addiction. Curious, he joins the game along with a group of strangers. At first, they face simple challenges to stay away from their phones and earn points and rewards. But as they move to higher levels, the challenges become strange, personal and disturbing. Soon, the game begins to control their lives, turning what seemed like a harmless way to break an addiction into a frightening experience.

Premiere Status
World Premiere

Kannan S

Kannan is an independent filmmaker known for exploring technology and human relationships. He directed the short films Penpaal and Pazhaiya Mugam, and his feature film Password gained popularity on YouTube.



K16 Studios

K16 Studios is an independent filmmaking initiative driven by a passion for storytelling and a belief in democratising filmmaking. We strive to prove that compelling cinema doesn't necessarily require big budgets, elaborate sets or massive resources, but rather strong ideas, creative thinking and passionate execution.



Director
Muskan Asthana

Producer
Roaring Reels, Rohit Kumar

Screenplay
Muskan Asthana

DoP
Shashi Chaurasiya

Editor
Aseem Sinha

Music Director
Rahul Suhas

Cast
Atul Shrivastav, Paritosh Sand, Apara Mehta, Meenal Kapoor, Rahul Asthana, Gauri Chousariya, Jishaan Hassan Cho

Sev Micchar

India | 2026 | Hindi | 103.25' | Colour

Kailash Sharma runs a shop opposite his business rival, Saini. Both compete to attract tourists while trying to make the other look bad. However, Kailash faces serious financial problems after a crisis hits his family. At home, he also struggles to understand his elder son, a Gen Z youngster with different ambitions and ideas about life. Their constant disagreements create a growing distance between them. As the story moves towards its climax, personal rivalries and family conflicts give way to a larger purpose. The characters come together, realising the importance of understanding, cooperation, peace and harmony.

Premiere Status
World Premiere

Muskan Asthana

Muskan Asthana is a writer-director who founded Roaring Reels Production at 16. With 12 short films, writing credits and second-unit directing experience, her work has earned international festival recognition and over 10 million digital views. Sev Micchar marks her directorial debut.



Roaring Reels, Rohit Kumar

Rohit Kumar has produced a knowledge series, music videos and promotional content. His credits include In the Name of Love, awarded Best Film at the 2018 London International Film Festival, and associate production on Aasma and Before I Die.





Director
Singeetham Srinivasa Rao

Producer
Swapna Cinema

Screenplay
Singeetham Srinivasa Rao

DoP
Ankur C

Editor
Sankalp Gora, Vamsi Marella

Music Director
Devi Sri Prasad

Cast
Ahilya Banroo, Ayaan, Shalini Kondepudi, Siva Narayana, Banerjee, Wamcee

Sing Geetham (Sing a Song)

India | 2026 | Telugu | 137' | Colour

Pratap Mannem returns to the mining village of Kuberapuram to claim his share of the gold mines left by his father. He soon clashes with the former business partner who wants to expand mining, even if it means destroying the village's last tree. Gauri, who lives in the tree, prays to the village deity, and the people are cursed to communicate only through song. As greed and conflict spread, Pratap learns the truth about his family's past and begins to change. The villagers eventually discover the value of unity, sacrifice and protecting nature, learning that greed comes at a heavy cost.

Singeetham Srinivasa Rao



At 94, filmmaker Singeetham Srinivasa Rao returned to directing with Sing Geetham, a career spanning six decades, in what became his swansong. Known for films such as Pushpak (1987), Aditya 369 (1991) and Michael Madana Kama Rajan (1990), he explored different styles of storytelling.

Swapna Cinema

Priyanka Dutt is an Indian film producer and UCLA filmmaking graduate. After assisting Shoojit Sircar, she joined Vyjayanthi Movies, led by Nag Aswin and founded Three Angels Studio. Through Swapna Cinema, she produced films including Mahanati, Sita Ramam and Kalki 2898 AD.



Director
Antara G.G. Choudhury

Producer
Dibya Cine Production, Dr Tiluttoma Baruah

Screenplay
Antara G.G. Choudhury

DoP
Hiten Thakuria

Editor
Ramen Borah

Music Director
Pallab Talukdar

Cast
Kopil Bora, Urmila Mahanta Sagarnil, Kula Kuladeep, Nabadip Borgohain Bidya Bharati

Surjyamukhi (Sunflower)

India | 2026 | Assamese | 123.5' | Colour

Surjyamukhi follows Pushpal and Prarthana, two young people working in a private company. Pushpal wants to leave his routine job and start his own business, while Prarthana struggles to balance work and family responsibilities, including her troublesome brother, Partha. When Prarthana gets the promotion Pushpal hoped for, their rivalry grows. Over time, however, they develop a friendship that may turn into love. Meanwhile, a lost bag of money sets off a series of unexpected events, forcing the characters to make difficult choices. The film explores ambition, money, family responsibilities and relationships, showing how chance events can change ordinary lives.

Premiere Status
World Premiere

Antara G.G. Choudhury

Antara G.G. Choudhury is an Assamese actor-director and theatre practitioner from Guwahati. With experience across stage, radio, television and films, she has directed short films and makes her feature directorial debut with Surjyamukhi.



Dibya Cine Production, Dr Tiluttoma Baruah

Dr. Tiluttoma Baruah is an educationist, poet, songwriter and research scholar. A retired Professor of Anthropology, she has contributed to academia and literature and is now pursuing her passion for cinema as a film producer.

DIBYA CINE PRODUCTION





Director
Sivakumar Murugesan

Producer
Sivakarthikeyan Productions LLP,
Passion Film Factory

Screenplay
Sivakumar Murugesan

DoP
Vivek Vijayakumar

Editor
San Lokesh

Music Director
Nivas K Prasanna

Cast
Radikaa Sarathkumar

Thaai Kizhavi (God Mother)

India | 2026 | Tamil | 142' | Colour

Pavunuthaayi is a strong-willed 70-year-old woman who lives with her daughter and grandson in a small village. Feared by some and respected by others, she has been separated from her three sons for many years. When she suddenly becomes seriously ill, her sons return home. Their reunion brings back old family conflicts and painful memories. As they face the past, a secret kept hidden for years slowly comes to light, changing their understanding of the family and its relationships.

Sivakumar Murugesan

Sivakumar Murugesan began his career working with director and cinematographer Manikandan on Kadaisi Vivasayi. Thaai Kizhavi is his directorial debut.



Sivakarthikeyan Productions LLP, Passion Film Factory

Sivakarthikeyan Productions LLP: Founded by actor Sivakarthikeyan, this Tamil film production house supports diverse storytelling. Its productions include Kanaa, Doctor, Don, Vaazhl and Thaai Kizhavi. Passion Film Factory: A Chennai-based production company specialising in Tamil cinema, Passion Film Factory is known for producing films such as Kappal and the crime thriller Nibunan.



Director
Manish Saini

Producer
Amdavad Films Private Limited, Zee Studios

Screenplay
Manish Saini

DoP
Swathy Deepak

Editor
Deepa Bhatia

Music Director
Ajay Jayanthi & B. Prasanna

Cast
Jackie Shroff, Prateik Smita Patil, Bhagyashree, Mihir Godbole, Shivanssh Chourghe, Saharsh Shukla, Kumar Saurabh, Durgesh Kumar, Kundan Kumaar

The Great Grand Superhero Aliens Ka Aagman

India | 2026 | Hindi | 112' | Colour

The Great Grand Superhero: Aliens Ka Aagman is a science-fiction comedy about Dipu, a young boy who finds it difficult to make friends because his family keeps moving from one town to another. To impress his new classmates, he claims that his grandfather, Jagdish, is a superhero who protects Earth from aliens. Things take an unexpected turn when aliens actually arrive. But instead of attacking the planet, they come to warn humans about the damage they are causing to the environment. Blending humour, imagination and family relationships, the film highlights the importance of protecting our planet.

Manish Saini



Graduate from NID, Manish Saini is an Indian filmmaker and screenwriter, known for three National Film Awards for Dhh (2017), Gandhi & Co. (2022) and Giddh: The Scavenger (2023). He directed The Great Grand Superhero: Aliens Ka Aagman (2026).

Amdavad Films Private Limited, Zee Studios

Zee Studios, established in 2012, is an Indian film production and distribution company based in Mumbai. A subsidiary of Zee Entertainment Enterprises, it supports films across languages, with credits including Sairat, Gadar 2 and 12th Fail.



Director
Kamakhya Narayan Singh

Producer
Vipul Amrutlal Shah

Screenplay
Amarnath Jha, Vipul Amrutlal Shah

DoP
Abhijeet Chaudhari

Editor
Sanjay Sharma

Music Director
Mannan Shaah, Rahul Suhas (Song Kanha)

Cast
Ulka Gupta, Aishwarya Ojha, Aditi Bhatia, Sumit Gahlawat, Arjan Singh Aujla, Yuktam Khoslla

The Kerala Story 2 Goes Beyond

India | 2026 | Hindi | 131.24' | Colour

The Kerala Story 2 follows three young women from Kerala, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan who choose love over family expectations. Surekha hopes to become a civil servant, Neha is a national-level javelin athlete, and Divya dreams of becoming a social media star. Each believes love will help her build a better future. However, their relationships gradually become controlling and involve manipulation and betrayal. As their stories unfold, the women face difficult choices and struggle to protect their independence and ambitions. The film explores how misplaced trust and unhealthy relationships can affect personal freedom, family ties and the future they hoped to build.

Kamakhya Narayan Singh

Kamakhya Narayan Singh is an Indian writer-director whose work explores issues through character-driven stories. In The Kerala Story 2, he examines love, personal choices, freedom, trust and manipulation, encouraging audiences to reflect on relationships and human resilience.



Vipul Amrutlal Shah

Vipul Amrutlal Shah is an Indian producer and director known for commercial and socially themed films. His directorial credits include Aankhen, Waqt and Namastey London. As a producer, his films include Singh Is Kinng, The Kerala Story and Bastar: The Naxal Story.





Director
Duyu Tabyo

Producer
NK Works, Tana Disem

Screenplay
Duyu Tabyo

DoP
Nyago Ete, Nabam Katung, Sunny Daimari

Editor
Lodam Gongo

Music Director
Kevi Pucho

Cast
Techi Upen Tara, Nabam Sera, Joram Rinia, Takam Rineez

Urum (Spirit)

India | 2026 | Nyishi | 143' | Colour

Set in a remote mountain village in Arunachal Pradesh, the film follows a father struggling to cope with the loss of his young daughter. Haunted by grief and guilt, he finds it difficult to accept what has happened. He begins to experience disturbing visions that blur the line between reality and imagination. As he searches for answers, forgotten memories and hidden truths slowly come to light. His journey becomes a struggle to understand his loss and find peace. The film explores grief, trauma and the beliefs of the local community, showing how the past continues to affect those left behind.

Premiere Status
World Premiere

Duyu Tabyo

Duyu Tabyo is an independent writer-director and cultural practitioner from Arunachal Pradesh. His work explores indigenous identity, memory and social realities, drawing on the region's landscapes, oral traditions and beliefs. Urum, a psychological drama, marks his feature film debut.



NK Works, Tana Disem

Tana Disem is an Indian producer from Arunachal Pradesh with experience in live events and reality shows since 2015. Urum, a psychological thriller set in Arunachal Pradesh, marks his feature film production debut, bringing stories from Northeast India to wider audiences.







Director
Samir Tewari

Producer
Working I Films

Screenplay
Samir Tewari, Vikrant Katkar, Nikhil Palande, Gaurav Relekar, Manish Tiwari, Priti Nair

DoP
Rao Nandakishore

Editor
Neil Natu

Music Director
Abhijiet Chandrakala, Joel Crasto, Edo&Jo

Cast
Girish Kulkarni, Rajshri Deshpande, Devika Daftardar, Shrikant Yadav, Aaryan Mengaji

Baapya (The Man)

India I 2026 I Marathi I 147.8' I Colour

Set in the coastal fishing town of Dapoli, Baapya is a comedy-drama about Shailaja, who returns after ten years as Dr. Shailesh Patil following a gender transition. Her return turns the lives of her former husband Anya, their teenage son Sanju and the local community upside down. As they struggle to understand and accept the change, old wounds and social prejudices come to the surface. Blending humour with emotional moments, the film explores family, identity, relationships and the challenges of accepting change.

Samir Tewari

A copywriter, Samir Tewari began his career co-directing India's first daily soap, Shanti. Founder of Working I Films, he directed award-winning commercials. His short, Level 13, won 35 awards, while Mr Joe B. Carvalho was his debut feature. Baapya is his first feature in Marathi.



Working I Films

Founded in 2005 by Samir Tewari, Working I Films has produced over 1,000 commercials. Its short, Level 13, won 35 festival awards. The company also produced Lalla and independently financed its first Marathi feature, Baapya.



Director
Pravin Vitthal Tarde

Producer
Vatavruksha Entertainment Private. Limited, Kailash Babulal Wani

Screenplay
Pravin Vitthal Tarde

DoP
Prasant Misale

Editor
Mayur Hardas

Music Director
Tanmay Bhide

Cast
Mohan Joshi, Snehal Tarde, Pravin Tarde, Atul Kudale, Hrishikesh Wamburkar

Deool Band 2 (Temple Closed 2)

India | 2026 | Marathi | 181.53' | Colour

Deool Band 2 is a Marathi drama about farmers' struggles, faith and social responsibility. The film follows Sangita, who loses her farmer husband, Tukaram, after years of debt, crop failures and exploitation. Blaming God for the suffering of farmers, she questions the meaning of faith and divine justice. Swami Samarth appears in human form and accompanies her through the village. As they meet struggling farmers and witness the exploitation by moneylenders and middlemen, Sangita continues to challenge him with difficult questions. The film explores the role of faith while highlighting the need for human compassion and collective action to bring change.

Pravin Vitthal Tarde

A law graduate and former national-level Kabaddi player, Pravin Tarde is a Marathi actor, director and writer, known for Deool Band, Mulshi Pattern, Dharmaveer, Dharmaveer 2 and Sarsenapati Hambirrao.



Vatavruksha Entertainment Private. Limited, Kailash Babulal Wani

Kailash Wani is a Pune-based film producer, entrepreneur and the founder of Vatavruksha Entertainment. Known for producing the devotional dramas Deool Band (2015) and Deool Band 2 (2026), he supports socially relevant Marathi cinema alongside business interests in real estate and infrastructure.

VATAVRUKSHA





Director
Rishab Shetty

Producer
Hombale Films LLP

Screenplay
Rishab Shetty, Anirudh Mahesh, Shaneel Guru

DoP
Arvind Kashyap

Editor
Suresh Mallaiah

Music Director
B. Ajaneesh Loknath

Cast
Rishab Shetty, Rukmini Vasanth, Jayaram & Gulshan Devaiah

Kantara: A Legend - Chapter 1

India | 2025 | Kannada | 168.53' | Colour

During the Kadamba era, King Vijayendra enters the mystical forest of Kantara but never returns. His heir, Rajashekara, seals the forest borders. Years later, Berme, a young forest dweller, crosses into the kingdom of Bangra and discovers the cruelty of its rulers. When Prince Kulashekara attacks the forest tribes and kills many of their people, Berme rises against him. Uniting the tribes, he leads a fight for justice and Dharma. What begins as a journey of discovery soon turns into a fierce battle between two worlds, shaped by power, faith and destiny.

Rishab Shetty

Born in 1983 in Keradi village, Karnataka, Rishab Shetty is an actor, director and producer known for Kannada cinema. His notable films include Kirik Party, Sarkari Hi. Pra. Shaale and Kantara. He won National Film Awards for Best Children's Film and Best Actor, and the Filmfare Award for Best Director.



Hombale Films LLP

Founded by Vijay Kiragandur and Chaluve Gowda in Karnataka, Hombale Films is a leading production house known for large-scale filmmaking. Its productions, Kantara and KGF Chapter 2, won four National Film Awards in 2024, including Best Popular Film and Best Kannada Film.



Director
Anil Ravipudi

Producer
Shine Screens (India) LLP

Screenplay
Anil Ravipudi

DoP
Sameer Reddy

Editor
Tammiraju Bikkina

Music Director
Bheems Ceciroleo

Cast
Chiranjeevi K, Venkatesh Daggubati, Nayanthara, Catherine Tresa, VTV Ganesh

Mana Shankara Varaprasad Garu

(Our Mr. Shankar Varaprasad)

India | 2026 | Telugu | 164' | Colour

Mana Shankara Vara Prasad Garu is a family drama about love, sacrifice and reconciliation. Shankar Vara Prasad, a dedicated national security officer, puts his duty before his family and becomes separated from his wife and children. Six years later, he tries to rebuild their relationship by joining the school where his children study, but they hardly recognise him. When his family faces a serious threat, he is assigned to protect them. As he uncovers the danger, he must confront his past, save his loved ones and win back their trust.

Anil Ravipudi

Anil Ravipudi is a Telugu filmmaker who made his debut with Pataas in 2015. His films include F2, Sarileru Neekevvaru and Bhagavanth Kesari. F2 and Sankrantiki Vastunnam featured in IFFI's Indian Panorama, while Bhagavanth Kesari won a National Film Award.



Shine Screens (India) LLP

Founded in 2017 in Hyderabad by Sahu Garapati, Shine Screens is a Telugu production house known for Majili, Tuck Jagadish, Ugram and Bhagavanth Kesari, and is a recipient of the 71st National Film Award. Mana Shankara Vara Prasad Garu is their latest production.





Director
Ravi Varma Namburi

Producer
Amrutha Mass JV, Gade Sreenivasa Kumar, Sai Rajesh Neelam

Screenplay
Ravi Varma Namburi, Sai Rajesh

DoP
Viswas Daniel

Editor
Santhosh Naidu

Music Director
Mani Sharma

Cast
Iran Abbavaraam, Sri Gouri Priya, Thrigun (Adith Arun), P. Vasu, Siri Hanumanthu, Devi Prasad, Pramodhini, Deepa Shankar, Naveen Neni, Mahendar, Naresh Goli, Pooja Dabbiru

Chennai Love Story

India | 2026 | Telugu | 179' | Colour

Still struggling with the pain of a past relationship, Nivi meets Steven, an orphan whose love and kindness slowly bring happiness back into her life. Though he is unlike the men she usually chooses, she falls in love with him and agrees to marry him. Tragically, Steven dies in an accident on their wedding day. Unable to accept his sudden loss, Nivi is overwhelmed by grief and anger. One rainy night, she visits his grave after drinking, remembering his promise to stay with her forever. Feeling abandoned, she breaks down, unable to understand why he had to leave her.

Ravi Varma Namburi

Ravi Namboori is a Telugu writer and director. He wrote dialogues for Rojulu Marayi and Prati Roju Pandaage, and co-wrote Bhale Manchi Chowka Beram. He also wrote the web series 3 Roses and directed Chennai Love Story, handling its screenplay and dialogues.



Amrutha Mass JV, Gade Sreenivasa Kumar, Sai Rajesh Neelam

Sai Rajesh Neelam is a National Award-winning Telugu writer, director and producer. Known for Colour Photo and the blockbuster Baby, he holds leadership roles in Telugu film associations and is developing several upcoming projects.







Director
Dr. Vishal Chaturvedi

Producer
Swambhu Media Network Pvt Ltd

Screenplay
Dr. Vishal Chaturvedi

DoP
Vishal Bawa

Editor
Shankh Rajyadhyaksha

Music Director
Sadhu S. Tiwari, Dhirendra Mulkalwar, Shreyash Dharmadhikari, Rishi Pathak

Cast
Shobhinaw Satya, Vihaan Shedge, Purnima Tiwari, Chandan K. Anand

Hanuman Ansh

(A partial manifestation of the divine energy of Lord Hanuman)

India | 2026 | Hindi | 150' | Colour

Born in a village in present-day Uttar Pradesh, Lakshminarayan sets out on a spiritual journey to understand life, death and human suffering. Travelling across North India, he meets saints and ordinary people whose lives he touches. A mysterious encounter near Neem Karoli village leads to the name Neem Karoli Baba. Hanuman Ansh, the first part of a trilogy, traces his journey to becoming a revered spiritual figure whose teachings inspired people across the world, including Steve Jobs, Mark Zuckerberg and Julia Roberts.

Dr. Vishal Chaturvedi

Vishal Chaturvedi is a writer and director who has worked on over 100 projects, including films, advertisements and music videos. A former creative director and collaborator of Anubhav Sinha, he wrote Fauji 2 and recently wrote and directed Hanuman Ansh.



Swambhu Media Network Pvt Ltd

Namrata Singh: Producer, investor and Everymedia founder, bringing 15-plus years of media expertise.

Anupriya Nagar: Economist, art collector and producer, combining cultural insight with storytelling.

Ragini Sona: Producer known for Hanuman Ansh, Chocolate, Red Mercury and Shukriya.

Vishal Chaturvedi: Writer-director-producer behind 100-plus projects, championing socially rooted storytelling.



Director
Samarpan Sengupta

Producer
Sree Abhigyan Dreamworks Private Ltd.

Screenplay
Samarpan Sengupta, Anirban Ghoshal, Abhijit Chatterjee

DoP
Gopi Bhagat

Editor
Subhajit Singha

Music Director
Bonnie Chakraborty, Silajit Majumder, Abhijit Chatterjee, Gourab Tapadar

Cast
Anjan Dutt, Roopa Ganguly, Silajit Majumder, Aparajita Adhya, Kharaj Mukherjee, Koneenica Banerjee, Avipsa Chatterjee (Mishtu)

Pratyabartan (The Comeback)

India I 2026 I Bengali I 133.31' I Colour

Dr. Dipankar Sanyal leaves his job as a medical college professor in a remote village in Purulia and moves to Kolkata with his wife, Shalini, and daughter, Disha, hoping to give them a better life. Over the years, career success and social status take priority, creating distance within the family. Twelve years later, teenage Disha, feeling lonely and neglected, seeks comfort and acceptance online. A serious crisis soon changes their lives and turns public opinion against her parents. Facing their guilt, Dipankar and Shalini return to their roots, where they begin to confront their mistakes and rebuild their lives, rediscovering family, compassion and hope.

Samarpan Sengupta

Samarpan Sengupta is an independent filmmaker active since 2011, working across films, documentaries and advertising. He has held various assistant and associate directing roles and directed Tears in Rain, Aprotim and Inkelab. He founded Trinayani Films & Media.



Sree Abhigyan Dreamworks Private Ltd.

Abhijit Chatterjee is a creative entrepreneur, film producer, writer, lyricist, composer and author. Founder of Ascensive Group, he works across business, education and social initiatives, earning recognition for his leadership, creativity and commitment to social impact.



Director
Raja Shabir Mohammad Khan

Producer
Ryhana Productions

Screenplay
Raja Shabir Khan

DoP
Manas Bhattacharyya

Editor
A Sreekar Prasad

Music Director
Tarali Sarma

Cast
Haziq Mohammad Khan, Eashel Khan, Raima Khan

Sledge

India | 2026 | Kashmiri | 75.38' | Colour

In a snow-covered village near Gulmarg, Ali's wooden sledge is his family's only source of income. When he leaves home for a few days, his three children - Haziq (11), Eashel (9), and Raima (8) - are left with a freedom they don't fully understand. In a moment of play, they accidentally break the sledge. What begins as fear of their father's anger soon turns into something heavier. Desperate to repair it before he returns, the children venture into the tourist world of Gulmarg, trying to earn money in small, uncertain ways while enduring rejection, encounters with strangers, and quiet humiliations. When they find a lost bag filled with money and chocolates, the solution to their problem suddenly seems within reach. But as their father's return draws closer, the temptation to use the money collides with the growing weight of their conscience.

Premiere Status
Asia Premiere

Raja Shabir Mohammad Khan

An alumnus from the Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute Kolkatha, Raja Khan is an award-winning Kashmiri filmmaker. His documentary, Shepherds of Paradise, won the National Award. He works in documentary and fiction filmmaking.



Ryhana Productions

Raja Khan is a filmmaker from Kashmir, India. His work explores memory, landscape, and lived experience. A National Award winner for Shepherds of Paradise, he studied at the Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute and works across documentary and fiction.





Director
Jeejivisha Kale

Producer
Supri Advertising & Entertainment, Coquelicot Pictures

Screenplay
Nikhil Mahajan, Prajakt Deshmukh

DoP
Milind Jog

Editor
Nikhil Mahajan, Hrishikesh Petwe

Music Director
Advait Nemlekar, Nilesh Moharir

Cast
Bharati Acharekar, Nehha Pendse Bayas, Sonalee Kulkarni, Pushkaraj Chirputkar, Nipun Dharmadhikari, Jaimini Pathak

Tighi

India I 2026 I Marathi I 107.33' I Colour

Swati has built a life in Mumbai, but financial troubles and an exploitative boss leave her struggling. When she learns that her ailing mother, Hemalata, has little time left, she returns to her childhood home in Pune. There, she reunites with her younger sister, Sarika, who has cared for their difficult mother alone for three years. Their meeting brings back years of anger, guilt and hurt. As the three women try to make peace, an unexpected discovery in Swati's old wedding video brings hidden family secrets to light. Tighi explores family bonds, sacrifice and the pain of silence.

Jeejivisha Kale

Jeejivisha Kale is an independent filmmaker from Mumbai who believes personal stories can connect with wider audiences. Her work focuses on honest storytelling. Tighi marks her debut feature film.



Supri Advertising & Entertainment, Coquelicot Pictures

Supri Advertising & Entertainment entered film production with June, premiered at IFFI's Indian Panorama, and co-produced Tighi with Coquelicot Pictures.

Coquelicot Pictures is a Mumbai-based creative film studio producing innovative stories across languages and platforms, with its founders' films recognised at IFFI.



Director
Sreehari Haridas

Producer
Chaos Cinema Company

Screenplay
Sreehari Haridas

DoP
Anandu K H

Editor
Anand Puthazheth

Music Director
Music, Background Score: Ajith Sathyan

Cast
Devaraj T R, Arya Mini Kishan, Nandagopan, Jo Joseph, Devananda Vinod, Gayathri V, Lakshmi Njeralath, Ananya Ravi

Ajayante Maranam: Oru Case Study (A Case Study on Ajayan's Demise)

India I 2026 I Malayalam I 72' I Colour

Aaryan, an aspiring filmmaker searching for a story for his debut film, becomes interested in the suspicious death of Ajayan, initially believed to be a suicide. Through conversations with people who knew him, Aaryan pieces together Ajayan's life and the circumstances surrounding his death. His investigation reveals how toxic parenting, peer pressure and rigid social expectations shaped Ajayan's choices and struggles. As he meets Ajayan's former girlfriend, deeper truths emerge. Gradually, Aaryan begins to see parts of himself in Ajayan's story. What starts as an investigation into one man's death becomes a wider reflection on the pressures and contradictions of everyday life.

Premiere Status
World Premiere

Sreehari Haridas

Sreehari Haridas,an emerging filmmaker passionate about meaningful storytelling, has to his credit shortilms like #Hashtag, Scene 1 Packup, Dvi, and Vijanam Vanyam Vashyam. Ajayante Maranam: Oru Case Study is his feature debut.



Chaos Cinema Company

Founded in 2021 by Haridas Vadekkath and Jayson CK, Chaos Cinema Company is currently headed by Gokul K and Sharan Ravindran, with Arpitha Ajith, Sudhish Kumar and Alexander Mathew as key members. After producing short films, this is there debut feature.



Director
Sathyashiva

Producer
SaiVinoth Jayakumar

Screenplay
DoP
Dill Raaju

Editor
Vetre Krishnan

Music Director
Music : D. Imman

Cast
Vijay Kumar, Anandhi, I.M Vijayan, Singam Puli, Deepa Shankar, Kulapulli Leela, Indhrajith, Joshika Maya, Subiksha, Ismath Banu, Ananth, Theni Murugan.

Arivu

India | 2026 | Tamil | 130' | Colour

Set in 1996, the story follows Kathir, a young teacher posted to the remote tribal village of Kaani in the Western Ghats. He discovers that girls are denied education because villagers believe it will anger their deity. Determined to change this, he secretly teaches a group of girls aged 13–14 who have never attended school. Using everyday objects to explain subjects, he prepares them for NIOS examinations. But as the exams approach, the girls must travel to Theni, outside their village. Kathir helps them overcome their fears and social restrictions to take their first steps towards education.

Premiere Status
World Premiere

Sathyashiva

Sathya Siva is an Indian director, made his debut with Kazhugu. Arivu, his second feature continues his interest in meaningful and relatable stories, showcasing his creative vision and passion for cinema.



SaiVinoth Jayakumar

Sai Vinoth Jayakumar is an entrepreneur and producer. Through Movietron, he aims to inspire fresh talent, and embraces innovation. Arivu and Good News are his projects.





Director
Shruthi Sharanyam

Producer
Liju Prabhakar, Shruthi Sharanyam

Screenplay
Shruthi Sharanyam

DoP
Mridul S

Editor
Suhail Saay Muhammed and Ranjith Kuzhur

Music Director
Music : Sudeep Palanad

Cast
Beena R Chandran, Ashwathy B, Uma KP, Sreejith, Achuthanandan, Sreela Nalledam

Ottanjaavalmaram (A Lone Jamun Tree)

India I 2026 I Malayalam I 100' I Colour

An aging theatre legend, slipping into the fog of dementia, revisits fragments of the roles she once embodied, performing them again before her nephew's camera. Among them, Ottanjaavalmaram a solitary play she once performed - becomes the vessel of her fading memories, until a buried wound from her past slowly resurfaces before the quiet witnesses of her life - her best friend Elsa and her caretaker Simi. A film emerged from a deeply personal journey of the director, following her father's diagnosis with dementia, exploring memory, love and loss.

Premiere Status
World Premiere

Shruthi Sharanyam

Shruthi Sharanyam is a Malayalam writer-director whose debut feature, B 32 Muthal 44 Vare, won the FIPRESCI Award, Kerala State Award, Padmarajan Award and Film Critics Award. A Lone Jamun Tree is her second feature.



Liju Prabhakar

Liju Prabhakar is a State Award-winning film colourist associated with nationally and internationally recognised productions. He also works as a film producer.





Director
Dhanush Dandu

Producer
Dhanush Dandu, Sahith Mucherla

Screenplay
Dhanush Dandu

DoP
Lohith R

Editor
Dhanush Dandu

Music Director
Music Supervisor - Darshan Desai

Premiere Status
World Premiere

Why, Vani?

India | 2026 | Telugu | 125' | Colour

Vani, a young editor in Hyderabad, feels stuck in a life that does not fulfil her ambitions. When she gets an opportunity to work on a documentary in Mumbai, she decides to leave and pursue her dream of filmmaking. But the decision brings challenges in her relationships with her boyfriend Arun and filmmaker Sahith, whose compromises on their project reflect her own fears. Pressured by family expectations and guilt, Vani struggles to make her choice. A difficult conversation with her mother helps her understand that following her dreams does not mean abandoning her loved ones. With renewed confidence, she completes her work and boards the train to Mumbai.

Dhanush Dandu

Dhanush Dandu is an Independent writer-director-editor and actor from Hyderabad, India, with a multidisciplinary approach to storytelling. His filmography includes films Long Route (2021) and Virgin Story (2022).



Sahith Mucherla

Sahith Mucherla,filmmaker and founder of The Alternate Reality Pictures (TAR), an independent production house, aims to create meaningful cinema across languages and formats.



JURY FOR INDIAN PANORAMA NON-FEATURE FILMS



Himansu Sekhar Khatua

Jury Chairperson

Himansu Sekhar Khatua is an accomplished Indian filmmaker, educator, and journalist, with credits across feature films, documentaries, short films, and television. His renowned works are the National Award-winning Shunya Swaroopa (1996), Kathantara (2006), Krantidhara (2014), and Matira Bandhan—the film that earned him recognition both at home and abroad.

He has also made significant contributions to film education in India. He was Director of the Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute in Kolkata, and later Director General of KIIT University in Bhubaneswar, where he helped build the School of Film and Media Sciences, the School of Fashion Technology, and the School of Mass Communication—shaping them around founder Dr. Achyuta Samanta's vision.

His films and his work in education have helped Odia cinema grow, bringing local stories and socially relevant issues to bigger audiences while training the next wave of media professionals.



Aarti Patel

Jury Member

Aarti Patel is an actress- producer-writer-radio jockey and avid reader with over four decades of experience in the media industry. A postgraduate in Statistics, she founded Akshar Communications, which produced over 70 documentaries, 25 TV serials and 1000 episodes for various organisations.

She also produced five regional films, earning several state awards. Her films include Lagan Laagi Re, Aum Mangalam Singlem and Love Ni Bhavai. She wrote and narrated over 1,000 stories for radio and translated bestselling works into Gujarati. She has served on CBFC panels and various film screening and subsidy committees.



Abhijeet Dalvi

Jury Member

A two-time National Film Award-winning writer-director, Abhijeet Arvind Dalvi's creative journey spans Marathitheatre, cinema, and advertising. He made significant contributions to Marathi amateur theatre. His experimental play Bheti Lagi Jeeva won the Zee Natya Gaurav Award 2015 for Best Writing. Dalvi wrote the story, screenplay, and dialogues for the Marathi feature film Triple Seat (2019). His directorial works earned national acclaim: Kumkumarchan won the 68th NationalFilm Award for Best Film on Family Values, while Hamsafar, written and directed by him, won the 72nd National Film Award for Best Short Film.

Spanning theatre, advertising, and cinema, his creative practice reflects a nuanced understanding of storytelling, visual language, and human emotions. He believes in cinema and theatre as powerful mediums of cultural expression and social change.



Dhanesh Yadhav T R

Jury Member

Dhanesh Yadhav T R is a video editor with a keen interest in visual storytelling and cinema. His work focuses on creating engaging narratives through rhythm, pacing, sound, and visual language.

He worked across different forms of visual content, with a particular interest in films, documentaries, and creative projects. He edited Bhadra: The Dance of kali, which received a Special Jury Mention at the 72nd National Film Awards. The experience has further strengthened his passion for cinematic storytelling and his pursuit of meaningful work in the film



Ragini Sona

Jury Member

Ragini Sona is an Indian film producer associated with Hindi cinema. She is one of the producers of Hanuman Ansh (2026), a spiritual drama inspired by the life and teachings of Neem Karoli Baba, produced under the Swambhu Media Network banner. Alongside Vishal Chaturvedi, Namrata G. Singh and Anupriya Nagar, she contributed to bringing this spiritual story to the screen. With an interest in meaningful, story-driven cinema, Ragini has been part of a project that connects spirituality, faith and devotion with contemporary cinematic storytelling. Her work on Hanuman Ansh reflects her involvement in bringing culturally rooted narratives to audiences.



Shankhajeet De

Jury Member

Shankhajeet De is a researcher-writer-director. His debut feature length documentary'In the Shadow of Time on Odisha's Ravana Chhaya shadow puppetry won the National Film award for the best film on art and culture. His documentary Intimate Outsiders on Rajasthani Katputli tradition was premiered in IDSFFK, Trivandrum. His latest documentary on Odisha's Ramaleela tradition was premiered at MIFF'26. He writes scripts for feature films, short films, documentaries, museum guides as well as Son-et-Lumiere installation projects.

Shankhajeet established the Filmmaking Department at Sri Aurobindo Centre for Arts & Communication, New Delhi and taught research, screenplay & script writing and direction for over the years. He also intermittently contributes articles and journals on traditional artistic practices of India.



Shiv Sunny

Jury Member

A journalist with nearly 15 years of experience across India's leading publications, Shiv Sunny has earned reputation with The Hindustan Times, The Hindu and Deccan Herald. Over the course of his career, he has reported on crime, politics, health and civic affairs, covering some of the country's most significant and high-profile crime stories.

As a roving reporter with Hindustan Times, he travelled extensively across the country to report on major crime incidents and politically charged developments. He holds a master's degree in journalism from the prestigious AJK Mass Communication Research Centre, Jamia Millia Islamia.
He is also an entrepreneur and parenting influencer. His first book on parenting is scheduled for release in early 2027.

WAVES Film Bazaar @ 20

INDIA'S CINEMATIC GATEWAY

What began as an initiative to nurture South Asian storytelling has evolved into one of the region's most significant platforms for cinematic exchange, collaboration, and commerce. Initiated by the National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) in 2007, Film Bazaar has grown into South Asia's global film market, bringing together filmmakers, producers, sales agents, distributors, financiers, and festival programmers from India and across the world. Held annually alongside the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) in Goa, it serves as a dynamic meeting ground where stories find collaborators, creative visions attract investment, and regional cinema discovers opportunities on the international stage.

Over the years, Film Bazaar has played an important role in the journeys of several acclaimed films, including Ship of Theseus (2012), Anhe Ghode Da Daan (2011), Miss Lovely (2012), Qissa (2013), The Lunchbox (2013), Liar's Dice (2013), Court (2014), Titli (2014), Margarita With A Straw (2014), Chauthi Koot (2015), Dum Laga Ke Haisha (2015),Thithi (2015), Newton (2017) Manto (2018) Fire in the Mountains (2021) In the Belly of the Tiger (2024) , Girls will be Girls (2024) , Cactus Pears (2025), Shape of Momo (2026), Little Thomas (2026). These films have participated in one or more of its programmes, reflecting the Bazaar's enduring commitment to discovering and supporting distinctive cinematic voices. This mission is strengthened by NFDC's wider contribution to Indian cinema, with financial support extended to over 300 films across 21 regional languages, many of which have received national and international recognition.

As the Indian media and entertainment landscape continues to expand, Film Bazaar has embraced a larger vision under the banner of WAVES Film Bazaar. This evolution reflects an ambition to position India not merely as a destination for film production, but as a global hub for storytelling, creative exchange, industry partnerships, and business opportunities. The reimagined platform brings together an increasingly diverse community of industry professionals, creating pathways for South Asian cinema to connect with international markets and audiences.

At the heart of WAVES Film Bazaar is a comprehensive programme designed to support projects at different stages of their creative and commercial journeys. Its Co-Production Market connects selected feature film and documentary projects with Indian and international producers, financiers, distributors, and sales agents, opening avenues for artistic and financial partnerships. The NFDC Screenwriters' Lab nurtures emerging screenwriting talent through mentorship from acclaimed international script and industry experts, while equipping writers with the skills to pitch their stories to producers and investors. The Work-in-Progress Lab offers filmmakers an opportunity to refine their rough cuts through specialised feedback from international advisors, helping them move closer to their final vision.

Complementing these initiatives are the Viewing Room and Market Screenings, which provide platforms for filmmakers to present their work to potential buyers, distributors, festival programmers, and other industry stakeholders. The Producers' Lab further strengthens the ecosystem through professional mentorship, masterclasses, project development, and networking opportunities. Meanwhile, the Knowledge Series brings together industry leaders and decision-makers to exchange insights on evolving business models, distribution, international collaborations, and emerging trends in cinema.

Beyond project development and film financing, WAVES Film Bazaar creates opportunities for the wider industry to connect through its country and state pavilions, technology showcases, market stalls, and international media partnerships. These platforms encourage cross-border engagement, promote filming destinations and incentives, and bring together creative talent, technology providers, and businesses from across the global audiovisual landscape.

The 20th edition of WAVES Film Bazaar, scheduled for 20–24 November 2026 at Taj Cidade De Goa Horizon, Goa marks another milestone in this evolving journey. With its expanded programme and international outlook, the Bazaar continues to strengthen India's position in the global film ecosystem, creating opportunities for stories, talent, and businesses to transcend geographical boundaries.

From nurturing independent voices and facilitating international co-productions to embracing technological innovation, WAVES Film Bazaar represents the evolving possibilities of Indian cinema. Its journey from a South Asian film market to an increasingly interconnected global platform reflects a larger vision: to create an ecosystem where creativity meets opportunity, stories find the world, and the future of filmmaking takes shape.

INDIAN PANORAMA
NON-FEATURE FILMS



Becoming

Opening Film

India I 2026 I Ladakhi I 11' I Colour



Set in Ladakh, Becoming follows Rinchen, a young mother, and her son Agyal, who shows an unusual connection with nature from infancy. At the age of seven, Agyal experiences strange visions, feels drawn to the ancient Likir Monastery and recalls memories that seem to belong to another life. At the monastery, he identifies a box kept in a locked room. The objects inside lead the monks to believe that he is the reincarnation of a respected Rimpoche. As Agyal begins his spiritual journey, the film explores rebirth, destiny and the links between past, present and future.

Director
Leena Yadav
Producer
Saison Des Femmes Entertainment Private Limited
Screenplay
Leena Yadav
DoP
Aseem Bajaj
Editor
Leena Yadav
Music Director
Shigeru Umebayashi
Cast
Rinchen Angmo, Tsering Wanggail



Leena Yadav, award winning writer, director and producer, made Parched, Rajma Chawal, House of Secrets, the Oscar-nominated Tell It Like a Woman, and Becoming.

Saison Des Femmes Entertainment produces filmmaker-driven films, documentaries and series, supporting distinctive voices, meaningful stories, cross-cultural collaboration and international audiences.

Amit Atal (Immortal Atal)

India I 2025 I Hindi I 24' I Colour



Immortal Atal is a documentary that explores the life, thoughts, and personality of former Prime Minister of India, Bharat Ratna Atal Bihari Vajpayee. It reveals the many facets that transformed him from a mere politician into a distinctive figure in India's public life. Long before becoming the Prime Minister, Member of Parliament, Foreign Minister, poet, and powerful orator, he was deeply connected with the world of words and journalism as the first editor of Panchjanya.

Director
Hitesh shankar
Producer
Frame 9 labs
Screenplay
Hitesh Shankar
DoP
Sunil Bisht, Vinod Kumar, Chandrashekhar Kashyap
Editor
Alok kumar, Rajesh kumar
Music Director
NA
Cast
NA



Hitesh Shankar, the editor of Panchjanya, has worked with Dainik Jagran, Hindustan and India Today. He helped professionalise Panchjanya and directed Vibhaajan Ki Vibheeshika, a film exploring the human tragedy of India's Partition, reflecting his interest in visual storytelling beyond journalism.

Frame 9 labs, with professional experience in media and IT sectors, brings together two complementary worlds—creative storytelling and structured execution.This diverse experience offers insight into developing, managing, and transforming ideas into compelling content for wider audiences.

Attappadi

India I 2025 I Tamil I 30' I Colour



Located in Kerala's Western Ghats, Attappadi is home to indigenous communities that have preserved traditional healing practices using medicinal plants and forest resources for generations. Much of this knowledge is passed down orally and remains undocumented, putting it at risk of being lost. Sultan Ahmed Al Mehmoudi travels from Arabia to explore these traditions, guided by filmmaker Vijeesh Mani, who has spent years documenting Attappadi's people and culture. Along the way, he meets traditional healers and elders and learns about their relationship with the forest. What begins as a search for medicinal knowledge becomes a journey into the community's way of life and heritage.

Director
Vijeesh Mani
Producer
Vijeesh Mani Film Club, A M Gopalan
Screenplay
Ajith Solayur
DoP
Sarath, Mohan, P Murukesh
Editor
B Lenin
Music Director
Vijeesh Mani (songs), Mithun Malayalam (BGM)
Cast
Sulthan Ahmad Al Mahmudhi, Vijeesh Mani, Vadakiyamma



Vijeesh Mani from Kerala, directed Vishwaguru, a Guinness World Record film made within 51.2 hours. His films include Puzhayamma, Netaji, Namo, Mmmmm, Aadhivaasi, and docufiction Velichappad.

Vijeesh Mani Film Club is a prominent creative film production banner founded by Guinness World Record–holding filmmaker Vijeesh Mani. With an extensive portfolio of over 15 feature and 5 non-feature film productions, the production house is dedicated to pioneering experimental, meaningful, and socially impactful cinema. It has carved out a unique identity in global cinema for its emphasis on environmental awareness, tribal heritage preservation, rare indigenous languages, and traditional cultural arts.

Chalo India With Eric Ji - Mizoram

India I 2026 I English I 48' I Colour



In Chalo India with Eric Ji – Mizoram, Eric explores the northeastern state bordering Myanmar and Bangladesh. Known for its high literacy, Christian population and peaceful communities, Mizoram has a strong sense of discipline and civic responsibility. Its tribal heritage and history shaped its journey to statehood in 1987. The programme highlights the important role of Mizo women in education, business, community life and cultural preservation. It also explores the growing influence of women in leadership and society. Unlike many parts of India, where cricket dominates, football holds a special place in Mizoram, bringing people together through local matches and community support.

Director
Rajdeep Choudhury
Producer
Sachin Karande
Screenplay
Rajdeep Choudhury
DoP
Sarthak Das
Editor
Vinod Jadhav, Sarwat Niazi
Music Director
Kumar Shagun
Cast
Eric Ollerenshaw, OBE



British-Indian actor Rajdeep Choudhury appeared in Jack and Dill, Mister Mummy, Irah, and A Teacher's Gift, also writing the latter. He also acts in Andrew Lau's new feature film Kashmir Princess.



Trained in theatre at Pune University and the Film and Television Institute of India, Sachin P. Karande is an Indian writer-director, directing plays and films including Payback, Vikalp, Jack and Dil, Wedlock and Second Chance.

Demography is Destiny

India I 2025 I Hindi I 40' I Colour



Demography is Destiny examines how changes in a country's population can influence its social, political and cultural future. Using historical census data from the late 19th century to the present, the film traces changes in India's population and considers their possible impact on society. It also explores the relationship between demographic changes and major historical events, including Partition. The film encourages viewers to think about how population trends may affect national stability, cultural traditions and future generations. It stresses the importance of understanding these changes and considering their long-term effects on the country.

Director
Kamakhya Narayan Singh, Anshuman Shekhar
Producer
Ravindra Sanghvi
Screenplay
Anshuman Shekhar
DoP
Ratul Baruah, Amit
Editor
Sandeep Chauhan
Music Director
Sandeep Chauhan
Cast
NA



Kamakhya Narayan Singh - A filmmaker known for Justice Delayed but Delivered (2020), Bhor: Dawn (2018) and The Kerala Story 2 Goes Beyond (2026).



Anshuman Shekhar A documentary director known for A Tribute to Late Shri Manohar Parrikar (2019).



Ravindra Sanghvi is a film producer based in Mumbai.

Echoes of the Last Shelter

India I 2026 I Hindi I 13' I Colour



After her father's death, Neema returns to a roadside shelter in Ladakh, determined to close it for good. The shelter once offered help to travelers stranded by snow and blocked roads, but she no longer wants to continue her father's work. When a storm forces several travelers, including a sick woman struggling to breathe, to seek refuge, Neema opens the shelter for one night. By offering them food, blankets, warmth and oxygen, she begins to understand her father's message: patriotism is not about words, but about helping others through actions.

Director
Bharat Arora, Rajesh Bhatia
Producer
Rajesh Bhatia, Bharat Arora, Manu Bisht (Openframe AI Lab)
Screenplay
Bharat Arora, Rajesh Bhatia
DoP
Bharat Arora
Editor
Rajesh Bhatia
Music Director
Bharat Arora, Rajesh Bhatia
Cast
Nima, Tashi, Ama, Imran, Sonam





Rajesh Bhatia, an alumnus from the Film and Television Institute of India, Pune, is a writer, director, producer and educator with 35 years of experience.

Bharat Arora Trained at B.R. Films, Mumbai, he is a director, cinematographer and colorist with over 25 years of experience. Together, they co-founded OpenFrame AI Lab.



Manu Bisht is a National Award-winning filmmaker, whose films have twice featured in Indian Panorama, IFFI.

Rajesh Bhatia, Bharat Arora and Manu Bisht drive OpenFrame AI Lab's creative vision and production.

Naqsh-e-Daur

India | 2026 | Kashmiri | 12' | Colour



In the old streets of Srinagar, Ghulam Nabi Dar continues the traditional Kashmiri craft of walnut woodcarving, a skill he has practiced for over six decades. Honoured with the Padma Shri, he creates detailed designs that reflect the region's history and culture. Naqsh-e-Daur follows Dar's life and work, showing his dedication to keeping this traditional art alive in a changing world. As fewer people take up the craft, he remains committed to practicing it and passing his knowledge on to the next generation, ensuring that Kashmir's woodcarving tradition continues.

Director
Baba Tassaduq Hussain
Producer
BBP Studio Virtual Bharat Pvt Ltd
Screenplay
Story Writer/ Author :- Bharatbala ganapathy (b) Screenplay/ Script Writer :- Na
DoP
Baba Tassaduq Hussain
Editor
Pratik Basankar
Music Director
Sai Shravanam
Cast
Ghulam Nabi Dar



Baba Tassaduq Hussain is a director and cinematographer whose Naqsh-e-Daur celebrates Kashmiri woodcarver Ghulam Nabi Dar and the preservation of artistic heritage.

Bharatbala created Vande Mataram, Gurus of Peace, Incredible India and the Tamil feature film Maryan. His Hari Om premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival in 2004. His Virtual Bharat documents untold stories of India.

Nirmanjali: The Chandigarh of Maciej Nowicki

India | 2026 | English | 39' | Colour



Nirmanjali: Chandigarh by Maciej Nowicki explores the role of Polish-American architect Maciej Nowicki in the early planning of Chandigarh, India's post-Independence city. Working with American planner Albert Mayer, Nowicki proposed a city designed around people, climate and nature, with neighbourhoods, green spaces, roads and buildings planned in harmony. His ideas considered local weather and architectural features such as jaalis, which can still be seen in government housing and shopping complexes across Chandigarh. Nowicki died in a plane crash in 1950 before the project could take shape. Using archival material, expert interviews, drawings and present-day images, the documentary examines his ideas and their relevance to urban planning today.

Director
Suraj Kumar
Producer
Johnsons Suraj Films International
Screenplay
Murtaza Ali Khan
DoP
Rakesh Rana
Editor
Amit Roy
Music Director
Subhendra Rao, Saskia Ra-De Haas
Cast
Victor Banerjee



Suraj Kumar, IIMC alumnus and National Award-winning filmmaker, has 27 years of experience in the field. He has founded Johnsons-Suraj Films International, directed documentaries, and produced Thinking of Him and the award-winning Piplantri.

Founded in 1997, JSFI, led by Suraj Kumar and producer Dr. Garima Singh, has produced 500+ documentaries, 1,500 television episodes and award-winning films.

Only The Flower Remained (Ulididdu Sampige Maatra)



India I 2025 I Kannada I 29' I Colour

Manjanna lives alone, haunted by memories of a lost love and the grief he has never overcome. When a photograph of his beloved gets damaged, he approaches an artist to recreate her image, describing her from memory. After receiving the portrait, he meets a mysterious stranger. Their unexpected encounter leads to an emotional exchange that changes Manjanna's life and takes him towards an ending he never anticipated.

Director
Abhishek
Producer
Puranik Productions
Screenplay
Abhishek
DoP
Gautham matti
Editor
Shashank Narayana
Music Director
Udith Haritas
Cast
Deepak Rai



With over ten years' experience, Abhishek designs film posters, collaborating with filmmakers and production teams to reflect each film's mood, aesthetics and narrative.

Sagar Puranik, Karnataka filmmaker, actor and three-time National Award-winning producer, leads Puranik Productions, creating culturally rooted films, documentaries and television content.

Punishment (Shiksha)



India I 2026 I Marathi I 20' I Colour

On a quiet night, a man breaks into a house on the outskirts of the city while its owners are away and steals things he finds valuable. Elsewhere, a boy steals a toy car from his wealthy classmate, believing it is a harmless act. As the boy begins to face the consequences of his actions, the man discovers something unexpected among the stolen belongings that connects him to the house owner. Though their lives seem unrelated, both are drawn together by their actions, guilt and punishment. The film is inspired by a true event.

Director
Amyth Patkar
Producer
Raaxus Films
Screenplay
Amyth Patkar
DoP
Swapnil Arjun
Editor
Dinesh Poojari
Music Director
NA
Cast
Gaurav Kalushte, Durv Dalvi, Siddharth Raut, Laukik Dhage, Rudra Jadhav, Dhanashree Khandkar, Rashmi Khekale



Amyth Patkar, a Mumbai-based filmmaker and sound designer, started his career in theatre and short films. Punishment is his third short, with a feature script underway.

Dipti Patkar, a Mumbai-based producer with 20 years' finance experience, produced Black Label under the banner Raaxus Film, the documentary Prathaa, and Punishment.

Red Carpet

India I 2026 I Assamese I 30' I Colour



In the Karbi Anglong hills of Northeast India, the Karbi people have preserved a traditional handloom weaving practice for generations. However, changing lifestyles and fashion trends are putting this craft at risk of disappearing. This documentary follows a traditional weaver's efforts to keep the art alive. From the village of Donkamokam to the red carpet at Cannes, the film shows how a handmade fabric became a source of cultural pride and hope. More than a story about weaving, it explores identity, resilience and the importance of passing traditions to future generations. It reminds us that preserving our culture begins with valuing it ourselves.

Director
Aimee Baruah
Producer
Aimee Baruah Production Society
Screenplay
Aimee Baruah
DoP
Aniruddha Barua
Editor
Rantu Chetia
Music Director
Bibhuti Gogoi
Cast
Kadom Terangpi, Sonali Terongpi, Aimee Baruah



Aimee Baruah is an award-winning Indian actress, producer and director, currently pursuing her PhD. The Dimasa-language film Semkhor was her directorial debut.

Mala Baruah, President of Aimee Baruah Production Society, produces award-winning films promoting Northeast India's cultural heritage, social awareness and storytelling.

Save The God

India I 2025 I Hindi I 17' I Colour



Inspired by an incident in Syria around 2013–14, the film tells the story of a young boy badly injured in an airstrike who cries, "I'll tell Allah everything." Save the God imagines the boy meeting God and asking questions about war, hatred and violence. Through this conversation, the film explores the suffering of women, children and nature caused by conflicts fought in the name of religion, beliefs and ideologies. Seen through a child's innocent eyes, it asks why humanity continues to allow such cruelty and suffering.

Director
Niraj Kumar Mishra
Producer
Anirati Films
Screenplay
Niraj Kumar Mishra
DoP
Pulkit Rathi, Abhinav Pandey
Editor
Afzal Shaikh
Music Director
Abhijeet Hegde Patil
Cast
Sanya Thakur, Kiyansh Sanklecha



A graduate in Political Science and Mass Communication, Niraj Kumar Mishra founded Anirati Films. His directorial debut, Samanantar, won a National Film Award. He served on the National Film Awards and IFFI juries.

Suunil Jaiin, industrialist, entrepreneur, philanthropist and Shree Krishna Devcon Chairman, produces films, television and digital content, finances acclaimed films, and develops intellectual properties.

Shat Shat Atal (Atal: A Centenary Salute)

India I 2026 I Hindi I 72' I Colour



On the birth centenary of Bharat Ratna Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Shat-Shat Atal revisits the life of the former Prime Minister on India. The film looks at his love for poetry, his commitment to the nation and his simple approach to leadership. It presents a picture of a leader who earned respect through his honesty, warmth and dedication, and whose life continues to inspire generations. On the birth centenary of Bharat Ratna Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Shat-Shat Atal revisits the life of the former Prime Minister on India. The film looks at his love for poetry, his commitment to the nation and his simple approach to leadership. It presents a picture of a leader who earned respect through his honesty, warmth and dedication, and whose life continues to inspire generations.

Director
Atul Pandey
Producer
Sampreshan Multimedia Pvt. Ltd.
Screenplay
Atul Gangwar
DoP
Ravi Nagar
Editor
Ashutosh Singh, Tanmay Gangwar
Music Director
Sajjad Ali Chandwani & Shafaat Ali
Cast
Rajiv Shukla, Dr. Mahesh Sharma, Dhyanendra Singh, Kalraj Mishra, Alok Kumar, Vasundhra Raje Scindia, Sudhanshu Mittal, Santosh Gangwar, Vijay Goel, Ashok Tandon, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Dharmendra Lodhi, Ram Bahadur Rai, Mala Shukla, Kanta Mishra, Deepak Vajpayee



Atul Pandey, an Indian film producer and director active since 1988, works mainly in Hindi cinema. He has produced over 3,000 hours of content in ten languages. His films include Summer 2007 screened in IFFI and Bombairiya. He served on the 2021 National Film Awards and IFFI 2023 juries.

Sampreshan Multimedia Pvt. Ltd.

Active since 1994, Atul Gangwar spent 11 years at Sahara TV, producing RSTV programmes Adabi Cocktail, Urdu Bazaar and Nida Fazli's Ghazalnama. He produced albums Suno Tum, Lafzon Ke Darmiyaan and the award-winning documentary Main Nida, screened in IFFI 2024.

Sky Tree (Abhal-Vriksh)

India I 2026 I Marathi I 19' I Colour



Madhu believes that when a flower blooms on a tree, rain will follow. As drought forces the villagers to leave for the city, Madhu stays behind, holding on to his belief. His wife and brother-in-law leave, but he continues to wait. One day, the tree blooms, yet no rain comes. As Madhu faces disappointment and struggles with his lonely life, he must make difficult choices about his future.

Director
Santosh Davakhar
Producer
Davakhar Films
Screenplay
Ram Bendrikar
DoP
Amogh Deshpande
Editor
Rohan Kapoor
Music Director
Nishant Ramteke
Cast
Sharad Jadhav, Kailash Waghamare, Prabhakar Mathapati, Poonam Patil, Sunil Dev



A graduate of IIM and the Film and Television Institute of India, Santosh Davakhar is a consultant and activist. His films include Adnyat, Antar 19 and Gondhal.

DAVAKHAR FILMS

Santosh Davakhar, IIM Nagpur graduate, won the 2017 National Film Award for Adnyat. He founded Davakhar Films, Davakhar Infrastructure and Davakhar Foundation.

Switch Off

India I 2026 I Malayalam I 11' I Colour



When a seemingly dead phone comes back to life, it begins documenting a man's reality and his future. As the images turn fatal, he finds himself trapped in a moment he can't escape.

Director
Sandeep Francis
Producer
Sandeep Francis, Garima Francis
Screenplay
Sandeep Francis
DoP
Sajid Nazer
Editor
Mandar Khanvilkar
Music Director
Vikram Montrose
Cast
Arunjith



Sandeep Francis, an Indian film editor, works on feature films, focusing on storytelling and rhythm. Switch Off marks his short film debut.



Garima Francis is an independent production designer in mainstream Indian cinema and the co-founder of Dancing Bear Films, alongside filmmaker and editor Sandeep Francis. Her production design credits include Sandeep Aur Pinky Faraar, Darlings, Attack, Shaitaan, Betaal, and Satluj. Switch Off marks her first film as a producer. She is passionate about supporting distinctive stories and bringing compelling narratives to the screen.

The Hug of Emptiness

India I 2025 I Kannada I 20' I Colour



In 2003, Chandrashekhar's life changed when the Sullia Cooperative Bank took possession of his property after he failed to repay a loan secured against it. He believes the bank acted against RBI rules and has been fighting the case in court for more than two decades. However, the legal battle continues without a resolution. With nowhere else to go, Chandrashekhar has made a small patch of forest his home, living in his car night after night. His story is about years of loneliness, a long struggle for justice and a life that remains uncertain.

Director
Dr. Pradeep Kenchanuru
Producer
Dr. Pradeep Kenchanuru
Screenplay
Dr. Pradeep Kenchanuru
DoP
Sourabh Kanti Datta, Raghava Suresh
Editor
Prashanth Pandith
Music Director
Dr. Pradeep Kenchanuru
Cast
Chandrashekara A



Dr. Pradeep Kenchanuru AKA Dr. Pradeep Kumar Shetty K is a Kannada film scholar, National Award-winning screenwriter, FTII/SRFTI alumnus, former BIFFES Artistic Director, National Awards juror and researcher at the Queen Mary University London.

Founded in 2020 by acclaimed filmmaker Pavan Wadeyar and actress-producer Apeksha Purohit, Wadeyar Movies LLP is the realization of their shared vision to produce high-quality, impactful cinema. As husband and wife, Pavan and Apeksha bring their combined experience and passion for storytelling to the Kannada film industry, establishing Wadeyar Movies LLP as a banner dedicated to innovation and excellence in filmmaking.

The Moon (Chandoba)

India I 2026 I Marathi I 24' I Colour



Mihir is a teenager who loves dancing and enjoys being the centre of attention. During his summer holidays, white patches begin to appear on his skin, and he learns that he has vitiligo. Feeling unsure about his appearance, he avoids his best friend, Parth, and misses the first day of school. He discovers a make-up shop and starts using concealer to hide the patches, keeping it a secret from his parents. As they try to support him through this difficult time, Mihir struggles with his feelings and the pressure to look a certain way. A school dance performance changes how he sees himself and his condition.

Director
Nipun Dharmadhikari
Producer
Maya Tulpule
Screenplay
Nipun Dharmadhikari
DoP
Milind Jog
Editor
Suchitra Sathe
Music Director
Sarang Kulkarni, Shaunak Chandorkar
Cast
Mihir Godbole, Shrijay Deshpande, Pushkaraj Chirputkar, Kadambari Kadam



Nipun Dharmadhikari is an award-winning Indian writer, director and actor in Marathi and Hindi cinema. Dhappa is his debut film. He won Best Web Series at IFFI 2024.



Maya Tulpule is a medical doctor. As a founder member of Shweta Association, a Vitiligo awareness NGO, she has produced the feature film 'Nital'.

The Tale of Katha (Kathar Katha)

India I 2026 I Bengali I 27' I Colour



Kathar Katha tells the story of Katha, a media professional and amateur singer trying to balance her family and work. She develops a strange illness that causes the openings of her body to close one by one, gradually affecting her speech, sight and other senses. Despite her condition, life continues as usual around her, at home, at work and in hospitals. As her illness worsens, she is taken to a retreat, where she meets other women with similar experiences. Through Katha's story, the film examines how family, society and institutions often silence women in everyday life.

Director
Dhritisree Sarkar
Producer
Dhritisree Sarkar, Anindya Sengupta
Screenplay
Dhritisree
DoP
Anuj Ujawane
Editor
Paramita Ghosh
Music Director
Nishant Ramteke
Cast
Daminee Benny Basu, Piloo Vidyarthi, Diganta Saha



Dr Dhritisree is a Bengali writer-director with a PhD in Economics, specialising in gender and development. Her psychological drama, Kathar Katha, was selected for MAMI Select 2026.



Dhritisree and Anindya produced Kathar Katha for MAMI Select 2026, following Chhaddonam, screened internationally and featured on MUBI.

The Unseen Holy River - Saraswati



India I 2026 I Hindi I 29' I Colour

For centuries, Prayagraj's Triveni Sangam has been believed to be the meeting point of the Ganga, Yamuna and the underground Saraswati rivers. Geophysicist Dr. Subhash Chandra Singh set out to investigate this ancient belief. Studying rock formations and water chemistry at Bheem Kund, Pandav Falls and Chitrakoot, he identified similarities suggesting an underground water network beneath the Vindhya Range. His research mapped a possible underground river system extending over 350 kilometres, believed to connect with the Triveni Sangam through Saraswati Koop. The findings may contribute to understanding the region's geology, water resources and ancient geographical traditions.

Director
Bhasker Vishwanathan



Bhasker Vishwanathan, an award-winning filmmaker, was selected for CMOT at the 53rd IFFI. He directed festival-winning shorts, Waves OTT series, co-directed Bhor, presented Attempt One at Cannes, and researches ancient rivers.

Producer
Aamras Films

Aamras Films, led by Pankaj Sudheer Mishra, produces films, series, documentaries, television events and brand campaigns. Their films include Prakash Electronics, Mimamsa and the web series Akkad Bakkad Rafu Chakkar.

Screenplay
Devesh Sharma, Bhasker Vishwanathan

DoP
Angel Saxena

Editor
Sandeep Chauhan

Music Director
Saurabh Hazare, Adamya Parihar

Cast
Dr. Subhash Chandra Singh, Aseem Bajaj

Win



India I 2026 I Telugu I 30' I Colour

Eighteen-year-old Napoleon wants to win every chess game, following years of strict training by his mother, who admires Napoleon Bonaparte and believes that winning is everything. Confident in his abilities, he enters a major chess tournament but loses to Gayatri, a calm ten-year-old girl. Unable to accept defeat, he challenges her again. Through their conversations, Gayatri helps him understand that playing well matters more than winning. She introduces him to the teachings of the Bhagavad Gita, which encourage people to do their duty without becoming attached to the result. Napoleon gradually learns to control his ego and see chess differently.

Director
Praveen



Praveen Ramaraju aka Saripalli Praveen is a writer, director and producer. He wrote novels Swetha Vastramu and Swetha Padmamu. As a screen writer he contributed to many South Indian language films and directed short films and albums.

Producer
Viswamithra Universals

Praveen founded Viswamithra Universals, that produced Battlefield, a documentary which was screened in IFFI 2025 and MIFF 2026.

Screenplay
Satish Varma

DoP
Veeramani

Editor
Alluri Anil kumar varma

Music Director
Ganesh Raghavendra

Cast
Maheedhar, Chaitra Peddi, Anveesha, Aswini, Inaya Sulthana

JURY FOR INDIAN PANORAMA WEB SERIES (OTT)



Jamnadas Majethia

Jury Chairperson

Jamnadas Majethia aka JD is an Indian producer- director-actor, and entrepreneur. He's a household name in Indian television. He also runs Hats Off Productions as Chairman and Managing Director, a company he started with Aatish Kapadia in 1995.

Over thirty years, he co-created TV hits like Khichdi, Instant Khichdi, Sarabhai vs Sarabhai, Baa Bahoo Aur Baby, Wagle Ki Duniya, Pushpa Impossible, Badi Door Se Aaye Hain, Bhakharwadi, and Happy Family: Conditions Apply. Later he took Khichdi to the big screen, making it the first Indian TV franchise to make that leap successfully. Hats Off Productions has branched out to films, theatre, web series, and digital entertainment, with outputs streaming on platforms like Netflix, Amazon Prime Video, Hotstar, Star Plus, Zee5, Sony, and Sony SAB. Currently Chumbak is streaming on Netflix. What's next? A Gujarati feature film, along with a Hindi feature film is in the pipeline, with a major studio.

He chairs the Television and Web Wing of the Indian Film & Television Producers Council. He frequently addresses students and working professionals at places like NMIMS, ATLAS SkillTech University, NIEM, SP Jain, MET, and DGMC, as well as on TED stages, where he shares his experiences pushing emerging talent to be creative.

An adventure enthusiast, he has trekked to Everest Base Camp and holds a certification as an Open Water Scuba Diver. His love of new challenges goes beyond his career.



Krishna Hebbale

Jury Member

Krishna Hebbale is an accomplished actor who began his career in theatre, where he refined his skills in performance and storytelling before transitioning to films and digital platforms. Known for his strong screen presence and versatility, he has worked extensively across Kannada, Telugu, and Hindi industries.

His notable web series and films include Avrodh-2, Kingdom, Max, U-Turn, Lucia, Judgement, 19 20 21 and Sakutumba Sametha. Committed to fostering new talent, he is actively engaged in teaching and mentoring aspiring actors, sharing his extensive experience and passion for theatre.



Pranitha Subhash

Jury Member

AnIndian actor collaborating with leading actors in Kannada Telugu and Tamil, Pranitha Subhash recently debuted in Bollywood with Hungama 2.

She was the face of the Lok Sabha election in Karnataka last season, She runs the Pranitha foundation that helps with women and children's health and education .



Garima Wahal

Jury Member

From the Duo Siddharth-Garima, Garima is a writer-lyricist-director for over a decade. From writing films like Goliyon ki Raasleela - Ramleela, Raabta, Toilet Ek Prem Katha, Batti Gul Meter Chaalu, Kabir Singh, to doing lyrics for songs like Laal Ishq, Lahu Munh Lag Gaya, Nagada Sang Dhol (the entire Ramleela album), Deewani Mastaani, Pinga, Mohe Rang do Laal, Nainonwale ne to Pal Pal dil ke paas album and much recently - Satranga from Animal which won them an IIFA award for best lyrics. The duo directed two feature films - Dukaan, based in Rural Gujarat on commercial surrogacy earning many national and international festival honours and Saale Aashiq, based in Jabalpur, a reverse take on honour killing which released on JioHotstar.



Shailendra Jha

Jury Member

Shailendra Jha is a writer-director- showrunner and author. He is the creator and co-writer of the JioHotstar series Grahan and won the Screenwriters Association Award. As Executive Editor at TV Today, he headed output at Aaj Tak and launched and led Tez, India's first speed-news channel. He later moved to Star India, where he held leadership roles in programming, commissioning and brand content across its entertainment channels.

His novel Press 9 for a Crime, published by Penguin Random House India, featured among Sahitya Aaj Tak's Top 10 popular books of 2025 and has also been published in Hindi under the title Cambodia Compound.

BEST WEB SERIES (OTT) AWARD



Adarsh Baal Vidyalaya

India I 2026 I Hindi I 248' I Colour



Set in a struggling government school in Delhi, this comedy-drama follows a relaxed headmaster whose plan for a fully funded trip to Cambridge leads to a series of chaotic attempts to improve the school. With limited resources, he brings together a group of teachers to tackle everyday problems and make learning better for their students.

Director
Himank Gaur

Producer
Posham Pa Pictures

Screenplay
Biswapati Sarkar, Akshay Asthana, Nupur Pai, Tatsat Pandey, Meghna Srivastava

DoP
Shaz Mohammed

Editor
Harshit Sharma

Music Director
BGM - Sunny MR

Cast
Kay Kay Menon, Archana Puran Singh, Abhimanyu Singh, Naveen Kasturia, Prasanna Bisht, Deven Bhojani, Ajitesh Gupta, Annapurna Soni, Prachee Shah

Genre
Comedy

Devkhel

India I 2026 I Marathi I 181' I Colour



In the coastal village of Devtali, a villager has died every Holi Pournima for fifteen years, with the deaths attributed to the wrath of Shankasur, a figure worshipped during the Shimga festival. When Police Inspector Vishwas Saranjame arrives, he refuses to accept superstition as the explanation. Investigating the death of Rajan Nimkar, he follows forensic clues, reopens old cases and uncovers a link to another village. His investigation leads to Raghunath Pawase, a Shankasur performer suffering from Multiple Identity Disorder, whose delusion has driven the killings. Raghunath's arrest finally brings the deadly cycle to an end.

Director
Chandrakant Lata Gaikwad

Producer
Zee 5

Screenplay
Chandrakant Lata Gaikwad, Nikhil Ashok Palande

DoP
Vinayak Jadhav

Editor
Sudarshan Satpute

Music Director
Music director - Shreenath Mhatre

Cast
Ankush Chaudhari, Prajakta Mali, Yatin Karyekar, Arun Nalawade, Mangesh Desai, Veena Jamkar

Genre
Crime

Made in India: A Titan Story

India I 2026 I Hindi I 329' I Colour



Set in pre-liberalisation India, Titan, based on Vinay Kamath's book, follows Xerxes Desai's efforts to transform the struggling Tata Press. Rather than revive the existing business, he ventures into watchmaking, facing bureaucratic hurdles, market challenges and personal sacrifices. His determination leads to the creation of a new Indian watch brand, with Sonata and Titan Edge becoming important milestones. Against a backdrop of economic and social change, the series traces Desai's journey, showing how innovation, resilience and bold decisions helped reshape India's watch industry.

Director
Robbie Grewal
Producer
Almighty Motion Picture
Screenplay
Karan Vyas, Kandarp Shroff, Niraj Dasa
DoP
Aditya Kapur
Editor
Nibediya Samal, Akash Bhundoo
Music Director
Music Director - Abhishek Nailwal
Cast
Naseeruddin Shah, Jim Sarbh, Vaibhav Tatwawadi, Lakshvir Singh Saran
Genre
Drama

Mayasabha

India I 2025 I Telugu I 395' I Colour



Set in Andhra Pradesh from the mid-1970s, Mayasabha follows Kakarla Krishnama Naidu (KKN), an idealistic student leader, and M.S. Rami Reddy (MSR), a young man from a powerful family. Despite their different backgrounds, they become friends and enter politics, hoping to bring change. However, they soon face the realities of political life, including caste divisions, money, corruption, power struggles and changing alliances. As their influence grows, their ideals are tested, and personal ambition begins to affect their friendship. The series explores politics, ideology, power and whether two friends can remain united when they compete for the same position.

Director
Deva Katta
Producer
Vijay Krishna Lingamaneni, Sri Harsha
Screenplay
Devakatta, Kiran Jay Kumar
DoP
Suresh Ragutu, Gnana Shekar V. S.
Editor
Praveen K L
Music Director
Music Director: Shakthikanth Karthik
Cast
Aadhi Pinnisetty, Chaitanya Rao, SaiKumar, Divya Dutta, Nasser, Shatru, Ravindra Vijay, Srikanth bharat, Raghu Babu, Tanya Ravichandran, Charitha Varma, Bhavana Vazhapandal
Genre
Drama

Musafir Cafe

India I 2026 I Hindi I 246' I Colour



This is a love story about Chander, Sudha and Preeti, three people whose lives come together in unexpected ways. Chander and Sudha feel an instant attraction that neither can easily ignore. With Preeti, he develops a different kind of relationship, built on understanding, comfort and companionship. As love, ambition and life take them in different directions, Chander must discover which relationship can stand the test of time. The film explores how love can take different forms and how people find their way through the choices they make.

Director
Ruchir Arun

Producer
Netflix Entertainment Services India LLP, Terribly Tiny Ventures Pvt Ltd, Homemade Stories

Screenplay
Sharanya Rajgopal

DoP
Aniruddha Patankar

Editor
Yasha Jaidev Ramchandani

Music Director
Music Director : Garvit-Priyansh, Raghav Kaushik, Neel Adhikari

Cast
Vikrant Massey, Vedika Pinto, Mahima Makwana, Adil Hussain, Rajeev Siddhartha, Anubha Fatehpuria, Loveleen Mishra, Sadia Siddiqui

Genre
Romance

GALA PREMIERES

A spectacular showcase of highly anticipated Indian and international films through exclusive premieres and distinguished red-carpet presentations.



Baghuni (Dance Like A Tiger)

India I 2026 I Odia, Kosli, Sambalpuri I Colour



Inspired by true events, Baghuni is a coming-of-age story set in Odisha. Mini, an eleven-year-old girl from a remote village, dreams of becoming a Bagha Nacha, a traditional Tiger Dance folk performance dominated by men. Defying social and cultural restrictions that discourage girls from entering this art form, she challenges deep-rooted patriarchal beliefs to follow her dream. Her journey is a story of courage, determination and hope. The film celebrates Odisha's cultural heritage while highlighting the struggle of girls who seek to break traditions and shape their own future.

Director
Jitendra Mishra

Producer
NFDC Ltd, Partha Panda, Jitendra Mishra

Screenplay
Jitendra Mishra, Shankhajeet De, Sulagna Mohanty

DOP
Jogendra Nath Panda

Editor
Navnita Sen

Music Director
Subash Sahoo Music: Prem Anand

Cast
Sabyasachi Mishra, Samiksha Padhi, Aahana Purohit, Sai Sradha, Asmit Kumar Sahoo, Anwesha Mishra, Divyadisha Mohanty

Premiere Status I Film Type
World Premiere I Feature



Jitendra Mishra, a National Film Award-winning filmmaker founded the production house- Cinema4Good. His films include I Am Kalam, Buried Seeds, The Silent Epidemic, and Whispers of the Mountains. He is the Director of Smile International Children's Film Festival, and is the President of The International Centre of Films for Children and Young People.



Partha Panda is a British entrepreneur of Indian origin and film producer who founded Glocal Films UK Limited.

National Film Development Corporation Ltd, a Government of India enterprise supports quality Indian cinema through production, financing, distribution and promotion.

Bhai Band

India I 2026 I Gujarati I 118' I Colour



Two brothers run a wedding band business in their village and share a close bond until a disagreement drives them apart. One brother leaves but returns a few weeks later with a DJ system and huge speakers. With this new setup, he no longer needs a band, uniforms or musical instruments. He can simply relax, select a playlist on his phone and provide music at the touch of a button.

Director
Manish Saini

Producer
NFDC Ltd., Amdavad Films Pvt Ltd

Screenplay
Manish Saini

DOP
Ankit Trivedi

Editor
Manish Saini

Music Director
Amit Trivedi

Cast
Prit Kamani, Chirag Katrecha, Hemang Shah, Shraddha Danger

Premiere Status I Film Type
World Premiere I Feature



Manish Saini won three consecutive National Awards for Dhh, Gandhi & Co. and Giddh. The Great Grand Superhero is his Hindi debut.

National Film Development Corporation Ltd. promotes Indian cinema's development, production, distribution and preservation, supporting the film industry across languages.

Amdavad Films is a production house that believes the simplest stories to be the most interesting ones.

Carlos Saura. Ese Niño De La Fotografía (Carlos Saura. That Kid In The Photo)



Spain, Argentina I 2026 I Spanish I 118' I Colour

Carlos Saura, who died in February 2023 at the age of 91, made more than 50 films that earned recognition at major international film festivals. He was one of the most influential filmmakers in world cinema. Drawing on photographs from his personal archive, dating from the late 1940s to 2023, and footage recorded by his daughter Anna during his final ten years, *Carlos Saura: That Kid in the Photo* offers an intimate portrait of the filmmaker. It explores his creativity, his view of life and his lifelong love of cinema.

Director
Anna Saura
Producer
Anna Saura , Jaime Gona
Screenplay
Anna Saura, Eulália Ramón, Desirée Duro
DOP
Fiorela Gianuzzi
Editor
Desirée Duro
Music Director
Barto Alcaine
Cast
Carlos Saura, Anna Saura
Premiere Status I Film Type
Asia Premiere I Documentary



Anna Saura is a producer-director and founder of Atrece Creaciones. Her films include documentaries and series. Her production Cuentas Divinas earned a 2024 Goya nomination. Since 2024, she has coordinated ECAM's Master's programme and became AMA president in October 2026.



Jaime Gona .An acclaimed producer whose credits include award-winning films Selfie, Los Europeos and Los Comensales. He joined Secuoya Studios in 2025 to develop new cinema projects.

Echoes of Valour

India I 2026 I Hindi I 118' I Colour



In the serene yet volatile valleys of Kupwara, Jammu and Kashmir, Captain Anirban Bandyopadhyay fights relentlessly to save his comrades when mujahideen insurgents attack his unit, making the supreme sacrifice. He leaves behind a grieving family. But for his mother, Shukla Bandyopadhyay, his death is not the end of the story. Carrying his memory and strength, she steps beyond her grief and joins a group of students journeying to Pakistan. In unfamiliar territory, she confronts fear, hostility and uncertainty, facing her pain and the violence that took her son. Yet, with quiet determination, she refuses to be defined by loss.

Director
Indira Mukherjee
Producer
Indira Mukherjee, Margaret Zambonini
Screenplay
Indira Mukherjee
DOP
Aslam Purayil
Editor
Arghyakamal Mira
Music Director
Ajit Prasad
Cast
Divya Dutta, Neeraj Kabi, Rishabh Sawhney, Rohaan Bhattacharya
Premiere Status I Film Type
World Premiere I Feature



Indira Mukherjee is a Kolkata-based independent filmmaker whose debut "Putul," on street children, showed at Cannes Marché du Film and contended for three Academy Awards.



Margaret Zambonini is the owner of Ardanslate. She is from Scotland. She has developed films under her banner, Ardanslate, and also works as an International collaborator for films globally.

Half

India I 2026 I Malayalam, Tamil, Telugu, Hindi, English I 118' I Colour



Twins Ethan and Ivy are forced to fight for their lives when they encounter a gang of hijackers on a desert highway. With extraordinary fighting skills and a desire for revenge, they face a dangerous world where survival is only the beginning. As the violence grows, they must decide how far they are willing to go to settle their scores.

Director
Samjad

Producer
Anne Sajeev, Sajeev P.K.

Screenplay
Praveen Viswanath, Samjad

DOP
Pappinu

Editor
Mahesh Bhuvanend

Music Director
Vishnu Govind

Cast
Ranjith Sajeev, Aiswarya Raj, Amala Paul, Abbas

Premiere Status I Film Type
World Premiere I Feature



Samjad is a director from Kerala known for Golam. His 'Half' is the first Malayalam film to screen at TIFF Midnight Madness selection. It premiered at Fantastic Fest Los Angeles, Beyond Fest and Sitges.



Anne Sajeev and Sajeev P.K. produced films like Pranayam, Kiran, Keni, Qalb and Golam. Their debut, Pranayam, got screened in Un Certain Regard, Cannes 1999.

Koodu (Nest)

India I 2026 I Tamil I 118' I Colour



In Vachathi, Tamil Nadu, a power cut leads to the discovery of a sparrow's nest with eggs inside a village transformer. Guided by village head Agathiyan, agriculture graduate Kathir and the villagers decide to stay without electricity for 35 days to protect the birds. Their decision faces strong opposition and attempts at sabotage by the local VAO and Lingam, driven by personal grudges. Despite these challenges, Kathir and the villagers make difficult sacrifices to keep the nest safe.

Director
Joyal Vijay

Producer
Kumar Mangat Pathak, Abhishek Pathak, M Ganesh, Sunnil Jaiin, Aditya Joshi, Lisha P Chandaran

Screenplay
Joyal Vijay and David Williams

DOP
Karthik Palanisamy

Editor
Nagooran Ramchandran

Music Director
Jaison Jose and Daniel Jefferson

Cast
VJ Kathirravan, Gajaraj, Ashiq Hussain, V. Jayaprakash, Kathirravan Kabilan, Rachitha Mahalakshmi

Premiere Status I Film Type
World Premiere I Feature



Joyal Vijay is a Tamil filmmaker trained under Agathiyan, making his directorial debut with Koodu, a story of community, nature and humanity.







Panorama Studios is a multi-industry film company producing and distributing films across Indian languages, with over 55 awards and notable titles.

Looking For Michael (Persiguiendo A Michael)

Spain I 2025 I Spanish I 118' I Colour



At a young age, Sonia is diagnosed with Parkinson's disease. Instead of allowing the illness to limit her life, she finds new ways to enjoy it and face its challenges. Along with other people living with the disease and their music therapy teacher, Pedro, she sets out to create awareness about Parkinson's. Their journey brings them together through music, friendship and a shared purpose. They also work towards a special opportunity: performing before Michael J. Fox, one of the best-known people living with Parkinson's. The film follows their efforts to turn a difficult experience into a positive and meaningful journey.

Director
Juana Macias
Producer
Kiko Martinez
Screenplay
Marta Libertad
DOP
Manel Aguado
Music Director
Dani Navarro
Cast
Nuria Herrero, Michel Noher, Paco Tous, Lorena Lopez, Vito Sanz, Sara Robisco
Premiere Status I Film Type
World Premiere I Feature



Juana Macías is a Spanish writer-director whose work spans films, television and short cinema. She won a Goya Award for Siete cafés por semana and received a nomination for directing her debut feature, Planes para mañana. Her films include Embarazados, Fuimos canciones and El favor.



Kiko Martínez is the founder and producer of Nadie es Perfecto, a Spanish independent production company with over 40 film, documentary and television projects. His productions have earned twelve Goya nominations. His credits include Perfectos Desconocidos, Orígenes secretos and Disco, Ibiza, Locomía.

Now I Met Her（我的妈耶）

China I 2026 I Chinese I 121' I Colour



Shiyi never knew his mom until his 18th birthday, when a diary crashes into his life revealing the hilarious and romantic escapade of her. As Shiyi's hooked with the story, he uncovers a secret that changes his convictions. Now I Met Her tells the story of a Chinese woman's remarkable life through changing times, exploring her experiences of love, happiness, heartbreak and the strength to overcome life's challenges.

Director
Luxi Xiao
Producer
Aubrey Lee
Screenplay
Aubrey Lee, Yuxin Zhang, Luxi Xiao
DOP
Zilong Liu
Editor
Bowei Yue
Music Director
Luke Zhang
Cast
Sandra Ma, Ke Bai, Justin Huang, Sunny Sun, Jingkang Liang, Teresa Jiahe Ji, Tianfang Wang
Premiere Status I Film Type
India Premiere I Feature



Born in 1994 in Dalian, China, Luxi Xiao is a writer and director of the new generation. She graduated from Boston University with a degree in Film and TV Production. She excels at blending black humour with delicate storytelling, using humour to tackle heavy subjects.

Panchayat S5

India I 2026 I Hindi I 118' I Colour



Facing a hostile work environment under the new vengeful leadership, Abhishek prepares to move on with his MBA dreams, but first he must tie up loose ends in Phulera.

Director
Deepak Kumar Mishra

Producer
Arunabh Kumar, Prime Video, Co-Producers - Vijay Koshy & Deepak Kumar Mishra

Screenplay
Chandan Kumar

DOP
Amitabha Singh

Editor
Amit Kulkarni

Music Director
Ankita Purkayastha Sudeepta Sadhukhan

Cast
Jitendra Kumar, Raghubir Yadav, Neena Gupta, Sunita Rajwar, Faizal Malik, Chandan Roy, Sanvikaa, Durgesh Kumar

Premiere Status I Film Type
World Premiere I Series



Filmmaker Deepak Kumar Mishra, IIT Bombay graduate, created Panchayat and Permanent Roommates, earning eight awards for authentic, rooted Indian storytelling.

Prime Video offers streaming service for exclusive Originals including blockbuster series and movies.

Vijay Koshy: President and Business Head of The Viral Fever, oversees its originals.

Arunabh Kumar: He founded The Viral Fever in 2012, pioneering India's digital content revolution.

Pushpak Viman

India I 2026 I Hindi I 90' IColour



A poorly planned kidnapping by two clumsy wrestlers sets off a chain of chaos across Delhi. Their actions draw in a cab company owner, a corrupt cop, a lovesick politician and a city full of hustlers, as every attempt to solve the problem only makes things worse.

Director
Sudip Sharma

Producer
Film Squad Productions

Screenplay
Sudip Sharma, Abhishek Banerjee

DOP
Isshaan Ghosh

Editor
Sanyukta Kaza

Music Director
Gautam Nair

Cast
Jaideep Ahlawat, Abhishek Banerjee, Barun Sobti, Saurabh Shukla, Jaswant Dalal, Gagan Dev Riar, Abha Ranta, Prayrak Mehta, Sumit Gulati, Radhika Mehrotra

Premiere Status I Film Type
World Premiere I Series



Sudip Sharma is an Indian screenwriter and showrunner, known for co-creating Netflix's Kohrra and directing its second season.

Netflix is a global, subscription-based streaming service that offers a vast library of TV shows, movies, documentaries, and original programming.

Film Squad Productions, founded by Saurabh Malhotra, Manuj Mittra and Tina Tharwani, produced Pushpak Viman for Netflix, following Kohrra.

Ray Gunn

USA I 2026 I English I 116' I Colour



In the futuristic city of Metropia, humans and aliens live together, flying cars fill the skies, and everything comes at a price. Behind the city's modern appearance, corruption is widespread. Ray Gunn, an old-fashioned private detective, struggles to find his place in a world where his profession and values seem outdated. Despite his difficult circumstances, Ray soon becomes involved in the biggest case of his career.

Director
Brad Bird
Producer
John Lasseter, Brad Bird, Lisa Beroud, David Ellison, Dana Goldberg
Screenplay
Ben Burtt
DOP
Erik Smitt
Editor
Darren Holmes, Karl Armstrong
Sound Designer
Ben Burtt
Cast
Brad Bird, Matthew Robbins
Premiere Status I Film Type
India Premiere I Animation



Brad Bird is an Oscar-winning American filmmaker, writer, producer and voice actor, known for blending emotion, humour and action in animated films like The Incredibles and Ratatouille, and live-action films like Mission: Impossible – Ghost Protocol.

Netflix is a global, subscription-based streaming service that offers a vast library of TV shows, movies, documentaries, and original programming.

Sky Beyond Borders - Tarang Shakti

India I 2026 I English, Hindi I 118' I Colour



Set in Jodhpur during Tarang Shakti, Sky Beyond Borders brings together air forces from around the world. Through flight displays and conversations with air warriors, the film shows India's growing defence partnerships and its efforts to develop its own capabilities. It also captures the country's cultural side through yoga, music, dance and hospitality, which help build friendships across nations. As children watch the aircraft in the sky, they begin to imagine new possibilities. The film presents India as a country that welcomes the world while encouraging its next generation to dream, create and serve.

Director
Kanikaa Gautam
Producer
Kanikaa Gautam
Screenplay
Savin Shetty
DOP
Vishwa Kiran, Ankit Kumar Meena
Editor
Bhavya Sachdeva
Music Director
Toshi Unplugged Films
Premiere Status I Film Type
World Premiere I Documentary



Kanikaa Gautam is an Indian actor and filmmaker whose documentary explores India's air force, cultural exchange, personal connections and the inspiration of young generations.

Kanikaa Gautam is an independent producer and founder of Kathaanika Productions. Her credits include The Living Gods, screened at Film Bazaar 2025, and Flicker: Light of a Lantern, selected for the WAVES 2025 Pitch Room.

The India Experience - Season 1

India | 2026 | English, Hindi, Marathi, Punjabi, Malayalam, Tamil, Kosli, Nagamese | 118' | Colour



The India Experience is a 90-minute journey through India's rich cultural heritage, told through ten films from Virtual Bharat. Each film captures the lives, traditions and stories of ordinary people across the country. From a hundred rowers moving in unison and grandmothers going to school for the first time to women protecting Himalayan forests and a tea-maker pouring chai in a long stream, the films offer glimpses of everyday life. Through landscapes, music, poetry and traditional crafts, the collection celebrates the people and practices that keep India's cultural heritage alive.

Director
Bharatbala, Sudeep Elamon, Akshay Parvatkar, Rachita Gorowala, Christy Sebastian, Mukti Krishan, Anagha Acharekar, Usha Rajeswari, Rohit More

Producer
Studio Virtual Bharat

DOP
Anirudh Ganapathy, Amal Sudhakaran, Sudeep Elamon, Vinayak Gopal, Rohit More

Editor
Christy Sebastian, Prem Kumar, Sayan Debnath, Shubhika Sharma, Pratik Basankar, Rana Prathap Avuti

Music Director
Varkey, Ashutosh Sohoni, Ashish Zachariah, Nishant Ramteke, Aditya Rao, Vivek Rajagopalan

Premiere Status | Film Type
World Premiere | Documentary



Bharatbala is a National Award-winning Film and Advertisement producer-director. He is associated with over 500 advertisements, 100 documentaries and films, including Maryan and Ram-Nami.

Virtual Bharat is a digital vault of India's diverse culture. The intention is to have a cultural exchange enabled by experimental content. To have film makers, editors, writers and sound designers all come together to tell a story with an open space.

Tu Aahes Na (You Are There Right?)

India | 2026 | Marathi | 118' | Colour



"Tu Aahes Na" follows Malati and her husband Babasaheb, whose quiet life changes when Pratap, a young man dreaming of becoming a film star, comes to stay with them. After Babasaheb's sudden death, Malati and Pratap find comfort in each other. As Malati's health declines and her memory begins to fade, Pratap starts to understand more about himself. The film explores grief, loneliness, identity and the unexpected bonds that give meaning to life.

Director
Deepak Gawade

Producer
Luv Ranjan, Ankur Garg

Screenplay
Deepak Gawade

DOP
Sandeep Yadav

Editor
Faisal Mahadik

Music Director
Shantanu Akerkar

Cast
Supriya Pilgaonkar, Siddharth Bodke

Premiere Status | Film Type
World Premiere | Feature



Deepak Gawade, Marathi filmmaker directed National Award winning short film Heyro Party and State Award winning Idak:The Goat. He is the executive producer of Special 26 and Pihu.



Luv Films, founded by Luv Ranjan and Ankur Garg in 2012, produces Hindi films and expands into Marathi cinema with Tu Aahes Na.

SESSIONS



MASTERCLASS

The Casting Magic: Auditions Unplugged



Mukesh Chhabra
(Speaker)

Behind every unforgettable film lies a preparation that starts long before the camera rolled at the audition room. In this session, prominent casting director, Mr. Mukesh Chhabra, pulls back the curtain for discovering raw potential and turning it into an iconic screen presence. He will share candid, unfiltered insights into what truly makes an actor stand out, the intuition behind spotting talent, and how the trend works in the casting process

Words Across Borders : Subtitling Across Cultures



Rekhs
(Speaker)

Love favours the brave..not always! Love favours the pioneer with the three Ps- Passion, Perseverance and Patience! The love story of Jessie and Karthik in GVM's Vinnaithaandi Varuvaayaa won hearts worldwide, with subtitles helping it transcend beyond latitude and language barriers. In this masterclass, Chennai-based subtitlist Rekhs explores how subtitles preserve idioms, humour, poetry and emotion while taking regional cinema to global audiences — all within the constraints of word and time.

The Thin Borders Between the Reality and Fiction



Bogdan Mureșanu
(Speaker)

How historical fact, personal memory, and narrative storytelling intersect on screen will be discussed by acclaimed Romanian filmmaker Bogdan Mureșanu. He examines how capturing the raw textures of everyday human behavior allows fictional drama to reflect societal truths. Through this discussion, he shares how filmmakers can responsibly navigate historical facts while using cinematic imagination to turn real lived experiences into cinematic art.

Decoding Academy Awards



Natalie Wade
(Speaker)

In 'Decoding Academy Awards,' Natalie Wade, Vice President of Member Relations and Awards Administration at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, explains the journey of cinema's creation from a simple reverie to oneiric Oscar night. The evolving governance of voting rules, candidate eligibility standards, and the submission procedures that define the awards selection will be discussed. The session also uncovers the operations that protect Academy traditions, from the Scientific and Technical Awards process to receiving the iconic golden statue itself. Whether you are an aspiring filmmaker, industry strategist, or a cinephile, this session will be a guide to the standards shaping Hollywood's or maybe world's highest recognition.

IN CONVERSATION

The Epic Genres- Mythologies, Superheroes, & New Worlds



Ayan Mukerji
(Speaker)



Basil Joseph
(Speaker)



Puja Talwar
(Moderator)

The discussion on Indian superheroes 'Shiva' and 'Jaison', explores the creative ambition and technical scale required to craft immersive, native universes for modern audiences. Centering on Indian creations, Shiva and Jaison, who stand as homegrown symbols of hope, heroism, and the fight against threats, this discussion highlights the pride of seeing Indian superheroes take center stage and becoming our intellectual properties.The session brings together Ayan Mukerji, who is behind the mythological Astraverse with 'Brahmāstra', and Basil Joseph, creator behind the superhero 'Minnal Murali'.

The Moral Universe of Parallel Cinema: 50 Years of Girish Kasaravalli



Girish Kasaravalli
(Speaker)



Naman Ramachandran
(Moderator)

For five decades, Indian Parallel Cinema has challenged social injustice and given voice to the marginalized. In this session, celebrated filmmaker Girish Kasaravalli reflects on his 50-year journey, from his landmark debut Ghatashraddha to acclaimed classics like Tabarana Kathe, Thaayi Saheba, and Dweepa. Drawing from his life as a director, he explores how cinema can ask deep ethical questions rather than just offer spectacle. He shares his views on storytelling, social conscience, and the struggle between tradition and modernity.

From Witness to Change: The Social Responsibility of Documentary Cinema



Julie Bertuccelli
(Speaker)



Haobam Paban Kumar
(Moderator)

Documentary Cinema allows viewers to walk in the shoes of marginalized groups, breaking taboos and challenging conditioned opinions. The speaker examines the ethical duty filmmakers carry when entering vulnerable real-world communities with a camera through the topic 'From Witness to Change: The Social Responsibility of Documentary Cinema.' Through the speaker's perspective, the topic breaks down the balance between social advocacy and artistic restraint, illustrating how responsible cinema can give voice to the marginalized while empowering audiences to act.

PANEL DISCUSSION

The Legendary 25's



Ashutosh Gowariker
(Speaker)



Madhur Bhandarkar
(Speaker)



Farhan Akhtar
(Speaker)



Khushboo Sundar
(Moderator)

'The Legendary 25's' marks a momentous quarter-century celebration of three visionaries who radically transformed the landscape of contemporary Indian cinema around the turn of the millennium. The session brings together Ashutosh Gowariker, whose 2001 epic 'Lagaan' achieved global history with its Oscar nomination; Farhan Akhtar, whose landmark 2001 debut 'Dil Chahta Hai' redefined youth culture; and Madhur Bhandarkar, whose 2001 'Chandni Bar' pioneered realistic docudramas. Together, these three filmmakers reflect on twenty-five years of artistic evolution, boundary-pushing cinema, and enduring industry influence since their seminal works altered Hindi cinema in 2001. This discussion highlights the creative courage required to challenge mainstream conventions and build cinematic legacies that continue to inspire filmmakers a quarter-century later.

Goa in Cinema



Marianne Borgo
(Speaker)



Abhishek Pathak
(Speaker)



Rajendra Talak
(Speaker)



Sachin Chatte
(Moderator)

Goa state's iconic identity will be discussed as a vibrant storytelling backdrop, a premier global filming hub, and the proud permanent home of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI). The panel unites visionary storytellers who have shaped Goa's on-screen image across blockbusters. The filmmakers discuss capturing the state's unique energy, shifting its visual portrayal from casual resort aesthetics to complete actions and suspense landscapes. The speakers explore how sustainable production support and indigenous stories can push Goa into a world-class center for cinematic hub.

PANEL DISCUSSION

Her Lens Her Legacy Her Liberty: Women Shaping World Cinema



Narghiza Dotieva
(Speaker)



Alina Șerban
(Speaker)



Suzanne Andrews Correa
(Speaker)



Abhishek Jain
(Moderator)

Has cinema been shaped by a set of dominant voices? Today, that lens is shifting as filmmakers prove creative freedom belongs to everyone. This session brings together Kyrgyz filmmaker Narghiza Dotieva, Romanian filmmaker Alina Șerban, Mexican filmmaker Suzanne Andrews Correa to discuss how women use art to reclaim their stories and challenge dominance and exclusion. From inside looks at womanhood and authentic representation to confronting violence against women and cinema's critiques of caste and class, the panel celebrates cinema as a tool which brought in a successful resistance. Moving beyond boundaries, these filmmakers demonstrate how focusing on creativity rather than gender reshapes global cinema on their own terms and builds a lasting legacy.

RETROSPECTIVE

Lata Mangeshkar Talk

The Voice that Echoes Forever-In the Memory of Asha Bhosle & S Janaki



K. S. Chithra
(Speaker)



Suhasini Maniratnam
(Moderator)

The annual tribute to the Nightingale of India,'Lata Mangeshkar Talk: The Voice that Echoes Forever', celebrates the legacy of Lata Mangeshkar, which is the premium segment of 'IFFI sessions'. The 57th IFFI in 2026, pays homage to evergreen legends Asha Bhosle and S. Janaki. The discussion will be led by the acclaimed singer who is known as 'Melody Queen', Smt. K. S. Chithra, by sharing personal reflections and insights from decades of working alongside the luminaries of Indian music.

INTERVIEW SESSION

'What if the Villain is Right?' The Unconventional Filmmaker Karthik Subbaraj



Karthik Subbaraj
(Speaker)



Sudhir Srinivasan
(Moderator)

The session explores Karthik Subbaraj's unconventional cinema and its complex characters, examining gangster psychology, survival, fragile egos, social conditioning and the struggles of marginalised communities. Through villainous heroes and humanised antagonists, it questions the thin line between good and evil, right and wrong, asking whether the villain might actually be right!

ROUND TABLE

The Unteachable Frame : Can Cinema be Taught or Must it be Discovered?



Dhiraj Singh
(Speaker)



Santosh Ajmera
(Speaker)

Can cinema truly be taught in a classroom? Is cinema a craft that can be discovered through personal instinct and practice? While self-discovery shapes an artist's unique voice, does structured guidance accelerate the mastery of technical rules and the collaborative demands of the medium, or does it risk constraining creative freedom?

The panel brings together national film educational stewards, including Dhiraj Singh (FTII), Santosh Ajmera (SRFTI), and Manoj Paramahamsa (MGRFTI), alongside independent industry academy leaders Anupam Kher (Actor Prepares), Amala Akkineni (Annapurna College) and Artur Zaborski (Warsaw Film School, Poland).Together, the speakers offer an evaluation of how training must evolve to nurture independent artistic identity alongside industry requirements.



Amala Akkineni
(Speaker)



Anupam Kher
(Speaker)



Manoj Paramahamsa
(Speaker)



Artur Zaborski
(Speaker)



Vikramjit Roy
(Moderator)

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS



Special Presentations

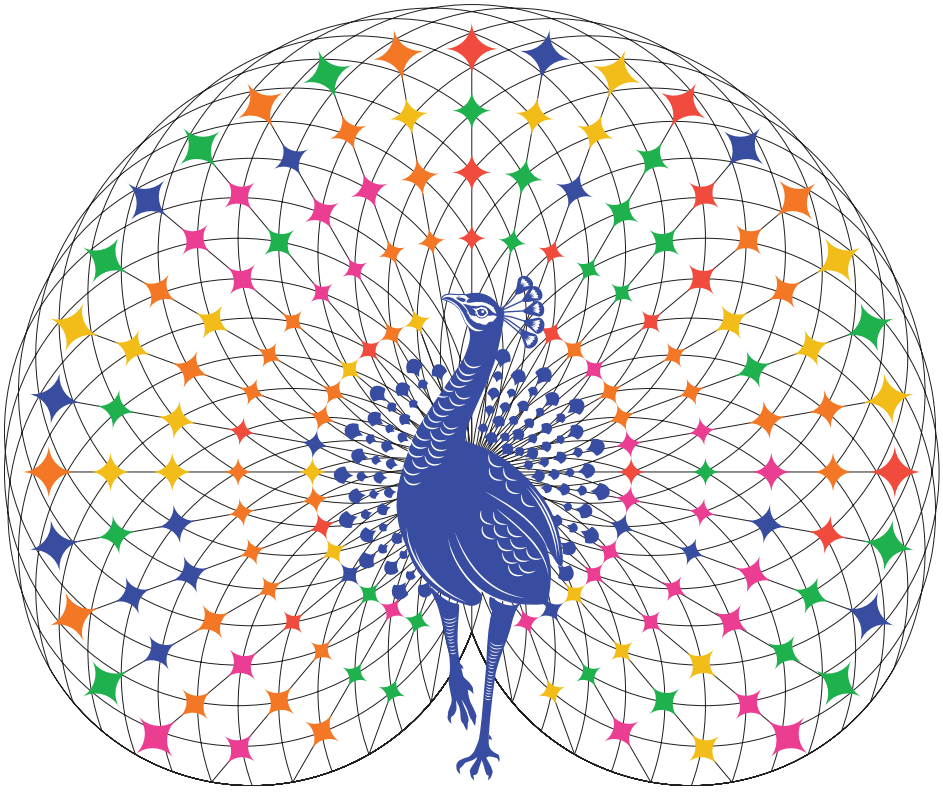
The Special Presentations at the 57th International Film Festival of India celebrate the richness of Indian cinema, honouring its legendary personalities, landmark films and enduring cinematic legacy.

A major highlight is the presentation of seven films restored by the National Film Archive of India (NFAI) under the National Film Heritage Mission (NFHM), spanning six Indian languages – Hindi, Bengali, Marathi, Malayalam, Telugu and Tamil – and three decades of filmmaking. These restorations reaffirm the importance of preserving India's cinematic heritage and bringing timeless works back to the big screen.

The programme commemorates the centenary birth anniversaries of seven eminent film personalities born in 1926 – Raaj Kumar, Ravi, O.P. Nayyar, Shakti Samanta, Uttam Kumar, Suryakant Mandhare and Prem Nazir. It also marks the Golden Jubilee of Kabhi Kabhie and Bhakta Kannappa, pays homage to filmmakers Bharathiraja and K. Bhagyaraj and actor Nana Patekar, and celebrates 25 years of Ashutosh Gowariker's Lagaan.

The selection further includes Padma Nadir Majhi in a special screening, Dhurandhar: The Revenge and Azad Bharat, six award-winning films from the 19th Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF), and two selections from Madhya Pradesh.

Together, these presentations offer audiences an opportunity to rediscover cinematic milestones, celebrate creative excellence and experience the continued efforts to preserve and honour India's rich film heritage for generations to come.



Centenary Tributes

Some years are generous to a nation's cinema without knowing it. In 1926, seven children were born who would grow into an actor whose voice needed no volume, a composer who taught a whole industry to dance to the trot of a horse, a director who filmed romance against the best scenery in the country, and a screen hero whom a whole language still calls Mahanayak.

A hundred years on, the Festival marks their birth anniversaries with five restored films in four languages: Hindi, Bengali, Marathi and Malayalam. Each was chosen because it holds its celebrated artist at the height of their craft.



Uttam Kumar

Actor

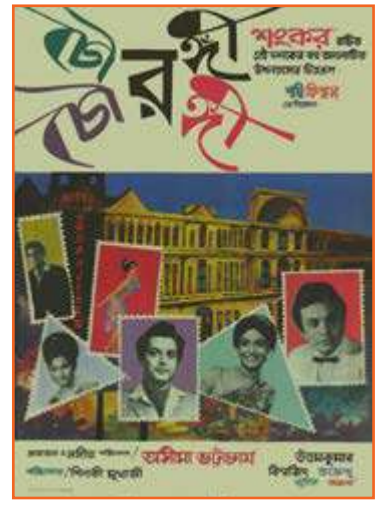
Uttam Kumar (1926–1980), born Arun Kumar Chatterjee in Kolkata, entered cinema in 1948 and in three decades acted in more than 200 films, from Saptapadi and Harano Sur to Nayak, Chiriyakhana and Amanush. He moved Bengali acting from stage mannerism to a naturalistic, urban romanticism, and in 1968 became the first actor to win the National Film Award for Best Actor, for Antony Firingee and Chiriyakhana.



Chowringhee

India | 1965 | Hindi | 179′ | Colour

The Mahanayak was at the height of his stardom when he accepted a part that asked him to step back. In Chowringhee he plays Satyasundar "Sata" Bose, the hotel's front-office manager, not as hero but as host: warm, impeccable and quietly in command of a world he does not own. It is one of the great ensemble performances in Bengali cinema, and the reason this film belongs at the centre of his centenary.



Restored by NFAI under NFHM



Shakti Samanta

Director

Shakti Samanta (1926–2009), born in Burdwan, entered films in 1948 as an assistant director and made his debut with Bahu (1955). Founder of Shakti Films, he directed 43 features, 37 in Hindi and six in Bengali, among them Howrah Bridge, China Town, An Evening in Paris, Aradhana, Kati Patang, Amar Prem and Anuraag.



O. P. Nayyar

Music Director

Omkar Prasad Nayyar (1926–2007), born in Lahore, entered films with Aasmaan (1952) and went on to Aar Paar, Mr. & Mrs. 55, C.I.D., Naya Daur and Howrah Bridge. His horse-trot rhythms and dholak beats, and his partnerships with Mohammed Rafi, Asha Bhosle and Geeta Dutt, defined an era. He won the Filmfare Award for Best Music Director for Naya Daur (1958).



Restored by NFAI under NFHM

Kashmir Ki Kali

India | 1964 | Hindi | 168′ | Colour

Born within days of each other in 1926, Shakti Samanta and O. P. Nayyar reached a shared peak in this film. Samanta filmed Kashmir's gardens and lakes in full colour with the confidence of a showman; Nayyar answered with a score that has never gone out of fashion.



Suryakant Mandhare

Actor

Suryakant Mandhare (1926–1999), born Vaman Tukaram Mandhare in Kolhapur, entered films as a child artist. Across fifty years and over a hundred films, including Sangtye Aika, Kanyadaan, Mohityanchi Manjula and Malhari Martand, he was Marathi cinema's strongest rural, historical and mythological hero, famed for his pairing with Jayshree Gadkar. He received the Padma Shri in 1973 and was also a gifted painter.



Sadhi Manase

India I 1965 I Marathi I 137′ I B&W

Suryakant was discovered as a boy and mentored Bhalji Pendharkar, and this is the film in which that long partnership found its simplest, truest note. As Shankar the blacksmith, he plays a strong man without swagger, the dignity of work and the ache of being misjudged, opposite Jayshree Gadkar, his most beloved screen partner. Sadhi Manase won the National Film Award for Best Feature Film in Marathi. Its score was composed by "Anandghan", the pseudonym under which Lata Mangeshkar composed for Marathi cinema, and its "Airaneechya Deva Tula" remains one of the most loved songs in the language.



Restored by NFAI under NFHM



Prem Nazir

Actor

Prem Nazir (1926–1989), born Abdul Khader in Chirayinkeezhu, began in theatre and entered films with Marumakal (1952). From Iruttinte Athmavu, Murappennu and Nadhi to Kallichellamma, Vida Parayum Munpe and Padayottam he moved from romance to mythology and social reform. Called Nithya Haritha Nayakan (the Evergreen Hero), he holds two Guinness World Records, for playing the lead in over 700 films and for 130 films opposite Sheela, and received the Padma Bhushan in 1983.



Thulabharam

India I 1968 I Malayalam I 160′ I B&W

Prem Nazir, Malayalam cinema's eternal romantic hero, is remembered for songs and sunlit love stories. In Thulabharam he plays Ramu, a factory worker and trade union man, and strips away every trace of glamour to give one of the most affecting performances of his career. It is the film that shows what the Evergreen Hero could do when the script asked for the truth. Adapted from Thoppil Bhasi's landmark play for the Kerala People's Arts Club, the film won the National Film Award for Second Best Feature Film, and gave Malayalam cinema its first National Best Actress in Sharada.



Restored by NFAI under NFHM



Raaj Kumar

Actor

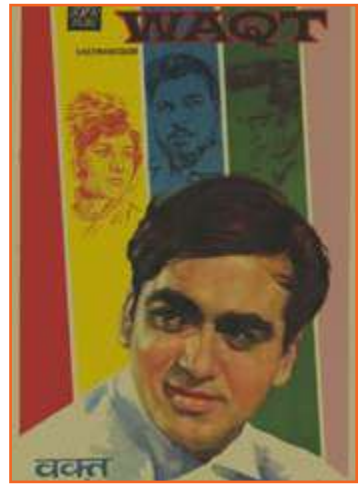
Raaj Kumar (1926–1996), born Kulbhushan Pandit in Loralai, served as a police inspector in Mumbai before cinema. He debuted in Rangili (1952) and rose through Nausherwan-E-Adil and Mother India to Dil Ek Mandir (1963), for which he won the Filmfare Award for Best Supporting Actor, then Waqt, Heer Raanjha, Pakeezah and Tirangaa. His voice and manner remain unmistakable.



Ravi

Music Director

Ravi Shankar Sharma (1926–2012), born in Delhi and known to Malayalam audiences as Bombay Ravi, entered Hindi cinema with Vachan (1955). With B. R. Chopra and Guru Dutt he created Chaudhvin Ka Chand, Gumrah, Waqt and Humraaz. He won Filmfare Awards for Gharana and Khandan and, in Malayalam, the National Film Award for Best Music Direction for Parinayam and Sukrutham.



Waqt

India | 1965 | Hindi | 179′ | Colour

Waqt honours two centenary artists: Raaj Kumar as the suave thief Raja, and Ravi, whose songs include “Ae Meri Zohra Jabeen”. Yash Chopra’s multi-star landmark.

Restored by NFAI under NFHM

Homage

This year the festival remembers three voices that Indian cinema has lost in 2026. Two shaped the earthy, human storytelling of Tamil cinema: Bharathiraja, who took the camera out of the studio and into the village, and K. Bhagyaraj, the Screenplay King. The third is Nana Patekar, an actor whose voice and intensity were unmistakable in Hindi and Marathi cinema. Mudhal Mariyadhai, Mundhanai Mudichu and Diksha are screened in their memory.



Nana Patekar

Actor & Director

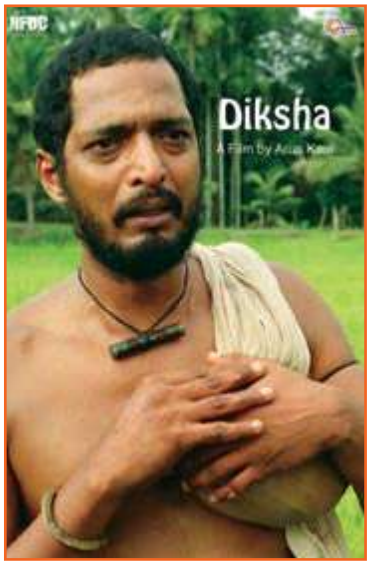
Born Vishwanath Patekar in Murud-Janjira in Maharashtra's Raigad district. He made his Hindi film debut in Gaman (1978). Parinda won him the National Film Award for Best Supporting Actor and Krantiveer the National Film Award for Best Actor; Agni Sakshi, Khamoshi: The Musical, Ab Tak Chhappan, Apaharan and Welcome followed, and he directed Prahaar: The Final Attack. He won three National Film Awards and four Filmfare Awards, and received the Padma Shri in 2013.



Diksha

India | 1991 | Hindi | 120' | Colour

Set in rural India during the early 1930s, Diksha follows Narayan (Nani), an eight-year-old Brahmin boy sent to live at a traditional Vedic school run by a revered orthodox scholar, Udup Pandit. Also residing at the ashram is the scholar's young widowed daughter, Yamuna, and a lower-caste servant named Koga, who quietly harbors a deep desire to learn the sacred scriptures.



Restored by NFAI under NFHM



Bharathiraja

Director

Affectionately called Iyakkunar Imayam (Pinnacle of Directors), Bharathiraja (d. 10 June 2026) was born Chinnasamy in Allinagaram, in present-day Theni district. His debut 16 Vayathinile (1977) cracked Tamil cinema open, and Kizhakke Pogum Rail, Sigappu Rojakkal, Alaigal Oivathillai, Mann Vasanai, Vedham Pudhithu and Karuthamma followed. He won six National Film Awards and six Tamil Nadu State Film Awards, received the Padma Shri in 2004, and later became a respected character actor in Tamil and Malayalam.

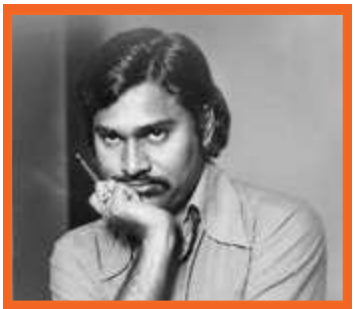


Mudhal Mariyadhai

India | 1985 | Tamil | 160' | Colour

Through a series of flashbacks from the deathbed of Malaichami, a respected village chieftain trapped in a loveless marriage, we meet Kuyil, a spirited young boatwoman from a lower caste. A deep, platonic bond grows between them, built on mutual respect and shared solace. But gossip, caste tension and family honour gather around their closeness, and a chain of tragic misunderstandings turns it into an enduring drama of love, dignity and sacrifice.





K. Bhagyaraj

Director & Actor

K. Bhagyaraj (d. 27 June 2026), from Vellankoil near Gobichettipalayam, began as Bharathiraja's assistant on 16 Vayathinile and Kizhakke Pogum Rail, and made his directorial debut with Suvarilladha Chiththirangal (1979). Hailed as the "Screenplay King", he wrote, directed and acted in Andha 7 Naatkal, Mouna Geethangal, Darling Darling Darling, Mundhanai Mudichu, Dhavani Kanavugal, Thooral Ninnu Pochchu and Chinna Veedu. He introduced actors such as Urvashi and Kalpana, directed the Hindi film Aakhree Raasta (1986) with Amitabh Bachchan, and received the SIIMA Lifetime Achievement Award in 2014.



Mundhanai Mudichu

India | 1983 | Tamil | 150′ | Colour

Parimalam, a mischievous and free-spirited village girl, is smitten by the new schoolteacher, a widower who rocks his infant son's cradle with one hand while teaching with the other. He refuses to remarry, fearing a stepmother will mistreat the child. Parimalam plays a desperate trick, falsely accusing him and forcing the village council to marry them. The second half follows her patient, comic and finally moving attempts to win his trust and prove her love for his son.



Golden Jubilee

Fifty years ago, in 1976, two very different films reached cinemas: a Hindi romance in which poetry was the plot, and a Telugu epic in which faith was the plot. They share a language of neither word nor region, only a loyalty that audiences have not withdrawn in half a century. Their restored prints now return as the Festival's Golden Jubilee celebration.

Bhakta Kannappa

GOLDEN JUBILEE · Released 26 May 1976

India I 1976 I Telugu I 148′ I Colour



Arjuna is reborn as Thinnadu, an atheist hunter raised by a tribal chief. He wins the hand of the chief's daughter, Neela, but his refusal to bow before the village deity forces him to leave his people. His life changes when he meets Lord Shiva and slowly learns the true depth of devotion. In the climax, he gives his own eyes to stop the Shiva Lingam from bleeding, an act that carries devotion beyond ritual and convention.

Bapu, the celebrated illustrator turned filmmaker, brought a painter's eye to the story of Kannappa Nayanar, the legendary Shaiva devotee. Krishnam Raju, in the dual role of Arjuna and Thinnadu, gave the performance that made this film a landmark of his career, and a box-office success that has endured fifty years.

Retelling a legend previously filmed in Kannada, Bhakta Kannappa won the National Film Award for Best Audiography (S. P. Ramanathan) and is remembered for its grandeur and outdoor scale.

Director
Bapu
Producer
U. Suryanarayana Raju (Gopikrishna Movies)
Story & Screenplay
Mullapudi Venkata Ramana
Music
Satyam
Cast
Krishnam Raju, Vanisree, M. Balaiah, Rao Gopal Rao, Sridhar, M. Prabhakar Reddy

Kabhi Kabhie

GOLDEN JUBILEE · Released 27 February 1976

India I 1976 I Hindi I 178′ I Colour



The young poet Amit Malhotra and the college student Pooja fall in love, but Pooja bows to her parents' wishes and marries the architect Vijay. Heartbroken, Amit gives up poetry and later marries Anjali. Two decades on, the past returns when Pooja and Vijay's son falls in love with Pinky, whose birth is bound up with Anjali's own history.

Fifty years after release, Kabhi Kabhie still feels like a film written in verse. Yash Chopra's romance moves across two generations, treating love, duty and regret with a tenderness that has become a signature of Hindi cinema. Khayyam's score and Sahir Ludhianvi's words, led by the title song "Kabhi Kabhie Mere Dil Mein", remain inseparable from its identity.

Director & Producer
Yash Chopra
Story
Pamela Chopra
Screenplay
Sagar Sarhadi
Music
Khayyam
Lyricist
Sahir Ludhianvi
Cast
Amitabh Bachchan, Shashi Kapoor, Raakhee Gulzar, Waheeda Rehman, Rishi Kapoor, Neetu Singh

Padma Nadir Majhi

India / Bangladesh I 1993 I Bengali I 145′ I Colour



Among the impoverished fishing communities of the Padma delta, the boatman Kuber is weighed down by debt, illness and a tangled family life. He meets Hossain Miya, a mysterious trader who dreams of an egalitarian settlement on the remote island of Moynadwip. Hounded by false accusations, Kuber must choose between the exploitation he knows and a promise he cannot verify, against monsoon rivers and enduring human resilience.

Padma Nadir Majhi is a film of two nations and one river. An Indo-Bangladesh co-production adapted from Manik Bandyopadhyay's celebrated novel, it won the National Film Awards for Best Direction and Second Best Feature Film, and a UNESCO award at Cannes. Goutam Ghose directed it, photographed it and composed its music, a rare unity of vision that makes the film feel as if the river itself were behind the camera.

Director, Screenplay, Cinematography & Music
Goutam Ghose
Producers
West Bengal Film Development Corporation, Government of Bangladesh
Cast
Raisul Islam Asad, Champa, Rupa Ganguly, Utpal Dutt, Robi Ghosh

Restored by NFAI under NFHM

Lagaan

India I 2001 I Hindi, English I 223' I Colour



In 1893, in the village of Champaner in central India, an arrogant British captain imposes a tax the farmers cannot possibly pay. The young farmer Bhuvan answers with an unusual challenge: a cricket match. Backed by Gauri, the woman who loves him, and by Elizabeth, a sympathetic Englishwoman, he gathers a band of unlikely players. Facing injustice with courage and determination, the villagers risk everything in a contest where the victory of the human spirit matters more than the game.

Lagaan won eight National Film Awards in 2002 and went on to earn an Oscar nomination. Ashutosh Gowariker directed and wrote it, with Aamir Khan as producer and lead; the film has been shown at the Locarno International Film Festival (2001) and the Sundance Film Festival (2021). The Festival screens it as a salute to a filmmaker, and to a film that turned a village cricket match into an enduring story of dignity and courage.

Director, Screenplay
Ashutosh Gowariker
Producers
Aamir Khan
Cinematography
Anil Mehta
Editor
Ballu Saluja
Music
A. R. Rahman
Cast
Aamir Khan, Gracy Singh, Rachel Shelley, Paul Blackthorne, Suhasini Mulay

Azad Bharath

India I 2025 I Hindi I 118.31′ I Colour



Neera Arya was an Indian freedom fighter, a skilled shooter in the Indian National Army and regarded as the country's first woman spy. She served under Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and drew inspiration from revolutionaries like Bhagat Singh and Susheela Devi. To support India's freedom struggle, she worked in disguise and faced imprisonment and torture. According to accounts, she even killed her husband to protect Netaji. Despite her sacrifices, Neera's life after independence was marked by hardship and neglect. She died without family support, a home or financial security, and never received the recognition she deserved for her contribution to India's freedom.

Dr. Roopa Iyer writes and directs this historical film on Neera Arya, the freedom fighter who served under Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in the Indian National Army and is regarded as the country's first woman spy. Produced by India Classic Arts, the film has been screened at Parliament.

Director, Screenplay
Dr. Roopa Iyer
Producer
India Classic Arts
Cinematography
Hari Vedant, Shrinivas Ramaiah
Music
Gautham Srivatsa
Cast
Shreyas Talpade, Suresh Oberoi, Roopa Iyer, Indira Tiwari, Dr. Subhash Chandra, Priyanshu Chatterjee, Suchendra Prasad

Dhurandhar The Revenge

India I 2026 I Hindi I 229' I Colour



Dhurandhar: The Revenge tells the story of Jaskirat Singh Rangi and the events that lead him to take on a new identity as Hamza Ali Mazari. The film follows his journey as he enters Pakistan undercover, gradually rises in influence and carries out his mission while navigating the dangers and challenges of life deep inside enemy territory.

Aditya Dhar writes and directs this spy action thriller, produced by Jio Studios and B62 Studios. Winner of the National Film Award for Best Direction for Uri: The Surgical Strike, he is also known for the Dhurandhar duology.

Director, Screenplay
Aditya Dhar
Producers
Jio Studios (RIL), B62 Studios
Cinematography
Vikas Nowlakha
Editor
Shivkumar V. Panicker
Music
Shashwat Sachdev
Cast
Ranveer Singh, Sara Arjun, Sanjay Dutt, R Madhavan, Arjun Rampal, Rakesh Bedi

Best of the 19th MIFF 2026

Every two years the Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF) puts the world's documentaries, short fiction films and animation under one roof and crowns its finest with the Conch. From the 19th edition, six winners travel to IFFI: a Golden Conch documentary from a Bolivian silver mine, and five Silver Conch films from India, Iran and Germany. Their posters are gathered here as a window onto the festival's best.

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION



SILVER

GOLDEN CONCH
(Best Documentary of the Festival)

Poland / Bolivia I 1965 I Spanish I 78′ I Colour

Director
Natalia Koniarz
Producer
Ashima Bhattacharya



UNDER THE SNOW

SILVER CONCH
(Best Short Fiction)

India / Iran I 2025 I Persian I 19′ I Colour

Director
Nafiseh Zare
Producer
Deepankar Prakash, Kottukathira Prakash, Nafiseh Zare



MAYA'S SONG

SILVER CONCH
(Best Animation)

Germany I 2026 I German I 13′ I Colour

Director
Franziska Schönenberger, Jayakrishnan Subramanian
Producer
Franziska Schönenberger

NATIONAL COMPETITION



WAAI

SILVER CONCH
(Best Documentary)

India I 2025 I Sindhi, Hindi I 12′24″ I Colour

Director
Sainath S. Uskaikar
Producer
Bharatbala Ganapathy



SMALL CLOUDS

SILVER CONCH
(Best Short Fiction)

India I 2025 I Hindi I 24′ I Colour

Director
Shubham Sumit
Producer
Film and Television Institute of India



ARMSTRONG FROM ANGAALAMMAN TEMPLE STREET

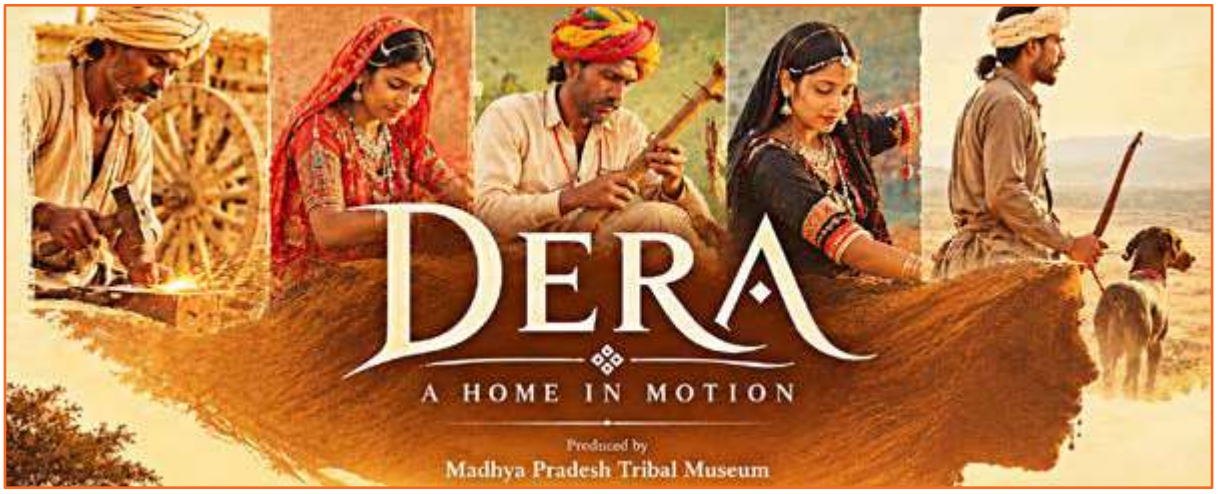
SILVER CONCH
(Best Animation)

India I 2025 I Tamil I 13′40″ I Colour

Director & Producer
Bunz

Dera: A Home in Motion

India | 2026 | [language and runtime to be confirmed]



The film travels among five nomadic communities of Madhya Pradesh (Gadiya Lohar, Rewari, Kuchbandhiya, Kalbeliya and Pardhi), giving each its own part and its own voice. It argues that home can be carried in memory, craft and song, and that culture is a living inheritance.

Writer & Director
Dr. Sudhir Aazad
Producer
Madhya Pradesh Tribal Museum

Mann Ite Ramgoa Ho

India | 2026 | Hindi | 9′ | Colour



An urban family sets out on a holiday across Madhya Pradesh and finds more than it came for: rural homestays, village crafts, folk performances and strangers who become friends. A musical short that treats the journey as a way home to one another.

Director
Dimple Dugar
Producer
Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board
Music
Amit Trivedi

PREVIEW COMMITTEE
INTERNATIONAL CINEMA



Anil B
(Company Director And Event Manager)



Tridip Gogoi
(Production Designer, Actor)



Srrenewas Editornivas
(Film Editor, Writer, Director, Sound Designer)



Venkata Ganesan M
(Creative Director - Srushtee Ads)



Greeshma Sridhar
(Actress)



Dr. Ramesh Chinnamula
(Film Critic, Journalist, Actor, Screenwriter)



Alluri Anil Kumar Varma
(Video Editor & Digital Media Professional | Founder)



Mandar Bam
(Writer, Director)



Shishir Jha
(Filmmaker)



Jitank Singh Gurjar
(Filmmaker)



Samaresh Routray
(Actor, Producer)



Gopi Peenya
(Writer, Director)



Sachinkumar S Basanagoudra
(Filmmaker)



Kalyani Khatri
(Actor, Anchor, CBFC Panel Member)



Jalapathy Gudelli
(Film Critic)



Debanjan Majhi
(Director, Producer)



Dr. Subramanian N
(Professor & Head)



Prasenjit Ghosh
(Image Academics)



Yogesh Kulkarni
(Filmmaker)

SCREENING COMMITTEE
INTERNATIONAL CINEMA



Prasann Jain
(Cinematographer/ Painter)



Harshada Gajanan Vedpathak
(Film Critic, CBFC Member)

PREVIEW COMMITTEE
WEB SERIES (OTT)


Amarnath Jha


Nedhe Singh Dharma


S. Muthu Ganesh


Padmavathi Malladi


Prabal Khaund


Ashwini Kulkarni


Sanjiv Kurup


Dr. Anita Chahal


Prasanna P


Dr. Raj Patankar


Rahul Patel


Kunal Gupta


Pramod Kumar Punhana


Dr. Soumya H


Raghuveer Nandam

CMOT GRAND JURY



Anand Tiwari



Abhishek Jain



Giti Mugdha Sahani



BS Kemparaju



Kousalya Potturi



Sudeep Chatterjee



Vijay Vikram Singh



Ashley Rebello



Charuvi Agrawal



Nachiket Barve



Akash Sengupta



Abhishek Sharma

57TH IFFI TEAM CREDITS

STEERING COMMITTEE

Official Members

Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, Minister of Railways, Information & Broadcasting and Electronics & IT (Chairman)
Shri Pramod Sawant, Chief Minister of Goa & Chairman, ESG (Co-chairman)
Ms. Delilah Lobo, Vice Chairman, ESG
Shri Chanchal Kumar, Secretary, Ministry of I&B
Shri. Dr. V. Candavelou, Chief Secretary, Government of Goa
Shri Prasoon Joshi, Chairman, Prasar Bharati
Shri Prabhat, Additional Secretary, Ministry of I&B
Shri Deepak Narain, Additional Secretary & FA, Ministry of I&B
Shri Sarpreet Singh Gill, Secretary I & P, Govt. of Goa
Shri Ashutosh Gowariker, Festival Director of 57th IFFI, 2026
Shri G. Krishnakumar, Chairman, National Film Development Corporation (NFDC)
Shri Dhirendra Ojha, Pr. Director General, PIB
Shri Dhiraj Singh, Managing Director, NFDC
Shri Dipak Bandekar, CEO, ESG
Shri Dharam Gulati, Chairman, Technical Committee IFFI
Mr. Prabodh Shirvaikar- SP Traffic north
Mr. Ayan Bose, In charge, INOX Theater, Goa

Non Official Members

Anil Kapoor
Dhanush
Rajkumar Santoshi
Bhavna Kher
Ram Sampath
Aparna Purohit
Prerna Singh
Viswanathan Ramasamy
Namitha Vankawala
Dinesh Vijan
Suhasini Maniratnam
Abhishek Jain
Santosh Sivan
Gaurav Benerjee
Namit Malhotra
Monika Shergill
Jyoti Deshpande
Aditya Bhat
Prashant Chotani
Ritesh Sidhwani
Aimee Baruah

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Shri Dharam Gulati, Cinematographer (Chairman)
Shri B. Diwakar, Professor in Cinematography
Shri Rizvan Ahamad, Director IMC Hyderabad, Film maker & UNESCO Expert AI
Shri Dhiraj Singh, MD, NFDC
Shri Ashutosh Gowarikar, Festival Director, 57th IFFI
Shri Dipak Bandekar, CEO, ESG, Goa
Shri Gautam Bhanot (General Manager – Film Promotion & WAVES), NFDC
Shri. Clen Madeira, Commissioner, Panaji Municipality, Govt. of Goa
Shri Stephen Fernandes, Chief Engineer (Elct.), Govt. of Goa
Dr. Vidhya Parab, Health Officer, Panaji, Govt. of Goa
Dr. Nitin V. Raiker, Chief Fire Officer, Panaji, Govt. of Goa
Shri Chandrakant Kavlekar, Chairman, Kala Academy, Goa
Shri Anirvan Ghosh, M/s. Pulz Electronics
Shri Ketan Mehta, M/s. Real Image/Qube
Shri Ujwal Nirgudkar, M/s. SMPTE
Shri Love Malik, General Manager, PVR/INOX CINEMA
Shri Pankaj Saxena, Artistic Director, IFFI
Shri Ramsahay Yadav, Cinematographer, FD SSE

Festival Director
Ashutosh Gowarikar

Chairman, NFDC
G. Krishnakumar

Managing Director, NFDC
Dhiraj Singh

Director (Finance), NFDC
Rajesh Kumar Singla

Head (IFFI & WAVES Film Bazaar)
Gautam Bhanot (General Manager – Film Promotion & WAVES)

Core Team
D. Ramakrishnan (General Manager – P&A, NMIC, Skill Development, IT & Legal)
Tarun Talreja (General Manager – Production, Distribution & Commissioned Production)

Artistic Director
Pankaj Saxena

Festival Cell
Pankul Gupta (Senior Supervising Producer, Commissioned Production)
Rohit Gupta (Deputy Manager, Finance & Accounts)
Keshav (Supervising Producer, Commissioned Production)
Aman Gangrade (Festival Coordinator)
Adil Ahmed (Client Servicing Supervisor, International Film Promotions)

Human Resource & Administration
D. Ramakrishnan (General Manager – P&A, NMIC, Skill Development, IT & Legal)
Gouri Nair (Head Programming, Masterclass and Panel Sessions I Domestic Film Festivals I HR & Administration)
Sai Salaskar (Executive,HR, Personel & Administration)
Sachin Veralkar (Assistant Manager, Personel & Administration)
Mahesh Shinde (Junior Officer, Personel & Administration)
Vishal Goyal (Data Entry Operator, Personel & Administration)

Finance Operations
Vivek Toshniwal (Deputy General Manager, Finance & Accounts)
Kanti Jogadia (Manager, Finance & Accounts)
Madhavi More (Assistant Manager, Finance & Accounts)
Manisha Kulkarni (Executive, Finance & Accounts)

International Cinema Unit
Nisha Thakkar (Manager, Programming)
Antony Sebastian Francis (Associate Film Programmer)
Sahil Bhardwaj (Associate Film Programmer)
Ishnoor (Associate Film Programmer)
Bobin V K (Associate Film Programmer)
Sneha Sonawane (Associate Film Programmer)
Kritika Khurana (Associate Coordinator, F&E)
Azima Shafaque (Festival Coordinator)
Kavya Priya Ramalingam (Festival Coordinator)
Aryan Gurav (Festival Coordinator)
Apurva Kangne (Festival Coordinator)

Indian Panorama & Best Web-Series Unit
A K Maharaja (Head, Indian Panorama)
Satyaprakash Upadhyay (Senior Programmer, WAVES Bazaar - Films & OTT)
Abhinav Kshirsagar (Associate Film Programmer)
Debipriya Garai (Associate Film Programmer)
Kundan Kumar (Festival Coordinator)
Anshul Mishra (Festival Coordinator)
Vivek Radhakrishnan (Festival Coordinator)
Siddharth Aryan (Festival Coordinator)

Sessions Unit
Gouri Nair (Head Programming, Masterclass and Panel Sessions | Domestic Film Festivals | HR & Administration)
Ashwani Anilkumar (Deputy Programmer, Masterclass and Panel Sessions | Domestic Film Festivals)
K Krishna Kumar (Senior Video Editor, Masterclass and Panel Sessions)
J Rajaselvanathan (Consultant, Administration | Masterclass and Panel Sessions)

WAVES Film Bazaar Unit
Mayur Patel (Assistant Manager, Events)
Rohit Chauhan (Assistant Manager, Film programming)
Aniruddha Pawar (Senior Programmer, Viewing Room)
Eshan Harsh (Senior Programmer, Coproduction Market)
Sanjay Colaco (Design and Prints)
Tarun Mankary (Senior Executive, Guest Registration)
Dinal Jain (Junior Programmer, Screenwriter's Lab)
Aishi Aishwarya (Editor, Viewing Room + Work-In-Progress Lab)
Abhay Tiwari (Senior Programmer, International Guest Relation)
Aarti Shrivastava (Senior Programmer, Knowledge Series)
Eden Dias (Junior Programmer, Work-In-Progress Lab)
Mohit Khanna (Market Screening Executive)
Muhammed Deshmukh (Senior Programmer, Work-In-Progress Lab)
Raghav Surana (Junior Programmer, Coproduction Market)
Kiran More (Design & Prints)

Media & Communications
Saurabh Rathore (General Manager, Media & Communications)
Vaishali Raj (Manager Social Media)

Creative Minds of Tomorrow
Vaishali Rajpal (Consultant, Skill & Talent Development)
Geetanjali Chaudhary (Supervising Producer)

Gala Premieres & Red Carpet
Tarun Talreja (General Manager, Production & Distribution)
Irfan Faras (Deputy Manager, Distribution)
Ganesh Pawar (Assistant Manager, Distribution)
Kanika Mittal (Senior Executive, Red Carpet, Media Protocol Management)
Shivam Sahal (Senior Executive, Gala Premiere & Celebrity Coordinator)
Dhanraj Sushila Solanki (Production Accountant)

Website, App and All Digital Footprints
Tanmay Shankar (Head, Digital Growth & Technology)
Girish Mukkirwar (IT Consultant)
Sujeet Yadav (Software Developer)
Alok Katiyar (Product Manager)
Ankit Srivastava (Product Manager)
Abhishek Srivastava (Sr Full Stack Developer)
Avinash Yadav (Full Stack Developer)
Ranjeet Sah (Sr Designer)
Pratibha Arora (Content Manager)
Aditya Tyagi (Front end Developer)
Amaan Ansari (Full Stack Developer)
Lakshyadeep Gogoi (Full Stack Developer)
Pawan Kumar (App Developer)
Omkar Namdev (IT Engineer)

Sir J J College of Art, Architechture and Design
Prof. Him Chatterjee (Vice Chancellor)
Shashikant Kakade (Registrar)
Dr. Jagdish Khaire (Dean, School of Design)
Prof. Tushar Panke (HOD, School of Design)
Prof. Kabir Tambe (Faculty, School of Design)
Prof. Santosh Bhise (Faculty, School of Design)
Drashti Joshi (Student, Design Cell)
Abhith M. (Student, Design Cell)
Aniket Chikhale (Student, Design Cell)

Protocol Functions
Rajesh Meena (HOD, FD-SSE Cell)
K. Sathiyamurthy (Senior Recordist, FD-SSE Cell)
Suresh Dandavate (Assistant Editor, FD SSE Cell)

Jury Secretary (International Competition)
K. S. Shridhar (Director,SSE)

MD Secretariat
Sneha Ramachalam (Senior Executive to MD, NFDC)
Sukanya Pednekar (Executive to MD, NFDC)
Devendra Sawant (Junior Office Assistant)
Subramanya Devadiga (Junior Office Assistant)

Assistant to Festival Director
Umesh Rangwani

Hospitality Unit
Satyajit Mandle (Deputy General Manager, NMIC)
Soumitra Sahu (Head, India Cine Hub)
Jasbir Baidwan,(Manager, National Film Archives of India)
Bhavesh Pratap Singh, (Deputy Manager, Preservation & Marketing, National Film Archives of India)
Sanjay Mahadik (Assistant Manager, Personel & Administration)
Gurpreet Kaur (Assistant Manager, Admin, RO Delhi)
Harsha Prajapati (Assistant Manager, India Cine Hub)
Aslam Hussain (Assistant Operations Manager, India Cine Hub)
Vijay Rajput (Assistant, Personel & Administration)
Dayanand Poojari (Junior Office Assistant)
Nikhil Kalangutkar (LDC, Directorate of Education, Govt. Of Goa)
Hemant Gad (LDC, Electricity Department, Govt. Of Goa)

Sponsorships & Partnerships
Yogesh Saini, Head Marketing (WAVES Bazaar)
Soumitra Sahu, Head ICH
Payal Bose, Operations Manager, ICH

Entertainment Society of Goa (ESG) Team
Dipak M Bandekar (Chief Executive Officer)
Mrunal Nikett Walke (General Manager)
Prakash H Khedekar (Dy Dir Accounts)
Siddhesh Shripad Sane (Manager Admin)
Arjun Sudhir Narvekar (Manager IT)
Shekhar Ankush Naik (Manager HR)
Trupti Borker (Accounts Officer)
Sankesh S. Prabhugaonkar (Manager, Technical)
Pravin S. Prabhu (Manager, Events)
Roahn Paidarkar (Manager Marketing, Sponsorship & PR)

Official IFFI Catalogue & Schedule Booklets
Shivaram Mony (Deputy Manager, Indian Film Production)
Iyesha Geet Abbas (Curator, National Film Archives of India)
Aman Gangrade (Festival Coordinator)


सूचना एवं
प्रसारण मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
INFORMATION AND
BROADCASTING


NFDC
cinemas of india


57
International Film Festival of India
Stories without Borders


ENTERTAINMENT SOCIETY OF GOA
GOVERNMENT OF GOA UNDER TAKING


गोंय सरकार


Envision
Net Zero Tech Partner


NETFLIX


Dolphin AI


STORY
TV


GOBIERNO
DE ESPAÑA
MINISTERIO
DE CULTURA
icaa

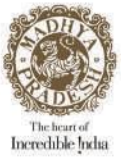

ROSKINO
RUSSIAN CONTENT WORLDWIDE


HM
HELLO MEGHALAYA


Govt. of Uttarakhand


BSFDFC


Department of Information and Public Relations
Jammu and Kashmir


MADHYA PRADESH
The heart of
Incredible India




KIFF


Delhi Tourism


RAJASTHAN
The Incredible State of India !


CONNECT
THE WORLD
SHAPE
THE FUTURE
HKTDC
香港貿發局
聯通世界 同塑未來


KYRGYZ
TASMASY


FILM IN INDIA
इंडिया सिने हब
INDIA CINE HUB


कोल्हापूर
चित्रनगरी
(महाराष्ट्र शासनाचा उपक्रम)


IMPPA
Since
1937


ND's
ART
WORLD


KISSA
SHURU
Talkies


NATIONAL


WAVES


waves
bazaar


WAVEX


ROTOMAKER


Coca-Cola


FASTCAST
Casting & Talent Discovery app


MC
MUKESH CHHABRA
CASTING COMPANY


Mountain River Films


rif
REBORN INDIA
FILM FESTIVAL


harkness
PREMIUM CINEMA TECHNOLOGY

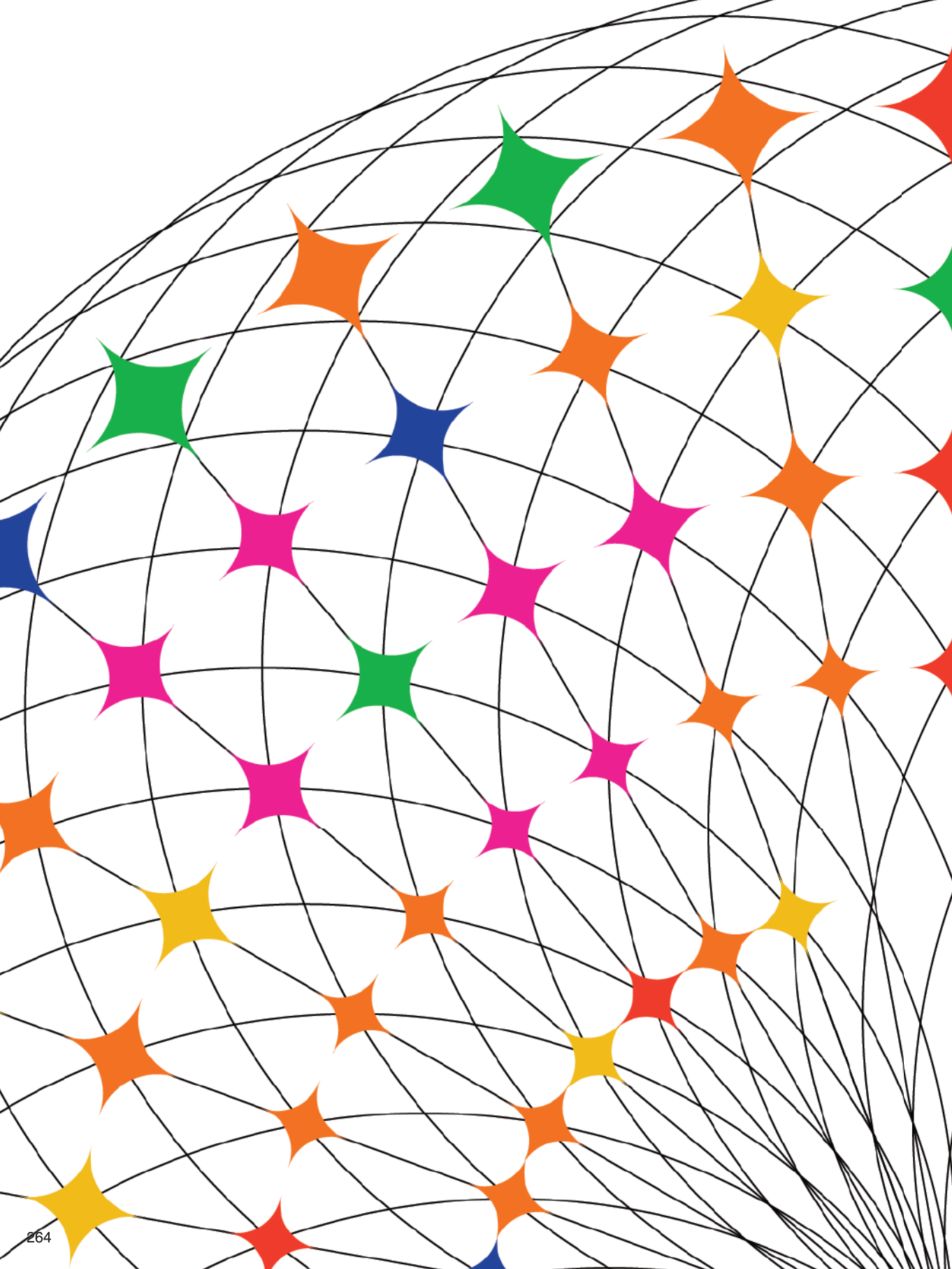

prasad
FILM LABS


QUBE WIRE

RAMOJI
F·I·L·M C·I·T·Y



International Film Festival *of* **India**



We are grateful to various film and festival publications, websites, the extracts from which have helped enrich this catalogue.

All views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Editor or NFDC.

Catalogue Team

Chief Editor	: A Chandrasekhar
Coordination	: Aman Gangrade
Catalogue Design by	: Sir J J School of Art, Architecture and Design, Mumbai
Design Team:	: Expro Events and Exhibits
	: Lakshya Vij
	: Ritwik Nair
	: Shreyash Patel
	: Sanjay Colaco
Produced by	: CBC
Catalogue Team Headed by	: Shivaram Mony

Printed and bound in India.
Published in 2026 by National Film Development Corporation Ltd.
You can visit us at: www.iffigoa.org & www.nfdcindia.com
© 2026 NFDC, India

International Film Festival of India

Produced by: CBC, Printed at: JK Offset Graphics, New Delhi