

MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

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MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE AND THE INDIA CENTER FOUNDATION PRESENT THE SECOND EDITION OF INDIA KALEIDOSCOPE FILM FESTIVAL, NOVEMBER 9–12, 2017

Festival to feature U.S. Premieres of *The Brawler* by Anurag Kashyap and *Pahuna*, produced by Priyanka Chopra

The opening night film is *Dark Wind* by Nila Madhab Panda, and the Festival closes with Prakash Kunte's *Cycle*. Three films are from the underrepresented northeast of India, and half of all the Festival's films are directed by women.

New York, New York, October 17, 2017—After a successful launch in 2016, Museum of the Moving Image and The India Center Foundation present the second annual India Kaleidoscope Film Festival (IKFF), to take place from November 9 through 12, 2017. India Kaleidoscope is a new festival that will present film lovers with a chance to immerse themselves in the unique sights and sounds that make up the Indian regional, independent film landscape. These films, which explore the most relevant and pressing topics facing the subcontinent, are being made by today's most progressive filmmakers working in regional languages. This year, India Kaleidoscope will span seven different regional Indian languages and include new programming initiatives that bring independent regional Indian cinema to an even wider audience.

"The India Center Foundation is delighted to present India Kaleidoscope again with our friends and partners at MoMI," said Priya Giri Desai, a Founding Director of The India Center Foundation. "It's an honor to offer these cinematic works to the film-going community and to give exposure to new sights, sounds and languages from across the Indian subcontinent."

MoMI Chief Curator David Schwartz said, "India Kaleidoscope, in just its second year, is already making a great impact as a showcase for the incredible diversity of Indian cinema, with its focus on artistic and independent films from the many regions of this sprawling, culturally rich country."

"Indian cinema today is independent and regional language cinema, and these films represent the best and most exciting work from the country. We are thrilled to present this eclectic and wholly original selection of films and filmmakers to the New York and U.S. audience," said Sudeep Sharma, festival programmer.

India Kaleidoscope Film Festival 2017 will screen eight feature films, seven of which will be U.S. or North American premieres. Most films will feature directors in person, and half of the directors are women. The Opening Night film is *Dark Wind (Kadvi Hawa)*.

Other highlights include the U.S. premiere of *The Brawler (Mukkabaaz)* by acclaimed director Anurag Kashyap and *Pahuna*, a film produced by actress Priyanka Chopra (ABC's *Quantico*). In an effort to expand IKFF to wider audiences, this year's closing night screening will be held at the SAG-AFTRA Foundation Theater in Manhattan. See below for full lineup. All films will be screened with English subtitles.

The IKFF 2017 programming committee includes Priya Giri Desai (The India Center Foundation), Ashok Sinha (The India Center Foundation), Priyadarshini Shanker (NYU Cinema Studies), Anupama Kapse (Loyola Marymount), Tristine Skyler (writer and producer), Ritesh Mehta (Film Independent) and Sudeep Sharma (film programmer); with additional programming support from Uma da Cunha and Christina Marouda (Museum of the Moving Image, IFFLA).

Tickets: Tickets for Opening Night are \$30; all other tickets are \$15 (with discounts for Museum members at select levels). This year, IKFF will also have festival passes. Tickets will go on sale at the following link, beginning October 18: movingimage.us/indiakaleidoscope.

Location for most screenings: Museum of the Moving Image Summer M. Redstone Theater 36-01 35 Avenue, Astoria, Queens, New York 11106 | Phone: 718-777-6800

Location for closing night screening: SAG-AFTRA Foundation Theater, 247 W 54th St, New York, NY 10019.

FILMS AND SCHEDULE FOR IKFF 2017:

OPENING NIGHT FILM & RECEPTION

Dark Wind (Kadvi Hawa)

With Nila Madhab Panda in person, for discussion and reception

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2017, 7:30 P.M.

Dir. Nila Madhab Panda. 2017, 99 mins. DCP. Narrative. North American Premiere. In Hindi with English subtitles. With Sanjay Mishra, Ranvir Shorey, Tillotama Shome. Once famous for their farming, the people of the Mahua region in Rajasthan have forgotten the earthy scent of rainfall on their soil. In crushing debt, and unable to grow food, many farmers commit suicide. Hedu (Sanjay Mishra), the blind father of a farmer, fears his struggling son may do the same. Gunu Baba (Ranvir Shorey), called the 'god of death' by villagers for the suicides attributed to him, arrives to collect bank payments, but is himself worried about the floods and frequent cyclones that threaten his family in the coastal village of Satabhaya, Odisha. Each wanting to save their own family, they decide to help one another. With stark landscapes and moral choices, *Dark*

Wind is a wake-up call for a world suffering with climate change, still unprepared to face the consequences of their actions.

SCREENING & LIVE EVENT

The Brawler (Mukkabaaz)

With Anurag Kashyap in person

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2017, 7:30 P.M.

Dir. Anurag Kashyap. 2017, 153 mins. DCP. Narrative. U.S. Premiere. In Hindi with English subtitles. With Vineet Kumar Singh, Zoya Hussain, Jimmy Shergill. Daring auteur Anurag Kashyap (*Gangs of Wasseypur*, *Raman Raghav 2.0*) adds a wholly original Indian perspective to the rich history of boxing and sport films. Aspiring boxer Shravan (Vineet Kumar Singh) slogs day and night to achieve his dream of being a recognized boxer. Things go awry when he falls in love with a high-caste, mute girl who happens to be the niece of his arch nemesis, the head of the state boxing federation. Shravan soon finds out that in India, boxing is about everything else but the sport, which is heightened by the volatile political climate of Uttar Pradesh.

SCREENING & LIVE EVENT

The Golden Wing (Sonar Baran Pakhi)

With Bobby Sarma Baruah in person

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2017, 2:00 P.M.

Dir. Bobby Sarma Baruah. 2016, 86 mins. DCP. Narrative. New York Premiere. In Rajbanshi with English subtitles. With Pranami Borah, Arati Barua, Pranjal Saikia. The life, music, and homeland of legendary folk singer Pratima Barua Pandey take center stage in *The Golden Wing*. Born to royalty and raised in Western Assam, the film opens with young Pandey fascinated with the music and stories of servants and people working in the fields. Despite being dissuaded away from such “vulgar” music, she continues learning and performing the music of her people and sharing it with the world. Bobby Sarma Baruah, with images from the stunning Assamese landscape and original records from Pandey herself, offers a fresh take on the bio pic with an subject that deserves more recognition as an Indian and world artist.

SCREENING & LIVE EVENT

Up Down and Sideways (Kho ki pa lü)

With Anushka Meenakshi and Iswar Srikumar in person

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2017, 4:30 P.M.

Dirs. Anushka Meenakshi, Iswar Srikumar. 2017, 83 mins. DCP. North American Premiere. Documentary. In Chokri with English subtitles. *Up Down and Sideways* is a sensory take on the everyday lives of the community of rice cultivators in Phek (a town in Nagaland) and their memories of love and loss created from working together on the fields. On the field, people often come together in farming collectives called müle and work and sing together over many seasons. As the seasons change, so does the music, transforming the mundane into the hypnotic. In the lyrics of their music is reflected the philosophy of Li; the fact that its base polyphonic structure cannot be created with a lone voice. The love that they sing of is a metaphor for the need for the other—the friend, the family, the community—to build a polyphony of voices. An unforgettable sonic and visual journey to a land and people with traditions that have sustain them for generations.

SCREENING & LIVE EVENT

Prakasan

With director Bash Mohammed in person

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2017, 7:00 P.M.

Dir. Bash Mohammed. 2017, 84 mins. DCP. Narrative. International premiere. In Malayalam with English subtitles. With Dinesh Prabhakar, Laya Krishna. Deep in the tropical forests of south India, Prakasan (Dinesh Prabhakar) decides to leave his seemingly idyllic life for a government job in the big city. Despite warnings from friends and family, Prakasan makes the long trek and is immediately shocked by the language and customs of everyone he meets. Still committed to being successful in his new surroundings, he is further tested when he learns his job is to educate sex workers. Director Bash Mohammed's second feature, *Prakasan* is a wryly funny, touching, and timely story on migration from the village to the city.

SCREENING

Pahuna

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2017, 2:00 P.M.

Dir. Paakhi Tyrewala. 2017, 79 mins. DCP. Narrative. U.S. Premiere. In Sikkimese with English subtitles. With Ishika Gurung, Anmoul Limboo, Manju KC Nanu. When three young Nepalese children, including a baby brother, are separated from their parents as they flee into Sikkim, they hear tales from other villagers about the supposed evil deeds of the Christian priests that will take them in. Amrita and her brother Pranay decide to go off by themselves in order to survive. In a new land, they survive only on the kindness of the hill people and their resolve to protect each other. A heartwarming and family friendly debut feature from director Paakhi Tyrewala, *Pahuna* is produced by Priyanka Chopra and her mother Dr. Madhu Chopra as part of a planned series of films set in India's cinematically underrepresented areas.

SCREENING & LIVE EVENT

Last Days. Last Shot

With Sumira Roy in person

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2017, 4:30PM

Dir. Sumira Roy. 2017, 53 mins. Digital projection. Documentary. U.S. Premiere. In Hindi/Bengali/Bhojpuri with English subtitles. Life and death co-exist every day on the banks of the Ganges in Varanasi. *Last Days. Last Shot* tells the story of two people living in the ancient city. Vikram takes photos of the dead before their cremations as a last memento for family members. Dada was once a celebrated artist in Tokyo and runs a guesthouse with his Japanese wife. Elegantly told with a lighthearted playfulness, Sumira Roy's debut documentary shows two contrasting views of life and death.

CLOSING NIGHT FILM

Cycle

With Prakash Kunte in person

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2017, 7:00PM

At SAG-AFTRA Foundation Theater, 247 W. 54 Street, Manhattan

Dir. Prakash Kunte. 2017, 102 mins. DCP. Narrative. International premiere. In Marathi with English subtitles. With Hrishikesh Joshi, Priyadarshan Jadhav, Bhalachandra Kadam. In rural 1960s Maharashtra, Keshav (Hrishikesh Joshi) is a respected fortune teller with a loving family

and one prized possession: a beautiful foreign-made bicycle. One night when two bumbling thieves steal his bike, Keshav is crushed and, despite his friends and families best attempts to cheer him up, he feels he has lost a part of himself. Meanwhile, when nearby villagers recognize the bike as Keshav's, the thieves come up with an elaborate story and struggle to stay one step ahead in their ruse. Featuring gorgeous cinematography and strong performances, *Cycle* is a charming and heartwarming tale of the power of goodness.

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MUSEUM INFORMATION

Museum of the Moving Image (movingimage.us)—based in Astoria, New York—advances the understanding, enjoyment, and appreciation of the art, history, and technology of film, television, and digital media. In its stunning facilities, the Museum presents exhibitions; screenings of significant works and discussions; education programs which serve more than 50,000 students each year; and collects and preserves moving-image related artifacts.

Hours: Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. (group visits by appointment). Wednesday–Thursday, 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Friday, 10:30 to 8:00 p.m. Saturday–Sunday, 10:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Museum Admission: \$15 adults; \$11 senior citizens (ages 65+) and students (ages 18+) with ID; \$7 youth (ages 3–17). Children under 3 and Museum members are admitted free. Admission to the galleries is free on Fridays, 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Film Screenings: Friday evenings, Saturdays and Sundays, and as scheduled. Unless otherwise noted, tickets are \$15 adults / \$11 students and seniors / \$7 youth (ages 3–17) / discounted or free for Museum members. Advance purchase is available online. Ticket purchase may be applied toward same-day admission to the Museum's galleries.

Location: 36-01 35 Avenue (at 37 Street) in Astoria.

Subway: M (weekdays only) or R to Steinway Street. W (weekdays only) or N to 36 Avenue.

Program Information: Telephone: 718 777 6888; Website: movingimage.us

Membership: <http://movingimage.us/support/membership> or 718 777 6877

Museum of the Moving Image is housed in a building owned by the City of New York and has received significant support from the following public agencies: New York City Department of Cultural Affairs; New York City Council; New York City Economic Development Corporation; New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature; Institute of Museum and Library Services; National Endowment for the Humanities; National Endowment for the Arts; and Natural Heritage Trust (administered by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation). For more information, please visit movingimage.us.