





Welcome to Film Bazaar 2018

What a fantastic year for content this has been! The one year when we can safely say - Content has been the Business! Fresh stories, innovations that broke stereotypes, fantastic worlds, endearing dysfunctional families and an edge of seat, double ended thriller to conjure up a dark finale. What was hitherto a stand alone phenomenon is actually turned out to be an off recurrent pattern in the cinema fare this year. It cannot just be that more and more filmmakers are experimenting with form and content. Neither can it be attributed to financiers who are willing to invest in small budget, quick turnaround time projects. You might argue that these were the best bets for the producers who are trying to build a bouquet of not so expensive projects in an otherwise cautious market.

Maybe it's the Pandora's box of varied fare from across the world that's suddenly opened up consumer minds? Suddenly the exposure has evolved the same audiences into being more experimental and adventurous in their film viewing choices! And maybe in terms of style the niche players have made their craft a little more accessible?

The analysis can carry on but the euphoria remains. For a good year is a good year is a good year!

And it gives rise to the Directors' Jams that explore legacies and recent trends with those who dared to break the mould. These are not just conversations about the concerns and the creative aspirations. These are also about the environs and personal enterprise that made such cinema possible.

No conversation around content can be complete without a Producers' Jam - content facilitators who could take that leap of faith, build strategies to harness the required resources, make that film of their choice and then reach it out to its audiences. And the Talent Managers and deal facilitators who can make those trans-cultural partnerships and collaborations happen. It is the year when the efforts of mentorship programs, labs, festival programmers and curators, acquisition and syndication set ups - all can rightfully feel the adrenaline rush because they helped position and brand South Asian content over the years and can now look with pride as the baby steps into changing perceptions take shape.

There is the Platforms Section that explores alternate distribution models, monetisation avenues and the OTT space. Conversations that deconstruct the data, its analysis, the attitudes, strategies and vision that can add value, sustainability and hygiene to the ecosystem.

Finally from BlockChain in IPR & Ledger Management to Building Transmedia Narratives - the Age of the Storytellers comes full circle. There will be worlds upon worlds emerging from the story that a film tells. And there will be a host of brave new voices that will find new modes of expression and ways of being heard.

Yes. It has been a good year for content and we can only look ahead into an ever evolving, ever growing and inclusive FilmScape with rich and diverse voices.

Knowledge Series and Producers' Workshop Team 2018

KNOWLEDGE SERIES / DAY 1

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKERS	PG
10.00 AM – 1.00 PM	OPEN PITCH Co - Production Market	Svetlana Naudiyal, Deputy Director, Film Bazaar	6
1.15 PM – 1.45 PM	Presenting Film State Policy of Uttar Pradesh	Sri Shishir, Member Secretary, Film Bandhu/ Director, Information, UP Government Sanjay Suri, Actor, Producer	7
2.15 PM – 3.00 PM	Public Funds for the Asian Filmmaker & the Premium OLFFI Tool	Ilann Girard, Managing Director, OLFFI Miriam Joseph, Producer	8
3.15 PM – 3.45 PM	Showcasing the FFO Web Portal	Vikramjit Roy, Head, Film Facilitation Office of M/O I&B at NFDC Sanjay Suri, Actor, Producer	9
4.00 PM – 4.45 PM	Decoding Block Chain for Entertainment Industry (Securing IPR & Ledger Management for Films)	Orlando Pedregosa, Co-Founder, Babeika Films Simran Mulchandani, Co-Founder & CEO, Mach One Rohan Sippy, Filmmaker	10
5.00 PM – 6.00 PM	Crafting a Brave New World	In Conversation Siddharth Roy Kapur, Producer & Founder, Roy Kapur Films Liz Shackleton, Asia Editor, Screen International	11

KNOWLEDGE SERIES / DAY 2 THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKERS	PG
10.30 AM – 1.30 PM	Film Bazaar Recommends	Deepti Dcunha, Film Programmer	12
1.45 PM – 2.15 PM	Presenting Lakshadweep - New Shooting Guidelines	Asar Pal Singh, Resident Commissioner, UT of Lakshadweep Vikash Sivaraman, Advisor, Film Tourism, UT of Lakshadweep Balram Meena, Director Tourism, UT of Lakshadweep Sanjay Suri, Actor, Producer	13
2.45 PM – 3.30 PM	North East - Cinemas & Opportunities Unexplored	Pradip Kurbah, Filmmaker Napoleon RZ Thanga, Filmmaker Sange Dorjee, Filmmaker Anshulika Dubey, Co-founder & COO, Wishberry	14
3.45 PM – 4.30 PM	The OTT Chessboard in India - Next Moves	Ajay Chacko, Co-founder & CEO, Arre Rasika Dugal, Actor Rohan Sippy, Filmmaker Suri Gopalan, Founder, Vista India Digital Media Orly Ravid, Founder, The Film Collaborative	15
4.45 PM – 5.45 PM	Badlands & the 'Gender'	In Conversation Vishal Bhardwaj, Filmmaker, Producer Nasreen Munni Kabir, Documentary Filmmaker, Author	16

KNOWLEDGE SERIES / DAY 3 FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKERS	PG
10.30 AM – 12.30 PM	Filmmakers' Pitch	Abhra Das, Consultant, NFDC	17
12.45 PM – 1.30 PM	A Time for Violence Directors' Jam	Devashish Makhija, Filmmaker Ivan Ayr, Filmmaker Somen Mishra, Head, Creative Development, Dharma Productions	18
2.00 PM – 2.45 PM	South Asian Content through the World Lens	Marco Mueller, Film Critic And Historian, Artistic director of PYIFF, Pingyao Derek Malcolm, Film Critic Paolo Bertolin, Programmer, Venice International Film Festival Dominique Welinski, Producer Orly Ravid, Founder, The Film Collaborative	19
3.00 PM – 3.45 PM	Building Resources for the Indie & the Experimental	Prakash Bare, Actor, Producer Vivek Paul, CEO, Reelmonk Shaji Mathew, Founder, NIV Art Centre, Film Producer Jiju Antony, Filmmaker Rohan Sippy, Filmmaker	20
4.00 PM – 5.00 PM	Films without Borders - Bridging Cultures	Marco Mueller, Film Critic And Historian, Artistic director of PYIFF, Pingyao Meg Thomson, SVP, Worldwide Content, Globalgate Entertainment Maria Ruggieri, Head, Sales and Acquisitions, Asian shadows Deepti Dcunha, Film Programmer	21
5.15 PM – 6.15 PM	Engagement with Transmedia - Creating Worlds across Platforms	Jeff Gomez, Founder & CEO, Starlight Runner Entertainment Steele Filipek, Executive Editor, Starlight Runner Entertainment Gitanjali Rao, Filmmaker & Animator Rohan Sippy, Filmmaker	22

KNOWLEDGE SERIES / DAY 4 SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24

SESSION

TIME

10.30 AM – 11.15 AM	Storytellers First - Directors & Producers who Changed the Game Directors' Jam	Ramesh Sippy, Filmmaker Vishal Bhardwaj, Filmmaker Abhishek Chaubey, Filmmaker Minty Tejpal, Writer, Journalist	23
11.30 AM – 12.15 PM	The 'Horror Platter' Directors' Jam	Patrick Graham, Filmmaker Krishna DK, Filmmaker Raj Nidimoru, Filmmaker Pankaj Kumar, Cinematographer Bhaskar Hazarika, Filmmaker	24
12.30 PM – 1.15 PM	Animation - Not Just Child's Play	Gitanjali Rao, Filmmaker, Animator Soumitra Ranade, Chairman & Creative Director, Paperboat Design Studios Pvt. Ltd. Miriam Joseph, Producer	25
1.30 PM – 2.15 PM	Producers' World - a Science of Choices Producers' Jam	Anshulika Dubey, Co founder & COO, Wishberry Catherine Dussart, Producer Deborah Sathe, Director, International Operations, Cinestaan Nyay Bhushan, India Correspondent, The Hollywood Reporter	26
2.45 PM – 3.30 PM	Content Security in the Digital Space	Satya Raghavan, Head, Content Operations, YouTube India Miriam Joseph, Producer	27
3.45 PM – 4.30 PM	Talent Management and World Best Practises	Ranimol T.A, Business Head, Times Talent Caleb Franklin, Founder & Managing Partner, Matter Advisors Orly Ravid, Founder, The Film Collaborative	28
4.45 PM – 5.15 PM	Facebook and Instagram Platform Narrative	Diwaker Chandani, Cluster Lead & Strategic Partner Manager	29
5.30 PM – 6.30 PM	The Dark, The Pulpy & the Love Story	In Conversation Sriram Raghavan, Filmmaker Somen Mishra, Head, Creative Development, Dharma Productions	30

SPEAKERS

PG

Moderator Svetlana Naudiyal, Deputy Director, Film Bazaar

	Original Title	English Title	Director
1	A New Prophet	A New Prophet	Rezwan Shahrian Sumit
2	Amar Colony	Amar Colony	Siddharth Chauhan
3	Bend in the Coffin	Bend in the Coffin	llango Ramanathan
4	Bichal Sal	Rapture	Dominic Sangma
5	Fairy Flower Miles	Fairy Flower Miles	Balaka Ghosh
6	Girls Will Be Girls	Girls Will Be Girls	Shuchi Talati
7	Hangdan	Hangdan	Jaicheng Jai Dohutia
8	Hinterland	Hinterland	Rahil Ahmed Patel
9	In the Belly of A Tiger	In the Belly of A Tiger	Jatla Siddartha
10	Kho - Kho	Kho - Kho	Rahul Riji Nair
11	Kuch Choti Chitrayi Yaadien	Some Little Shreds of Memory	Karan Talwar
12	Little Thomas	Little Thomas	Kaushal Oza
13	Lonak -The Dark Year	The Dark Year	Sange Dorjee Thongdok
14	Reshma Shera	Reshma Shera	Megha Ramaswamy
15	Swan Song	Swan Song	Vandana Kataria
16	Three Mothers	Three Mothers	Chezhiyan Ramalingam
17	Tito-Mitho	Bitter-Sweet	Tribeny Rai
18	Ullozhukku	Undercurrent	Christo Tomy
19	VR Peon	VR Peon	Kabir Mehta

OPEN PITCH Co-Production Market

The Open Pitch kick starts the Co-Production Market where selected projects will present their video pitches to delegates interested in co-production, funding, sales, and distribution. This year's Co-Production Market presents an eclectic mix of 19 projects from India, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, Germany, Sri Lanka and USA.



Svetlana NAUDIYAL

Svetlana Naudiyal is the Deputy Director of Film Bazaar and the head of Co-Production Market 2018. She is a Film Festival professional with

diverse experience in event management, programming, international sales. festival strategy. Her passion lies in working for platforms that give a voice to artists and stories. She is also the Cinema Programmer for Soho House Mumbai. In the past, she has worked with NFDC, Drishyam Films, and MAMI Mumbai Film Festival. She has also been a consultant for Cebu International Documentary Film Festival, Philippines.

Presenting Film State Policy of Uttar Pradesh

Ease of filming and Incentives for Filming In Uttar Pradesh is the focus area for this sesson. Situated in the northern part of India, Uttar Pradesh is one of the most popular and famous tourist destinations for both Indians and foreigners alike. Besides being famous for its rich culture and traditions, Uttar Pradesh has a large number of historical monuments and places of religious significance including Ayodhya and Mathura, the birthplace of Lord Rama and Lord Krishna respectively. As far as making of films is concerned, Uttar Pradesh has a prominent place in the history of Indian cinema. It has given several renowned film producers, directors, artistes, lyricists, musicians and story/script writers to the film industry. It is bestowed with all the quintessential elements for film making. The President of India awarded the 'Special Mention Certificate' to Uttar Pradesh in the year 2015 in 63rd National film Festival and the 'Most film Friendly State Award' in 64th National film Festival in year 2016.



Sanjay SURI

National Award winning Producer-Actor Sanjay Suri is credited with 8 feature films including award winning My Brother Nikhil, I AM, Chauranga

as a Producer & 33 films as an actor like Jhankaar Beats, Firaaq, Filhaal, Pinjar, My Brother Nikhil & more. He has participated in various International Co-Production markets/ labs like Cinemart, CNC-Cannes 2012 & 2013. He has also served as a Jury member at MAMI - 2012 & DIFF (2013). His diverse knowledge of development, production, sales, syndication, marketing & distribution position him as a unique Independent Producer.

Moderator Sanjay Suri, Actor, Producer

Speakers
Sri Shishir, Member Secretary, Film Bandhu/ Director,
Information. Up Government



Sri SHISHIR

Sri Shishir, a UP state Civil Services officer of 1997 batch and currently Director, UP Information and Public Relations Department, got his first posting SDM of Akbarpur of Ambedkarnagar district. Later he was posted

as ACEO GIDA, City Magistrate Bareilly, ADM Finance & Revenue, Shahjahanpur, ADM (F&R) Bareilly, ADM Land Acquisition GautamBuddha Nagar, Dy. CEO Greator Noida, ACEO Noida/Greator Noida. Presently holding Director Information and Secretary, Film Bandu along with additional charges of Special Secretary Cultures, Director Culture UP. Shri Shishir is known for his honesty, sincerity and dedication to duty.

A native of Ballia, he did his Masters in Political Science from Allahabad University.

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Moderator Miriam Joseph, Producer

Presentation and Q&A by Ilann Girard, Managing Director, OLFFI



Ilann GIRARD

llann is the CEO founding partner of OLFFI. com, the largest database and toolbox of public funding, covering in 95 countries over 950 financing schemes for development, production and postproduction for film and television. He also started ARSAM, a

consultancy firm in 2001 and ARSAM INTERNATIONAL a Paris based Production Company in 2003. He has been an executive producer for various movies such as 'Rennaisance', 'March of the Penguins' and 'Plastic Planet'. His production ventures such as, 'Goodbye Bafana', bagged a Cinema for Peace Award at the Berlinale in 2007, and 'I ebanon' that won a Golden Lion in 2009



Miriam JOSEPH

Educated in India and Britain, Miriam, after finishing film school at London University, started her career at BBC UK for the next 13 years went on to work as a broadcast journalist and documentary producer with the BBC,

Channel 4, PBS, ITV, The History Channel and Canal Plus. She moved to Mumbai from UK and joined Farhan Akhtar and Ritesh Sidhwani's feature production house Excel Entertainment. First as Excel's Executive Producer and then its CEO, she delivered some of the most game changing production values seen in mainstream Hindi Cinema. She has built, nurtured and lead large multi-disciplinary teams on many successful Indian and international productions and co-productions. As a member of the academic council of SRFTI in Kolkata, she was instrumental in putting together the first ever Producing Masters Diploma.

Public Funds for the Asian Filmmaker & the Premium OLFFI Tool

Film Funds - that elusive entity which is on every filmmaker's mind and wish list! Filmmakers are always on the lookout for funds which they hope will not change the vision of the film. Often Public Funds are the solution. However there are not very many South Asian countries that offer a resource. The funds that exist outside of Asia have their own eligibility criterion. But these are times wherein the dominant discourse is the desire for inclusion to forge cross cultural ties. The idea is to read the fine print in those Co-Production Treaties and open avenues for collaborations to happen... to facilitate a large variety of films with a world view and appeal.

This year OLFFI presents their Premium Tool. A software that is designed to evaluate-and-match so that one finds the best possible partnership for a project. And at times even makes relevant suggestions. This is quite literally a DIY kit for filmmakers looking for funds! This session is an attempt at presenting to the interested filmmaker an overview of not just funding options but more importantly ways of accessing them.

^{***} The OLFFI Premium Tool will be available to Film Bazaar 2018 delegates complementary from November 12-30, 2018.

Showcasing the FFO Web Portal

The session will showcase the Film Facilitation Office's (FFO) web portal which will be followed by an insightful discussion focusing on FFO's endeavour to reach out to a global audience and disseminate information regarding filming in India through its web portal. The portal will not only enable online submission of applications, enlist India's co-production treaties and guidelines, but also provide information on shooting locales and the facilities available in the Indian film industry for production/post production. It will further the Government's endeavour to ease of doing business in India.

Moderator Sanjay Suri, Actor, Producer

Speaker
Vikramjit Roy, Head, Film Facilitation Office of M/O I&B at NFDC



Vikramjit ROY

Vikramjit Roy is the Head of the Film Facilitation Office (FFO), set up by the Ministry of I&B and operated by NFDC. The FFO is mandated to promote the Film in India initiative of the Government and in doing so, ensure the

ease of filming in India. In his role as the General Manager of NFDC, he commissioned 24 productions across 11 Indian languages, introducing 13 debut Directors. As Head of Marketing, a position he held simultaneously, he played a key role in the positioning of Cinemas of India, Film Bazaar as well as the Corporation's foray into digital distribution thus helping in creating an audience base for Independent cinema in the country. With 25 years of experience, encompassing both the Independent and Studio backed spaces, Vikramjit has built a reputation by engaging in both the Government and Corporate Sectors, enabling the development of the two.



Sanjay SURI

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Firaaq, Filhaal, Pinjar, My Brother Nikhil & more. He has participated in various International Co-Production markets/ labs like Cinemart, CNC-Cannes 2012 & 2013. He has also served as a Jury member at MAMI - 2012 & DIFF (2013). His diverse knowledge of development, production, sales, syndication, marketing & distribution position him as a unique Independent Producer.

Moderator & Co-Curated by Rohan Sippy, Filmmaker

Speakers Orlando Pedregosa, Co-Founder, Babeika Films Simran Mulchandani, Co-Founder & CEO, Mach One



Orlando PEDREGASO

Orlando has worked extensively in production, distribution and financing of independent films. He Co-founded Babieka Films S.L. and Unrepresented, which has collaborated on Blade Runner 2049. Black Mirror season 3

and 4 et al. He has been actively involved in innovating the business of film with technological advents like Blockchain technology and updating best practices in IPR management and content security.



Simran MULCHANDANI

Simran built a world-recognised music brand – blueFROG, gaining lessons in value creation, marketing and communications. Drawing from his experiences with Wall Street and Lykke - the Swiss Blockchcain

Exchange, he has been exploring how blockchain can drive next generation intellectual property management. As a driven environmentalist, he is also looking at its application in reversing the effects of climate change and helping marginalized communities.

Decoding Block Chain for Entertainment Industry

(Securing IPR & Ledger Management for Films)

Block Chain in dictionary terms is a digital ledger in which transactions made in bitcoin or any other cryptocurrency are recorded chronologically and publicly. The technology can offer access to the User to a digital public database that stores an ongoing record of transactions which enable the user to have cmpletely encrypted records of ownership, execute smart contracts and e-manage the ledger! When applied to media consumption this technology solves the problems surrounding content access, distribution and compensation: managing assets and digital rights; and financing, among others.

Block Chain technology, if applied to IPR Management and computing Distribution, can actually create quite a revolution in content management for the Independent creator as well. Like it did in the case of the music business

The session aims to unravel all these insights and explore how an educated, conscious interface now by the industry can help charter the growth and inclusion of this technology into effective and transparent IPR and Ledger Management - especially for the independent content creator. The discourse would also need to include how do the corporates view it and how can the Indie community understand and secure it for themselves. This and more.. as the session puts together a knowledge base to explore security and ledger building options for the content creator - aiding both the Indie and the Studio set ups



Rohan SIPPY

With an acumen for genre and medium, Rohan Sippy has had an eclectic career as a filmmaker. He directed four Hindi feature film which include the titles -

Bluffmaster and Dum Maaro Dum. It's as a Producer where he truly dabbled (successfully) in different mediums producing films like Taxi 9211, The President Is Coming, the Television series Khan No.1 and his own directorial foray in the web space Side Hero.

He is also a director on the board of the Ramesh Sippy Academy of Cinema & Entertainment, serves on the board of MAMI, Mumbai's international film festival as well as on the Core Committee of the Producers Guild of India.

Crafting a Brave New world

In Conversation

Siddharth Roy Kapur, Producer & Founder, Roy Kapur Films

Liz Shackleton, Asia Editor, Screen International

Siddharth Roy Kapur has been there since the time the first bunch of Indie makers in India started breaking into the existing film space with their new ideas and fresh stories. He harnessed resources and innovated within the system to bring in a new range of stories, worlds and outreach models to discover and connect with a larger audience. He was there with UTV when Spotboy was set up to create those memorable Big Idea Small Films - DevD, Mumbai Meri Jaan Oye Lucky, et al. He was there when gutsy had a new name in Indian Mainstream - Paan Singh Tomar, A Wednesday and Barfi! Films that were small but became big after release as they captured the audience pulse. He dared to think of the dance franchise ABCD and a star director (hitherto choreographer) was born! He is there now when 2-yr-old Pihu is making her screen debut! And he is also poised to be India's Most Watched Producer once the entire JIO slate aets out there.

Most of these are stories that must have sounded niche till their marketeers & producers reached out and expanded their universe. At a macro level the conversation aims to explore the mind that can catch the essence of the story and match it to its universe - mount & outreach it to make it happen. In a year when some of the niche films have broken new ground in audience-connect, it would be of great value to get an insight into how he perceives Indian content today as a producer. What are the creative choices in positioning and pricing? How is it optimised across platforms and in the ecosystem? What are the ways Indian content has evolved over the last decade across Studio & Indie spaces?



Siddharth ROY KAPUR

An eminent Producer and the President of the Producers Guild of India, Siddharth has been a figurehead in the Indian Film Industry, enabling content varied in scale and content across budgets and languages. Siddharth was also a

former Managing Director of The Walt Disney Company India and UTV Motion Pictures. His filmography includes some of the most path breaking and acclaimed Indian movies of the last decade – Dangal, Haider, The Lunchbox, Barfi, Paan Singh Tomar et al. Siddharth recently set up his own production house, Roy Kapur Films, to produce movies and digital video content across all scales and genres. Siddharth has also been featured in Variety's list of 500 most influential global leaders in entertainment this year.



Liz SHACKLETON

As the Asia Editor for Screen International, Liz has closely seen the film market within the continent and the journey of Asia-related content at international film festivals & markets. She is also the founder of Chime Consulting.

which helps Western companies and government agencies connect with the fast-growing film industries of China, India and the Middle Fast

Film Bazaar 2018 11

Moderator Deepti Dcunha, Film Programmer

Speakers

Film Bazaar Recommends

	Original Title	English Title	Director
1	A Dog Dies	A Dog Dies	Siddharth Tripathy
2	Aamis	Ravening	Bhaskar Hazarika
3	Across The Ocean	Across The Ocean	Nicole Donadio, Uma Kumarapuram
4	Ainaa Jhyaal Ko Putali	Windowpane	Sujit Bidari
5	Ajeeb Budhee Aurat	Strange Old Lady	Kislay Kislay
6	Bilathikuzhal	Bilathikuzhal	Vinu Kolichal
7	Biriyaani	Flavors Of Flesh	Sajin Babu
8	Chegu	Chegu	Nabamita Ghosh
9	Chola	Shadow of Water	Sanalkumar Sasidharan
10	Eeb Alle Ooo!	Eeb Alle Ooo!	Prateek Vats
11	Er Poganta	The Stream	Siddharth Kay
12	Faces	Faces	Siddhant Sarin, Debankon Singh Solanky
13	Habaddi	Habaddi	Nachiket Samant
14	lewduh	The Market	Pradip Kurbah
15	Kattumaram	Catamaran	Swarnavel Eswaran
16	Kia And Cosmos	Kia And Cosmos	Sudipto Roy
17	Komola Rocket	An Orange Ship	Noor Imram
18	Laal Maati	Red Earth	Ninad Mahajani
19	Mara	Mara	Dharmaraj Shetty
20	Monalisa	Monalisa	Satyajit Dutta
21	Nimtoh	Invitation	Saurav Rai
22	One Secret Red	One Secret Red	Sreemoyee Bhattacharya
23	Rukuni Koina	The Holy Bride	Jadab Mahanta
24	Sisters of the Trees	Sisters of the Trees	Camila Menéndez, Lucas Peñafort

This year Viewing Room received 225 completed submissions, out of which 218 films are available in the Viewing Room software, which consists of 154 feature length films and 64 short films. Out of all the feature film submissions. NFDC Film Bazaar would like to highlight 24 projects. Filmmakers whose films are in the Film Bazaar Recommends section of Viewing Room are given an opportunity to play a short clip of their films to the audience and introduce themselves. These films are either in progress or just completed and are looking for gap financing, world sales, distribution, buyers or waiting to be showcased at international film festivals. Investors and producers interested in gap financing, world sales agents, buyers and distributors are invited to be a part of this session.



Deepti DCUNHA

Deepti DCunha is a Mumbai based Film Programmer specialising in Contemporary Indian Cinema. She has been working on Indian and

International Film Festivals for the past eight years. She sources and curates films for the Viewing Room section and Work-in-Progress Lab for the NFDC Film Bazaar since 2011. She has been the India Consultant to Marco Mueller since 2011 for Venice film festival, Rome film festival, film festivals in China and is now the India & South Asia Programmer for Pingvao International Film Festival (PYIFF), China. Deepti also programs for the Chicago South Asian Film Festival (CSAFF) and Jio MAMI Mumbai International Film Festival. She has been on the Selection Committee of Locarno Open Doors since 2016. She has recently been appointed as India Correspondent for the Director's Fortnight at Cannes. Her earlier assignments include programming for the International Children's Film Festival of India (ICFFI) and Osian's Cinefan film festival. She is deeply committed towards independent Indian cinema-a passion that keeps her driven to scout for new films and fresh talent from all across the country.

Presenting Lakshadweep - New Shooting Guidelines

Known for its pristine beaches, blue lagoons, water sports, coral gardens and as a peaceful retreat from the noise and grime of city life, Lakshadweep is all that, and more. Its potential as a spectacular location for film shoots has been, hitherto, largely untapped. This session aims to project the island state as a viable and film friendly location with valuable insights into its film infrastructure and conditions for availing fee security and other amenities on discounted rates. Additionally, the participants will be taken through the processes, rules and safety standards specific to filming in Lakshwadeep.



Saniav SURI

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as a Producer & 33 films as an actor like Jhankaar Beats, Firaaq, Filhaal, Pinjar, My Brother Nikhil & more. He has participated in various International Co-Production markets/ labs like Cinemart, CNC-Cannes 2012 & 2013. He has also served as a Jury member at MAMI - 2012 & DIFF (2013). His diverse knowledge of development, production, sales, syndication, marketing & distribution position him as a unique Independent Producer.

Moderator Sanjay Suri, Actor, Producer

Speakers
Asar Pal Singh, Resident Commissioner, UT of
Lakshadweep
Vikash Sivaraman, Advisor, Film Tourism, UT of
Lakshadweep

Balram Meena, Director Tourism, UT of Lakshadweep



Asar Pal SINGH

Shri Asar Pal Singh, born in 1957 in a Village in U.P. educated in various schools, Colleges in UP and Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi, joined Indian Railways, Govt. of India. in 1980. He joined as an Academic

in the Administration in U.T. of Lakshadweep in 1983. He was posted as a Liaison Officer of Lakshadweep in New Delhi in 2006. After serving in various capacities and coordination between Lakshadweep Administration and various Ministries of Govt. of India, he rose to the position of Resident Commissioner of Lakshadweep in 2017.



Vikash SIVARAMAN

In a career spanning three decades, Vikash has shot more than 2000 advertisement films and numerous feature films and documentaries. Straddling two worlds – that of cinematography and the underwater – Vikas brings together

both his passions to his world of underwater cinematography and led him to the Lakshadweep islands. Vikash currently advised with the Govt of UT of Lakshadweep on promoting filmmaking on these pristine islands.



Balram MEENA

Shri Balram Meena assumed charge of Director of Department of Tourism Development, Lakshadweep in the month of March, 2018. Shri Balram Meena is DANICS officer of 2014 Batch. He completed his Bachelor's Degree

in Civil Engineering from Indian Institute of Technology(IIT), Kharagpur.Department of Tourism, under the supervision of Shri Balram Meena and visionary leadership of Hon'ble Administrator Shri Farooq Khan, is undertaking various tourism infrastructure development projects and policy initiatives. Department is actively implementing the Holistic Development of Island project. Film tourism has been declared as one of the key elements of Lakshadweep's Tourism Policy and the department is developing this sector to generate income and employment- setting the coral paradise on the path of a touristic regeneration with a renewed sense of self.

Moderator Anshulika Dubey, Co-founder & COO, Wishberry

Speakers Pradip Kurbah, Filmmaker Napoleon RZ Thanga, Filmmaker Sange Dorjee, Filmmaker



Napoleon RZ THANGA

Napoleon is a multi-award winning producer and has been a prominent presence in the burgeoning film industry in North-East India. He started 'Joshua Production' in 2006 and has been industriously churning out much lauded documentaries and short Films like

Malsawmi, MNF:The Mizo uprising and When thunder rolls. Napoleon is currently working on his debut Feature Film.



Pradip KURBAH

A self-taught filmmaker Pradip Kurbah has been Pioneering film making in Meghalaya. Pradip has produced films in various dialects of Meghalaya and directed Four Khasi feature films, of which 'Ri' and 'Onaatah' were awarded

the best Khasi film at the 61st, 63rd National Film Award. Onaatah has also been remade in Marathi as 'Udhaam'. He recently finished the filming of his next – lewduh.



Sange DORJEE

An alumnus of the SATYAJIT RAY FILM AND TELEVISION INSTITUTION Sanagee Dorjee's debut feature film CROSSING BRIDGES, was the first film in Sherdukpen dialect and the first to win a National Award from the state

of Arunachal Pradesh. Sangee was also selected for the BERLIN TALENT CAMPUS 2016. He has also directed the films The Nest and RIVER SONG which recently premiered at the INDIAN FILM FESTIVAL, STUTTGART.

North East - Cinemas and Opportunities Unexplored

Beautiful. Unique. Different. Rich with stories - Almost scarily fantastic at times - when all that beauty around you can nurture both humane stories and the dark anticipation of the unknown. The North East over the last few years continues to be fascinating in the range of filmmakers that have cropped up. And the range of new dialects and cultures that we have suddenly been exposed to!

Every year, for the last few years, we have engaged here with emergent voices form the North East and their wide & varied cinematic canvas. But the fact remains that most filmmakers from the North east complain about lack of exhibition space. Bollywoodisation, coming in of big studios, etc. - the usual grievances that many small centers and distinct cultures usually have. Yet the indigenous has been gradually and consistently pushing through! So how does the system tick? Where are the resources coming from? How have so many of these films crossed cultures and travelled across borders? And how do they go back to their own people and build audiences and communities?



Anshulika DUBEY

Anshulika is the Co-founder and COO of Wishberry – India's largest crowdfunding platform for creative projects putting her in the forefront of the rise

of Independent cinema in the country. By harnessing a community of cinephiles and filmbuffs - wishberry has contributed to the funding and fruition of films like the acclaimed Assamese film Kothanodi and the Sanskrit Animation film Punyakoti. Wishberry recently launched its financing platform for low budget, content-driven cinema - Wishberry Films.

The OTT Chessboard in India - Next Moves

A panel on the dilemmas that all global as well as local players in India are up against - the challenges of wooing paid subscriptions and the recurrent run-ins against censorship. Add to it the fact that most of the local players have a huge loyalty base because of their broadcast backgrounds (e.g. Zee5, Hotstar) or film muscle (e.g. Eros Now). Add that to a deep insight into the local palette and a rising small centre viewer base and you have a fairly skewed battle waiting to take off.

However, Netflix seems to have made a paradigm shift in the way they are approaching the Indian space. Their new hirings are very deeply connected to the local film industry (Bollywood). And, like Amazon they seem to be veering towards the traditional Bollywood thought process and forging new bonds with the industry. The panel hopes to explore all these notions and upcoming milestones to jam on the vast range of content.



Orly RAVID

Orly Ravid is the founder and co-executive director of The Film Collaborative - an independent distributor and a non-profit wealthbank of knowledge on

distribution. Called a big picture thinker, Orly's career in film includes acquisitions, sales, film festival programming at Sundance, theatrical and festival distribution - all of which has enabled to better help intellectually rigorous and important films reach their respective audiences via sustainable financial models. She is also an entertainment attorney and provides film sales and legal services. She has finally made her foray into Producing.

Moderator
Orly Ravid, Founder, The Film Collaborative

Speakers Ajay Chacko, Co-founder & CEO, Arre Rasika Dugal, Actor Rohan Sippy, Filmmaker Suri Gopalan, Founder, Vista India Digital Media



Ajay CHACKO

With over 2 decades of experience behind him in media & financial services, Ajay Co-founded Arre –digital content brand known for its zesty content which has caught the pulse of the generation. The platform produces a variety

of show in the fiction and non-fiction space across genres. Arre is also working on large-format original shows in collaboration with domestic and international OTT platforms as well as broadcast television networks



Rohan SIPPY

With an acumen for genre and medium, Rohan Sippy has had an eclectic career as a filmmaker. He directed four Hindi feature film which include the titles - Bluffmaster and Dum Maaro Dum. It's as a Producer where he

truly dabbled (successfully) in different mediums producing films like Taxi 9211, The President Is Coming, the Television series Khan No.1 and his own directorial foray in the web space Side Hero.

He is also a director on the board of the Ramesh Sippy Academy of Cinema & Entertainment, serves on the board of MAMI, Mumbai's international film festival as well as on the Core Committee of the Producers Guild of India.



Suri GOPALAN

Suri is the founder member of Vista India and comes with over 30 years of media distribution experience. He has been at the forefront of digitization of video and his company is a Netflix preferred partner in India. Suri was

also instrumental in the physical sales of Indian compact discs and video in the United States, through Raaga Music Superstores, his entrepreneurial venture.



Rasika DUGAL

An FTII alumna, Rasika is best known for her performance in feature films, Manto, Qissa, Kshay and short films Chutney and The School Bag. From theatre and web series to hosting and acting in TV shows, feature films and

short films, Rasika has been an artistic resource enabling India's Indie space across mediums. Most recently, she has acted in the Amazon Prime original series 'Mirzapur' and the feature film ' Hamid'.

In Conversation Vishal Bhardwaj, Filmmaker, Producer Nasreen Munni Kabir, Documentary Filmmaker, Author

Badlands & the 'Gender'



Vishal BHARDWAJ

One of the leading figures in Indian cinema, the multi-faceted Vishal Bhardwaj is a director, screenwriter, producer, music composer and playback singer. Vishal gained prominence with his Shakespearean adaptation Maqbool after which he directed and wrote films across

genres – Blue Umbrella, 7 Khoon Maaf, Matroo ke Bijlee ka Mandola and the adaptations of Othello as Omkara and Hamlet as Haider. Vishal has also written the screenplays of Talvar, Ishqiya and Dedh Ishqiya, which he also coproduced. His latest film, Patakha, has been one of the most acclaimed of the year.



Nasreen MUNNI KABIR

Nasreen has made several documentaries on Hindi cinema's stars and directors and written sixteen books on the subject. She has been working for over three decades as Channel 4 TV UK Indian film consultant, selecting and

curating their annual film season. She is also responsible for subtitling the Hindi films for Channel 4, UK.

He is a prolific Producer. In fact his IMDb account credits him with more films as a producer than as a director. He is known for his dark yet humane stories of gray characters set against harsh scapes - most times in the dusty, gritty hinterlands, and at some in the raw alienating urbanopolis. Memorable in the way they are endearing even when they are terrible. More often than not, they redeem themselves by the end of a tale.

The scapes are bleak - often as metaphors for a larger, failing system rather than for the evil within people! Whether as a director or as a producer — his narrative has been a constant. And what has uniformly stood out is his engagement with female characters who shine in their spirit and zest to live life on their own terms. They are fighters in their own way, within their own space, whether it is the little Chunni-Munni from Makdi or Tabu's characters in Maqbool & Haider or Vidya Balan in Ishqiya or Madhuri Dixit and Huma Qureshi in Dedh Ishqiya. The women are feminine, fun and live by their own terms. Always.

In a year which has celebrated the Indie approach across the local Cinemascape, here's exploring the work of a very active filmmaker of our times who has, through his entire filmography – as a producer or a writer or a director - crafted, mentored and supported stories that pushed the envelope. They threw us out into the badlands, made us love and hate with equal humour and passion very questionable characters. They, at every point challenged our own 'gaze' and our own limited perceptions.

Filmmakers' Pitch

Moderator Abhra Das, Consultant, NFDC

Film

This year Viewing Room received 222 completed submissions, out of which 218 films are available in the Viewing Room software, which consists of 154 feature films and 64 short films. Industry Screenings received 33 submissions out of which there were 28 feature films and 5 short films. Filmmakers whose feature films are in the Film Library section of Viewing Room and Industry Screenings are given an opportunity to play a short clip of their films to the audience and introduce themselves. These films are either in progress or just completed and are looking for gap financing, world sales, distribution, buyers or waiting to be showcased at international film festivals. Investors and producers interested in gap financing, world sales agents, buvers and distributors are invited to be a part of this session. This is a non-curated section open to filmmakers who are attending Film Bazaar.



Abhra DAS

Abhra Das is a consultant with the National Film Development Corporation (NFDC). He has been the Programming Coordinator for the Viewing Room and Work-

in-Progress Lab at NFDC Film Bazaar since 2015. He works with film programmer Deepti DCunha as a coordinator on film festivals like Chicago South Asian Film Festival (CSAFF) and Pingyao International Film Festival (PYIFF) in China. Previously he has been on the programming team for the 9th Kashish Mumbai International Queer Film Festival in 2018. He has also worked as a research assistant for film critic Anupama Chopra at Film Companion and was a part of the organizational team for MAMI Mumbai Film Festival in 2014. He is a freelance writer and a cinema enthusiast.

1.	10 Nahi 40	Jagdeep Singh Randhawa
2.	Ashok Vatika (The City is Red)	Rahul Mallick
3.	Chaman Bahaar	Apurva Dhar Badgaiyann
4.	Dhoolpet Ganesha	Anantha Perumal
5.	Do Writers Ki Maut (Death of 2 Writers)	Tarun Raj
6.	Enter My World	Arenla Sunbong
7.	#Gadhvi	Gaurav Bakshi
8.	K.D. (a) Karuppu Durai	Madhumita Sundararaman
9.	Long Song	Gokul Chakravarthy
10.	Mysore Masala	Ajay Sarpeshkar
11.	Oru Karakkum Mattanekangalkkumidayil (Between One Shore and Several Others)	Sreekrishnan KP
12.	Phurrr (Flutter Of Conscious)	Mehul Agaja
13.	Sleeplessly Yours	Goutham Soorya, Sudeep Elamon
14.	Social Media Murder Society	Abhishek Shukla

Director

Adi Pocha

Singh Sahab

UnniKrishnan Avala

17. Uns

The Last Audience

16. Udalazham (Body Deep)

Moderator Somen Mishra, Head, Creative Development, Dharma Productions

Speakers Devashish Makhija, Filmmaker Ivan Ayr, Filmmaker



Devashish MAKHIJA

A quiet rage simmers in the films of Devashish Makhija whose film credits include Ajji, Bhonsle, the acclaimed and award winning shorts El'ayichi, Absent, Agli Baar and the marvelous Taanday. Dev has dabbled with

both studio driven projects and Independent fares, assisting Bunty aur Babli and Black Friday. An artist with a drive, Dev has had a solo art show 'Occupying Silence'; written Tulika's best-selling children's books 'When Ali became Bajrangbali' and 'Why Paploo was perplexed', a Harper-Collins collection of short stories 'Forgetting' and the forthcoming book of poems 'Disengaged'.



Ivan AYR

Ivan Ayr's debut feature Soni centers around the lives of two policewomen dealing with the underbelly of modern day Delhi. Soni was an official selection at 2018 edition of Venice International Film Festival and won the Roberto

Rossellini award for Best Film at Pingyao Film Festival 2018. Ivan has also directed the shorts 'LOST AND FOUND', The Perfect Candidate and Quest for a different outcome which won Best Short Film at San Jose International Short Film Festival

A Time for Violence

The UrbanScape is not a gentle space always. Neither is there much of pastoral romances left in small town & village India. Over the last few years what was often a stand-alone voice is now slowly emerging as an ever growing collective. We still have the feel-good & dramas - human stories of love, loss, comeuppance and moral redemption set against these scapes. But in many instance the languor has been replaced by economic survival battles and the harshness of the concrete UrbanScape. War and violence have long been built upon and there are added lavers of rigour that socio-economic strife and its resultant violence beget. Life isn't simple and neither are the conflicts. Vengeance is not direct revenge, it is often provoked by a circumstance but inflicted upon the clueless innocent and disconnected.

Violence is now a way of life - passé, everpresent and often 'justified' Reactionary Violence. Where bodies and minds of the innocent become the battlegrounds for a larger socio-economical conflict. These are bleak streets with flawed heroes, black villainy and a backdrop of lost humanity. The session aims to tread these routes – with filmmakers whose voices struck that chord within us and left us mesmerized for all the 'wrong' reasons. We went home deeply affected by the worlds they conjured - of men and women who were caught up in a spiral of violence that was circumstantial and situational.



Somen MISHRA

A film maven at heart, Somen's profile boasts credits as a creator and a connoisseur. He started out as an Entertainment Journalist for CNN-IBN and moved on to

creative development, helping greenlight films like Raazi, Badhaai Ho, Bareilly Ki Barfi, Lust Stories and Talvar. He currently heads creative development at Dharma Productions where he is handling the development of Karan Johar's next - Takht, among other films. He is also founder of FightClub - a popular site which focuses on independent films.

South Asian Content - through the World Lens

A Film Market is the perfect place to discover new projects, talents and voices that might possibly drive narratives in the years to come. As a platform to look forward - a market also becomes the perfect place to look back at the years and trends gone by. One can compare one's own market with other ecosystems that might have burgeoned around the same time and take stock of how the wares moved and evolved. What are the driving concerns of the filmmakers? How are they expressing themselves and how does the world perceive them?

The stories that seem the most niche and come from the remotest parts of the country seem to resonate the most with communities from across the world! At times there are many which, if mentored or positioned correctly, get audiences and appreciation. So how does one engage with these filmmakers and ensure that their expression finds empathy? How does one guide such content to find comprehension amongst audiences across other niches? This session aims to explore, with producers, festival programmers, editors and mentors from various labs - the art of mentoring deeply rooted local stories towards a larger, more universally relatable expression.



Orly RAVID

Orly Ravid is the founder and co-executive director of The Film Collaborative - an independent distributor and a non-profit wealthbank of knowledge on

distribution. Called a big picture thinker, Orly's career in film includes acquisitions, sales, film festival programming at Sundance, theatrical and festival distribution - all of which has enabled to better help intellectually rigorous and important films reach their respective audiences via sustainable financial models. She is also an entertainment attorney and provides film sales and legal services. She has finally made her foray into Producing.

Moderator

Orly Ravid, Founder, The Film Collaborative

Speakers

Marco Mueller, Film Critic And Historian, Artistic director of PYIFF - Pingyao

Derek Malcolm. Film Critic

Paolo Bertolin, Programmer, Venice International Film

Festival

Dominique Welinski, Producer



Marco MUELLER

Film critic and historian, director and writer of documentaries about cinema, Marco Mueller is currently the Artistic Chair of the Pingyao International Film Festival (PYIFF) in China. He has been the director of some the most

important film festivals in Europe including IFF Rotterdam, the FldF Locarno, the Venice IFF (the longest tenure in the history of the Mostra) among others. In his parallel career as a film-producer, Mller has produced and co-produced 11 features that include movies that have been received Academy Awards and top tier honours at major festivals.



Derek MALCOLM

A luminary in the world of Journalism and criticism, Derek Malcolm serves as a film critic with the Huffington Post. He had also been the chief film critic at The Guardian for 35 years. He has also served as the Honorary President

of International Film Critics Association (Fipresci), President of British Federation of Film Societies and as a Governor of the British Film Institute. Derek has also been on juries at the three main European Festivals in Berlin, Cannes and Venice and other festivals around the world.



Paolo BERTOLIN

Paolo Bertolin is a festival programmer and film critic. As a correspondent for Venice International Film Festival, he covers diverse territories as South Korea, South East Asia, Oceania and Turkey. He is also associated

with prestigious festivals like Udine Far East Film Festival, Nyon Visions du Réel, International Film Festival Rotterdam, Cannes Critics' Week and International Film Festival Bratislava. In 2013, he also joined the Doha Film Institute as Programme Advisor for the Asia Pacific region.



Dominique WELINSKI

With two decades of experience working in distribution, Dominique founded the production company DW. The company has been discovering filmmaking talent from across cultures – Sri Lanka, Iran, South

Africa, Lebanon, Kennya - and springboarding them to the international market. DW's first projects include concept of 'The Factory', the Sri Lankan documentary Burning Birds, Oblivion verses, Day after tomorrow co-produced by Arte.

Moderator Rohan Sippy, Filmmaker

Speakers
Prakash Bare, Actor, Producer
Vivek Paul, CEO, Reelmonk
Shaji Mathew, Founder, NIV Art Centre, Film Producer
Jiju Antony, Filmmaker



Prakash BARE

Prakash Bare's profile boasts a range of work across formats and mediums as a Producer and an actor. Known as a Technopreneur, the IIT-Kanpur graduate is actively innovating in Theatre and Film straddling stage productions

like The Cabinet of Dr.Caligari and festival winners like the acclaimed Painting Life, Papilio Katha, Shutter. His recent projects most famously include the quirky webseries Brown Nation.



Vivek PAUL

Vivek founded Reelmonk as an online movie distribution platform but with a twist. The site literally put films in the hands of audiences by providing downloading options at nominal pricing. The site has now expanded to

content management and internet distribution services for independent and mainstream filmmakers. With an adroitly crafted website, Reelmonk has amassed a library of over 300 films and a user base of over 60,000 members worldwide.



Shaji MATHEW

An entrepreneur with artistic pangs, Shaji founded the NIV art centre for facilitating the fundamental necessities for advancement of art practice and cultural practice. Niv Art has been steadily creating a legacy of enabling

the arts producing experimental and artistic movies like the critically acclaimed Ozhivu divasathe Kali and mentoring scripts of upstart filmmakers in a most Indie Script lab.



Jiju ANTONY

Jiju made his feature film debut with the crowdfunded project Eli Eli Lama Sabachthani? (The Forsaken). Coming from experimental sensibilities and a background untrained in filmmaking, Jiju gained prominence for his

commentary on the genesis of violence in society. Jiju's passion project bore out of and tapped into a community of cinephiles and film savvy peers.

Building Resources for the Indie and the Experimental

In a year in which we are celebrating the variety in content and audience taste buds its only important to acknowledge and discuss those agents of change who have been consistently working towards building communities and improvising solutions to maximise the outreach opportunities for their content. This session aims to bring full circle the story on fresh, spirited, clear and creative business minds that have created profitable/sustainable models for talent sourcing, producing and releasing/ exhibiting their niche films.

These are minds that have in various ways created opportunities for these voices to express and find their niche audiences. From setting up mentorship programmes to facilitating visibility platforms and revenues for the Independent/experimental voice here is a session that hopes to understand the challenges, sustainability models and growth pattern of these solution providers. Here's an effort to ascertain what, apart from Passion, makes them tick!



Rohan SIPPY

With an acumen for genre and medium, Rohan Sippy has had an eclectic career as a filmmaker. He directed four Hindi feature film which include the titles -

Bluffmaster and Dum Maaro Dum. It's as a Producer where he truly dabbled (successfully) in different mediums producing films like Taxi 9211, The President Is Coming, the Television series Khan No.1 and his own directorial foray in the web space Side Hero.

He is also a director on the board of the Ramesh Sippy Academy of Cinema & Entertainment, serves on the board of MAMI, Mumbai's international film festival as well as on the Core Committee of the Producers Guild of India.

Films without Borders - Bridging Cultures

The panel aims to explore the kind of Indian content that's breaking clutter across the world, stories that are being told or acquired for remakes or adaptations, films that are engaging audiences across languages and cultures, etc. The idea is to explore the kind of Stories that resonate across cultures. The session explores the phenomenon of how some films simply lose their punch when they enter a different socioeconomic space only to find mammoth success in a different milieu.

So how do international programmers and sales agents perceive these cultural quirks? What drives them to pick up a film to champion or represent? How does the positioning of the same film change across markets?

Can the same film have a different campaign across different cultures? Indian films have suddenly seen a China Boom! And certain film festivals also seems to find a sense of resonance with films from our country! We join this session on a fun and informative ride across cultures understanding the journeys of films and filmmakers through the memories, gut, understanding and experiences of those experts who have been instrumental in traveling them and watched varied audiences soak them in or not reject them.



Deepti DCUNHA

Deepti DCunha is a Mumbai based Film Programmer specialising in Contemporary Indian Cinema. She has been working on Indian and

International Film Festivals for the past eight years. She sources and curates films for the Viewing Room section and Work-in-Progress Lab for the NFDC Film Bazaar since 2011. She has been the India Consultant to Marco Mueller since 2011 for Venice film festival, Rome film festival, film festivals in China and is now the India & South Asia Programmer for Pingyao International Film Festival (PYIFF), China. Deepti also programs for the Chicago South Asian Film Festival (CSAFF) and Jio MAMI Mumbai International Film Festival. She has been on the Selection Committee of Locarno Open Doors since 2016.

Moderator Deepti Dcunha, Film Programmer

Speakers

Marco Mueller, Film Critic And Historian, Artistic Director of PYIFF - Pingyao

Meg Thomson, SVP, Worldwide Content, Globalgate Entertainment

Maria Ruggieri, Head, Sales and Acquisitions, Asian Shadows



Marco MUELLER

Film critic and historian, director and writer of documentaries about cinema, Marco Mueller is currently the Artistic Chair of the Pingyao International Film Festival (PYIFF) in China. He has been the director of some the most

important film festivals in Europe including IFF Rotterdam, the FldF Locarno, the Venice IFF (the longest tenure in the history of the Mostra) among others. In his parallel career as a film-producer, Mller has produced and co-produced 11 features that include movies that have been received Academy Awards and top tier honours at major festivals.



Meg THOMSON

Meg Thomson's forte lies in exploring obscure content, finding new markets for it and identifying the right cultural fit to be adapted in. Her profile with Distribution and Financing consortium Globalgate Entertainment,

includes curating and sourcing content from around the globe, especially from China and India. In her previous stint running an agency representing remake rights, she curated a catalogue of over forty feature films from diverse languages, to be sold internationally. She has also produced films like Flying Home, Siren DOT THE I, Myth America, working with content from in UK, USA, Belgium and Spain.



Maria RUGGIERI

Maria is part of Asian Shadows International Sales Company driven to identifying and reaching out to the international market, Asian content made by local voices. The company has represented some of the most acclaimed films to come out of the continent like Rima

Das' Village Rockstars, Ashwatthama by Pushpendra Singh, the Thai film 'Die Tomorrow' by Nawapol Thamrongrattanarit and Indonesian director Mouly Surya's 'Marlina the Murder in Four Acts'

Film Bazaar 2018 21

Moderator Rohan Sippy, Filmmaker

Speakers Jeff Gomez, Founder, CEO, Starlight Runner **Entertainment** Steele Filipek, Executive Editor, Starlight Runner Entertainment Gitanjali Rao, Filmmaker & Animator



Jeff GOMEZ

Jeff Gomez is the Founder and CEO of the Starlight Runner Inc., the leading Transmedia consultant in the world. An expert and an innovator in the field, starlight has developed a roster of Fortune 500 clients, and has

created and expanded a number of world-class transmedia franchises for such clients as The Walt Disney Company, 20th Century Fox, Microsoft, Hasbro and Coca-Cola. Jeff's vision and expertise have helped craft some of the most valued intellectual properties - identifying story possibilities and creating elaborate worlds with tapestry of narratives that with the help of technological innovations have delighted audience bases in many cultures.



Steele FILIPEK

One of the foremost authorities on Transmedia content in the world, Steele has lent his expertise in crafting elaborate worlds and campaigns for productions like Pirates of the Carribean, The Amazing Spider-Man, Dexter,

Transformers etc. turning these franchises into a coherent universe regular audiences could engage with across platforms and fanboys, film buffs, geeks could pore over in vivid detail. Steele has also helped brands such as Coca-Cola, Microsoft, Pepperidge Farm, and Reebok design narratives for their marketing campaigns and engage users across media and technologies. Steele is also a writer and producer of film, television, radio drama, comic books, literature, and comedy.



Gitanjali RAO

One of India's foremost animators. Gitaniali made a dainty yet much talked about entry in 2006 with her Cannes Critics Week premiere of her Indian animation 'Printed Rainbow' which went on to win her 3 awards there including for

the Best Short Film. Since then it's been a quiet yet eventful journey through award winning animated commercials, being the jury on various film festivals including the 2011 Cannes Critic's Week short films jury and her much talked about animated short 'True Love Story'. Gitanjali is currently making her first animated Feature 'Bombay Rose', an Indofrench co-production, slated to complete in early 2019.

Engagement with Transmedia - Creating Worlds across Platforms

Cinema encapsulates the times. It plays out on the big screen a reflection of the collective reality of the people. But there are films that need to move beyond that theatre experience and seep their micro-narratives into the lives of the people, intermingling with their stories, their existence

It is engagement of another level - where worlds upon worlds are built across platforms - with the individual worlds of the different characters. from the film finding place within the popular narrative through various other 'touch and feel' platforms like TV shows, videogames, toys, books, comics, apps, virtual reality projects, and theme park attractions. Each platform plays out worlds from within the larger world of the film - all built as entertainment properties, which are meant to be expanded into highly successful multiplatform communications and international campaigns. The key word here is Engagement – a step ahead from Interactive. The core purpose is for the world of the film to stay on in public memory and discourse by seamlessly blending into the lives of the people and getting them to be closely involved in experiencing and helping evolve narratives within these extended worlds and by using these other platforms.

Transmedia could be interpreted as the fine developmental skill of building worlds within worlds across platforms to deepen consumer engagement and speed up the development of participative communities, resulting in mass audience approval, brand loyalty and enhanced revenues. The session aims to understand and explore threadbare and organically what does Transmedia actually entail and how best it might be used by filmmakers.





Rohan SIPPY

With an acumen for genre and medium, Rohan Sippy has had an eclectic career as a filmmaker He directed four Hindi feature film which include the titles -

Bluffmaster and Dum Maaro Dum. It's as a Producer where he truly dabbled (successfully) in different mediums producing films like Taxi 9211, The President Is Coming, the Television series Khan No.1 and his own directorial foray in the web space Side Hero.

Storytellers First - Directors & Producers who Changed the Game

It's the closing day of the Bazaar! In a year which has clearly been the year of the Upstarts, In a community who fired audience minds and their films raked in the bounty home. So it is only apt that we search out Legacies and meet filmmakers who shed the comforts of the accepted escapist fare - the glossy, feel-good confines of that inheritor of pastoral romances - mushy love stories of two grown up people repeating the same song and dance. Here's meeting the original Bad Boys - those who reinvigorated the movies with aplomb Ramesh Sippy - who took the Western and spiced it with Desi dacoits into the Curry Western - the cult classic Sholay. Vishal Bhardwaj - who took the tradition forward in a way. Caste and class divides forged the conflict in the equally dusty landscape of Omkara and the grime of Magbool. And finally Abhishek Chaubey - who turned the Bad Boys saga on its head yet again. The new age ones were into petty thuggery now. Bad wasn't bad. It was gray, whimsical and endearing. These machismo drive figures get charmed and then charred by a drop dead gorgeous woman who was wronged. A play-itnaïve take on the classic femme fatale. Love & romance were never the same after Ishqiva and Dedh Ishqiya!

These directors who created human tales of love, loss, valour, amour and sacrifice eventually turned producers as well. Therein lies the essence of the Journey of Content. To mentor voices you resonate with, you need to have that entrepreneurship in you - the desire to ensure that one's own voice and its inheritors film on

Truly a Directors Jam with the Masters of the game!



Minty TEJPAL

One of the founders of Tehelka, Minty was a reporter at the popular video news magazine Newstrack and later a film critic for the Mumbai Mirror. He has

also written scripts for films and TV shows including the made for TV feature film, Kaam Ka Plot. He has also been an ad copywriter, and an executive producer for Channel V.

Moderator
Minty Teipal, Writer, Journalist

Speakers Ramesh Sippy, Filmmaker Vishal Bhardwaj, Filmmaker Abhishek Chaubey, Filmmaker



Ramesh SIPPY

A Legend in the Indian cinemascape, Ramesh Sippy directed Sholay, the curry western that captured the imagination of an entire nation, running to packed houses for years. In an eclectic career, Mr.Sippy has directed stories

that have enraptured, delighted audiences and managed to tackle social themes as well like – Andaaz, Seeta aur Geeta, Shakti, Saagar et al. The television series he directed – Buniyaad was one of the main stays of television in the 90's, recounting the live of refugees. He was a former President of the Producers Guild of India. He currently serves as the Chairman of the National Film Development Corporation.



Vishal BHARDWAJ

One of the leading figures in Indian cinema, the multi-faceted Vishal Bhardwaj is a director, screenwriter, producer, music composer and playback singer. Vishal gained prominence with his Shakespearean adaptation Magbool

after which he directed and wrote films across genres – Blue Umbrella, 7 Khoon Maaf, Matroo ke Bijlee ka Mandola and the adaptations of Othello as Omkara and Hamlet as Haider. Vishal has also written the screenplays of Talvar, Ishqiya and Dedh Ishqiya, which he also co-produced. His latest film, Patakha, has been one of the most acclaimed of the year.



Abhishek CHAUBEY

Seen as one of Hindi cinema's promising contemporary filmmakers, Abhishek Chaubey started as an associate to Vishal Bhardwaj on 'Makdee' and co-wrote 'The Blue Umbrella', 'Omkara' and 'Kaminey'. Abhishek's

films for narratives within the Indian vernacular, packing an inevitable climatic showdown. His star turn came with the dusty hinterland caper 'Ishqiya'. The sequel 'Dedh Ishqiya' further cemented his talent for equal turns funny and equal turns gritty stories. His third directorial outing Udta Punjab was one of the most acclaimed features of the year. He is currently working on his fourth outing Sonchiriya.

Film Bazaar 2018 23

Directors' Jam

Moderator Bhaskar Hazarika, Filmmaker

Speakers Patrick Graham, Filmmaker Krishna DK, Filmmaker Raj Nidimoru, Filmmaker Pankaj Kumar, Cinematographer



Patrick GRAHAM

A Brit working in the Hindi film and television industry, Patrick Graham wrote and directed the web Series Ghoul, which was one of the first originals commissioned by Netflix in the country. The series is also one of the first

attempts in India for producing film quality episodic content in the horror genre and was produced by Phantom Films, Blumhouse and Ivanhoe. Patrick's Ghoul taps dystopic concepts, socio-political themes and local mythology for its mood and horror.





Raj NIDIMORU & Krishna DK

Popularly known as Raj & DK, the filmmaking duo are known for their quirky subversion or genres with a surfeit of style and profane humour which have become

their trademark. Be it the Zombie comedy Go Goa Gone, the anti-noir of Shor in the city or the feminist Horror satire of Stree, which they wrote – Raj and DK have lampooned the flaws of genres and infused it with a healthy dose of meta-comedy. Their films have consistently resonated with audiences with a glowing box office results.



Pankai KUMAR

Inclined towards the visual arts since an early age, Pankaj pursued a master's degree in Theatre Arts and went on to study cinematography at the Film and Television Institute of India, Pune. He broke out with

Anand Gandhi's Ship of Theseus which delivered nuanced stories with visually striking images. Pankaj has gone on to work with directors like Vishal Bhardwaj, Meghna Gulzar and Ashim Ahluwaliah. His latest is the ground breaking horror Tumbbad which deftly brings a together mythological creature feature in a tale of avarice

The 'Horror Platter'

Genre filmmaking is in and Horror is the toast of the hour. There is an entire variety of well made, innovatively thought through 'Horror' content - a situation that didn't exist before this in Indian films. The platter includes Fantastic Horror (Tumbaad), Horror Comedy (Stree) and even a Political Horror (Ghoul)! And then there is Horror wrapped Folklore (Kothanodi)! What range and what exciting times for the viewer! Hopefully this opens up an entire new generation of makers and producers and audiences.

So what has prompted this fresh approach? The regular viewer now has access to genre films from across the world via VOD - and is now more discerning as well as hungry. Is this what is driving filmmakers to be braver and experimental? Or is it that shifting paradigms in countries and cultures across the world prompting filmmakers to tell their stories in less local & direct, more universally understandable ways - maybe through metaphors and allegory? The panel hopes to dig into this platter, deconstruct and relish the juices and ensure that there is hope for more.



Bhaskar HAZARIKA

With a passion for the fantastical and the bizzare, Bhaskar has engaged himself in stories which plumb dark corners of the human mind within innocuously

humane stories. Bhaskar wrote and directed the crowd-funded Assamese feature film 'Kothanodi' – a real world rendition of beloved Assamese folktales that didn't shy away from the macabre that accompanied the magic. Kothanodi premiered at the Busan International Film Festival and went on to receive the National Award for Best Film (Assamese) in 2016. It has travelled widely and had a great run at the Assamese Box Office as well. He recently completed his second feature 'Aamis' (Ravening), which was selected for Asian Project Market in 2017 and is a part of Film Bazaar Recommends this year.

Animation - Not Just Child's Play

The animation filmed content space in India has been governed primarily by mythology. Grandma's bedtime tales found their first visual references in Amar Chitra Katha. Stylized comic book interpretations that stimulated a child's imagination. These gave form and identity to the worlds of yore and beyond.

The same tradition flew into the filmed interpretations. Myths were reinterpreted as were their derivatives – the 'feel good' childhood morality tales. However, the world over, animation is not child's play, nor is its scope restricted to being grandmother's bonding tool with the babies. Themes range across politics, gender, social issues and find storytelling with this dynamic range of craft and tools that cuts across time, space, and limitations of live action content. Imaginations prospered and metaphors were more defined.

This session aims to explore the diversity in storytelling that exists today in the space and the ever evolving technology that aids it. There is an entire ready-to-sample mix drawn from the top-of-mind-recall repository of mythologies in Shemaroo Kids' YouTube channel. And it is important to celebrate India's very own Gulliver's travels with Jajantaram Mamantaram. And savour the magical world of regular people in an across the street love story set against the backdrop of a dark, unfriendly city – Bombay Rose.

Moderator Miriam Joseph, Producer

Speakers Gitanjali Rao, Filmmaker, Animator Soumitra Ranade, Chairman & Creative Director, Paperboat Design Studios Pvt. Ltd.



Gitanjali RAO

One of India's foremost animators, Gitanjali made a dainty yet much talked about entry in 2006 with her Cannes Critics Week premiere of her Indian animation 'Printed Rainbow' which went on to win her 3 awards there including for the Best Short Film. Since then it's been a

quiet yet eventful journey through award winning animated commercials, being the jury on various film festivals including the 2011 Cannes Critic's Week short films jury and her much talked about animated short 'True Love Story'. Gitanjali is currently making her first animated Feature 'Bombay Rose', an Indo-french co-production, slated to complete in early 2019.



Soumitra RANADE

An alumnus of FTII, Soumitra Ranade filmography includes titles like Jajantram Mamantram, Are You Alright Afghanistan? and Goopi Gawaiyaa Bagha Bajaiya. He has also produced and directed a wide array of content for film and TV in the fiction and non-

fiction space, straddling both animation and Live-action projects. Soumitra has also written and designed many children's books and has had two photography exhibitions. He is the Chairman and Co-Founder of Paperboat Design Studios which is one of the foremost animation facilities in the country.



Miriam JOSEPH

Educated in India and Britain, Miriam, after finishing film school at London University, started her career at BBC UK for the next 13 years went on to work as a broadcast journalist and documentary

producer with the BBC, Channel 4, PBS, ITV, The History Channel and Canal Plus. She moved to Mumbai from UK and joined Farhan Akhtar and Ritesh Sidhwani's feature production house Excel Entertainment. First as Excel's Executive Producer and then its CEO, she delivered some of the most game changing production values seen in mainstream Hindi Cinema. She has built, nurtured and lead large multi-disciplinary teams on many successful Indian and international productions and co-productions. As a member of the academic council of SRFTI in Kolkata, she was instrumental in putting together the first ever Producing Masters Diploma.

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Moderator

Nyay Bhushan, India Correspondent, The Hollywood Reporter

Speakers
Anshulika Dubey, Co-founder & COO, Wishberry
Catherine Dussart, Producer
Deborah Sathe, Director, International Operations,
Cinestaan



Anshulika DUBEY

Anshulika is the Co-founder and COO of Wishberry – India's largest crowdfunding platform for creative projects putting her in the forefront of the rise of Independent cinema in the country. By harnessing a community of

cinephiles and filmbuffs - wishberry has contributed to the funding and fruition of films like the acclaimed Assamese film Kothanodi and the Sanskrit Animation film Punyakoti. Wishberry recently launched its financing platform for low budget, content-driven cinema - Wishberry Films.



Catherine DUSSART

Catherine as a producer has enabled and brought to the fore, talents and voices presenting rooted stories – like that of Cambodian auteur Rithy Panh with whom she frequently collaborates. The slate of films

produced by Catherine include features, documentaries and television programs that have travelled to multiple festivals and won. Her recent ventures in the Indian Sub-continent include Aditya Vikram Sengupta's Jonaki and Min Bahadur Bham's Nepalese title Kalo Pothi.



Deborah SATHE

Deborah is the Director of International Operations at Cinestaan has been championing new talent, developing content for Film and Television. Prior to joining Cinestaan Film Company, Deborah was an award winning

series producer for BBC and also worked at Film London as Head of Talent, Development and Production. She is currently with Gitanjali Rao on her debut animation feature Bombay Rose and India's first ever live action dog film, Aasha The Street Dog.

Producers' Jam

Producers' World - a Science of Choices

Innovations would not be sustainable and this dynamic, ever evolving potpourri of stories would not be the new constant if we didn't have the new age producer who is cinema literate and whose calculated risks come from having studied academically as well as through real life engagement the science of it. Like in any other business these producers are experts of the domain.

They have innovated within the system to cut across clutter to create their own personal journeys and customize their paths, their rules. From using world sales and producing experience to step into development and find mentorship and support for unusual stories (not every day does a producer make a live action film with strays telling their story) to taking the crowdfunding route of first building a community of eclectic audiences (all meticulously profiled) and supporters (whose only idea of ownership & ROI is often just the joy of seeing that film get made) there are producers today with a voice. If you are a unique storyteller they know how and where to find the means to take these stories to the big screen. In the year when we are celebrating the varied content it is also time to celebrate those who make it possible.



Nyay BHUSHAN

Nyay Bhushan has been tracking the Indian entertainment industry since the early nineties. He has contributed to publications including Billboard and is the

India correspondent for The Hollywood Reporter. Nyay is also an award-winning fine art photographer with some short films to his credit. Nyay has also co-founded CONNECT, India's first magazine on global entertainment, which has evolved into CONNECTMENT, a content consultancy.

Content Security in the Digital Space

The VOD boom would have us believe that we are well past the point of a digital revolution. As the platforms available at one's disposal increases manifold, the masses are slowly grasping the concept of legitimate distribution windows. Steadfastly democratic in its monetization principles, YouTube has enabled creators and users alike to engage in content generated in non-professional setups. Content hosting platforms have drastically upped the game in defining nebulous IP and content management protocols. In the scope of the session. Satva Raghavan from YouTube will talk about the various checks and measures that the platform has put in place for content security, IPR management, piracy deterrence.

YouTube has been actively reaching out to and providing filmmakers, studios the provision to take pre-emptive measure for the same. The session will also further explore copyright hygiene in the digital space.

Moderator Miriam Joseph, Producer

Speakers
Satya Raghavan, Head, Content Operations, YouTube
India



Satya RAGHAVAN

Satya Raghavan is Director at YouTube and has worked across Print, Broadcasting & Digital over the last 20 years In the past, Satya has served as Head of Consumer Marketing at MSN India. Vice President of Marketing at

STAR India, and Vice President at Helion Ventures Partners. He was a co-founder of Just Another Magazine (JAM) and also co-founded SkoolShop, a school supplies business. An MBA from Harvard Business School, Satya has over 16 years of work experience across Broadcast Media, FMCG, Internet, Venture Capital & Entrepreneurship.



Miriam JOSEPH

Educated in India and Britain, Miriam, after finishing film school at London University, started her career at BBC UK for the next 13 years went on to work as a broadcast journalist and documentary

producer with the BBC, Channel 4, PBS, ITV, The History Channel and Canal Plus. She moved to Mumbai from UK and joined Farhan Akhtar and Ritesh Sidhwani's feature production house Excel Entertainment. First as Excel's Executive Producer and then its CEO, she delivered some of the most game changing production values seen in mainstream Hindi Cinema. She has built, nurtured and lead large multi-disciplinary teams on many successful Indian and international productions and co-productions. As a member of the academic council of SRFTI in Kolkata, she was instrumental in putting together the first ever Producing Masters Diploma.

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Moderator Orly Ravid, Founder, The Film Collaborative

Speakers
Caleb Franklin, Founder & Managing Partner, Matter
Advisors
Ranimol T.A. Business Head. Times Talent



Caleb FRANKLIN

A Harvard graduate in Economics, Caleb is one of the most sought after Talent managers in the country, representing and packaging opportunities for some of the leading brands and artists in the country. Caleb is the Founder

and Managing Partner at Matter Advisors representing the company's clients across fields like media, entertainment, technology and sports.



Ranimol T.A

Ranimol has been in the media business for over 2 decades. She has successfully dabbled in production, as Radio Jockey in Dubai and ultimately Talent Management at one of the foremost Talent agencies in the country.

Reputed for an eye for scripts, Rani has had stints at Yash Raj Films and Bling Entertainment and bringing together major film productions. She is presently the Business Head at Times Talent.



Orly RAVID

Orly Ravid is the founder and co-executive director of The Film Collaborative - an independent distributor and a non-profit wealthbank of knowledge on distribution. Called a big picture thinker, Orly's career in

film includes acquisitions, sales, film festival programming at Sundance, theatrical and festival distribution - all of which has enabled to better help intellectually rigorous and important films reach their respective audiences via sustainable financial models. She is also an entertainment attorney and provides film sales and legal services. She has finally made her foray into Producing.

Talent Management and World Best Practises

It is a great time for Talent across the world, given the range of films and web series that are being created. Boom Time is here - for the Talent as well as those who manage them as business entities. It's interesting to note that so many artist managers are expanding their portfolios to include writers, filmmakers and even producers. There is a lot of cross pollination of Talent across countries and across cultures. It is quite a specialised task to bring in a larger perspective into the way Talent positions itself, chooses projects and then negotiates deals — since this enables projects to find partners within and outside of domestic market.

So would this possibly herald in a different kind of ecosystem - both in terms of the content as well as its mounting, outreach and distribution potential?

The session is designed as a jam amongst two talent Managers – one slightly from the mainstream skew - Ranimol T.A. while the other has dealt largely with the independent content creation grid – Caleb Franklin. Holding this jam together is Orly Ravid who also brings in the World Best Practices perspective and line of questioning. The effort is to enable an understanding amongst filmmakers, lab participants and attendees about the changing dynamics within the industry of sourcing talent, designing deals & contracts.

This is an effort towards building an educated sensitivity towards 'Rights' and their 'assignment', understanding best practices and eventually about IPR management for Talents.

Facebook and Instagram Platform Narrative

Moderator
Diwaker Chandani, Cluster Lead & Strategic Partner
Manager

Any consumer product thrives on public recall and discourse. A film is no different. An indie film does not really have the take - off advantage that a star driven vehicle has. It kickstarts its journey from that Big - Idea & eventually that Big Copy Line on which its entire perception campaign will be based. Social media platforms provide various tools that help reach out and eventually build to pitch the film, its characters and their world. The Instagram and Facebook integration provides for two great opportunities - the ability to create a visual memory of the world of the film and a forum to discourse about it. This session aims to explore how a filmmaker can best optimise these platforms with an integrated approach.



Diwaker CHANDANI

Diwaker is a part of Media Community Development Team at Facebook and leads Media Partnerships for North and West India.

In Conversation Sriram Raghavan, Filmmaker Somen Mishra, Head, Creative Development, Dharma Productions



Sriram RAGHAVAN

A graduate of Film & Television Institute of India, Sriram's diploma - The eight column affair won the National award for best short fiction. He has been crafting stories of mystery and intrigue ever since – playing the audience

like an organ. His oeuvre includes writing and directing multiple episodes of the television hits CID and Aahat. His docudrama Raman Raghav on the serial killer Auto-Shankar got him attention as a craftsman who can piece rich narratives around the dark urges that inhabit the recesses of the human mind. Sriram made his feature film debut with the taut Ek Haseena Thi which was followed by the thrilling Johnny Gaddar. His later works - Agent Vinod, Badlapur and Andhadhun have crafted a tapestry of characters — good and the ugly — to deliver to audience genuine thrills and pulp storytelling.



Somen MISHRA

A film maven at heart, Somen's profile boasts credits as a creator and a connoisseur. He started out as an Entertainment Journalist for CNN-IBN and moved on to creative development, helping greenlight films like

Raazi, Badhaai Ho, Bareilly Ki Barfi, Lust Stories and Talvar. He currently heads creative development at Dharma Productions where he is handling the development of Karan Johar's next - Takht, among other films. He is also founder of FightClub - a popular site which focuses on independent films.

The Dark, The Pulpy & the Love Story

He has always traversed the darkest of crevices within the human mind spinning yarns that stun you with the sheer brilliance of the ease in which the most convoluted beings behave in a plausible manner! The suspension of disbelief is smooth. You enter the rabbit hole without ever questioning it. So regular does it seem to hop across into the other side of what is perceived as 'sane' or 'normal happenings' ! A filmmaker who despite all this darkness, has crafted with flamboyant strokes, films that are an absolute joy ride with Noir, Kitsch, Pulp - all thrown in for a connoisseur's measure! Quirky songs with guirky sounds and a guirky take on the scene at hand. Tributes to his favorites generously splattered across the screen - which add chutzpah to the cineaste's film viewing experience! And a gripping, edge of the seat story & narrative. Over the years he has built a steady following, rarely wavering from his signature style. With Andhadhun he conclusively brings together his brand of story telling - dark, funny, suspenseful and oh ves! with that little love story which this time is the springboard to the narrative.

Unabashedly Hindi, filmy, Bollywood - but with the classic Sriram Twist! His audiences know him for it, anticipate it and still get caught unawares when it hits them!

In a year where the new and non-regular films have been courted by the audiences his runaway hit kind of brings the year's Bollywood Trends narrative to a delightful denouement!

Somen Mishra – Head Of Creative Development at Dharma Productions helps to unravel the journey of a maverick filmmaker, along with the evolution of a market-space of producers and distributors which over the years has gradually evolved in taste and perception. Also platforms have opened up monetising opportunities. So break even and money back for the next film is a gentler prod.

Is it? All that and more in this conversation through The Dark, The Pulpy and that Little bit o' Love Story





Ministry of Information and Broadcasting