

Catalogue

# 7th Alpavirama International Youth Film Festival

October 15–19, 2024



# REFLECTED REALITIES

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Film & Video Communication Discipline  
National Institute of Design  
Paldi, Ahmedabad 380007, India



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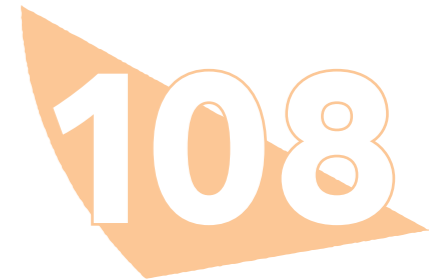
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## FVC NID Community

# NID Director's Foreword



**Ashok Mondal**  
Director  
National Institute of Design  
Ahmedabad

It gives me immense pleasure to announce the commencement of Alpvirama International Youth Film Festival 2024 at the National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad. Over the years, this festival has evolved from a regional event into a truly global celebration, while still retaining its core focus—championing the voices and stories from the Global South and beyond. Alpvirama has steadily gained visibility and overwhelming response, offering a platform for young filmmakers and designers to express diverse narratives, grounded in cultural, social, and regional contexts.

Since its inception in 2011, Alpvirama has transformed significantly with each edition. It began as a South Asian film festival, focused on showcasing work from emerging filmmakers in the region, and expanded its scope to Asia by 2014. By 2020, it evolved into a platform for the Global South, highlighting the creative voices from Africa, Latin America, and Asia. The 2022 edition marked a significant milestone as Alpvirama fully embraced its international identity, featuring participation from over 20 countries and emphasizing the role of young filmmakers in addressing global challenges. The focus was on short films by young filmmakers that explored the evolving nature of storytelling during and after the pandemic, reflecting shifts in audience engagement and content consumption. Alpvirama 2022 demonstrated how short films, with their concise and impactful narratives, are increasingly resonating with global audiences. The initiative of Cine Bazaar created a unique platform for young filmmakers to develop their idea and present it to industry leaders for funding and support.

In 2024, Alpvirama has grown into a grand international festival, continuing its focus on regional and Global South narratives while also welcoming stories from across the world. This year's edition features an even wider array of films, design exhibitions, masterclasses, and panel discussions, showcasing curated content from global partners such as the Azerbaijan Union of Filmmakers, the University of Sao Paolo, La Femis, and Clermont-Ferrand. New initiatives, such as the Audiophile and VR film screening, Design + Film Exhibitions, highlight Alpvirama's multidisciplinary approach, bridging the worlds of design and cinema.

None of this would have been possible without the continued support of our sponsors, participating institutions, and, most importantly, the hardworking Alpvirama team. Their commitment and passion have helped the festival flourish into a global platform for creativity and collaboration.

I warmly invite you to join us from October 15–19, 2024, at NID to experience this extraordinary celebration of design, film, and innovation.

# Festival Director's Foreword



**Hitesh Chaurasia**  
Festival Director  
Alpvirama International  
Youth Film Festival

Welcome to the 7th Alpvirama International Youth Film Festival. The festival celebrates films by young filmmakers in competition sections, making it a unique film festival in India and the longest-running film festival in Gujarat. This year's theme, Reflected Realities, explores global youth perspectives on reality through their cinematic lens.

The festival's three main competitions are F 30/30 – films under 30 minutes by filmmakers under 30; Audiophile – sound works in narrative and experimental categories; and Cine Bazaar – a marketplace for young filmmakers. The festival program includes screening short films, documentaries, feature films, and Cinematic Virtual Reality works, as well as Project Development Workshop, panel discussions, masterclasses, and cultural programs.

Alpvirama pays tribute to renowned cinematographer Navroze Contractor (1944–2023) through a photo exhibition and a screening of his film Hun Hunshi Hunshilal.

A specially curated package of films from the University of São Paulo, Brazil, La Fémis Paris, Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival France, Azerbaijan Union of Films, Looking China, and NID Film and Video Communication alumni and student films. This year, we are excited to host over 100 young filmmakers and experienced film professionals and set up a pop-up theater to screen more films for cinephiles.

Young Indian filmmakers are brimming with innovative ideas. However, lacking a dedicated platform to nurture and showcase their talent often leads them to follow established industry norms, limiting Indian cinema's global competitiveness despite being the largest film producer. Launched in 2022, Cine Bazaar seeks to address this by offering young filmmakers a platform to develop their projects and pitch them to industry leaders. Following the success of its inaugural edition, where two films secured full funding, Cine Bazaar is further expanding with 32 participants and six mentors in this edition.

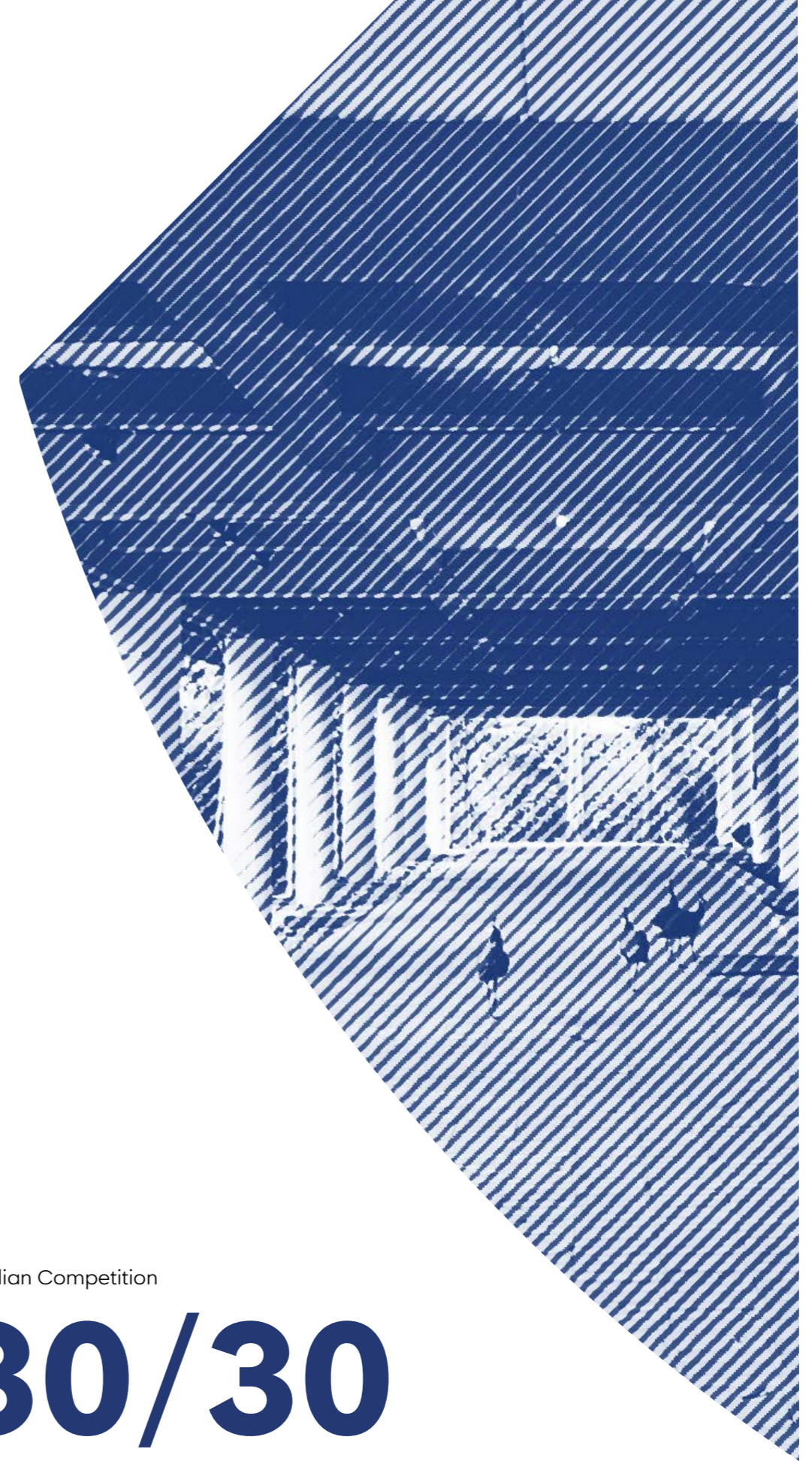
I extend my heartfelt thanks to all our esteemed guests participating as members of the Jury, selection panel, Cine Bazaar, panel discussions, and masterclasses. Your presence and contributions are invaluable to the success of this event. Alpvirama continues to thrive thanks to the unwavering support of NID Director, the dedication of faculty, staff, and students, and the contributions of alumni and former faculty members. We also extend our gratitude to sponsors and partners for supporting this initiative. Let's take an Alpvirama (pause) to celebrate young filmmakers and empower them to be the future leaders of the film industry.

This International and Indian competition facilitates budding filmmakers below the age of 30 and celebrates their films, which are under 30 minutes in duration. Both the International and Indian categories are divided into two segments: Fiction and Non-fiction. Films in these categories will compete for the prestigious Golden and Silver Comma Awards.

International & Indian Competition

# F 30/30

Films under 30 minutes by Filmmakers under 30



## FICTION SELECTION PANEL



### Ahsam K R

is an architect and a filmmaker. She graduated in Architecture from College of Engineering, Trivandrum and did her post-graduation in Film & Video Communication from NID, Ahmedabad. Her interests lie in Fiction & Documentary filmmaking, Narrative Storytelling and Indian Mythology.



### Debanjan Majhi

a Civil Engineer turned filmmaker from Kolkata, transitioned from working on a defence construction project in New Delhi to pursuing his passion for films in Mumbai and Kolkata. After being an Assistant Director in feature films (Hindi & Bengali) and Ad-commercials for three years, he has directed and produced a number of award-winning short films, documentaries, mini web-series, mixed media contents, corporate films, etc.



### Limatenzuk N Sanglir

has done his Bachelors of Science in Visual Communication from Madras Christian College, Chennai. He is currently working on his graduation project for Master of Design in Film and Video Communication at National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad. He hopes to create visually poignant and compelling narratives influenced from Naga culture fusing it with contemporary ideas.



### Yaatra Khan

is a faculty member in the Film and Video Communication department at the National Institute of Design. With a Master's degree in Communication Design, Yaatra brings a rich blend of academic expertise and practical experience to her teaching. Her work spans various domains of visual storytelling, including scriptwriting, filmmaking, and design research.



### Arfa Anam

has done her Bachelors in Fine Arts majoring in Painting from Kala-Bhavana, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, and Master of Design in Film and Video Communication from National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad. She started working as a freelance video editor in her final semester at NID, and is still continuing.



### Dany P Joshua

is a final-year student pursuing his Master of Design in Film and Video Communication at the National Institute of Design in Ahmedabad, India. As a child, the choppy pictures that danced across the square screen of a stocky Thomson TV in his home hypnotised him. The hypnosis eventually led him to mould his entire personality around cinema in the coming years.

## NON-FICTION SELECTION PANEL



### Biju Kurup

is a seasoned professional with over eighteen years of experience in the industry and ten years of teaching as a regular faculty member at various Institutes. His journey began at the Faculty of Fine Arts at M.S. University, Baroda, where he earned his Bachelor of Fine Arts and a Master of Fine Arts, specialising in Art History. He later went to the Film and Television Institute of India (FTII), for a three-year Post Graduate Diploma in Film Editing.



### Arbab Ahmad

is a visual designer and filmmaker based in Delhi. His graduation film at NID - 'Insides and Outsides' won best editing at IDSFFK 2023 and Best Medium Length Documentary at Madurai Documentary film festival and was nominated for best documentary at Indian Film Festival Melbourne.



### Anshika Raj

born and raised in Patna, Bihar, has a background in classical dance, which has nurtured her understanding of rhythms, patterns, and Indian aesthetics. This has deepened her appreciation for cultural and artistic details. She is currently pursuing a Bachelor's in Film and Video Communication at NID, Ahmedabad.



### Savyasachi Anju Prabir

holds a B.Cr.A in Film and Contemporary Arts from the Srishti Institute of Art, Design and Technology, Bengaluru and an MA in Visual Anthropology from the University of Muenster, Germany. He is keen on using text, sound and image to create multimodal works and bring a reflexive and collaborative methodology to academic and artistic practice.



### Jayasri Sridhar

is a filmmaker, musician and writer from Bangalore, with a Bachelor of Design degree in Film and Video Communication from NID Ahmedabad. She is passionate about design research and has presented papers in international conferences. She is a trained Hindustani Classical vocalist who loves composing and performing live.



### Mira Randhawa

holds a B.Des in Fashion Design from the National Institute of Fashion Technology in Himachal Pradesh and is pursuing an M.Des in Film and Video Communication from the National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad. Since long ago, her nose had always been in one book or another, which has now led her to look for stories and document the non-fictional realities of the world.

## FICTION JURY



### Dibakar Banerjee

is a filmmaker interested in exploring the nature of power, capitalism, inequality, gender, state, faith and their interrelationships. He made his directorial debut with the film *Khosla Ka Ghosla* (2006), that won him the National Film Award for Best Feature Film. He later directed films like 'Oye Lucky! Lucky Oye!' (2008), 'Love Sex Aur Dhokha' (2010), 'Shanghai' (2012), 'Bombay Talkies' (2013), 'Detective Byomkesh Bakshy!' (2015), 'Lust Stories' (2018), 'Ghost Stories' (2020) and 'Sandeep Aur Pinky Faraar' (2021).



### Umesh Kulkarni

is an alumnus of the Film and Television Institute of India. Umesh graduated from the film school in the year of 2004. He has made 8 short films and 4 feature films so far. He is considered one of the most important contemporary voices in Indian cinema. His short fiction film titled "Girni" (Grinding machine) won several International and National level awards including 3 National awards for the best short film and presidents gold medal for best direction, the highest honor in India. Umesh has kept his love and passion for short films alive. His each short film has been screened in more than 10 international film festivals including the prestigious Clermont Ferrand, Rotterdam and Oberhausen. His short film 'Three of Us' premiered in Berlinale Film Festival. He has been invited as jury in some of the most prominent festivals like Clermont Ferrand which is considered the most impactful and influential short film festival in the world.



### Celine Loop

is a producer with a background in IP Law. Originally from Belgium, she has been at the forefront of independent Indian cinema since 2011. Over the course of her career, she has backed a wide range of projects which have traveled and won awards at many prestigious international festivals. She produced the first film to ever be acquired by Netflix India as an original. As co-founder of the Storiculture Company, she founded Producerland – a platform for creative producers across South Asia. She is now actively developing ambitious, premium South Asian IP for global audiences.

## NON-FICTION JURY



### Roger Gonin

had been working for the Clermont-Ferrand Short film Festival from 1980 to 2015. He was at the origin of the Short Film Market and its technical development such as the first Market video server in 2003 and the online registration platform: [shortfilmdepot.com](http://shortfilmdepot.com). He is still strongly engaged in promoting the Festival and Market abroad. He has also directed two shorts and worked on several others. Roger, whose dream is to one day establish a museum dedicated to magic lanterns and stereoscopic viewers, is currently conducting historical research and lectures about itinerants showing the magic lantern during the 18th and 19th centuries.



### Sujata Verma Kulshreshtha

founded Wide Angle Films and brings three-decades of production experience to the table. She's deeply passionate about social issues and her expertise lies in creating compelling visual narratives. She's been producing and directing films for the biggest and best channels in the country and abroad including Discovery Networks, History TV-18, NDTV and TV Today Networks. She has won several international awards for documentaries done by her production house. Sujata believes that films are a great tool to educate, entertain, inspire, and empower audiences and is constantly exploring innovative ways to tell a story and spark a thought. She has done films on sensitive socio-cultural issues for clients like the World Bank, UNICEF, Room to Read and Khan Academy.

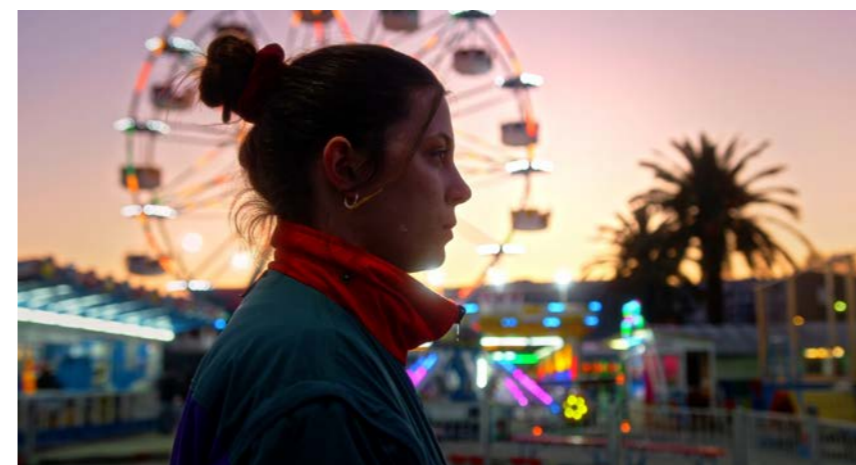


### Haobam Paban Kumar

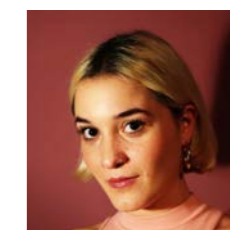
is a prominent voice emitting out of the restive north eastern state of Manipur, India dabbling in both non-fiction and fiction storytelling. His film 'AFSPA 1958' was awarded the Golden Lotus for the Best Documentary at the 56th National Film Awards 2008. 'A Cry in the Dark' is another film screened at the 31st Toronto Film Festival 2006 and MOMA New York 2007. After nearly a decade of documentary filmmaking, he made his critically acclaimed feature film *Loktak Lairembee* (Lady of the Lake) which featured at 67th Berlin Film Festival 2017.

**F 30/30**  
**International**  
**Competition**  
**Fiction**

**Bumper Cars** | 09:53 | 2023 | Greece



Anna, a twenty-five-year-old girl, enters the children's world, the amusement park. After a short walk through the park's toys, she ends up on the bumper cars race track. There she comes face to face with her rival, an eight-year-old girl who obsessively wants to bump her car against hers.



Director  
**Efi Anagnostidou**

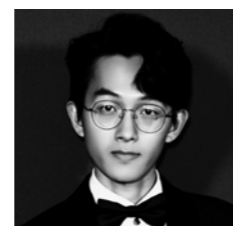
Producer  
**Anna Papazoglou**

Cinematographer  
**Kyriakos Apostolidis**

Editor  
**Giannis Gratsonidis,**  
**Efi Anagnostidou**

Sound Designer  
**Alexandra Vlaikidou**

**A Summer's End Poem** | 15:00 | 2024 | China / Switzerland / Malaysia



Director  
**Lam Can-zhao**

Producer  
**Lam Can-zhao**

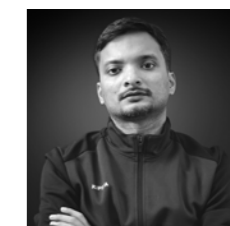
Cinematographer  
**Pan Wenhua**

Editor  
**Lam Can-zhao**

Sound Designer  
**Lai Wenhua**

In a village near the southern Chinese city of Chaozhou, a boy has spent the summer with his grandfather. As the last day of the holidays approaches, he gathers together his hard-earned savings to fulfil a dream: he has long yearned for a city hairstyle. But the gap between expectation and reality is large. This story of a boy who bids farewell to his childhood and embarks on a journey towards self-discovery transcends the boundaries of a small village and resonates with universal themes such as growing up and the unpredictable nature of life.

**Cinemaghar** | 07:08 | 2023 | India



Director  
**Subhash Jha**

Producer  
**Sreemoyee Banerjee**

Cinematographer  
**Manas Krishna**

Editor  
**Sheshank Jaiswal**

Sound Designer  
**Surya Karn Gupta**

A family tormented by the alcoholic father has finally found a way out. But it is a dangerous game, which needs a team effort and where no one can afford to falter!

**DATÆTERNA** | 22:40 | 2022 | France


Set in the near future, a micro-worker performs tasks that are suggested to her. Between data center maintenance and data processing, she hesitantly searches for ways to feel emotions. Devoid of social links, this world is saturated with data.



Director  
**Axel Chemin**

Producer  
**José Révaut,  
Emile Parseghian  
(La Fémis)**

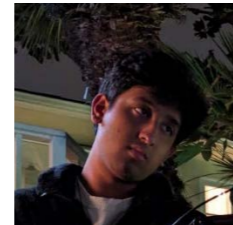
Cinematographer  
**Louise Bernard Pallas**

Editor  
**Axel Chemin**

Sound Designer  
**Clément Josse,  
Matthieu Fraticelli**

**Dead Bellend** | 05:48 | 2024 | USA


Feluda and Chaplin are two small-time robbers who mistakenly kill the rich man that they are stealing from. As they bicker about how they are going to clean up evidence and get out of the house, the doorbell rings, and they are confronted with an unexpected visitor.



Director  
**Shashwat Mathur**

Producer  
**Nicholas Grimaldi**

Cinematographer  
**Florencia Pereyra**

Editor  
**Nicholas Grimaldi**

Sound Designer  
**Shashwat Mathur**

**Desync** | 12:00 | 2023 | Canada


Ana, a young Filipina filmmaker, shoots a re-enactment of a fight she once had with her mother – a fight brought on by mutual refusals to communicate. Spurred on by the obsessive need for perfection, Ana “fixes” the fight by rewriting every veiled insult into a chance for forgiveness. As her perfect story diverges further from the reality of what happened, she begins to realise what her mom has been trying to say all along.



Director  
**Minerva Navasca**

Producer  
**Asa Kazerani**

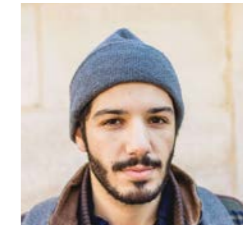
Cinematographer  
**Laura King**

Editor  
**Chen Sing Yap**

Sound Designer  
**Sarah Saunders**

**Green Eyes** | 29:30 | 2023 | France


Since his wife's death 17 years ago, Yuri, a sculptor, obsessively searches for his late wife's features in other people. He strives to recreate her in his sculpting workshop but he lacks only one element, her eyes. When he encounters Andreas, he notices her eyes. Yuri would be struck by this meeting and what it represented: the end of his quest.



Director  
**Sacha Teboul**

Producer  
**Helena Pokorny**

Cinematographer  
**Lou Lavalette**

Editor  
**Vladimir Lozerand**

Sound Designer  
**Joseph Squire,  
Valentin Keung**

**Helena** | 12:43 | 2023 | United Arab Emirates


Helena works in the UAE as a waitress. Her son in Nepal has been asking for a laptop for the last four months and has now stopped going to school. Finally, when she's saved enough money to buy one, she finds out that she's lost a small amount of cash. When the son calls her, she lies to him saying that she's bought the laptop and is sending it with her friend. Deep into the lies, in between the pressure from work and from her family, how will she get through this?



Director  
**Ayarush Paudel**

Producer  
**Sophiya Paudel**

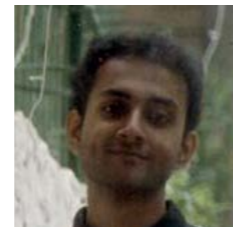
Cinematographer  
**Pu Jia**

Editor  
**Ayarush Paudel**

Sound Designer  
**Ayarush Paudel**

**How Not to Deal with Grief** | 14:29 | 2024 | India


A bunch of 24 year-old Gen-Zs gather at a funeral afterparty to pay respects to their school batchmate who has passed away, except the only problem is that none of them really know how to deal with grief.



Director  
**Ashwin Karthikeyan**

Producer  
**Ashwin Karthikeyan**

Cinematographer  
**Vaibhav Sanghavi**

Editor  
**Abhishek Panikkar**

Sound Designer  
**Harshvardhan Singh**

**Neon Phantom** | 20:00 | 2022 | Brazil


A delivery man dreams of having a motorcycle. He was told that everything would be like a musical film.



Director  
**Leonardo Martinelli**

Producer  
**Ayssa Yamaguti Norek,  
Leonardo Martinelli,  
Rafael Teixeira**

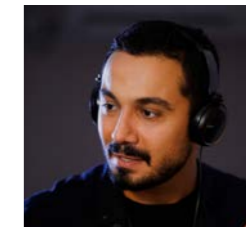
Cinematographer  
**Felipe Quintelas**

Editor  
**Lobo Mauro**

Sound Designer  
**Caio Alvasc,  
Roberto Crivano**

**Suffocation** | 19:00 | 2023 | Iran


Based on an occasional nightly basis, Zahra once again sneaks out of her house without her family's permission. Zahra went to visit her partner Mohammad, at his house. She must return back to her house before sunrise, so that she can put her father's vehicle back. However, before leaving Mohammad's house she faces a huge obstacle.



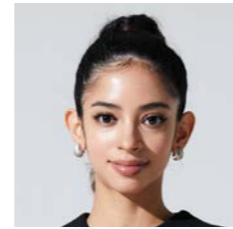
Director  
**Pedram Mehrkhan**

Producer  
**Toofan Nahan Ghodrati**

Cinematographer  
**Hasan Jafari**

Editor  
**Mohammad Amin  
Toroghi**

Sound Designer  
**Ramin Abolsedgh**

**The Turtle** | 13:45 | 2023 | South Korea


Director  
**Yara Gari**

Producer  
**Yara Gari,  
Moon Haeun**

Cinematographer  
**Park Sinuk**

Editor  
**Yara Gari**

Sound Designer  
**Lee Cheyoung**

After moving to a new home, a half-Korean, half-Chinese girl fears rejection because of her Chinese roots. A chance encounter with a turtle sparks joy, but a bad joke, a misunderstanding, and a hate incident change her small world, leading her to take time to make a life-changing decision: continue to hide and live in constant fear or choose to step out and accept herself regardless.

**Thirty** | 19:40 | 2023 | Myanmar


Director  
**Ei Mon Kyaw**

Producer  
**Nay Wunn Ni**

Cinematographer  
**Aung Htet**

Editor  
**Thant Si Thu Bo**

Sound Designer  
**Mg Thar Nge**

Myat Hsu, an obedient daughter who has always stayed with her mother for thirty years, decided to move out one day in order to find herself.

**When I Bleed** | 15:57 | 2023 | Germany


Director  
**Miri Klischat**

Producer  
**Miri Klischat,  
Felix Georg**

Cinematographer  
**Christoph Henke**

Editor  
**Jana Stallein**

Sound Designer  
**Sarah-Laurien Weiher**

Blood, shame and cramps: In the midst of nature, Resa begins the search for acceptance and reconciliation with her own body image.

**5-3=1** | 15:00 | 2024 | North Pakistan


Director  
**Nadeem Alkarimi**

Producer  
**Vasl Artist Association**

Cinematographer  
**Nadeem Alkarimi**

Editor  
**Maham Nadeem**

Sound Designer  
**Faheem Alkarrimi**

As humans, old habits make us feel as if what we are doing is normal but there are times where we do bad deeds unconsciously. There are characters living as protagonists as well as antagonists and it is interesting to observe such patterns that show how one is a hero to some people and is evil to others.

F 30/30  
**Indian  
 Competition  
 Fiction**

**Dump Yard** | 15:00 | 2023 | India



Amidst the chaos of planning his son's birthday, Sandesh's phone, crucial for an investor call, gets accidentally thrown away. In his quest to retrieve it, he discovers unexpected emotional depths.



Director  
**Nikhil Shinde**

Producer  
**FTII**

Cinematographer  
**Bhushan Pal**

Editor  
**Chaitanya Shembekar**

Sound Designer  
**Gaurav Pawar**

**Braid** | 23:16 | 2023 | India



Director  
**Vishal Jejurkar**

Producer  
**Vishal Jejurkar**

Cinematographer  
**Dharamendra Singh  
 Sisodiya**

Editor  
**Vishal Jejurkar**

Sound Designer  
**Ketaki Chakradeo,  
 Chanakya Nehul**

In a small apartment, amidst the chaos of caring for a loved one suffering from Alzheimer's, Varsha's routine is disrupted by the discovery of her missed period, unravelling a profound paradox entwined with her lingering childhood memories.

**iykyk** | 18:00 | 2024 | India



Director  
**Bonita Rajpurohit**

Producer  
**Jyotsana Rajpurohit,  
 Dhruv Solanki,  
 Neeraj Churi**

Cinematographer  
**Jyotsana Rajpurohit**

Editor  
**Bonita Rajpurohit**

Sound Designer  
**Ketaki Chakradeo**

In the midst of political correctness and conservatism, how difficult is it to see Kusum as an ordinary girl beyond her gender identity?

**Marutha** | 09:15 | 2024 | India


The short story “Marutha” by G.R. Indugopan deeply resonated with me, touching on the human experiences and struggles faced by individuals in Kerala who have directly encountered such hardships. It portrays the visual language of their suffering and resilience, depicting how they navigate through life, especially those who have worked as sex workers and endured various forms of exploitation. This film serves as a tribute to those who have endured such pain and yet have remained resilient.



Director  
**Githinraj**

Producer  
**KRNNIVSA**

Cinematographer  
**Sreedev Suprakash**

Editor  
**M S Abhiram**

Sound Designer  
**Sebastian Jose**

**Shackles of Sky** | 26:00 | 2024 | India


Neela and Shanmuka, a rural couple in a bustling city, struggle between their quest for a peaceful life and societal norms, with Neela fighting patriarchal expectations to find her own path to freedom.



Director  
**Ragu Aarav**

Producer  
**Ragu Aarav**

Cinematographer  
**Achyuth B S**

Editor  
**Sunil S Bharadwaj**

Sound Designer  
**A Bhaskar Rao**

**Patterns** | 25:00 | 2022 | India


“Patterns,” a family drama, examines the conflict between two brothers — meticulous Sarath, driven by a fear of illness, and carefree Vineeth, estranged by their differing lifestyles. When their mother falls ill, Sarath’s obsession with order clashes with Vineeth’s free-spirited nature, revealing deep-seated fears and family dynamics.



Director  
**Raj Govind V**

Producer  
**KRNNIVSA**

Cinematographer  
**Benhar Bhasi**

Editor  
**Nikhil Sudersan**

Sound Designer  
**Febin K Thomas**

**Sour Candy** | 20:17 | 2024 | India


Guddal, a free-spirited 5-year-old, lives in her ancestral home with her younger brother Laddoo, and older sister Chinu. Guddal orchestrates mischievous antics with Laddoo, landing her in punishment. But a sudden event in the house makes everything different.



Director  
**Nishi Dugar**

Producer  
**Nishi Dugar,  
Kush Patel,  
Anirudh Chordia**

Cinematographer  
**Ashwin Ameri**

Editor  
**Pavan Theurkar**

Sound Designer  
**Dawn Vincent**

## The Change | 11:00 | 2023 | India



How a farmer who is forced to migrate along with his family from his own village due to drought comes to realise a story told by an old man.



Director  
**Gayathry Sreejith**

Producer  
**Gayathry Sreejith**

Cinematographer  
**Janamejaya Daroz**

Editor  
**Gayathry Sreejith,  
Hari Geetha Sivadasan**

Sound Designer  
**Akshath**

## When the Goat Swallowed the Elephant | 29:40 | 2024 | India



After losing his job over wage negotiations, Yellappa, a daily laborer in Bengaluru, reluctantly accepts long-term employment from a solitary elderly man, drawn by financial stability, but as their bond deepens, unforeseen events disrupt their relationship, prompting Yellappa to reassess his beliefs.



Director  
**Punith Sakya**

Producer  
**Punith Sakya**

Cinematographer  
**Harish Kumar Rai**

Editor  
**Rahul Basak**

Sound Designer  
**Kartikeya Dixit**

## The Weight | 21:55 | 2024 | India



Kanthi, a Tamil girl who came to Kerala to work, has to find her ex-boyfriend after months. That's when she gets a clue about a potential disease that she might be affected.



Director  
**Mridul S**

Producer  
**Amrutha Krishnakumar**

Cinematographer  
**Anil Babu**

Editor  
**Mridul S**

Sound Designer  
**Eldhose Issac**

**F 30/30**  
**International**  
**Competition**  
**Non-Fiction**

**Bleach** | 07:11 | 2023 | Switzerland



Memories from childhood trigger an investigation that uncovers an all too lucrative market and its racist narrative. What is the price of skin bleaching, who pays it and who benefits from it?



Director  
**Liza T Raheem**

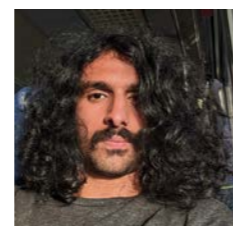
Producer  
**Volko Kamensky**

Cinematographer  
**Dschamila Hirsiger**

Editor  
**Liza T Raheem**

Sound Designer  
**Marvin Mata**

**A Family Portrait** | 04:50 | 2022 | India / Germany



Director  
**Shubham Sharma**

Producer  
**Shubham Sharma**

Cinematographer  
**Devashish Gaur,**  
**Shubham Sharma**

Editor  
**Prateek Srivastava**

Sound Designer  
**Prateek Srivastava**

An auto-ethnographic film that explores the sensory relationship between distance and memory and what role they play in a migration experience.

**Chaar** | 10:21 | 2023 | India



Director  
**Agni Maya**

Producer  
**Agni Maya**

Cinematographer  
**Agni Maya**

Editor  
**Agni Maya**

Sound Designer  
**Agni Maya**

Blindness varies from person to person as much as sight does and CHAAR (Four) goes beyond what meets the eye. It's an abstract documentary with an experiential take on how the visually impaired celebrate possibility and not paucity.

**Eviction** | 19:58 | 2023 | Switzerland


Switzerland's first forest occupation has been evicted. Five activists relive their memories. How does it feel to face the arbitrary tactics of a police force defending capital and state? How can resistance be upheld? Diggers strip away the rock layer by layer but the memories remain.



Director  
**Lara Schroeter**

Producer  
**Volko Kamensky,  
HSLU D+K**

Cinematographer  
**Sara Furrer**

Editor  
**Morgane Frund**

Sound Designer  
**Arlind Sermahaj**

**Honeybee** | 12:44 | 2023 | Germany


A palm-sized tattoo of a black bee decorates his head. Freshly engraved and impossible to miss, the bee blends in with Aldrik. Today, however, the bees are even more important to him than usual. After careful preparations and morning meditation, it soon becomes clear that he shares many similarities with the little insects.

Aldrik is a member of the free organization Last Generation and is sticking as a non-binary member on a protest action on International Women's Day 2023 in Oldenburg.



Director  
**Leander Grundmann**

Producer  
**Leander Grundmann,  
Till Andernacht**

Cinematographer  
**Leander Grundmann**

Editor  
**Leander Grundmann**

Sound Designer  
**Lovis Töpke,  
Tamir Eichelberger**

**Kelad** | 23:37 | 2024 | India


Kelad is a peaceful village nestled in the interiors of the verdant Vellha region, shrouded in thick clouds and surrounded by lush vegetation. This documentary offers a visual journey into the village's essence, capturing the intertwined stories of its people. It portrays their daily struggles and deep connection to rice farming, which defines their existence and identity. The film reveals Kelad's soul through the resilience, simplicity, and beauty of its inhabitants. It emphasizes the harmonious relationship between the people and their environment, showcasing how the interplay of soil, water, air, fire, and sky shapes the magical essence of this village.



Director  
**Shruti S Jagdale**

Producer  
**Prof. Dr. Mangesh T  
Karad**

Cinematographer  
**Samshad M N**

Editor  
**Shruti S Jagdale**

Sound Designer  
**Shruti S Jagdale**

**King's Hobby** | 24:45 | 2023 | India


This film is about an 85-year-old man, Nawab Akhtar, who has a hobby of collecting scraps from auction houses in Kolkata. Despite the auction business coming to an end in the post-Covid era, we witness this man's philosophy's of life and what keeps him going, without ever expecting anything in return.



Director  
**Subhadeep Biswas**

Producer  
**SRFTI**

Cinematographer  
**Anvesh Varala**

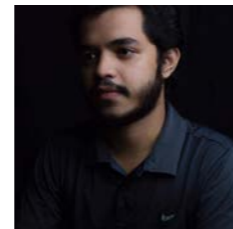
Editor  
**Ayra Ganguli**

Sound Designer  
**Rounak Guha**

**Love Like Ours** | 17:42 | 2024 | Myanmar



Ko Aung Zay Yar, a Muslim, and his wife Ma Tin Tin Maw, a former Buddhist turned Muslim, have called the Ayeyarwady fishing village of Nga Pote Thin their home since before Cyclone Nargis struck in 2008. They may have survived that devastating weather event, but their love is clouded by her family's disapproval of her conversion to Islam as well as the daily prejudice they face as the only Muslim family in this otherwise entirely Buddhist community. Love Like Ours shows how they navigate these challenges and impart valuable lessons to their children about how to live your life when you are in the minority.



Director  
**Yan Paing Htun**

Producer  
**Soe Arkar Htun**

Cinematographer  
**Paing Aung**

Editor  
**Khin Warso**

Sound Designer  
**Sai Nyi Min Htut**

**Orange in My Backyard** | 25:52 | 2024 | India



A young Indian migrant with his Chinese Indian master struggle to preserve and propagate the traditional artform of lion dance amidst the nearly extinct Chinese community in the oldest Chinatown of India, Kolkata.



Director  
**Samarth Bhosale**

Producer  
**Akshay Kumar Kragi**

Cinematographer  
**Advaith V**

Editor  
**Samarth Bhosale**

Sound Designer  
**Pankaj Kumar**

**Never Say Die** | 09:37 | 2023 | India



This project transforms personal experiences into cinema, using live-action, animation, and stop-motion to recount the story of my aunt, who suffers from multiple deformities due to rheumatoid arthritis and is immobile. The biographical film draws on her fond memories of parents, teachers, school, college, her dance, love for poetry, and her joys and sorrows. Through my lens, I depict various episodes from her life, incorporating intimate objects she has owned and her own narration as a voice-over.



Director  
**Diya Gambhir**

Producer  
**Diya Gambhir**

Cinematographer  
**Diya Gambhir**

Editor  
**Diya Gambhir**

Sound Designer  
**Diya Gambhir**

**Reframing Goan Identity** | 07:25 | 2024 | India / United Kingdom



Set within a modular terracotta frame, the documentary features interviews with Goans, offering them a platform to articulate their vision for a sustainable and authentic representation of their homeland. It captures their concerns about environmental degradation and highlights their desire for ecological protection, by answering the question: "As a Goan, how would you reframe Goa within a physical frame? What tangible imagery would you want represented to show non-Goans, what Goa truly means to you?"



Director  
**Tania Rodrigues**

Producer  
**Tania Rodrigues**

Cinematographer  
**Tania Rodrigues**

Editor  
**Tania Rodrigues**

Sound Designer  
**Tania Rodrigues**

**Sheep, Dog and Wolf** | 13:24 | 2023 | Hungary / Portugal / Belgium



Hungary used to co-exist with wolves. But the environmental and political conditions drove them out of their borders for nearly 100 years. With their reemergence over the last decade 'Sheep, Dog and Wolf', shows Csaba and his five dogs as they care for the livestock in prime wolf territories in the northern mountains.



Director  
**Sujay Iyer**

Producer  
**Sujay Iyer, Victor Candeias (Docnomads)**

Cinematographer  
**Sujay Iyer**

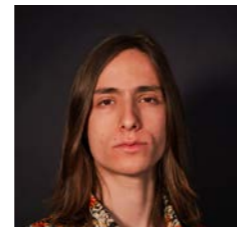
Editor  
**Sujay Iyer**

Sound Designer  
**Sujay Iyer**

**Tales of Exile** | 11:52 | 2024 | United Kingdom



In the refugee camps of Jordan, far from home, elder Palestinians reflect upon the 76 years of exile they have had to endure, amid the crisis of the 2024 attacks on Gaza.



Director  
**Sambor Czarnawski-Iliev**

Producer  
**Nell Jones**

Cinematographer  
**Goncalo Almeida**

Editor  
**Konstane Fjellvang**

Sound Designer  
**Sambor Czarnawski-Iliev**

**The Silent Eye** | 29:42 | 2024 | Norway



Oculus Silens sensorially explores architectural spaces in a Dutch Benedictine monastery and portrays its inhabitants through the soundscapes of this environment.



Director  
**Emanuele Bergquist**

Producer  
**UiT - The Arctic University of Norway**

Cinematographer  
**Emanuele Bergquist**

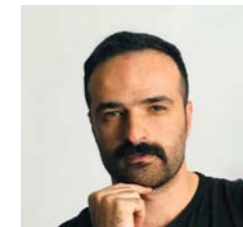
Editor  
**Emanuele Bergquist**

Sound Designer  
**Emanuele Bergquist**

**Time to Live** | 12:00 | 2023 | Kurdistan



Halima is nursing her elderly father who is spending the last days of his life and taking care of their cow that is about to give birth. Will her father who is waiting for the cow's giving birth see the calf?



Director  
**Hawar Rahimi**

Producer  
**Hawar Rahimi, Zanyar Muhammadineko**

Cinematographer  
**Hawar Rahimi**

Editor  
**Hawar Rahimi**

Sound Designer  
**Edris Abdi**

**F 30/30**  
**Indian**  
**Competition**  
**Non-Fiction**

**Dinosaur's Egg** | 18:05 | 2024 | India



'Dinosaur's Egg' is an attempt to make memory a narrative, provoking me to traverse the realms of past and future. It persistently challenges how my recollections align with the context of contemporary life. Rather than a mere documentary, we draw inspiration from other non-fiction forms such as video art, video essays, etc.



Director  
**Sruthil Mathew**

Producer  
**KRNNIVSA**

Cinematographer  
**Bhavya Baburaj**

Editor  
**Abhiram M S**

Sound Designer  
**Muhammed Thamir**

**Dear Sahithya** | 23:17 | 2024 | India



Director  
**Leo Paapam**

Producer  
**Shridhar Sudhir**

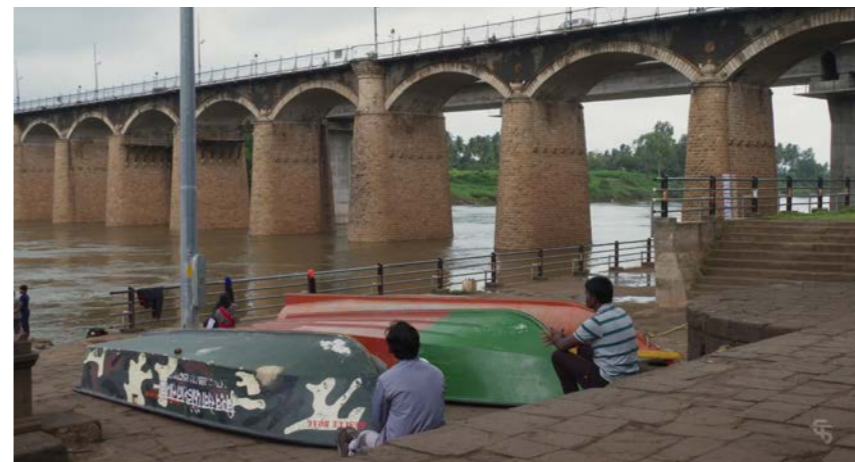
Cinematographer  
**Leo Paapam**

Editor  
**Sakshi**

Sound Designer  
**Shridhar Sudhir**

'Dear Sahithya' is a filmic letter directed by Leo Paapam, addressing their friend Sahithya's experience with a double incision mastectomy. Leo captures this pivotal moment in Sahithya's life, documenting their journey towards acceptance as a trans nonbinary individual in a suburban middle-class world. The film unfolds as a collage of intimate and honest scenes, offering a glimpse into Sahithya's process of embracing their identity and celebrating their existence.

**Far from the Hills, Closer to the River** | 19:59 | 2023 | India



Director  
**Mankap Nokwoham**

Producer  
**FTII**

Cinematographer  
**Dhoutab Sundarsingh**

Editor  
**Joram Yajo**

Sound Designer  
**Debidutta Sidhartha Samantaray**

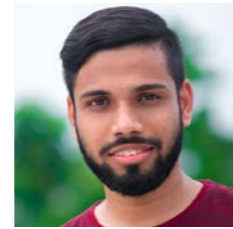
An account of the unlikely friendship between two individuals from vastly different backgrounds – Sandeep and the filmmaker. Sandeep, a Dalit who converted to Christianity, and the filmmaker, hailing from a different region altogether, find themselves drawn together by shared experiences of marginalisation, discrimination, and a quest for identity in a complex societal landscape.

## In the Lap of the Mountain | 19:58 | 2022 | India



Due to the caste dynamics and hierarchy prevailing in Golegaon like the rest of the country, the Adivasi people in the village struggle to hold onto their traditions and assert their own individual identity as a community, despite being the vast majority in the village.

The film tries to explore the collective dreams, desires, problems and fears of this community, simultaneously exploring how they are systematically being sidelined in the very space that has belonged to them for ages.



Director  
**Adhiraj Kashyap**

Producer  
**FTII**

Cinematographer  
**Sejal Kothari**

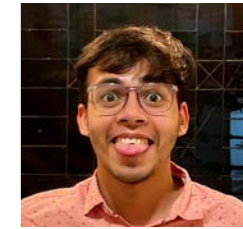
Editor  
**Somprakash Sahu**

Sound Designer  
**Sneha Sundar**

## Letters to My Grandma | 29:06 | 2023 | India



A personal letter to a grandmother's intimate and universal journey, revealing her struggle with hair loss, memory loss, and her relentless quest to discover the essence of a woman's beauty in her last days.



Director  
**Divya Kharnare**

Producer  
**Jyotsna Kharnare,  
Hemant Kharnare**

Cinematographer  
**Divya Kharnare**

Editor  
**Pranav Patil,  
Divya Kharnare**

Sound Designer  
**Anurag Pant**

## Khushi's Roshni | 07:07 | 2023 | India



Khushi's Roshni stitches together moments which are absolutely real, and yet not. Which parts of yourself do you reveal online and which ones do you hide? Fake profiles are plenty on social media, but how does Khushi bring her alt 'Roshni' to the "real world"? Which dimensions of the self does the phone make possible for her?



Director  
**Khushi Bano**

Producer  
**The Third Eye**

Cinematographer  
**Khushi Bano,  
Tabassum Ansari**

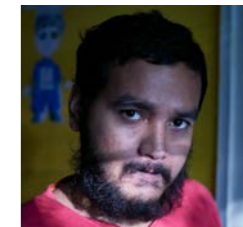
Editor  
**Gurleen Grewal**

Sound Designer  
**Gurleen Grewal,  
Shivam Rastogi**

## My House is Beautiful | 19:59 | 2023 | India



As the old world of the orphanage is slowly changing, Sister Asha, the caretaker of the three children recounts her memories of being in the place of arriving here many many years back. Her past, present and future merge together as the orphanage stands tall against the frozen time.



Director  
**Shekhar Sarkar**

Producer  
**FTII**

Cinematographer  
**Chetan Kapri**

Editor  
**V Kiran Kalyan Deep**

Sound Designer  
**Samonjoy  
Bhattacharya**

**Somewhere Near and Far** | 23:00 | 2023 | India


Set in a newly constructed landscape of suburban Delhi, the filmmaker turns the camera inward to the space of her home. Through silences, whispered conversations, and objects, the film examines the complex nature of gender and family dynamics. The parents' routines—shared and solitary—become gateways to explore their inner and outer lives, while also looking at the urban alienation that surrounds them.



Director  
**Gurleen Grewal**

Producer  
**SACAC**

Cinematographer  
**Gurleen Grewal**

Editor  
**Gurleen Grewal**

Sound Designer  
**Gurleen Grewal**

**What Do I Do After You** | 18:59 | 2022 | India


The film is an attempt to deal with the fear of an inevitable loss. Through a series of conversations that her father finds ridiculous, the filmmaker tries to navigate his expectations of her, her own hopes for the future and her anxiety of losing him, a thought that has plagued her since the death of her mother.



Director  
**Lourdes M Supriya**

Producer  
**Sameera Jain**

Cinematographer  
**Lourdes M Supriya,  
Sarthak Gautam,  
Anmol Bains,  
Nimisha Srivastav**

Editor  
**Lourdes M Supriya**

Sound Designer  
**Lourdes M Supriya**

**The Widow's Son Turns Storyteller** | 10:12 | 2024 | India


An ancient mound exists in the leather city of Jajmau, which has forgotten its tale of origin. But the present colors the past with shades of its own, and an urban folk tale is born.



Director  
**Shikher Pal**

Producer  
**Aindrezalik Pcynema**

Cinematographer  
**Shikher**

Editor  
**Shikher**

Sound Designer  
**Sudarshan Sawant**

Indian Competition

# Audiophile

Experimental and Narrative Storytelling through Sound

Audiophile is an experimental and narrative sound competition for sound artists, musicians, audio enthusiasts, and anyone interested in audio as a medium. We welcome submissions of audio works that push the limits of expression beyond music and radio programs. Entries were invited in two categories - Experimental and Narrative - with a durational limitation of 30 minutes by artists under 30 years. Share conversations, field recordings, audio documentaries, music, poetry, silences, or noises that illustrate your part of the world.



## JURY



### Dr. Andrew Belletty

is an Indian-born Australian sound artist and researcher, living and working in Sydney, Australia who works with vibro-tactile materiality of sound across audio visual arts. His work creates immersive, intimate, tactile listening experiences by redesigning images and sounds of country as flexible experiential forms through both gallery and site-specific installations. The multilayered, experimental and site responsive works draw from Indigenous Indian knowledges and practices which connect and heal bodies and country. A founding member of acclaimed Australian band Yothu Yindi, Andrew works internationally as a cinematic sound designer with hundreds of screen credits to his name.



### Niraj Gera

is a sound designer and an alumnus of the Film & Television Institute of India (FTII). As the co-founder of AuralMayhem, he has contributed to numerous critically acclaimed projects across film, documentary, and immersive media. His recent and upcoming works include Superboys of Malegaon, SABA, and Farming the Revolution. Through AMImmersive, Niraj continues to explore cutting-edge spatial audio and immersive storytelling technologies, particularly in XR, VR, and AR.

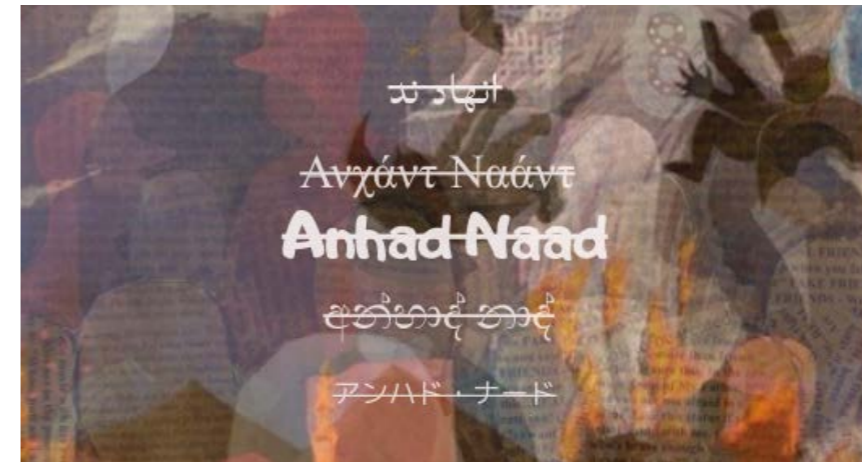


### Ruchi Bakshi Sharma

studied Communication Design at the National Institute of Design and has directed several award winning live action and stopmotion shorts. She works with multiple mediums - Lenticulars, paper and video assemblages inside shadow boxes, optical and animating toys, puzzles and zines. More recently she has been interested in making interactive ritual objects. She is inspired by folklore, totems and mystical diagrams. Play and motion are dominant elements in her work.

## Experimental

### Anhad Naad | 04:44 | 2023



As the name suggests, the audio drama delves into the eternal cacophony of all things living and the subsequent sound produced that flows in the universe for an eternity.



Artist

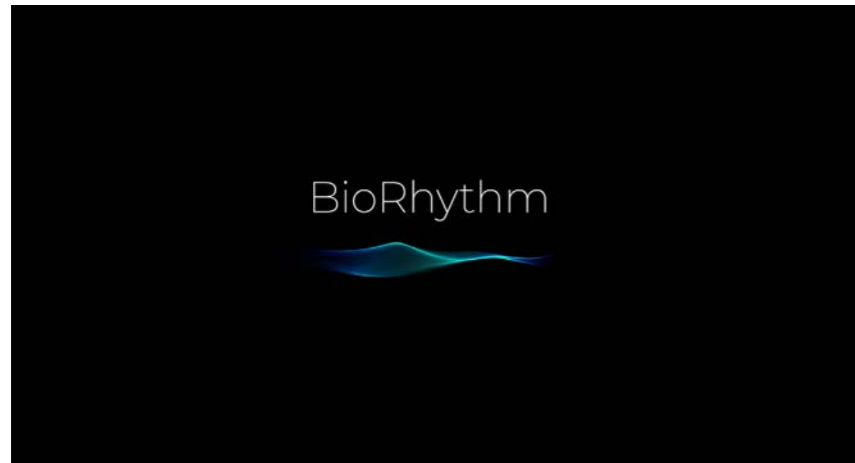
**Arijit Paul,  
Duttatreya Dey**

Producer

**Arijit Paul,  
Duttatreya Dey**

Editor

**Arijit Paul**

**BioRhythm** | 07:17 | 2024


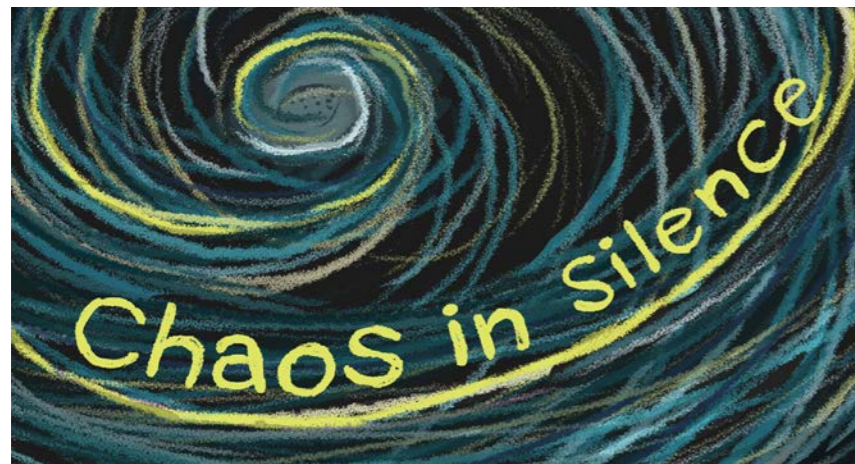
Close your eyes and immerse yourself in an auditory experience, where the gentle crackling of neurons forms a soothing, rhythmic symphony. Each sound is a soft whisper, a delicate cascade of electrical impulses creating an evolving auditory journey. The subtle crackling ebbs and flows, crafting a dynamic and immersive experience that resonates through your being. This unique soundscape connects you deeply to your inner self, guiding you to a serene, introspective state where the intricate beauty of your neural symphony unfolds through the language of sound.



Artist  
**Srivikashini Krishnaraj**

Producer  
**Srivikashini Krishnaraj**

Editor  
**Srivikashini Krishnaraj**

**Chaos in Silence** | 05:20 | 2024


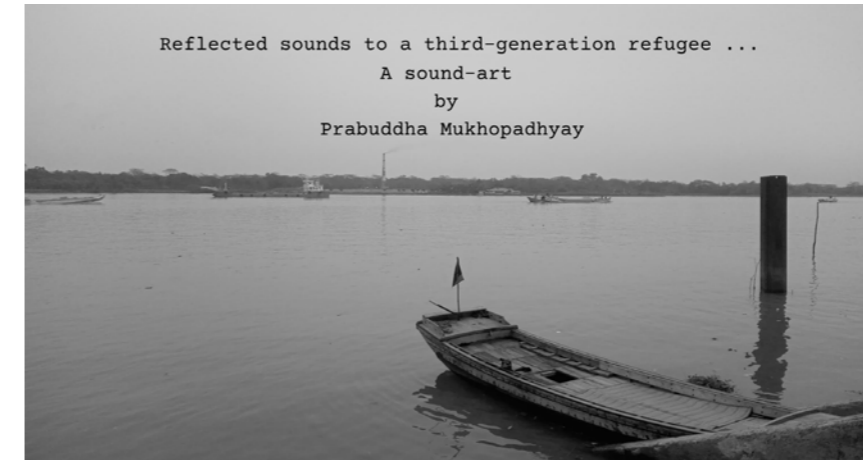
I have been fascinated with the musicality of sound. This audio piece tries to prove the power of auditory experience to evoke emotion and imagery more profoundly than visual mediums. The composition revolves around the mundane yet psychologically charged sound of a ticking clock, a symbol of both the silent dawn and the nearing chaos of a working mother's day. It's layered with a cacophony of overlapping kitchen sounds, the piece aims to create a visceral and immersive soundscape that accentuates the mayhem of the protagonist's morning routine. This sonic collage invites listeners to contemplate the emotional undercurrents of daily life.



Artist  
**Suhashya Telang**

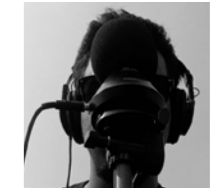
Producer  
**NID**

Editor  
**Suhashya Telang**

**Reflected Sounds to a Third Generation Refugee** | 05:08 | 2024


During the partition of 1947 in India, my grandfather migrated from (now) Bangladesh to India. He left his home forever and never went back. Nobody from my family line has ever been to Bangladesh after that.

Till his last breath, his only wish was to get to that place, at least for once. He couldn't. The home, the roots that my grandfather left have vanished now, it does not exist. I have only heard stories of it, and will never be able to see it. That time has gone by, and that space has become extinct. This work is a reflection of how I have searched for a space that doesn't exist anymore.



Artist  
**Prabuddha Mukhopadhyay**

Producer  
**Prabuddha Mukhopadhyay**

Editor  
**Prabuddha Mukhopadhyay**

**Thirsty** | 05:28 | 2024


In a tale of stark contrasts, Arjun battles the unforgiving desert, desperate for water, while a thriving city remains oblivious to its depleting supply. As Arjun's quest for survival unfolds amidst mirages and echoes, the city revels in its symphony of plenty, heedless of an impending water crisis. The narrative culminates in a tragic moment when Arjun's unquenchable thirst parallels the city's abrupt discovery that its water supplies are running low. A tragic ending leaves both worlds in quiet, with the city's once-abundant water disappearing and Arjun's search unfulfilled. This creates a narrative of two realms permanently altered by the echoes of water's absence.



Artist  
**Sumedha Abhyankar**

Producer  
**Chandrashekhar Abhyankar**

Editor  
**Sumedha Abhyankar**

**Walk of Curse** | 07:16 | 2023



It is believed that the one witnessing the funeral rites of Kinner is to be Blessed with Great Luck. When a Kinner dies, the funeral procession takes place during the night in an uninhabited place and the dead Kinner is cursed to not take birth as a Kinner in his next life.



Artist  
**Rohit Singh**

Producer  
**State University of  
Performing Arts and  
Visual Arts, Rohtak  
(SUPVA)**

Editor  
**Manav Singh**

# Narrative

**Achuki and Marwari Family** | 10:54 | 2023

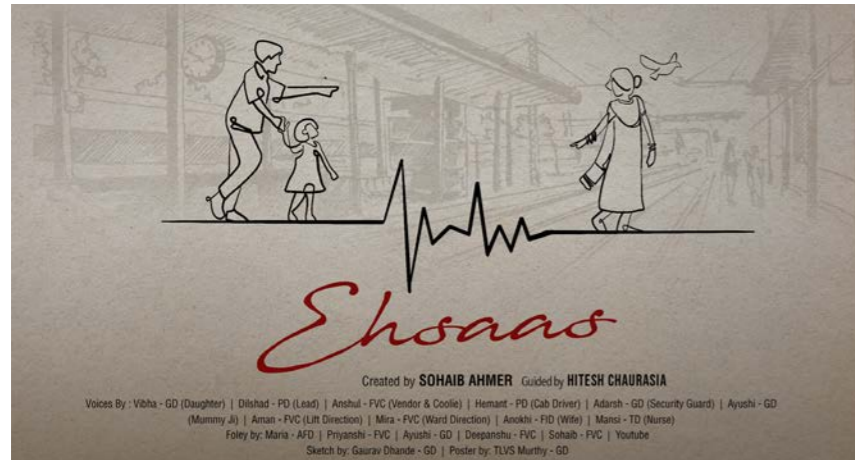


Artist  
**Madhuri Adwani,  
Manisha Chanda**

Producer  
**The Third Eye**

Editor  
**Madhuri Adwani**

Authored and narrated by Manisha Chanda, Achuki is a fictional character who takes us through the gullies of Phalodi in Rajasthan as we meet her Marwari Family in this audio narrative. What does it mean to pursue education in a Marwari Bania society where her aunts and uncles constantly remind Achuki of her passing marriageable age? With her incessant quips and repartees, Achuki lives up to the meaning of her name in this playful narration. She is a young girl frustrated with her family. Unsure whether to scream or sigh, she wonders, "When will mindsets change?"

**Ehsaas** | 06:23 | 2023

Ehsaas centers on a father and his young daughter visiting the hospital to see her mother. The daughter, brimming with excitement, is unaware of the seriousness of the situation. As the couple shares a poignant conversation, the mother makes an important request of the father. With the mother taken away for surgery, the father waits anxiously outside the operating theater. When his daughter asks what he's thinking, he reflects poetically on his tendency to be late for significant moments. As his words unfold, one question remains: will the promise made be fulfilled, or is it already too late?



Artist  
**Sohaib Ahmer**

Producer  
**NID**

Editor  
**Sohaib Ahmer**

**Forging Falafel** | 14:27 | 2023

Embark on a short auditory adventure with "Forging Falafel". This audio documentary whisks you from the Middle East to the cultural melting-pot of Paris, unraveling the captivating tale of falafel. Beyond its culinary allure, falafel carries a remarkable narrative of cultural heritage and unexpected conflict.



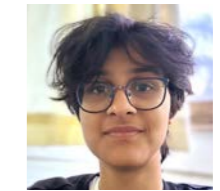
Artist  
**Vedvanti M Kasture,  
Raghad Kasim**

Producer  
**École Nationale  
Supérieure Louis-  
Lumière**

Editor  
**Vedvanti M Kasture**

**Hear Her** | 06:36 | 2023

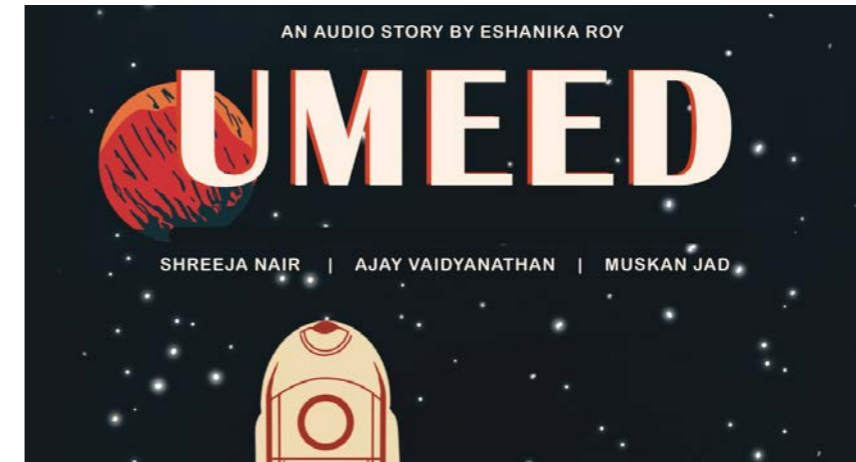
Kia was born with the ability to hear, but an annual health checkup during her childhood revealed a condition that would gradually take that gift away. As time passed, her hearing had severely diminished, prompting her to opt for cochlear implants. However, a traumatic incident at school, where she was physically bullied and had her implants forcibly removed, shattered her sense of normalcy. Overwhelmed by the loss and the despair of never feeling "normal" again, Kia chose to discard her implants, resigning herself to a world of silence. This audio story serves as a poignant reminder for those with the ability to hear to cherish the profound emotional impact that sound can have on our lives.



Artist  
**Shakthi Nanda Kumar**

Producer  
**Shakthi Nanda Kumar,  
Prof. Aakash Kulkarni**

Editor  
**Shakthi Nanda Kumar**

**Hope** | 05:45 | 2024

In the year 2203, Captain Kalpana guides the spaceship "Umeed" through space, carrying the last remnants of humanity towards a distant signal from the Andromeda Galaxy. After a close encounter with a meteorite, their unplanned deviation strengthens the signal, bringing them closer to their destination. Navigating a wormhole, they discover an unexplored region and pick up a signal from a lost voyager who landed on the sought-after planet. Their quest for a new beginning hangs on the brink as they realize they may have uncovered a web of secrets.



Artist  
**Eshanika Roy**

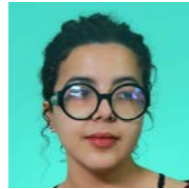
Producer  
**Eshanika Roy**

Editor  
**Eshanika Roy**

**The Sound of the Ghosts** | 16:49 | 2023



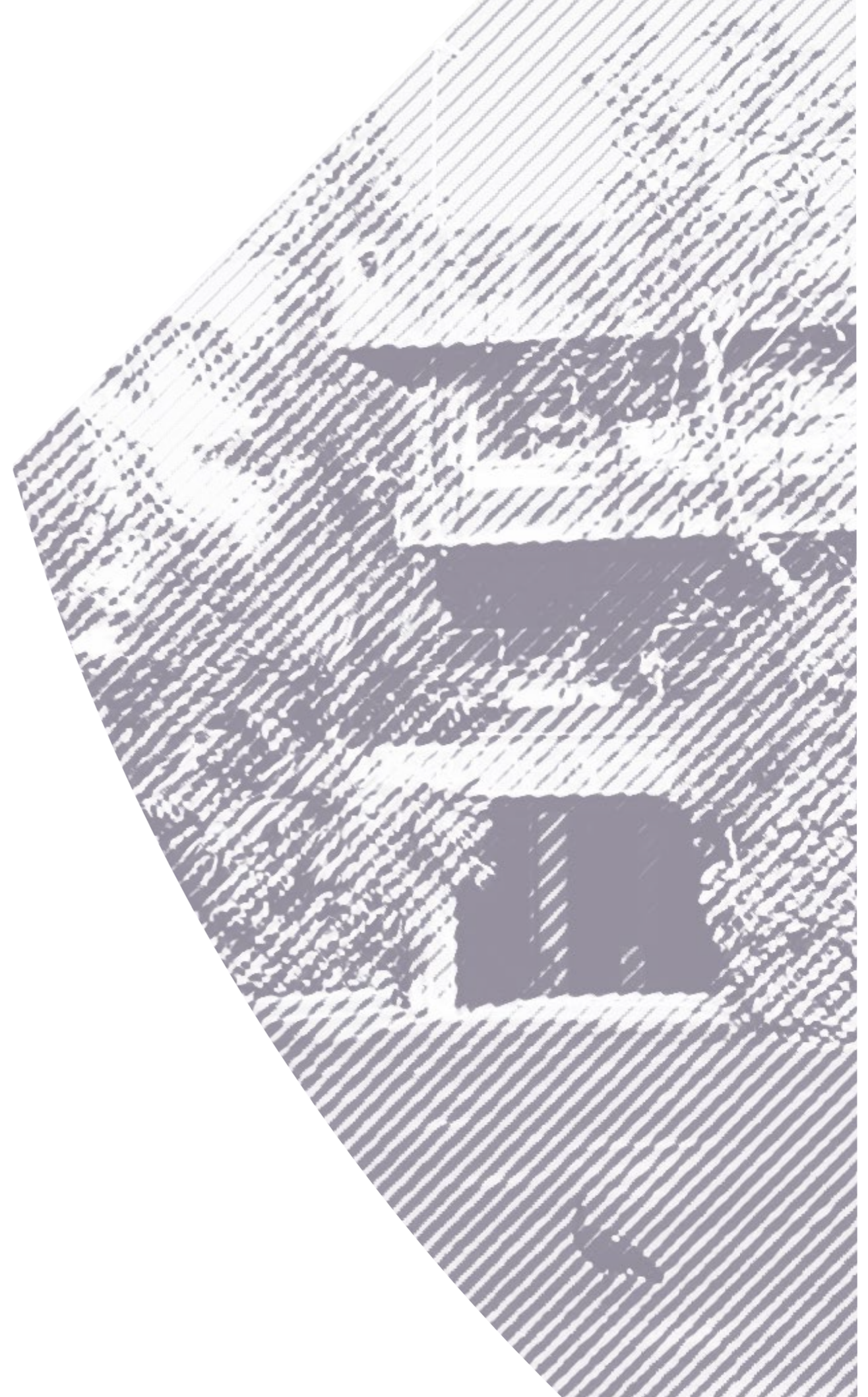
The sound documentary follows Eva, a Spanish tour guide living in Paris for the past 7 years. Eva conducts the 'Mysteries and Legends Tour', every week in the heart of the city in Île Saint-Louis. The tour traces the dark history of Paris, where she introduces her audience to the violence that consumed the city in the Middle Ages. Through Eva's undying passion for discovery, the piece invites the listener to see beyond what is mostly known of Paris today; asking them to patiently observe the city, and listen deeply to the sound of its ghosts.



Artist  
**Neelansh Mittra,  
Yasmine Mahjoubi**

Producer  
**École Nationale  
Supérieure Louis-  
Lumière,  
Neelansh Mittra,  
Yasmine Mahjoubi**

Editor  
**Neelansh Mittra,  
Yasmine Mahjoubi**



Indian Competition

# Cine Bazaar

A Marketplace for Young Filmmakers

Alpavirama welcomes you to the 2nd edition of Cine Bazaar, a platform for young filmmakers to pitch their ideas and raise funds for their films.

In the first edition of Cine Bazaar in 2022, a project development workshop was organised for young filmmakers to develop their ideas. Later, filmmakers pitched their projects to industry leaders. Two shorts, one live-action, and one animation film received full funding. The films are in an advanced stage of production. Four other projects received the Alpavirama Most Promising Project award and two projects received Special Mention.

This year, shortlisted filmmakers will get an opportunity to attend a project development workshop, followed by a pitching session during the Alpavirama 2024. A panel of industry leaders will select the most promising projects for Cine Bazaar awards and stand a chance to raise funding for production and distribution.

## MENTORS



### Pushendra Nath Misra

is a film director at Flying Saucer. Despite creating a large body of work, he is not known; which he defends by saying that it helps him in listening to other people's conversation at restaurants.

An alumni of the National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad, Pushendra is an M.Des graduate in filmmaking and communication design. He founded Flying Saucer in 2004 and in the last two decades FS has created hundreds of commercials and has been ranked amongst the top 10 production houses in India by Brand Equity. Since 2020, a list of long format projects have also been added to his portfolio. 'Taj Mahal 1989' and 'Choona' are streaming on Netflix and 'Ghoomketu' starring Nawazuddin Siddiqi is on Zee5.



### George K Antony

is an alumnus of the National Institute of Design (NID) in Ahmedabad. George started out his career with Aamir Khan Productions, working as part of the creative team behind the television show Satyamev Jayate.

He then founded 'Kadhai Films' with two other alumni of NID in the year 2012. He is currently working as a producer and director in the advertising industry and has crafted ad films for a number of brands for over a decade. He is also the writer and director of the web series "Story of Things", which premiered on Sony Liv in January 2023.



### Aditi Banerjee

is an award-winning filmmaker. She enjoys working across genres. Her web series 'Love at Fifth Floor' travelled to festivals at Paris, Toronto and LA, winning international awards before being streamed on Disney+ Hotstar. She has been a fellow at the Writers Ink Script Lab in 2023 and at the Osian Talent Campus. Her work has been telecast on National Geographic, Fox, Discovery, AXN, Network 18 and Star World. As Creative Producer in a Mumbai based production house, she developed scripts for OTT platforms. Prior to that, she was co-founder of an online content startup where she produced daily shows. She teaches filmmaking in various institutes in India and is currently writing a feature and series.

## MENTORS



### Suruchi Sharma

is a director-producer and founder of Studio Ainak. A graduate of NID, Ahmedabad she worked on several cultural and travel shows for broadcast networks like NGC, TVF and the Epic Channel. Her work has earned her several accolades including the National Award for her documentary 'Meen Raag', special mention award at IDA 2023 for docu-series Equals, Forum Lenteng Award for short documentary 'Utsav' and recognition at IDSFFK 2017 for her mid length documentary 'Of Love & Artistry'. She is currently producing a feature length documentary set in Ladakh which has been pitched at forums like Docedge and Tokyo Docs 2021 and has gained recognition amongst international funders including an award for best pitch at Docedge Kolkata 2021.



### Akta Panwar

is an engineer and radio jockey turned writer who began her career writing ads in Mumbai and worked for several top agencies like McCann Erickson, Crayons Advertising and Dentsu. Following her stint in advertising, she studied film at the National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad where she fell in love with writing all over again. The love for cinema got her back to Mumbai where she has been working as a writer and creative producer for web series, branded content, and digital ads. A few of the shows she has worked on are 'Hustlers' on Amazon miniTV, 'Thums Up Toofani Biryani Hunt' and 'Where Next?' on Disney+Hotstar, 'Tyohar ki Thali' on EPIC among others. Currently, she is writing a show for Disney+Hotstar and developing her own concepts for OTT and films.



### Upamanyu Bhattacharyya

is an animation director and producer based in Kolkata, India. He co-directed the animated short film 'Wade'. He is currently directing the animated feature film, 'Heirloom', which was selected for development at the Annecy Festival Residency 2021 and was presented in the MIFA of the Annecy Festival 2021 and 2023, and in the Animation Showcase at Cannes 2023.

## EXPERT PANEL



### Nina Lath Gupta

is a highly experienced leader in the film industry with over 20 years of guiding business and strategy in both the public and private sectors in the domain of film. She has recently launched Cinevesture, an innovative platform focused on facilitating global connectivity and amplifying the voice of independent writers and filmmakers worldwide, forging international partnerships and mutually beneficial relationships. She oversees all strategic decision-making, establishing key partnerships, and facilitating growth. For 12 years, she was the Managing Director of the National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) of India, where she launched Film Bazaar, a film marketplace aimed at improving content and strategic partnerships, including streamlining the accessibility of permissions and clearances for films being shot in India.



### Rajiv Rajaram

is a playwright and screenwriter with two feature film credits. He was also the Creator and Creative Director at Culture Machine and Subsequently Culture Machine Studios, having created popular Digital Media Brands like Put Chutney & Rascalas. His plays have been performed around the world in Sydney, Grahamstown, Dubai, Singapore, Malaysia, and Los Angeles. He made his debut as a dialogue writer for Yash Raj Films's (YRF) first Tamil Feature film "Aaha Kalyanam" a remake of Band Baaja Baraat, for which he received acclaim from Ananda Vikatan. Popular film critic Baradwaj Rangan appreciated the film's wonderfully conversational dialogues. His second film, a bilingual feature, "Moone Moonu Varthai" (Just Three Words), was produced by the late SP Balasubramanyam.



### Mrinalini Khanna

started her foray into the world of media in 2003. She started working as the in house architect on a show for NDTV Lifestyle called Scope for Improvement. Having enjoyed herself on this production - she joined Miditech for the Indian adaptation for Sesame Street. Aware that Delhi didn't offer much in terms of a structured (read paying) existence in entertainment she ventured to Mumbai and started off as a script supervisor at Endemol in 2007. 14 years later - she exited the company as VP, Business Development with having set up a scripted vertical that produced Aarya, Trial by Fire, Bombay Begums, The Test Case and Mission Over Mars. In 2021, she joined Lionsgate as head of Studio and produced their first 2 films (yet to be released) - 'Feels like Home' and 'Minus One S2'. Currently she is working as an independent producer for films.

## EXPERT PANEL



### Shivani Thussu Gambhir

is an experienced content creator with over 20 years of expertise in storytelling across diverse formats such as ad films, television, and OTT platforms. With a strong belief in the power of storytelling to engage and captivate, Shivani has delivered critically acclaimed and commercially successful projects. Her current role as Content Lead at Viacom 18 Digital Ventures involves spearheading the content strategy for marquee projects like 'Asur 2', 'Ranneeti: Balakot & Beyond' and 'Shekhar Home', contributing significantly to platform growth and viewer engagement.



### Sanjay Gulati

is the founder-producer at Crawling Angel Films in New Delhi, India. His latest titles are 'Girls Will Be Girls' (Sundance Film Festival 2024), 'Tentigo' (PÖFF Tallinn Black Nights 2023 - Special Jury Prize) and 'Guras' (Karlovy Vary International Film Festival 2023 - Proxima Special Jury Prize). 'Shepherdess and Seven Songs' (encounter, Berlinale 2020), 'NIMTO Invitation' (Rotterdam 2020), 'Once Again' lead cast Shefali Shah & Neeraj Kabi, streaming on Netflix, 'Ashwathama' (New current, Busan 2017), Lajwanti (forum, Berlinale 2014).



### Leena Khobragade

has over 2 decades of experience in the business of envisioning, curating and organising film markets and film festivals. From script development to mentoring first time filmmakers, to putting together the nuts and bolts of a film market, in her career spanning over 28 years, she has successfully organised South Asia's largest film market - Film Bazaar & has been instrumental in creating breakthrough properties never seen before.

## EXPERT PANEL



### Geeta Gerardo Vij

is an actor, writer, producer and professional dancer with over 27 years experience and a number of film and television related projects to her name. Through her work in this industry, she noticed the struggles for newcomers and professionals, mostly due to the lack of relevant experience. Thus, GoCreator was born. Previously, Geeta has held senior business development positions at organisations like Nasdaq where she covered regions across the globe. Geeta sits on the Djof London board (The trade union for Lawyers and Economists) and has been a strong voice as part of the Women in Nasdaq Committee for Inclusion and Belonging.



### Prateek Sethi

Founder and Creative Director at Trip Creative Services, a multi award winning communication design house based out of Mumbai and Pune, India. An animator, producer, director, student hobby pilot, international speaker, ex host of the hit kids science curiosity based show - FAQ on Pogo TV | Cartoon Network South East Asia, three time TEDx Speaker and winner of Times 40 Under 40. Producer and Creative director of the multi award winning animated series, Folktales of India. Core team member of the Animators Guild India platform, magazine and on ground film festival. With over 19 years of experience, he is always on the lookout for new and exciting ways to engage audiences.



### Neha Jain

is a Mumbai-based film producer and festival programmer, boasting a diverse career spanning two decades. Her creative journey includes producing acclaimed content for BBC Worldwide, National Geographic Channel, and Discovery Channel. Noteworthy among her achievements is the production of over 75 short films for School Cinema, which have garnered prestigious awards and global recognition including 5 National Film Awards. Since 2017, Neha has been the Artistic Director of the School Cinema International Kids Film Festival (SCIFF), leaving a significant impact on students from 25,000 schools in India. Furthermore, she is the Co-Founder of AniMela- an animation, VFX, Gaming, XR and comics Festival, which had it's first edition in January 2024, in partnership with the Anney Animation Festival, France.

## EXPERT PANEL



### Anne Doshi

has studied Cinema in Paris at La Sorbonne. She started her career as coordinator of the Indian delegation at the Marrakech International Film Festival in 2003. She has been instrumental in organizing Shah Rukh Khan's first appearance at the event in 2011, followed by a Royal Tribute to the Bombay Film Industry in 2012 with 30+ Actors, Directors and Producers. As a cross culture facilitator, she developed events such as an Indian Film Festival alongside the main IIFA awards in Amsterdam, Dubai and Yorkshire. Anne grew up in France where cinema and culture are highly accessible thanks to the government's policy. Currently, along with her work at IKFF, Anne is the Artistic Director of AniMela, India's first Animation, VFX, gaming and XR Festival.



### Manish Saini

graduated from the National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad in 2009, specializing in Film and Video Communication. His first two films won the National Award consecutively, his first film 'Dhh' won The Best Feature Film, Gujarati in 2017. His second film 'Gandhi & Co.' won The Best Children's Film in 2021. He also served as a jury member for the Film Federation of India for selecting the Indian official entry for the Oscar Awards in 2022. It gained critical acclaim and travelled to various prestigious film festivals like Toronto International Film Festival Kids & Shanghai International Film Festival.



### Harsh Agarwal and Aditya Grover

Uncombed Buddha Films, based in Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh, is an independent production company dedicated to telling socially relevant and culturally rich stories from the overlooked regions of India. Co-founded by Harsh Agarwal, the company has garnered international recognition with projects that have been featured at prestigious festivals such as Cannes, Locarno, Busan, Rotterdam, and APSA. With a focus on amplifying underrepresented voices, Uncombed Buddha Films explores narratives that highlight the deep cultural and social issues often ignored by mainstream cinema. One of the company's notable projects, 'Rapture' (Garo), premiered at the Locarno Film Festival and won the Cultural Diversity Award at APSA. The film was also distributed by Capricci and has run in over 100 theatres across France.

## EXPERT PANEL



### Afag Yusifli

graduated from Baku Slavic University as an honorary student. She got her second education in Film School named after Rustam Ibragimbekov in film directing. She has been a winner of New Talents Caucasus by CineDoc Tbilisi IDFF and KinoLab Pitching programmes in 2020 and 2022 respectively. Her short documentary 'My family' was awarded with a Diploma in Baku Short International Film Festival in 2020. She is the author of 3 more documentaries 'Granddaughter' (post - production), 'Entrusted' (late post - production) and 'Hagigat' (pre- production). She has been in Azerbaijan film delegation in Tashkent International Film Festival (Uzbekistan) in 2021 and has participated at B2B Doc's workshop on 'Ethics, gender, impact and outreach on documentary' with the collaboration of goEast Film Festival in Wiesbaden, Germany.



### Avinash Medhe

Co-founder, Director & Designer at Girgit studios Pvt. Ltd. Avinash has successfully handled over 100 commissioned as well as IP projects at the studio in the capacity of a designer, director as well as writer. He is also responsible for the studio's operations, content design and story. Avinash is a storyteller, poet, web & bookworm and a film buff. While others just watch a film, his brain defragments it into camera angles, shot taking, background score, visual narrative, editing and so on.

## PARTICIPANTS

### A Little Warmth



Director  
**Rohan Shyam Chowdhury**

Feature Film  
Live Action

### A Pickup Truck Full of Flowers for None in Particular



Director  
**Sooraj S A**

Feature Film  
Live Action

### Abhi



Director  
**Srishti Sharma**

Short Film  
Live Action

### Babi



Director  
**Maithili Ajay Phatak**

Short Film  
Live Action

### Ber



Director  
**Saksham Sharma**

Short Film  
Live Action

### Correction



Director  
**Dany P Joshua**

Short Film  
Live Action

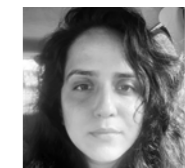
### Does It Ring a Bell?



Director  
**Ankit Santra**

Short Film  
Live Action

### Ek Baate Ki Baat



Director  
**Sugam Thakur, Bhanu Fulara**

Short Film  
Animation

## PARTICIPANTS

### Even



Director  
**Theertha Prakash**

Short Film  
Live Action

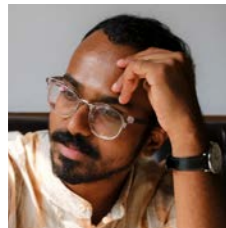
### Gold



Director  
**Sana Salim**

Short Film  
Live Action

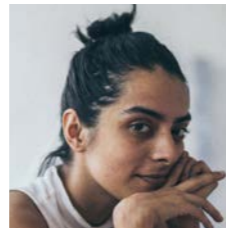
### Grafting an Old Tree



Director  
**Ajay KTV**

Short Film  
Live Action

### House of LUNA



Director  
**Gia Singh Arora**

Feature Film  
Live Action

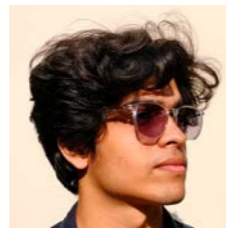
### In Her Dreams



Director  
**Kalyani B**

Short Film  
Animation

### It's You!



Director  
**Avikalp Sharma**

Short Film  
Animation

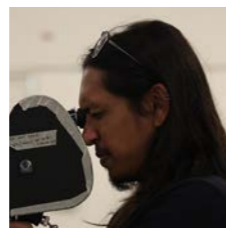
### Missing



Director  
**Sandhra Mary**

Short Film  
Animation

### Mogra



Director  
**Samyak Bhansali**

Short Film  
Live Action

## PARTICIPANTS

### My First Kiss



Director  
**Shrobontika Dasgupta**

Short Film  
Animation

### Mythili



Director  
**Dev B Raj**

Short Film  
Live Action

### Petals in the Wind



Director  
**Abdul Aziz**

Feature Film  
Live Action

### Rain Echoes Fire



Director  
**Ayon Pratim Saikia**

Feature Film  
Live Action

### Riddle of the Roaches



Director  
**Malvika Mohan**

Short Film  
Animation

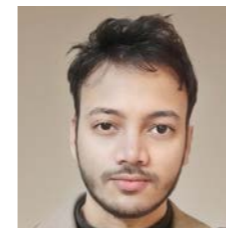
### Sanglot Fenla



Director  
**Amalendu Kaushik**

Short Film  
Animation

### Sawaal Jawaab



Director  
**Sohaib Ahmer**

Short Film  
Live Action

### Seeds of Memory



Director  
**S Greeshma**

Short Film  
Live Action

## PARTICIPANTS

### Sink



Director  
**Ahira Mendiratta**

Short Film  
Live Action

### Smoke Break



Director  
**Alisha Masurkar**

Web Series  
Live Action

### Super Sun



Director  
**Logesh S**

Short Film  
Live Action

### The Fish



Director  
**Lima Sanglir**

Short Film  
Live Action

### The Third Wheel



Director  
**Pranathy Pushkar**

Short Film  
Live Action

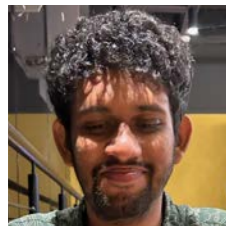
### Uchhab



Director  
**Chandan Singh Shekhawat**

Feature Film  
Live Action

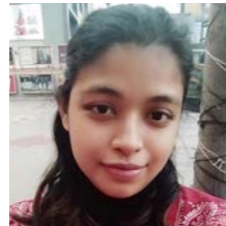
### Uproot



Director  
**Anand P**

Feature Film  
Live Action

### What Would It Mean to See a Cobra in a Dream?



Director  
**Pranami Rajbangshi**

Short Film  
Live Action

## Cine Bazaar Talks

### Indian Independent Feature Films: Development, Funding and Co-Production Opportunities | Ridham Janve



Ridham studied Communication Design before finding his calling in the moving images. His debut feature film, 'The Gold-Laden Sheep' and the Sacred Mountain premiered at Mumbai Film Festival, 2018, where it won the Silver Gateway Award. The film went on to be screened at leading international film festivals including Rotterdam, Sao Paulo, BFI London and Hong Kong where it won the FIPRESCI Prize. The film was nominated for Best Film and Best Cinematography awards at the Asia Pacific Screen Awards where Ridham won the Young Cinema prize. His epic film project, 'The Sacrifice', was selected for La Fabrique - Cinema du Monde, Cannes, 2023. Apart from making films, he writes, paints and sculpts, pushing the boundaries of form and often landing in unexplored territories.

### Know Thy Project - Setting the Stage | Sonali Bhatia



Sonali graduated from NID where she did Animation. Starting out as an On-air promo producer at MTV, she went on to create several animated and mixed media spots for both MTV and Nickelodeon. With an interest in spaces and set design, she worked on some advertising films as a production designer and later became a part of Flying Saucer as a design partner. She is also the Production designer for the films 'Hajyaani' and 'Ghoomketu' directed by Pushpendra Misra and the Netflix web series, 'Taj Mahal 1989' and 'Choona'. Sonali sees film design as a powerful medium and delves deep into understanding and creating the worlds that set the stage for a good telling of the story. In the session 'Know ThyProject - Setting the Stage', Sonali talks about her process and approach to designing a film.

## How do you Budget Your First Independent Film? | Manish Saini



Manish Saini graduated from the National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad in 2009, specializing in Film and Video Communication. His first two films won the National Award consecutively, his first film 'Dhh' won as The Best Feature Film, Gujarati in 2017. His second film 'Gandhi & Co.' won The Best Children's Film in 2021. He also served as a jury member for the Film Federation of India for selecting Indian official entry for the Oscar Awards in 2022. Manish wrote, directed and produced his first feature film "Dhh" in 2017 which went on to win a National Award in 2017. It gained critical acclaim and travelled to various prestigious film festivals like Toronto International Film Festival Kids & Shanghai International Film Festival.

## What are the Essentials for a Good Pitch, Building Your Narrative and Ensuring the Next Meeting | Celine Loop



Céline is a producer with a background in IP Law. Originally from Belgium, she has been at the forefront of independent Indian cinema since 2011. Over the course of her career, she has backed a wide range of projects which have traveled and won awards at many prestigious international festivals. She produced the first film to ever be acquired by Netflix India as an original. As co-founder of the Storiculture Company, she founded Producerland – a platform for creative producers across South Asia. She is now actively developing ambitious, premium South Asian IP for global audiences.

## Navigating the Roller Coaster Ride of Commercial Cinema in India | Hitesh Kewalya



After winning the Filmfare and IIFA award for the rib-tickling comedy, Shubh Mangal Saavdhan (2017), where a soggy Parle-G biscuit told the tale of erectile dysfunction, Hitesh went on to write and direct, the successful social comedy 'Shubh Mangal Zyada Saavdhan' (2020) where a Kaali Gobhi was invented to put forth the idea of homophobia to the masses. Having grown up in a sarcastic middle class joint family in Delhi, he understands that humour and comedy is the only way to understand the idiosyncrasies of the world. Romance and comedy are his forte', displayed abundantly since the age of 18, when he started work at All India Radio. Since then he has written and directed many award winning short films like 'Modh Pe Kuch Nahin Hota' (2005) and 'Rhythmatics' (2010).

## Film Bible and Distribution | Geeta Gerardo Vij



Geeta Gerardo Vij is an actor, writer, producer and professional dancer with over 27 years experience and a number of film and television related projects to her name. Through her work in this industry, she noticed the struggles for newcomers and professionals, mostly due to the lack of relevant experience. Thus, GoCreator was born. Previously, Geeta has held senior business development positions at organisations like Nasdaq where she covered regions across the globe. Geeta received her Master's Degree from Copenhagen Business School with a concentration in Strategic Business Development, and a Bachelors degree from the University of the Arts (London) in Fashion with Business. Geeta sits on the Djef London board (The trade union for Lawyers and Economists) and has been a strong voice as part of the Women in Nasdaq Committee for Inclusion and Belonging.

## The Story about the Story | Rajiv Rajaram



Rajiv is a playwright and screenwriter with two feature film credits. He was also the Creator and Creative Director at Culture Machine and Subsequently Culture Machine Studios, having created popular Digital Media Brands like Put Chutney & Rascalas. His plays have been performed around the world in Sydney, Grahamstown, Dubai, Singapore, Malaysia, and Los Angeles. He made his debut as a dialogue writer for Yash Raj Films's first Tamil Feature film 'Aaha Kalyanam' a remake of Band Baaja Baraat, for which he received acclaim from Ananda Vikatan. Popular film critic Baradwaj Rangan appreciated the film's wonderfully conversational dialogues. His second film, a bilingual feature, "Moone Moonu Varthai" (Just Three Words), was produced by the late SP Balasubramanyam.

## Producer's Perspective | Sanjay Gulati



Sanjay is the founder-producer at Crawling Angel Films in New Delhi, India. His latest titles are Girls Will Be Girls (Sundance Film Festival 2024), Tentigo (PÖFF Tallinn Black Nights 2023 - Special Jury Prize) and Guras (Karlovy Vary International Film Festival 2023 - Proxima Special Jury Prize). Shepherdess and Seven Songs (encounter, Berlinale 2020), NIMTO Invitation (Rotterdam 2020), "Once Again" lead cast Shefali Shah & Neeraj Kabi, streaming on Netflix, Ashwathama (New current, Busan 2017), Lajwanti (forum, Berlinale 2014).

# Feature Films

Although the focus of Alpavirama is short films by young filmmakers, we also invite a few feature films to honour filmmakers and their evolving craft.

This year, we are proud to present a special memorial screening of Hun Hunshi Hunshilal, directed by Sanjiv Shah, as a tribute to the late cinematographer Navroze Contractor.

We are also thrilled to host the first Ahmedabad screening of our F 30/30 jury member, Dibakar Banerjee's Tees at Alpavirama, NID. Both screenings will celebrate years of filmmaking excellence and will be followed by insightful discussions with the directors.

## Hun Hunshi Hunshilal – Love In The Time Of Malaria | 02:08:00 | 1992



Director  
**Sanjiv Shah**

Producer  
**National Film  
Development  
Corporation, India**

Release Date  
**1992**

Costumes  
**Archana Shah**

Art Direction  
**Kaushik Ramanathan,  
Aziz Kachwala**

Script & Lyrics  
**Paresh Naik**

Music  
**Rajat Dholakia**

Sound  
**Indrajit Neogi**

Camera  
**Navroze Contractor**

Editing  
**Bhavik Thakore,  
Sanjiv Shah**

### Synopsis

A dream, and in that dream, a story...  
Of the kingdom of Khojपुरi, and it's elected Kings... and the citizens  
of Khojपुरi.

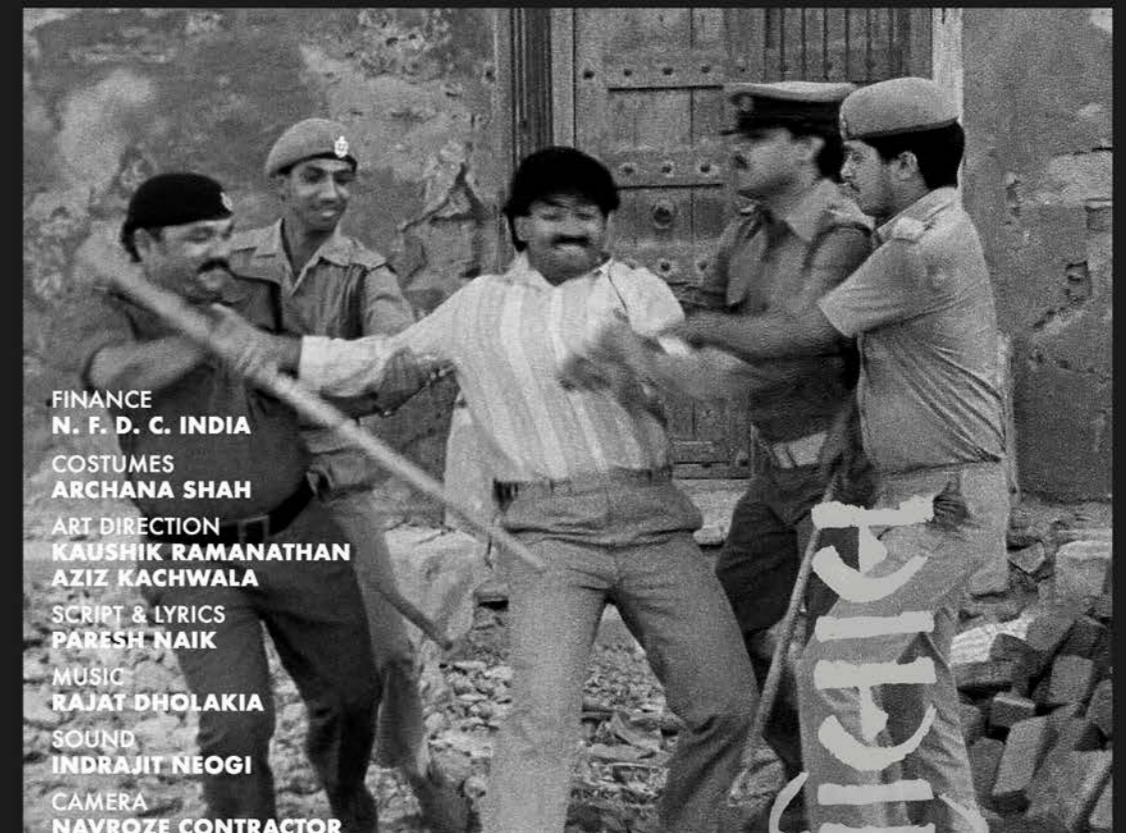
The film is a musical fable about an imagined country where mosquitoes are creating unrest amongst the citizens. The infected rise from their slumber, ask questions and protest injustice. Antidotes made from onions, surveillance of the suspects, banning of the colour red, forbidding the citizens from dreaming, waging wars... the King tries it all, to subdue, indeed annihilate, the mosquitoes that are threatening his rule. The film is also about the journey of Hunshi, an ordinary scientist who joins the battle against the mosquito menace, falls in love with Parveen, a colleague who happens to come from the land of the mosquitoes and eventually joins the battle against the King.

By the 1990s, India had started moving from being a socialist, welfare state to a becoming a devout proponent of the free-market economy. Disparity, vigilantism, and communal strife, and were on the rise and the space for dissent was shrinking. Made in 1991, the film is a parable which attempts to draw parallels to the complex social and political history of 5 decades of Independent India. The film looks at a multiplicity of ideas; suppression of dissent, increasing disparity, rising vigilantism and so on. The cinematic structure, therefore, borrowed from various traditions of storytelling to allow for these multiple narratives. It does not follow a classic narrative dramatic form, nor any abstract form but uses a collage of cinematic forms, elements from popular culture, Indian films, folk-traditions of storytelling and songs, along with documentary footage, the film tries to locate the fictional within the real and historical.

### Biography

Sanjiv Shah studied filmmaking at the Film and Television Institute of India in Pune. His primary interest has been in the use of the film medium as a tool for communication and its use for social and political awareness. He has produced, directed, and edited several documentaries on varied subjects, ranging from the impact of sustained scarcity on pastoral communities to re-visiting the route of the Salt March, which was a key event in the movement for India's Independence. He has also worked as an independent editor of documentaries and one feature film (MIRCH MASALA), besides assisting on documentaries made by other film makers.

## HUN HUNSHI HUNSHILAL



FINANCE  
**N. F. D. C. INDIA**  
COSTUMES  
**ARCHANA SHAH**  
ART DIRECTION  
**KAUSHIK RAMANATHAN  
AZIZ KACHWALA**  
SCRIPT & LYRICS  
**PARESH NAIK**  
MUSIC  
**RAJAT DHOLAKIA**  
SOUND  
**INDRAJIT NEOGI**  
CAMERA  
**NAVROZE CONTRACTOR**

EDITING  
**BHAVIK THAKORE  
SANJIV SHAH**

DIRECTED & PRODUCED BY  
**SANJIV SHAH**

Gujarati/Hindi  
with English subtitles

હુન હુનશી હુનશીલાલ  
LOVE IN THE TIME OF MALARIA

DIGITALLY REMASTERED

Tees | 02:22:00 | Unreleased



Director  
**Dibakar Banerjee**

Cast  
**Manisha Koirala,  
Divya Dutta,  
Huma Qureshi,  
Shashank Arora,  
Zoya Hussain,  
Neeraj Kabi,  
Kalki Koechlin,  
Naseeruddin Shah**

## Synopsis

2042 New Delhi. Six months after his manuscript titled Tees ('30) is rejected for publication by the Literature and Arts Commission – Anhad Draboo, a young freelance prostitute, meets Niharika, a Reader from the Commission, who has been searching for Anhad ever since she read his manuscript.

In 2018, Zia Draboo, a corporate lawyer living in Mumbai and all set to buy the flat she has been renting with her partner Meera, finds out she cannot buy it because of the Housing Society's resistance to her name.

In 1989–90, Ayesha, a housebound State Radio newsreader in Srinagar, Kashmir, reaches out to her childhood friend Usha to solicit help from her husband – a government official. She needs it for her own husband Ghulam Muhammad who faces bankruptcy and ruin amongst rising unrest in the city.

## Biography

Dibakar Banerjee is a film maker interested in exploring the nature of power, capitalism, inequality, gender, state, faith and their interrelationships. He made his directorial debut with the film 'Khosla Ka Ghosla' (2006), that won him National Film Award for Best Feature Film. He later directed films like 'Oye Lucky! Lucky Oye!' (2008), 'Love Sex Aur Dhokha' (2010), 'Shanghai' (2012), 'Bombay Talkies' (2013), 'Detective Byomkesh Bakshy!' (2015), 'Lust Stories' (2018), 'Ghost Stories' (2020) and 'Sandeep Aur Pinky Faraar' (2021).



International & Indian Non-Competition

# Special Packages

A Collection of Films from  
Invited Universities and Festivals  
from Across the World

Each edition of Alpavirama features a curated selection of non-competition films from around the world. This year, we've assembled six special packages from:

- Azerbaijan Union of Filmmakers
- Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival
- Film and Video Communication, NID
- La Fémis
- Looking China
- University of São Paulo

Representatives from Azerbaijan and Clermont-Ferrand, along with Film and Video Communication students and alumni, and Looking China filmmakers, will attend the festival, enriching our program with diverse perspectives and fostering cross-cultural collaborations. Their presence will offer valuable opportunities for students, young filmmakers, and our institute to build meaningful partnerships.

# Azerbaijan Union of Filmmakers



The Azerbaijan Union of Filmmakers (AUF) is a creative public organisation which brings Azerbaijan's professional cinema workers together on a voluntary basis. The Azerbaijan Union of Filmmakers was established on 11 January 1963. It is considered the oldest cinema NGO of the country. The main objective of the Union is to develop national cinema as an integral part of national culture and world cinema. AUF is a member of the NETPAC and associate member of IMAGO.

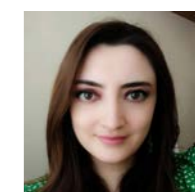
The Union consistently and purposefully cooperates with other creative and public organisations and state bodies of the Republic in analysing and summarising the development trends of Azerbaijani cinema in the context of national and world culture, developing concepts for the development of national culture. It also maintains direct creative and business contracts with cinema organisations of other countries, represents the interests of its members abroad, and protects their professional, civil and social rights.

Film screenings both in Baku and districts of Azerbaijan, filmmaking projects for youth, screenwriting competitions with money awards, strengthening international relations on cinema while representing Azerbaijan as a jury or participant in international events, financial support to young filmmakers and their film projects as well as film festivals in Azerbaijan, publishing cinema books are among the Azerbaijan Union of Filmmakers' fields of activity.

## Forgotten Dreams | 38:00 | 2022 | Azerbaijan



Mahizer has spent her life with her family and making them happy. With the help of her daughter she tries to remember when and where she forgot her dreams.



Director  
**Aynur Kazimova**

Producer  
**Oktay Namazov**

Cinematographer  
**Oktay Namazov**

Editor  
**Oktay Namazov**

Sound Designer  
**Oktay Namazov**

## I Was a Kid | 15:47 | 2022 | Azerbaijan



The film tells the lives of 3 kids who ran away from home and joined the 1st Karabakh war. One of them, Samir Aliyev, was martyred in the war at the age of 16. Razim Damirov and Fariz Mammadov return to their childhood after 30 years. They express their opinions on the war, the horrors they saw there, and their regrets. These kids who saw the gun, the death for the first time, remember the shock they experienced and do not want to go back again, and 30 years later the war starts again.



Director  
**Ulviyya Ahmadova**

Producer  
**Nijat Dadashov**

Cinematographer  
**Afsana Yusif,  
Aziz Shukur**

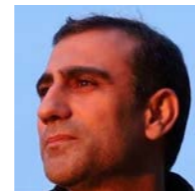
Editor  
**Ulviyya Ahmadova**

Sound Designer  
**Ruslan Karimov**

**Test** | 16:36 | 2022 | Azerbaijan



Protesting the indifference of people, Vugar runs after the thief even though he is injured. He asks for help from the young people and the representatives of the older generation who come across him in the neighborhood, but the result is the opposite, he himself is subjected to pressure from them. When she wakes up, a “tipundra” sign is drawn on the little girl’s forehead. He doesn’t know about that. Whose test is this?



Director  
**Ruslan Mollayev**

Producer  
**Ali Isa Cabbar**

Cinematographer  
**Said Rzali**

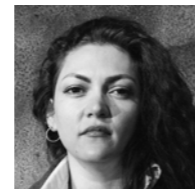
Editor  
**Ruslan Mollayev**

Sound Designer  
**Murtuza Necefli**

**The Last Photo** | 11:00 | 2022 | Azerbaijan



At the end of the working day, a policeman, medical expert, and investigator arrive at the place of the suicide. The routine investigation and testimony of the fiancée do not lead to anything suspicious. But one mistake and an ordinary working day turn into a fight against moral and ethical principles and the question of where are the lines of our compassion end.



Director  
**Turkan Huseyn**

Producer  
**Turkan Huseyn**

Cinematographer  
**Khalid Zeynalov**

Editor  
**Turkan Huseyn**

Sound Designer  
**Hafiz İbrahim**

## Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival



In 1979, a Short Film Week was organised by the Clermont-Ferrand University Film Society. This event, repeated in 1980 and 1981, was enthusiastically received by the audience and responded to the expectations of many professionals. Today the Clermont-Ferrand Short Film Festival is the world’s largest film festival dedicated to short films. In terms of audience and professional presence, it is the second largest film festival in France after Cannes.

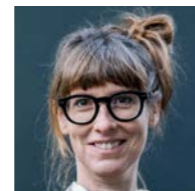
The festival is at the heart of many activities and missions conducted all year long by the collective Sauve qui peut le court métrage. The association employs 18 permanents, all based in Auvergne, where a whole dynamic around cinema has been created.

The 2020 edition recorded more than 172,566 entries and welcomed more than 3,600 professionals.

**All Inclusive** | 10:00 | 2018 | Switzerland



Under the spell of mass entertainment at high sea.



Director  
**Corina Schwingruber Ilic**

Producer  
**Freihändler Filmproduktion GmbH, Stella Händler**

Cinematographer  
**Nikola Ilić**

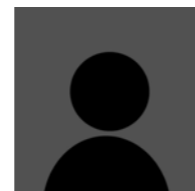
Editor  
**Corina Schwingruber Ilic**

Sound Designer  
**Robert Büchel**

**Hors Piste** | 06:00 | 2018 | France



The region's two best rescue workers are ready for their next mission. But things don't go as planned.



Director  
**Léo Brunel, Loris Cavalier, Camille Jalabert, Oscar Malet**

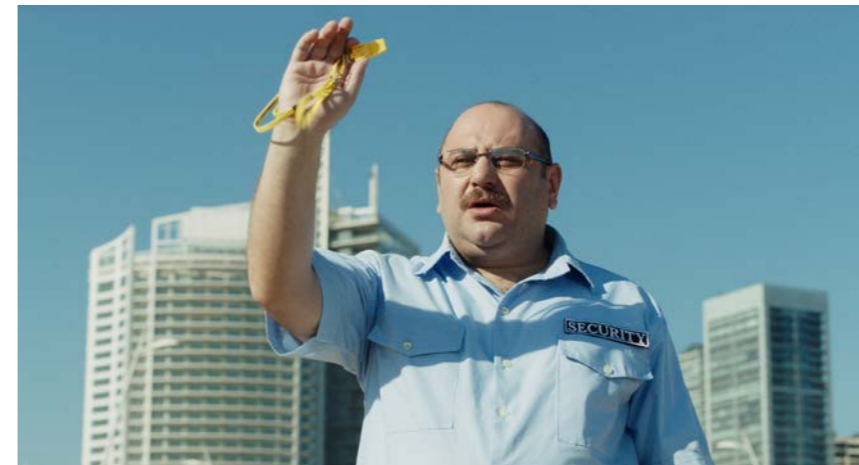
Producer  
**Julien Deparis, École des Nouvelles Images**

Cinematographer  
**Léo B., Loris C., Camille J., Oscar M.**

Editor  
**Léo B., Loris C., Camille J., Oscar M.**

Sound Designer  
**Oscar Malet**

**If the Sun Drowned into an Ocean of Clouds** | 20:00 | 2023 | Lebanon



On the waterfront's construction site, security agent Raed must prevent passing-by walkers from accessing the seaside. Yet as the horizon becomes each day more stifled by the construction, Raed makes peculiar encounters — mere dreams, or symbols of his desires?



Director  
**Wissam Charaf**

Producer  
**Charlotte Vincent, Aurora Films**

Cinematographer  
**Martin Rit**

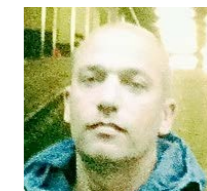
Editor  
**Wissam Charaf, Clémence Diard**

Sound Designer  
**Fadi Tabbai, Serge Yared**

**Tondex 2000** | 28:00 | 2022 | France



Sylvain, an Afghan veteran living off of petty crime, crosses paths with Nathalie, an upper-class CEO struggling to keep her lawnmower company afloat.



Director  
**Jean-Baptiste L.**

Producer  
**Jean-Baptiste L., Yann B., Emmanuel T., Camille H.**

Cinematographer  
**David Nissen**

Editor  
**Flora J., Frédérique O.**

Sound Designer  
**Jean-Baptiste L.**

**Wild Summon** | 15:00 | 2023 | United Kingdom



A natural history fantasy film following the dramatic life cycle of the Salmon, from the river to sea and back, portraying the fish in human form. Narrated by Marianne Faithfull.



Director  
**Saul Freed,  
Karni Arieli**

Producer  
**Jay Wooly**

Cinematographer  
**Saul Freed,  
Karni Arieli**

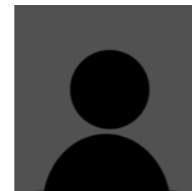
Editor  
**Saul Freed,  
Karni Arieli**

Sound Designer  
**Saul Freed**

**Will My Parents Come to See Me?** | 28:00 | 2022 | Austria / Germany / Somalia



An experienced Somali policewoman accompanies a young inmate through the procedures of the Somali justice system once again.



Director  
**Mo Harawe**

Producer  
**Mo Harawe**

Cinematographer  
**Steven Samy**

Editor  
**Alexander von  
Piechowski**

Sound Designer  
**Mohamed Abdinur Isse**

# Film and Video Communication, NID



राष्ट्रीय डिजाइन संस्थान  
**NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DESIGN**

The Film and Video Communication (FVC) Discipline of NID has been offering Bachelors and Masters programmes for more than four decades now. FVC alumni/alumnae occupy important creative positions in the moving image industry in India and abroad. Since NID is the organiser and host of Alpavirama, FVC students are not eligible for the competition section. Hence, a special package is curated to present their work in the non-competition section of the festival.

The Film and Video Communication Discipline's special package opens with alumni short films and a selection of fiction and non-fiction films by current students. The following films are all productions that bring together a wonderful variety of our approaches and orientations. We hope that the audience will enjoy the diversity that our students bring from across the country and world.

# ALUMNI

## The Scavenger | 24:00 | 2023 | India



Director  
**Manish Saini**

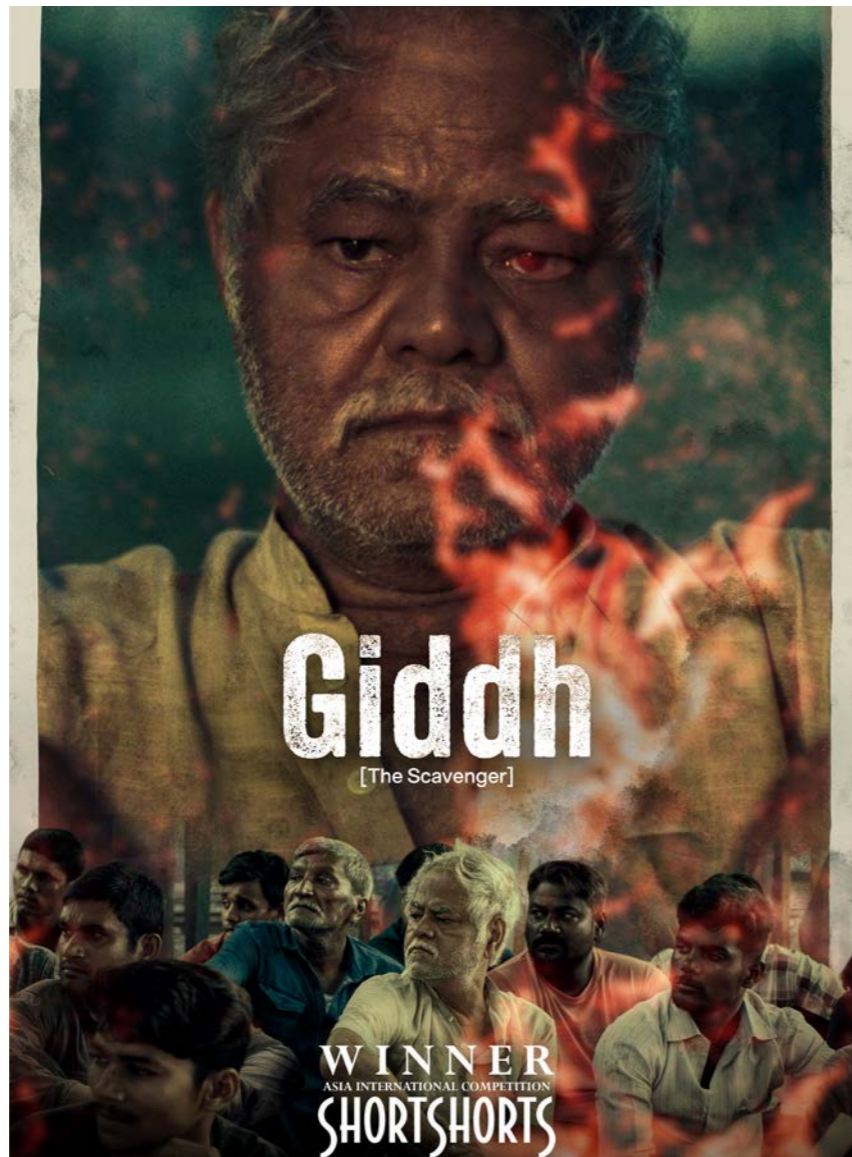
Producer  
**Radhika Lavu,  
Manish Saini**

Cinematographer  
**Swathy Deepak**

Editor  
**Manish Saini**

Sound Designer  
**Nirukt Dave**

The old man found himself tossing his son's clothes away after watching his pyre burn all evening. He died young, succumbing to an illness and perhaps also because of hunger. The son was gone, the old man still lived as did his hunger. He walked back to the crematorium, pulled out his son's shirt from a Banyan tree and sold it. He ate a whole meal that day. The rituals and beliefs in certain parts of India follow the custom of disposing of the clothes of any deceased person soon after their death. Passing on these clothes or selling them without disclosing the truth of their source is considered a sin and a crime. An internal tussle ensues and soon hunger collides with guilt. With the food on his plate at stake, what will weigh heavier, his hunger or his guilt?



## The Threshold | 34:00 | 2024 | India



Director  
**Prachee Bajania**

Producer  
**Ridhima Mehra,  
Tulika Srivastava  
(Rough Edges)**

Cinematographer  
**Sejal Kothari**

Editor  
**Prachee Bajania**

Sound Designer  
**Prachee Bajania**

Umbro, the threshold of a home, is the liminal space that speaks to the lives of women, including the filmmaker's mother and her friends who live in the small town of Dhrangadhra in Gujarat, India. The film explores joyful friendships among women, often dismissed and unsung – carrying in them moments of shared stories, solidarities, conflicts and, most of all, routine acts of resistance. Umbro locates these flights of desire in the everyday, while celebrating the women's indomitable love for life, and each other.



## STUDENT FICTION

**Aalam** | 16:20 | 2021 | India



After losing his family in communal riots, a grieving widower tries to sell his house in a devastated neighborhood. As he confronts endless bureaucratic obstacles and wrestles with haunting memories, he faces a world that remains indifferent to his suffering.



Director  
**Deependra Yadav**

Producer  
**NID**

Cinematographer  
**Amit Ghosh**

Editor  
**Deependra Yadav**

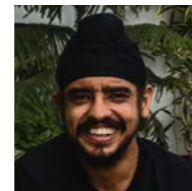
Sound Designer  
**Deependra Yadav**

**Anekantvad** | 20:33 | 2022 | India



A mother navigates her daughter through the abandoned crevices of her childhood home. Memories from her past eventually direct her to an incident from a riot-stricken Delhi of 1984; a critical time in the history of the Sikhs and her family, as sentiments ablaze and perspectives that were left unheard of are brought to light.

Anekantvad, as the word so means, is a film that tries to ascertain that truth is multifold and can be seen from multiple facets.



Director  
**Ikprabh Singh Kohli**

Producer  
**NID**

Cinematographer  
**Amit Ghosh**

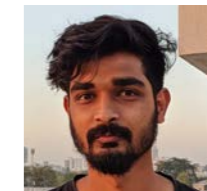
Editor  
**Ikprabh Singh Kohli**

Sound Designer  
**Ikprabh Singh Kohli**

**Anukampa** | 25:47 | 2023 | India



In a post-COVID world, a head constable nearing retirement struggles to cope with field duty. When things escalate during a routine patrol, he has to choose between his father's ideals and saving his son from another cycle of compassionate appointments.



Director  
**Ajay Singh Yadav**

Producer  
**Ford Foundation, NID**

Cinematographer  
**Sooraj S A**

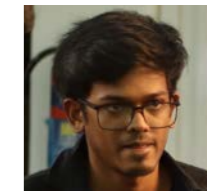
Editor  
**Sooraj S A,  
Ajay Singh Yadav**

Sound Designer  
**Sooraj S A**

**A Drop of Time** | 12:01 | 2023 | India



Oru Thuli Pozhuthu (A Drop of Time) is a short fiction film which revolves around an estranged father-son relationship. Amudhan visits his home after his father's demise. As he recollects his memories the moments with his father, he finds a bunch of unsent letters written by his father.



Director  
**Iniya Vasanthan**

Producer  
**NID**

Cinematographer  
**Deepanwita Goswami**

Editor  
**Iniya Vasanthan**

Sound Designer  
**Iniya Vasanthan**

**Daaye Baaye** | 06:13 | 2024 | India



Two school kids decide to play a peculiar game to kill time while getting bored on a national holiday.



Director  
**FVC M.Des 22**

Guided by  
**Umesh Kulkarni**

Producer  
**NID**

Cinematographer  
**Dev B Raj,  
Srishti Sharma**

Editor  
**Srishti Sharma**

Sound Designer  
**Saksham Sharma**

**Farther than Distance** | 14:12 | 2022 | India



'Farther than Distance' is a day in the life of a student called Iti going through a phase of isolation in her life. The film explores her need to belong, with undertones of depression, intertwined with envy of others who seem to have better human bonds than her. Remaining distant and withdrawn, she finds herself conflicted when presented with an opportunity to connect with others.



Director  
**Taruna Khatri**

Producer  
**NID**

Cinematographer  
**Saikiran MD**

Editor  
**Taruna Khatri**

Sound Designer  
**Taruna Khatri**

**Ghanti** | 24:58 | 2023 | India



Ghanti follows the journey of Baba, an old Sindhi man living in Ahmedabad with his son's family, who longs to speak to someone in his mother tongue, before he dies.



Director  
**Urmika Wadhwa**

Producer  
**NID**

Cinematographer  
**Parth Pujara**

Editor  
**Iniya Vasanthan**

Sound Designer  
**Bhargav Soni**

**Pause** | 11:30 | 2023 | India



A heartbroken groom learns that letting go of unrealistic expectations is key to moving on, through an unexpected acquaintance in an unusual situation.



Director  
**Anshika Raj**

Producer  
**NID**

Cinematographer  
**Shubhra Agarwal**

Editor  
**Anshika Raj**

Sound Designer  
**Anshika Raj**

## The Ocean | 17:30 | 2023 | India



A free-spirited 8-year-old girl, driven by a story her grandmother once told, embarks on a mystical journey to find a divine blue whale she believes is protecting her missing father—only to face the heartbreaking reality of leaving her seaside home before fulfilling her dream.



Director  
**Sanju Kadu**

Producer  
**Ford Foundation, NID  
and Jayvant Kadu**

Cinematographer  
**Syed Arbab Ahmad**

Editor  
**Chandan Singh  
Shekhawat**

Sound Designer  
**Amit Kulkarni**

## Who Will Bake the Bread? | 25:00 | 2024 | India



'Roti Koon Banasi?' is a film about Santosh. A husband to Roopa and an elder son to Ranjeet. Stuck in dilemma between supporting his wife for her job exam or proving his worth to his father at a family event. His choice hangs on the edge of family expectations and personal aspirations, a delicate balance at stake. The film explores the ideas of patriarchy and how it propagates from one generation to another through father to son relationship.



Director  
**Chandan Singh**

Producer  
**Ford Foundation,  
NID,  
Chandan Singh**

Cinematographer  
**Ajay KTV**

Editor  
**Chandan Singh**

Sound Designer  
**Jahnab Roy**

## STUDENT NON-FICTION

### Beyond the Hoop | 16:00 | 2022 | India



It's the journey of one of the very few female professional sports photographers in the sports obsessed nation of India. The film reflects on the importance of sports photographers and their pursuit for the perfect frame, emotion and moment.



Director  
**Animesh Gautam**

Producer  
**NID**

Cinematographer  
**Animesh Gautam**

Editor  
**Animesh Gautam**

Sound Designer  
**Animesh Gautam**

### Lullaby of Waves | 16:00 | 2023 | India



The film unfolds as a poignant exploration of the filmmakers' journey toward understanding and accepting the profound sense of belonging tied to space and time. Delving into the search for identity through the mother's voice and her profound connection to the river, the narrative unfolds the events that have shaped and will continue to shape the future.



Director  
**Ayon Pratim Saikia**

Producer  
**NID**

Cinematographer  
**Ayon Pratim Saikia**

Editor  
**Ayon Pratim Saikia**

Sound Designer  
**Ayon Pratim Saikia**

**Study** | 17:00 | 2024 | India

The documentary explores the education system in Andhra Pradesh & Telangana, focusing on why students primarily choose careers as engineers or doctors. It delves into the reason behind this trend and features interviews with students, educators and parents. The film aims to uncover the underlying issues and shed light on the realities of the educational system.



Director  
**Abhilash Sunkesula**

Producer  
**NID**

Cinematographer  
**Deependra Yadav**

Editor  
**Abhilash Sunkesula**

Sound Designer  
**Tushar Kangarkar**

**The Sea Belongs to its Children** | 15:00 | 2023 | India

Kadal Kadalinte Makkalk (The Sea Belongs to its Children) delves into the lives of fishermen in the coastal town of Edakkazhiyur, Kerala. Against the backdrop of political debates, the documentary explores the fishermen's struggle for survival amidst economic hardships and political disillusionment. The film tries to achieve an intimate portrayal of the community's generational ties to fishing and explore their political affiliations, particularly with the dominant CPI(M) party, trying to bring forth a nuanced examination of local dynamics. Amidst these struggles, the film subtly weaves in glimpses of everyday life and small moments of joy.



Director  
**Sana Salim**

Producer  
**NID**

Cinematographer  
**Sana Salim**

Editor  
**Sana Salim**

Sound Designer  
**Meghana Kankara**

**Such Madwomen!** | 16:08 | 2023 | India

Three women cross the boundaries of their homes and go on an evening walk in a patriarchal village.



Director  
**Payal Chauhan**

Producer  
**NID**

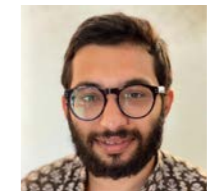
Cinematographer  
**Payal Chauhan**

Editor  
**Payal Chauhan**

Sound Designer  
**Payal Chauhan**

**Thuravu** | 19:13 | 2024 | India

Routine and silence, rather than spectacle, continued, as always, the people kept them going. But how then, to index the kinds of pain that I could sense people around me were experiencing. My camera and sound try to find expressions for this stretched everyday, these routines that persisted, even as they were stretched thin by the change. The extended waiting, the fall back from what was, the small grimacing laughter that struggles through, the plate that is pushed from the table. My memoir cannot turn away from the pain that the spaces had to absorb, but keeps searching, within those rhythms that are part of me, for hope.



Director  
**Nebu George**

Producer  
**NID**

Cinematographer  
**Sooraj S A**

Editor  
**Nebu George**

Sound Designer  
**Nebu George**

# La Fémis

ÉCOLE NATIONALE SUPÉRIEURE  
DES MÉTIERS DE L'IMAGE ET DU SON

# La fémis

partenaire



Founded in 1986 and chaired by Film director Michel Hazanavicius, Every year, La Fémis trains over 50 students in 10 filmmaking skills: directors, screenwriters, producers, editors, DoPs, sound engineers, production designers, continuity supervisors, distributors and exhibitors. In 2013, La Fémis created a new department training students in series writing. Every year, La Fémis produces around 260 short films and 60 of them are selected and awarded in over 200 national and international film festivals.

## Midnight on MSN | 22:00 | 2023 | France



2008, beginning of summer, end of school. At night, Laure secretly talks to Alix on MSN. But during the day, in their girls' school, she avoids her - like everyone else. When Laure invites Alix to her house, something changes between them.



Director  
**Elise Levy**

Producer  
**Léna Bapt**

Cinematographer  
**Mica Albanese**

Editor  
**Helio Pu**

Sound Designer  
**Maelle Girard**

## Pema | 19:00 | 2022 | France



Murphy, a young black girl of Congolese descent, suffers from depression. Although she is 20 years old, she cannot gather the strength to face her mother and to confess her angst. In opposition with a particularly religious and shallow family, Murphy has no other option to survive than to hide in her bed.



Director  
**Victoria Neto**

Producer  
**Anaïs Lonkeu,  
Léna Bapt**

Cinematographer  
**Plume Fabre**

Editor  
**Isabelle Bassaglia**

Sound Designer  
**Colin Prum**

**The Rough Skin of Angels** | 12:18 | 2022 | France

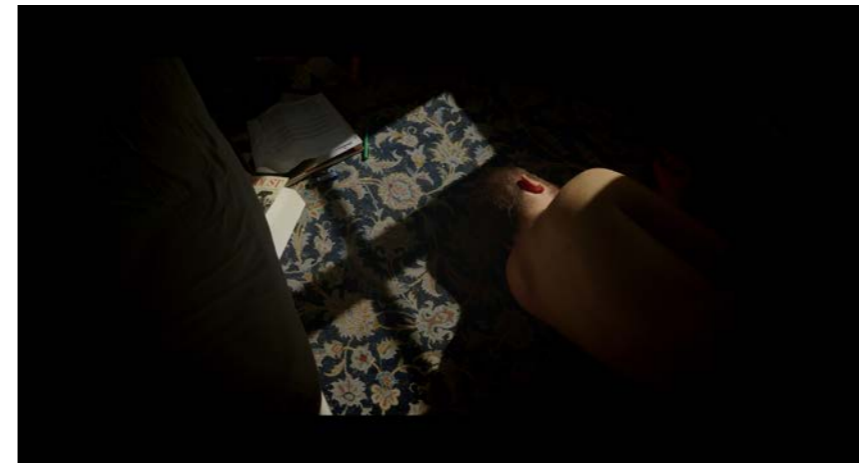


Once upon a time, the true story of Vermeer's 30 paintings. Nobody remembers what there is to see. In the life of a woman, some details must remain hidden.

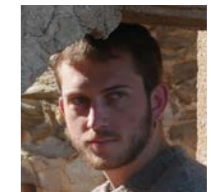


Director  
**Emma Fride**  
Producer  
**Dorothee Levesque**  
Editor  
**Emma Fride**  
Sound Designer  
**Emma Fride,  
Théo Cancelli**

**World is a Hole to Me** | 25:00 | 2023 | France



Windows open and close on other windows. In sleep, spaces and times embrace each other. A pinhole dream within a dream. I sleep on a carpet that becomes a forest.



Director  
**Antoine Pirotte**  
Producer  
**Antoine Pirotte**  
Cinematographer  
**Antoine Pirotte**  
Editor  
**Antoine Pirotte,  
Dinah Ekchajzer**  
Sound Designer  
**Antoine Pirotte**

**The Voice of Others** | 30:04 | 2023 | France



Rim is a Tunisian interpreter working in France on asylum procedures. Every day, she translates the stories of exiled men and women, whose voices raise questions about her own history.



Director  
**Fatima Kaci**  
Producer  
**Léna Bapt**  
Cinematographer  
**Etienne Momessin**  
Editor  
**Emily Curtis**  
Sound Designer  
**Antoine Bargain**

# Looking China



Looking China is a cultural experience program sponsored by Huilin Foundation and hosted by AICCC that has been successfully running for thirteen rounds and is receiving increasingly extensive influence both in China and abroad. The program has become a brand of BNU, showcasing the enchanting aspects of China and promoting Chinese culture.

The program aims to showcase the contrasting simplicity and glamour, the antiquity and fashion of China through the unique perspectives of young international film makers each of whom would make 10-minute short documentaries of Chinese culture with one-on-one help from a Chinese volunteer as a way to enhance the international influence and attractiveness of Chinese culture and to strengthen the cross-cultural communication, exchange and cooperation among the younger generations in China and abroad.

With their powerful creativity and experiences in China, each story about China discovered by these young people is told in a way of their own. As of 2024, AICCC has organized 1100 young people from 102 countries including Brazil, Georgia, Ecuador, Portugal, Belgium, India, United States, Mexico, Columbia, Australia, Serbia, United Kingdom, Romania, Korea, Canada, Ghana, France, Israel, Singapore, Finland, Syria, Japan and Kazakhstan to make 1041 outstanding short films that have won 191 international awards.

The book series have been designated as official publications at several major diplomatic occasions, such as the Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation, BRICS Leaders Meeting, BRICS Young Diplomats Forum, BRICS Seminar on Governance, and so forth. Chinese President Xi Jinping delivered a speech in National University of Singapore on Nov 7th, 2015 and specially mentioned Looking China, giving it a high recognition.

Five students from the Discipline of Film and Video Communication, NID participated in the program in 2024.

**Afanti** | 12:41 | 2024 | China / India



The film revolves around the work of three craftsmen from Xinjiang International Grand Bazaar, while exploring the story behind the mascot of the market, the mythical hero Afanti.



Director  
**S Logesh**

Producer  
**Shao Jiaxin, BNU**

Cinematographer  
**S Logesh**

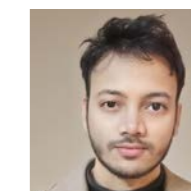
Editor  
**S Logesh**

Sound Designer  
**S Logesh**

**Home Landing** | 12:46 | 2024 | China / India



The film offers an intimate glimpse into the life of a truck driver at a bustling Chinese seaport, exploring the delicate balance between the everyday grind of labor and the quiet longing for home and family.



Director  
**Sohaib Ahmer**

Producer  
**Chen Beiru, BNU**

Cinematographer  
**Sohaib Ahmer**

Editor  
**Sohaib Ahmer**

Sound Designer  
**Sohaib Ahmer**

## People of the Flaming Mountain | 13:28 | 2024 | China / India



The Flaming Mountain town of Xinjiang is in the hottest place in China. Despite being a rural desert town, it has its own set of specialties: the Flaming Mountains, grape valley and yellow noodle & barbecue dish. The film is a mosaic of its food, culture and landscapes, told through the very people who keep these traditions going.



Director  
**Shubhra Agarwal**

Producer  
**Ayikezi Maihemuti, BNU**

Cinematographer  
**Shubhra Agarwal**

Editor  
**Shubhra Agarwal**

Sound Designer  
**Shubhra Agarwal**

## Tracing Back | 09:55 | 2024 | China / India



Longing for someone is always hard, and when you don't know when your beloved will be re-united back with you it is even harder. This short documentary shows the life of couple who wins their daily bread from the sea. One day when her husband sets out, the climate becomes adverse. Will she give up hope? Hence, the story unfolds.



Director  
**Dev B Raj**

Producer  
**Xing Wenwen, BNU**

Cinematographer  
**Dev B Raj**

Editor  
**Dev B Raj**

Sound Designer  
**Dev B Raj**

## Settling Flames | 12:30 | 2024 | China / India



Turpan basin is the lowest point on mainland China and is one of the hottest places on Earth, with surface temperature sometimes reaching 80 degrees Celsius. This arid region is populated by Uyghur minority group. The film looks at their rural life and the unique practice of Chinese judiciary system where Judges provide doorstep legal services to resolve civil disputes.



Director  
**Saksham Sharma**

Producer  
**Pan Yiqing, BNU**

Cinematographer  
**Saksham Sharma**

Editor  
**Saksham Sharma**

Sound Designer  
**Saksham Sharma**

# University of São Paulo



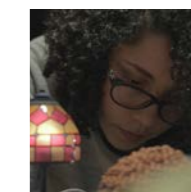
Departamento de Cinema, Rádio e Televisão  
Escola de Comunicações e Artes  
Universidade de São Paulo

The University of São Paulo is a public research university in the Brazilian state of São Paulo, and the largest public university in Brazil. Since its founding in 1934, the university has maintained its status as the country's most prestigious educational institution. The Department of Cinema, Radio and Television and the School of Communications and Arts were established in the 1960s as pioneering institutions devoted to the teaching and research of film and audio-visual media in Brazil.

## As I See It | 05:29 | 2018 | Brazil



In this animated documentary, different characters reflect on three highly complex themes for all of us: money, fear, and the differences between boys and girls. From the amusing comments and perceptions of the children interviewed, we see a somewhat unusual but valid wisdom being woven for all generations.



Director  
**Cassandra Reis**

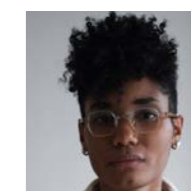
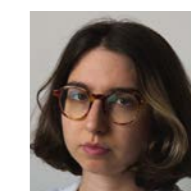
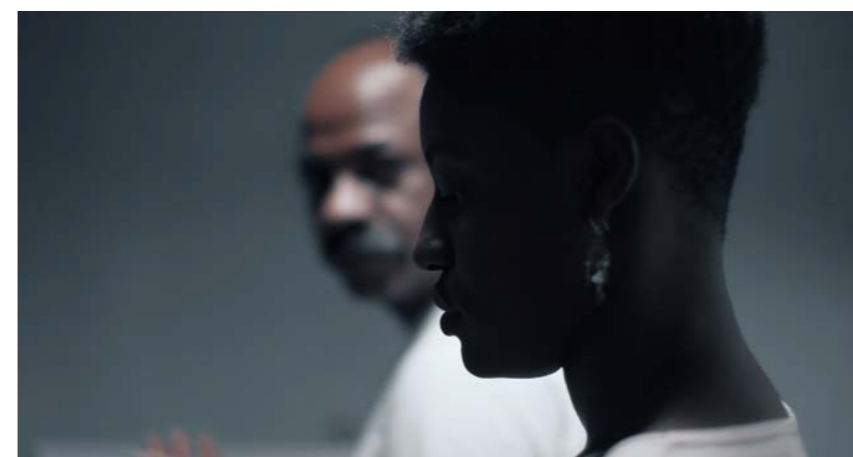
Producer  
**Mariana Lopes,  
Vic Casé**

Cinematographer  
**Gabriela Akashi**

Editor  
**Raquel Vieira**

Sound Designer  
**Felipe Cadillac**

## How to Breathe Out of Water | 16:36 | 2021 | Brazil



Director  
**Julia Fávero,  
Victoria Negreiros**

Producer  
**Ricardo Santos**

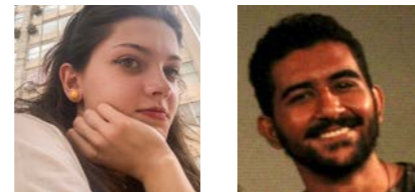
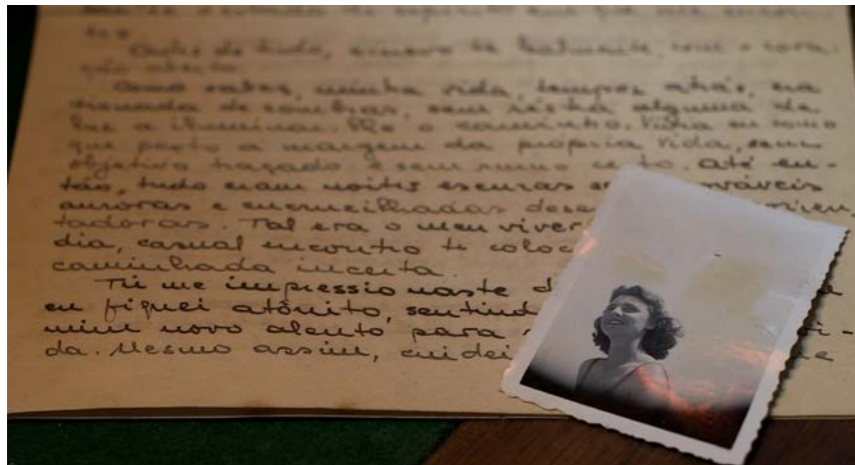
Cinematographer  
**Giuliana Lanzoni**

Editor  
**Luiza Freire**

Sound Designer  
**Bia Hong**

On the way back from the swimming training, Janaina is violently approached by the police. Safe back home, she must manage the relationship with her father, who's a policeman.

**Memories and Love Letters for Sale** | 20:48 | 2024 | Brazil



Director  
**Cristina Neves,  
Ruan Bertuce**

Producer  
**Cristina Neves,  
Ruan Bertuce**

Cinematographer  
**Andressa Viena,  
Giordano Gadelha**

Editor  
**Cristina Neves,  
Ruan Bertuce**

Sound Designer  
**Laís Vallina,  
Marlon Carvalho**

In an antique shop in downtown São Paulo, a love story from the past is revealed amid the daily life of the place.

**Trembling Eyes** | 20:00 | 2023 | Brazil



Director  
**Leno Taborda**

Producer  
**Victor Stoll**

Cinematographer  
**Luiza Tomaz,  
Natália Evangelista**

Editor  
**Luiza Tomaz**

Sound Designer  
**Laís Vallina**

Trembling Eyes tells the story of Juliano, a 25-year-old photographer who lives a peaceful life with his 65-year-old boyfriend Nuno. After a fall, the couple discovers that Nuno has a terminal illness that, little by little, takes away his movements through tremors. From then on, their daily lives change completely and Juliano has to deal with the progressive loss of his beloved, recording his last moments through the lens of a 16mm camera. At the same time, Nuno rediscovers a ghost from his own youth, a past marked by the AIDS crisis.

# Events

**Exhibition**  
**Masterclass**  
**Panel Discussion**  
**Performance**

Exhibitions, Masterclasses, Panel Discussions, and Performances have always been integral to Alpavirama, fostering cross-disciplinary learning, facilitating knowledge exchange between experts and students, and celebrating young filmmakers, the festival, and our institution.

This year, as part of our tribute to Navroze Contractor, we are excited to feature a special exhibition of his photography, seven masterclasses led by renowned filmmakers and industry experts, and two panel discussions on Immersive Narratives and the Cine Bazaar.

Additionally, we will host two captivating performances: a soulful Sufi folk performance by Moorlala Marwada and his team from Kutch, and RoZéO, an acrobatic dance performance.

# Exhibition

## How To See Celebrating The Work And Memories Of Navroze Contractor



A retrospective honoring the iconic career of Navroze Contractor opens at the 7th edition of Alpavirama at NID, offering an exploration of his impact as a cinematographer in Indian cinema, particularly in documentaries. Titled “How to See”, this exhibition delves into Navroze’s career as a cinematographer and photographer, paying tribute to the art of seeing through his lens, which was informed by the way he looked at the world and connected with people.

“How to See” brings together images, curated into distinct sections such as portraits, cinematographic highlights, his memories and many more. Each piece invites viewers to experience the world through Navroze’s eyes, capturing the subtle interplay of light, shadow, and emotion that defines his work.

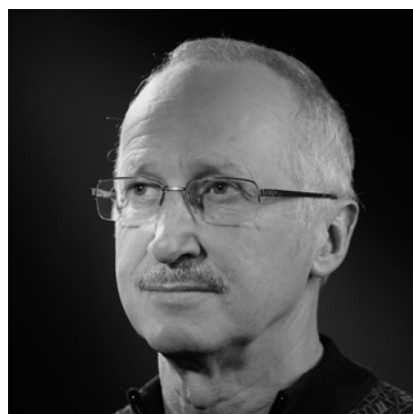
In addition to showcasing his photographs, the exhibition provides insights into Navroze’s creative process with personal reflections and quotes, offering a deeper understanding of his approach to cinematography and photography. “How to See” invites the community to engage with the art of visual storytelling in a way that only Navroze Contractor can offer. This is more than just an exhibition; it is a homage to an artist whose life and work continue to inspire.

The photographs are part of the larger curation for the ‘Photography Strictly Prohibited’ retrospective of Navroze Contractor’s work.



# Masterclass

## Magic Lantern, 250 Years Before Cinema | Roger Gonin



But who were really “those travelling Savoyards who stroll about Europe, amusing ignorant people with the effects of a magic lantern” – to quote Tobias Smollett in *Ferdinand Count Fathom* (1753)? This presentation will provide a description of a Savoyard magic lantern and its wooden box containing 10 slides. This box has been found in the center of France but it seems that it has belonged to a peddler from the South of the Alps. Every year at winter time, many people used to leave their mountain homes to work in the lower countries. A small part of them used to display the marmot, playing hurdy gurdy or showing the magic lantern. Then the history of technical developments from the magic lantern to the cinematograph.

## Reflected Realities | Dibakar Banerjee



“Reflected Realities” in cinema explores the diverse perspectives of filmmakers as they portray the world around them. It blurs the line between objective truth and personal interpretation, offering audiences a mirror to societal, cultural, and individual experiences while encouraging deeper reflections on life’s complexities and human stories.

## Growing Through Risk and Failure | Pushpendra Nath Misra



There is a Japanese saying – Success is born of failure. Being able to look at one’s experiences as lessons on the way and having the ability to correct a course creates lasting success. Temperament, thus, is as big as talent.

## The Blurred Line Between Fiction and Non-Fiction | Haobam Paban Kumar



This masterclass explores the evolving relationship between fiction and non-fiction, focusing on how the boundaries between the two genres are increasingly intertwined. The line between fiction and non-fiction has increasingly blurred as both genres often borrow elements from each other. This allows for deeper exploration of truth, where subjective experiences are woven with objective facts, challenging audiences to question the boundaries of reality and imagination in storytelling.

## Why Shorts? | Umesh Kulkarni



Why shorts...is it really a distinct art form? are short films just a stepping stone to make feature films? Do they have any relevance in today’s OTT culture...? Who watches short films? Let’s discuss, let’s explore.

## EXPERT SESSION

### Cinematic Tourism in Gujarat | Khyati Nayak



Head of the Cinematic Facilitation Cell, Gujarat Tourism, Government of Gujarat, with 21 years of experience in Marketing and Promotion, focusing on Sustainable & Green Tourism. In an interactive session, she will talk about the support provided by the cinematic facilitation cell for filmmakers to shoot in Gujarat, the key highlights of the Cinematic Tourism Policy and answer the filmmakers' questions about it.

### Shaping the Future with Autodesk's Cutting-Edge Technologies in the Media & Entertainment Industry | Samit Shetty



With 24 years of extensive experience in the Animation and Visual Effects (VFX) industry, I have built a diverse career that spans production, education, and technical solutions. My journey began as a VFX artist in India, where I honed my skills at some of the country's leading VFX houses for over a decade. Currently, I serve as a Technical Solutions Specialist at Autodesk.

Additionally, I am an active member of the India AVGC Task Force, collaborating with central and state governments to formulate policies that foster the growth of the emerging Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming, and Comics (AVGC) sector in India.

### Adobe AI Powered Features | Chetan Shah

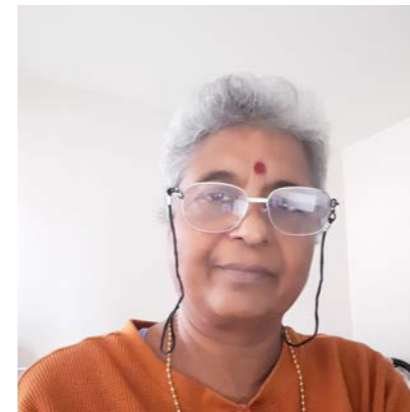


In the 60-minute workshop, students will learn about Adobe's AI-powered features for video, including Autoreframe, Remix, Speech to Text, and Text-based editing, which can significantly speed up their video content creation process. The workshop will also cover additional tools for audio, graphics, and color enhancement, and showcase the latest Generative AI video tools.

## Panel Discussion

### Immersive Narratives Storytelling in Cinematic Virtual Reality

### Soudhamini



Soudhamini holds a PhD in Film and Immersive Media from Deakin University (2023), an MA in English Literature from Stella Maris College (1995), and a Post Graduate Diploma in Film Direction from the Film and Television Institute of India (1986). She was a Fulbright Nehru Research Scholar (2017-18) and a Senior Research Fellow at the Department of Culture, Government of India (2002-04). Her career began as an assistant to filmmaker Mani Kaul on "Before My Eyes". Since then, she has created short fiction, feature-length creative non-fiction, and experimental installations, with commissions from the Government of India and the Australia Council for the Arts. Her work has been screened globally, and she has served on juries, including the Melbourne International Film Festival XR Showcase 2022.

### Ode to Uśas: This Time Let's Get the Dawn Right | Soudhamini



In this mythopoetic immersive experience set in the time of Covid, Maya the cosmogonic principle is mired in a nightmare of patriarchy staking from which she cannot awake. Rafael a dancer-writer invokes the powers of Earth with contrition, and Adishakti the originary consciousness offers him a bijakshara - an indestructible seed syllable - from which a new language and planetary imaginary can emerge. Drawing on a range of music, dance, and martial art forms from India and beyond, this Cinematic VR experience steeps audiences in locational and temporal immersion, to reflect on the way forward.

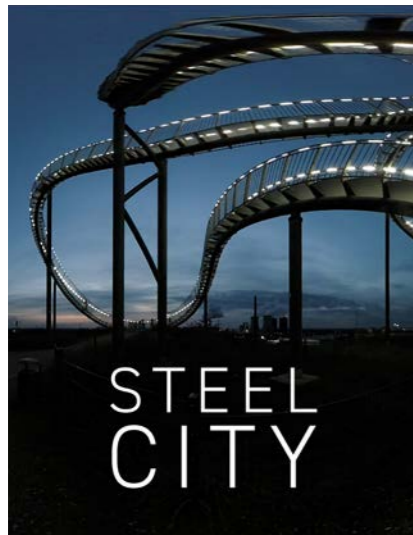


## Max Schleser



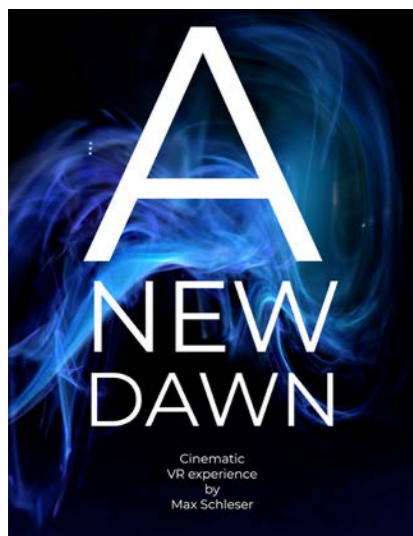
Max Schleser is an Associate Professor in Film and Television and a researcher in the Centre for Transformative Media Technologies (CTMT) at Swinburne University of Technology (Melbourne, Australia), Adobe Creative Educator Innovator, Founder of the Mobile Innovation Network & Association ([www.mina.pro](http://www.mina.pro)) and Screening Director of the International Mobile Innovation Screening & Festival. He is an award-winning filmmaker with expertise in immersive media, documentary film and creative arts 4.0 with a focus on cinematic VR and interactive filmmaking. His research explores screen production, emerging media and smartphone filmmaking for community engagement, creative transformation and transmedia storytelling.

### Steel City | Max Schleser



Where the river Rhein and Ruhr intersect in Germany, you will find Duisburg. This former industrial city is known for bad football, mafia shootings and the Love Parade disaster. While the heavy industry, which brought prosperity to the port town in 50s and 60s, has demised with the Strukturwandel in the 1980s, steel is still shaping its landscape.

### A New Dawn | Max Schleser



A New Dawn is a memory-scape, which takes a critical approach and uses the Aurora Borealis as an audio-visual representation of life out of balance. Imagine the magnetic fields have shifted through climate change and the collision of electronically charged particles would happen in our proximity. The Aurora symbolises a geomagnetic storm caused by nature's exclamation of the ecological crises.

## Jayesh Pillai



Jayesh Pillai is an academician, a designer and a filmmaker. He obtained his PhD in the field of Virtual Reality from Arts et Métiers ParisTech, France. He has a master's degree in design (M.Des) from IIT Kanpur and a bachelor's degree in architecture (B.Arch) from Kerala University, India. His works are at the intersection of interaction design, storytelling and immersive media. His research areas include 'Grammar of Storytelling in VR' and 'Presence in VR'. Jayesh is presently an Associate Professor at IDC School of Design, IIT Bombay. At the School of Design he heads the 'Immersive Media Experience Design' (IMXD) Lab.

### Manhole VR | Jayesh Pillai



Compelled by the exigencies of poor economic life and caste identity, Amitabh, a young law graduate, becomes a manual scavenger. One day, to earn some extra money to support his family, he decides to get inside a large, unsafe sewer to clear a blockage. He neither has protective gear nor the accompanying engineer to check for poisonous gases. Will Amitabh come out safely?

### Dragonfly | Jayesh Pillai



The film is a tale of waiting. Aisha longs for the return of her lover, who has undergone a grievous incident. While she holds onto a glimmer of hope, her patience begins to test her. 'Dragonfly' wishes to immerse the viewer in an experience that fluctuates between Aisha's reality, memories and hopes.

## Delwyn Jude Remedios



Delwyn Jude Remedios is an international award winning experimental animation filmmaker with 14 years of industry and academic experience. He is an Assistant Professor at IIT Hyderabad and specializes in Visual Communication Design. He is a teaching instructor for Animation, Filmmaking, Film Editing, Storyboarding, Illustration, Character Design, Graphic Narratives and Cinematic Virtual Reality. He is an author and illustrator of a web comic series 'Anit and Shayne's World.' His doctoral degree research was in exploring Parallel Interactive Narratives in Cinematic Virtual Reality.

## Table for Two | Delwyn Jude Remedios



Three tables in a café in Mumbai unfold three interconnected stories of romance, supernatural visions, and freelance frustrations. Which table will you join?

# Panel Discussion

Cine Bazaar  
Opportunities for Young Filmmakers

### Nina Lath Gupta

Founder & CEO, Cinevesture

### Neha Jain

Film producer and festival programmer

### Rajiv Rajaram

Head of Content at Tamil Digital Business and Sony Liv.

### Anne Doshi

Co-Founder at Trampoline Media

### Mrinalini Khanna

Independent producer

### Manish Saini

Filmmaker and producer, Amdavad Films

### Shivani Thussu Gambhir

Content Lead at Viacom 18 Digital Ventures

### Harsh Agarwal

Co-Founder / CEO at Uncombed Buddha Films

### Sanjay Gulati

Founder - Producer at Crawling Angel Films

### Aditya Grover

Co-Founder at Uncombed Buddha Films

### Leena Khobragade

Film Market & Festival Consultant

### Afag Yusifli

International Relations/ Project Manager of Azerbaijan Union of Filmmakers

### Geeta Gerardo Vij

Founder & CEO of GoCreator

### Avinash Medhe

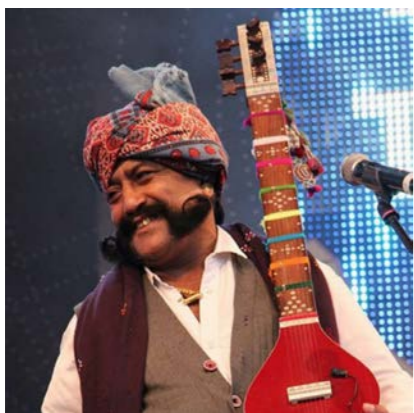
Co-Founder, Director & Designer at Girgit Studios Pvt. Ltd.

### Prateek Sethi

Founder & Creative Director at Trip Creative Service

# Performances

## Mooralala Marwada and team from Kutch



Mooralala Marwada is a Sufi folk singer from the Janana village of the Kutch District, Gujarat, India. Marwada hails from a long line of Meghwal singers of the village in Gujarat's Kutch district. He sings the poetry of Kabir, Mirabai, Ravidas and others. Moorlala sings in the Kaafi form of music that has evolved and been adopted by the Hindu singers of Shah Abdul Latif Bhittai. He has also been featured in the Kabir Project. He features in the Gujarati Film Hellaro as a singer.



## RoZéO: A Living Installation



Experience RoZéO, a captivating acrobatics event presented by Alliance Française d'Ahmedabad at the National Institute of Design, with support from the French Institute in India. Previously featured at the opening ceremony of the Paris 2024 Olympics, this unique event showcases ethereal figures swaying atop delicate metal poles, evoking images of shepherdesses, witches, and priestesses. The performance, accompanied by a live musician blending whispers, electronic music, and field recordings, invites deep contemplation and a connection with the natural landscape.

RoZéO is more than an acrobatics event; it's a poetic, sensory experience that encourages a "wide-angle" view of the world. Slow oscillations and moments of suspension create a meditative space with the vast sky as its horizon.

### Artists

**Artistic Director:** Stéphane Villard Girard

**Company Director:** Camille Beaumier

**Technician:** Philippe Geffroy

**Sound Engineer:** Luca Lefevre

**Musician:** Pauline Frémeau

**Acrobats:** Camille Magand, Danilo De Campos Pacheco, Zoe Gaillard-Bizot, Claire Chastaing



Alpavirama is extremely grateful to all its supporters for helping us sustain and grow with each edition. This year marks the 7th consecutive edition of the festival and the 2nd consecutive Cine Bazaar event. Alpavirama has consistently found support from Government organisations, partner institutions, corporations and NID community that have helped foster long-term relationships with the film community across the globe. Additionally, we are grateful to all the individuals who have supported us in kind with their time and efforts. We recognise the contribution of all our well-wishers and hope to be able to foster a space of learning, sharing and celebration for the years to come.

# Festival Support

# Supported by



TM

## Cinematic Tourism Policy 2022-27

Gujarat, a vibrant state on India's western coast, offers a remarkable diversity of landscapes highly suitable for film shooting, from arid deserts to lush coastal regions, ancient temples to modern cities, making the state an attractive destination for filmmakers. To tap the opportunities and promote Gujarat as a preferred tourist destination, Gujarat Tourism has launched the Cinematic Tourism Policy 2022-27. In the presence of the Honorable Chief Minister of Gujarat and the Honorable Tourism Minister of Gujarat, the policy was officially unveiled on September 10, 2022, in Ahmedabad. The policy focuses on promoting and developing an ecosystem for film production industries in the state by i) Simplifying Process; ii) Development of Infrastructure; iii) Financial Incentives.

The key financial incentives for the films made by any production house in any language in Gujarat are as follows:

- i. Feature Films (Films and Brand Affiliated Films) @ 25% of eligible production expenses or maximum up to 1.50 Cr, 2.0 Cr, and 2.5 Cr respectively for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd production onwards.
- ii. Web Series & TV serials 25% Of eligible expenses of production or maximum up to 0.75 Cr, 1.0 Cr, and 1.5 Cr respectively for 1st, 2nd and 3rd production onwards.
- iii. Documentary films @ 25% Of eligible cost of production or INR 25 Lakhs, whichever is lower.

Financial incentives/assistance for film related events and projects:

- i. Mega Film Events @ 20 percent of the eligible expenditure in Gujarat or a maximum of up to INR 25 Cr. shall be provided to organize mega film events to promote Gujarat as a film shooting destination.
- ii. Film Infrastructure Projects: Limited to Film City and Film/Television Studio and Post-production studio or Film Processing Labs/ Film Training Institutes



## Supported by



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Autodesk is changing how the world is designed and made. Our technology spans architecture, engineering, construction, product design, manufacturing, media, and entertainment, empowering innovators everywhere to solve challenges big and small. From greener buildings to smarter products to more mesmerizing blockbusters, Autodesk software helps our customers to design and make a better world for all.

## Screening Support



## Additional Support





# Credits & Acknowledgements

**Director, NID**  
Ashok Mondal

**Chairperson  
Education, NID**  
Dr. Shilpa Das

**Festival Director**  
Hitesh Chaurasia

**Festival Coordinator**  
Savyasachi Anju Prabir

**Festival  
Co-Coordinator**  
Riddhi Zaveri

**Core Team**  
Biju Kurup  
Ahsam K R  
Yaatra Khan  
Meena Shah  
Rahul Patel  
Subhendu Parida  
Shailendra Goraiya

**FVC Support Team**  
Jaya Nair  
Sudhir Shah  
Shambhu Paswan  
Jagdish Chauhan  
Dax Balotiya  
Himanshu Makwana  
Jayesh Vaghela  
Shubham Rajput

**Logo**  
Sushmeit Madhavan

**Catalogue Design**  
Apurva Rouduri  
Theresa Alappat  
Saicharan Kalyanaraman

**Print Supervision**  
Yogesh Patil  
Hardik Sanghvi  
Printed by: Print Vision Pvt Ltd,  
Ahmedabad

**Trophy &  
Souvenir Design**  
Pravinsinh Solanki  
Rakesh Kumar  
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