# **EUROPE**

PRIMEXCHANGE WAS CO-production workshop 2011

# INDIA

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Primehouse focuses on project development and packaging of classic and interactive formats. We provide script consulting and project evaluation, as well as financial and marketing support. Primehouse represents the connection between film, television and games/interactive media.

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#### PRIMEXCHANGE INDIA – EUROPE

CO-PRODUCTION WORKSHOP FOR INDIAN AND EUROPEAN FILM PRODUCERS

> implemented and organised by PRIMEHOUSE GmbH



in cooperation with National Film Development Corporation, India



supported by Europen Commission



# cinemas of india

Based in Mumbai, Gupta is managing director of India's National Film Development Corporation (NFDC), which has a mandate to develop and promote the diverse cinemas of India. Since joining the NFDC in 2006, Gupta has taken the government agency back into the financing and production of Indian-language films, as well as the development of international co-productions. Recent NFDC-produ-



Nina Lath Gupta

ced films include Laxmikant Shetgaonkar's The Man Beyond The Bridge, a Konkanilanguage drama which won awards at both the Toronto International Film Festival and Indian Film Festival of Los Angeles.

In 2007, Gupta created the Film Bazaar at the International Film Festival of India in Goa, a workshop-market with projects coming from all the regions of India and via all possible production means. Film Bazaar also features a script workshop run in collaboration with Amsterdam-based Binger FilmLab and the Primexchange packaging workshop in collaboration with Berlin-based Primehouse, In 2009, under her watch, NFDC launched an ambitious film restoration programme of films produced by the NFDC in tandem with similar projects on a global scale. The programme, which inaugurated with Satyajit Ray's filmography, has the aim of restoring and digitalising around a hundred Indian film classics produced by NFDC, sixty of which are already undergoing restoration. The current initiatives of NFDC include a plan for creation of a circuit of arthouse cinemas.

Film Bazaar is an annual film market organised by the National Film Development Corporation of India (NFDC) and is held alongside the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) at the Goa Marriott Resort.

The film market is designed to address the needs of filmmakers in the realms of production and distribution. It is the only market of its kind in South Asia, a converging point for buyers and sellers of film rights from all over the world with specific focus on South Asian cinema. FB also aims at facilitating sales of world cinema in this region.

FB 2010 saw 453 delegates from 37 countries. Its international partners included Cinemart, (Rotterdam), Binger Filmlab (Netherlands), The Hubert Bals Fund (Rotterdam), Primehouse (Germany), Europa Cinemas, Locarno International Film Festival (Switzerland), SPAA (Screen Producers' Association, Australia), Festival Scope, Screen International and Film Business Asia.

# EUROPE PRIMEXCHANGE Professional training for film producers

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#### PRIMEXCHANGE

Workshop in the framework of MEDIA MUNDUS

In the context of the increasing importance of the international dimension of audiovisual policy, the European Unions "preparatory action MEDIA MUNDUS" aims to explore ways of reinforcing cooperation between EU and non-European professionals from the audiovisual industry on a basis of mutual benefit. MEDIA MUNDUS is planned to operate for up to three years with a view to paving the way for a broader EU support programme for global cooperation in the audiovisual industry sector, MEDIA Mundus, which will run from 2011-2013.

The objective is to strengthen the cultural and commercial relations between Europe's film industry professionals and their counterparts in third countries. Global cooperation of the audiovisual industry is expected to offer the consumer a larger choice by bringing more culturally diverse products to European and international markets and to create new business opportunities. To achieve this, the European Commission supports projects with the following focus:

- Strengthening the skills of European and third country professionals, improving the level of information and knowledge of audiovisual markets and facilitating networking and the emergence of long-term working relationships
- Facilitating the search for partners for co-productions and encouraging international sales and promotion of audiovisual works.
- Improving circulation and exposure of audiovisual works worldwide and increasing public demand for culturally diverse audiovisual content.







## Editorial

PRIMEXCHANGE is the first independent initiative worldwide which provides a forum to Indian and European producers and experts in script development, marketing, sales and distribution. The Program offers multi-perspective evaluations of oppportunities and risks which producers have to consider while realizing and marketing certain projects from both continents.



We are very grateful and want to thank Nina

Gupta and her team for their cooperation and support. We would also like to thank the European Commission for financial support to create and realise this workshop during the Film Bazaar in Goa.

The unique transnational approach of the program creates a major advantage for independent film producers and film representatives to successfully further develop their projects. Our aim is to support producers in their project development at a very early stage. Especially when it comes to packaging, where the architecture of a project evolves, we see an enormous importance for producers to determine the distribution potential of their projects.

PRIMEXCHANGE supports producers with evaluations of their film projects and advises on how the project could, or should, be financed, co-produced and released in India and /or in Europe. That will be done by experts from both territories - India and Europe - and from the multi-perspective view of script analysis, market research, financing, distribution and world sales.

We have been utilizing this special evaluation and method of training since 2006 in the framework of our coaching program PRIMEPACKAGING. Experience has proven that the possibility for producers to use market-relevant results to enhance the development of their projects pays off greatly once a project is produced and distributed.

Even if the film industries on both continents work in a different way, I believe the magic of cinema is based fundamentally on the same principles all over the world. Personal exchange, based on concrete project and business opportunities, are the indispensable basis for fostering collaboration and co-productions. In this respect we are very proud to have the supreme privilige of playing our part in this promising development process and helping to build new bridges between India and Europe.

Frank Stehling
CEO Primehouse GmbH

# In Search of Immortality

India

in development

Genre:

Drama

Format:

35-mm (16:9)

Length:

120 min

Budget:

4.5 M USD

Language: Hindi



Set in Hardwar, India, IN SEARCH OF IMMORTALITY is the journey of a Los Angeles based writer, John Wonders, to the sacred Hindu pilgrimage Kumbh

Mela, in the midst of more than 100 million people gathering for a dip, in search of immortality. From the moment John launches his journey on the Indian train en route to the Mela, he is submerged in a world of different languages, castes, backgrounds and the personal hopes and dreams of over a million pilgrims. John is shocked by what he finds, including the love of a beautiful young woman and easy friendships among his fellow travelers despite language and cultural barriers.

Kumbh Mela, the largest gathering of any kind in the world, culminates in the massive bath of millions of pilgrims in the mythical Ganga River. In the end, salvation, forgiveness and ultimately death may hold the key. John stands witness to an experience that he will ponder and struggle to make sense of from beginning to end...

#### Production

True Cinema

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Producer/Contact Sudipto Sen T +91 810 810 1547

sudipto@true-cinema.com

**Sudipto Sen** – Adaptation / Direction. The idea that a young boy from the rural area of Northeastern India and the town of Jalpaiguri could become a filmmaker took root in Sudipto just after finishing his final school exam. It was a bizarre dream considering his background, yet one he felt with every breath.

Sudipto's documentary work rose to national acclaim on his silent experimental documentary film THE OTHER WEALTH (TOW). TOW earned Sudipto much acclaim, including UNO's 50th



Anniversary screening. Shortly thereafter he signed a two-year contract with THE WORLD BANK for 21 films based on their activities in Indian sub continent. The series called SWAMSIDH, gave the boy who was a traveler at heart, the opportunity to travel more than 170,000 km to the most remote corners of India. He notes this time as the most remarkable phase of his life.

1997 to 2003 marked his busiest time as a filmmaker but he soon grew restless and sought to make his first independent feature film, THE LAST MONK. This decision led to numerous awards, international film festival appearances and greater opportunity. THE LAST MONK celebrated its World Premiere at the 2006 Cannes Film Festival and thereafter screened at over 32 film festivals around the world, including a special screening in Rotterdam International Film Festival and winning many awards.

Sudipto's most recent work includes AKNOOR which won the BEST FILM AWARD at the Golden Gate Film Festival, the INTEGRATED REALISATION AWARD at Brussels International Film Festival, SPECIAL JURY AWARD at the San Francisco Film Festival and HIGHEST CIVILIAN AWARD from the Belgium Government among others. CORENTIN'S QUEST and ANTHIPONNOVETTAM also mark recent works by the director and producer.

Sudipto is presently working on his next directorial venture, AMRIT KUMBH [In Search of Immortality] and also producing another Indo-US film OASS (Dew drop). He is thrilled to be in project development on his next feature film, AMRIT KUMBH. Those who have seen his work and passion for filmmaking know that this is an accomplishment well within his reach.

# Indian Way

Spain

Genre:

Drama

Format:

HD/35mm/16mm

Length:

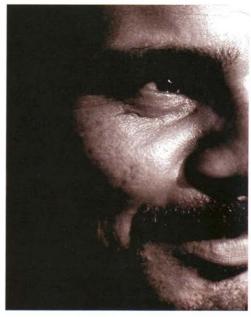
100 min

Budget:

500.000 Euro Language: English, Tamil,

Malalayan, Spanish

From his bed in a camp hospital after the Tsunami, Anthony, an impoverished Catholic Indian from Tamil Nadu, asks whether his family had survived the catastrophe. Anthony left home a week ago. He recalls his experiences during this week in which he walked from the fields near Pondicherry to Bangalore, looking for a job to feed his family. He set off by bus, penniless, but a road accident will force him to continue the trip on



foot. On the way, he will meet Rama, a Hindi who hides a painful secret.

They will share the journey, coming to terms with their personal stories. As days go by, they are increasingly forced to acknowledge the dry and coarse intensity of the present.

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Producer/Contact David Blanco M +34 933011008 davidblancoga@yahoo.es **David Blanco** is a filmmaker, scriptwriter, producer and architect, and lives in Barcelona. He has received several international and national awards for his short films, such as the First Prize in the 9TH ANNUAL TWIN RIVERS MEDIA



FESTIVAL, USA (2001) with "Borsh, the Shelter", the award for Best Director in the WEEK OF EXPERIMENTAL CINEMA OF MADRID (1996), with "Voyage to the Moon", and the award for Best Short Film in the 6TH INTERNACIONAL PANORAMA OF INDEPENDENT FILMMAKERS IN TESALÓNICA (2004) with "Heart of Darkness". With this short film participated in an exhibition organized by the CULTURE INSTITUT OF BARCELONA.

In 2002 he was selected to participate in the II SCRIPT'S LABORATORY SGAE/SUNDANCE, with the feature film project "Circular Paths". He has co-written the short film "Bamboleho" and the features films "Condon Express" and "The Fence" by Luis Prieto.

His short film "Machulenco" was selected in the 43th INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL OF NEW YORK, the GAY-LESBIC FESTIVAL OF LISBOA and in the FILM FESTIVAL BELO HORIZONTE in Brazil. His latest short film "El Premio" (The Prize) is part of the exhibition "THE D-EFFECT BAROQUE", opened at the CCCB of Barcelona in November 2010. That same year he finished "La Sombra del Sol" (The Shadow of the Sun), his first feature film as director and producer, Winner of the Audience Award, Biznaga de Plata, in the MÁLAGA FILM FESTIVAL 2011.

The production company **Batea Films S.L.** was established in the year 2005, and we set up our own production company with the intention of developing film projects with a strong human, artistic and social content. We believe in cinema as a critical medium of expression in which to question the contradictions and moral values of the world we inhabit. Batea Films S.L. would like to gain a better understanding of international co-production procedures for independent projects, as well as international systems of funding, promotion and distribution.

# Mohan Singh

France in development

Genre:

Drama/Comedy

Format:

35 mm

Length: Budget: 120 min. 2.9 M Euro

Language:

English/Hindi-Punjabia/

some French

2000', Chandigarh, Punjab (North India) in the aftermath of a monsoon flood. Mohan Singh, a charismatic scar-faced righteous and literate ex-actor, now an army training officer, is desperately in love with Priya, the Commandant's daughter, Amitabh. But Priya is in love with Antoine, a Western logistic coordinator, who has



recently joined the Punjabi Company, who loves her in return. Mohan Singh decides to be the voice of uneducated and illiterate Antoine and to experience his love vicariously.

MOHAN SINGH is a dramatic comedy, about love and relationship, communication, self-image and differences between two generations and cultures in today's India, adapted and transposed from the French play CYRANO DE BERGERAC by Edmond Rostand (1897). CYRANO DE BERGERAC is one the most famous plays of French theater. Its title character, as Hamlet or Don Quixote in their home country and at an international level, has become the symbol of deceived love, courage, fair language, magnificent loser and "panache", a word that entered the English vocabulary thanks to this play.

#### Production

BiosKope Productions Paris S.A.R.L. au capital de 2.000 € R.C.S. 531.116.788 4, rue Cochennec 93300 Aubervilliers

bioskope.production@gmail.com T +33 6 8558 7221 Producer/Contact Bérengère Barrier,

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Tatjana Novak, producer Daphné Kapfer, consultant Bérengère Bebe Barrier. After studying theatre and gaining a Masters in Cultural Management, Bérengère Barrier coordinated the foreign companies at the Avignon Theatre Festival (98) before leaving for South Korea where she was Project Manager for the Cultural French Centre and the audiovisual service of the French Embassy in Seoul (99). She was actively involved in the creation of the first Seoul French Film Festival and coordinated the participation of the French delegation to the Pusan Intl Film Festival, amongst other responsibilities.



Back in France, she assisted Director Simon Brook before joining Daniel Toscan du Plantier and Frédéric Sichler's at Euripide Productions/Euripide Distribution (2001-2003) a production assistant (Tosca, Benoit Jacquot; La-Haut, Pierre Schoendoerffer) and programming assistant.

In early 2003, she joined Unifrance as Executive Assistant and Head of Marketing. In 2006 she was Production Coordinator on Volker Schlöndorff's Ulzhan (Cannes Film Festival 2007).

Since 2007, she was Production Coordinator for Love Streams agnès b. Productions [Rare Exports, Jalmari Helander, Variety Award, Locarno Film Festival 2010; Walk Away Renée, Jonathan Caouette and My Little Princess, Eva Ionesco, Critics' Week, Cannes 2011 – Kids of Today, Jérôme de Missolz, Directors' Fortnight, Cannes 2011]. At the same time she develops projects for BiosKope Productions, her own company.

Led by the curiosity and personal interest for India and its cinema(s) of its founders, **BiosKope Productions** aims to be a bridge between two expertise and two cinemas. The ambition of BiosKope Productions is to get authors, directors, talents and technicians from all backgrounds, international, French and Indian to work together on independent films, to create a real synergy of creation and an exchange of skills and to enable the contributors to a same project to open their career opportunities outside their home territory.

BiosKope Productions is also likely to act as Line Producer, in France and Europe for Indian (and other foreign) films and entertainment productions companies that wish to shoot out of their country.

BiosKope Productions acts as a films sales facilitator for Blue Water Media (Mumbai) in France and in Europe.

# Noor - The Princess Spy

India in development

Genre:

Drama

Format: Length: 35 mm 100 min

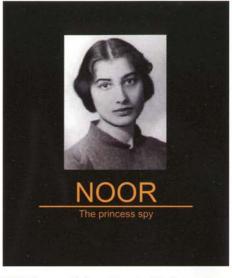
Budget:

3 M Euro

Language: English, French, German,

Hindi

'Noor - The light in the darkness' - is an amazing, inspiring true life story of Noor Inayat Khan, an Indian Princss who became British Spy to work with the French Resistance during the Second World War. Noor, was the great grand daughter of Tipu Sultan, known as the 'Tiger of Mysore' who fought against the British, and daughter of Ianayat Khan a great Indian Musician and a Sufi Mystic, who preached, peace, non violence and universal brotherhood. Inspite of her pacifist up bringing, Noor volunteered



to help in the allied war efforts during the 2nd World war to fight against the Nazi aggression. Noor was selected by SOE, the British Secret Service supporting the French resistance, to be trained as a wireless operator.

Noor became the first woman wireless operator to be air dropped behind enemy lines in occupied France to work as a wireless operator for the 'Cinema Circuit' of the French resistance movement. This was a most dangerous mission as the Gestapo were constantly looking for wireless operators capturing and executing them. The average survival time for wireless operator was barely six weeks.

Noor was air dropped in France in July 1943 and started wireless operations, co-ordinating between the French Resistance and Allied forces. However within two weeks of her arrival the Gestapo penetrated the circuit and arrested most of its members. Soon Noor was the only wireless operator in Paris on the run, transmitting from different locations, evading detection, co- ordinating communication and logistics for the French resistance. Against all odds, under constant threat, she single handedly carried on her mission.

In October 1944 she was captured by the Gestapo, subjected to intense interrogation and brutally tortured, but she refused to divulge any information. She was sent off to Germany after she tried to escape, as 'a most dangerous prisoner' and finally executed by the Germans in September, 1944. After the war, her courage and commitment was recognized and she was posthumously awarded the Croix de Guerre, the highest French civilian award and the 'George cross' the highest British civilian award. Even today, on Bastille day, a French military band plays in front of her house to honour Noor.

Ketan Mehta is one of the most internationally acclaimed film makers from India. Many of his films have won national and international awards and have been distributed internationally. Some of his well known films are Bhav ni Bhavai, Mirch Masala, Sardar, Maya, The Rising and Colours of Passion.

#### MAYA MOVIES PVT LTD

'Maya Movies' is a leading Film Production house in India with substantial experience of international co-productions and known for the high quality of its content. Many of the films produced by it have won



international awards and have been show cased at film festivals around the world. Its last release 'The Rising', a historical epic about the great Indian Mutiny of 1857 against the British East India Company was one of the most ambitious productions to come out of India. The film starred one of the biggest Indian stars Aamir Khan along with Toby Stephens from the UK.

Its earlier production 'Maya', an Indian adaptation of the French classic 'Madame Bovary' by Gustave Flaubert was an Indo - British - French co-production with Film 4 U.K and Cinema 13, France.

Its latest production 'Colours of Passion', based on the life of one of India's most celebrated painters 'Raja Ravi Varma' was show cased at the London Film Festival. It won the Best Film. Audience Award at the London Indian Film Festival.

#### MAYA DIGITAL STUDIOS

'Maya Movies' owns one of the biggest Computer Animation and Digital Visual Effects Studios in India 'Maya Digital Studios' which pioneered computer Animation and Digital Visual Effects in India. The studio has been doing out sourced work for leading international studios as well as creating its own IPR. Last year it produced a full length animation film 'Ramayana - the Epic' which was hailed by the critics as by far the finest animation to come out of India.

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400064 Mumbai, India

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# Pune 52

India in development

Genre:

Thriller

Format:

HD

Length:

90 min

Budget:

2,00,00,000 INR approx.

Language: Marathi

The year is 1992. The seeds for an unforeseen change were sown in India - The reform policy is introduced paving way for a storm to hit the Indian society in years to come.

The change is here. And it's here to stay. AMAR APTE, however despises the idea of change. Whether it is in his dull, boring life or whether it is in his neighborhood, Pune 52. AMAR however, is a mere speck in the buzzing city that's on its way to become a metropolis. He is a private detective who specializes in spying on cheating spouses while



ironically his own marriage to his college sweetheart PRACHI has hit the rocks.

PRACHI APTE is a beautiful woman who fell for AMAR in college hoping he'd change the world. Little did she know that AMAR couldn't even change himself. Stuck between a falling marriage and a world of colossal materialistic dreams, PRACHI is broken just as AMAR is. She however is terribly vocal about it.

AMAR's life is hit by change in the most unexpected way when a beautiful woman named NEHA walks into his office on a particularly gloomy day of his life, like a ray of sunshine and a whiff of fresh air and storms his life in ways he didn't know were even remotely possible.

PUNE 52 traces the story of this rather gloomy marriage and how it suffers when it is hit by change, pretty much mirroring what happened to the society when it was hit by a change of unbelievable magnitude.

Its a racy, edge of the seat, film-noir, set in the colorful 90s, that unfurls at a breathtaking pace and unforeseen twists in the tale.

Nikhil Mahajan - Writer/Director. A black sheep in a family of highly educated academicians, Nikhil Mahajan graduated in Film Direction from The International Film School Sydney and currently works with the Mumbai based Production House In Entertainment as a Screenwriter. He also runs his own company, BLUE DROP FILMS through which he made his first feature docu-



mentary which premiered at The Seattle South Asian Film Festival 2011 and is also selected at the IFFI, Goa in the Market Screenings section.

PUNE-52 is Nikhil's first feature film and it will be produced by the prolific duo of Umesh Kulkarni and Girish Kulkarni. The background music will be scored by Hyun Jung Shim (South Korea) who has earlier composed for Oldboy.

ARBHAAT NIRMITEE is a production house formed by Girish Kulkarni and Umesh Kulkarni and has produced path-breaking and critically acclaimed Marathi films such as VALU (The Wild Bull), VIHIR (The Well) and the recent DEOOL (The Temple).

ARBHAAT NIRMITEE aims to create diverse content that breaks the set mould of filmmaking and tells stories that are rooted deeply in India but have broad, universal appeal. Our focus is to make films that would change the way audiences look at Cinema and at the same time entertain, enlighten and most importantly, engage.

Production
Arbhaat Nirmitee
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Natraj Society, Karve Nagar,
Pune-52, India

Producer/Contact Nikhil Mahajan M +91 9820 103 730 nikmahajan@gmail.com

# Secret Spices

France in development

Genre:

Contemporary Drama

Format:

HD

Length:

80 min

Budget:

1.2 M Euro

Language: Hindi

A small village lost in the beautiful region of Konkan on the coast of the Arabian Sea, not far from Mumbai. Rachel is the last representative of a village of a little-known Jewish community on the verge of extinction: the Bene Israel. Her husband has died and her grown children have emigrated to Israel. The little synagogue next to her garden is falling into ruin. Yet Rachel devotedly looks after it... For it was here that she married and here that her Jewish community's celebrations were held...



Rachel also recalls the great banquets she loved to prepare. She cooked with spices like none other, adding the flavour of India to the traditional Jewish recipes of her ancestors: Kesari chicken, Bombay duck, kosher curry, etc. As the past inexorably fritters away, a real estate developer decides to take hold of the Synagogue and surrounding land to develop a tourist resort. A pure-hearted utopian, Rachel refuses to accept the synagogue's fate and intervenes to save this emblem of her faith and a living link to her ancestors.

It is she herself who will spring back to life from melancholy as she mobilises her children in Tel-Aviv (her daughter Zephra will come home to lend a hand), the devoted Jacob, a young attorney who has lost touch with his roots, and members of her community now dispersed throughout Israel. It will be an uphill battle. Her only weapons are her secret spices and her talent as a gourmet cook.

Will her heavenly dishes spiced with cinnamon, curcuma, cumin and cardamom be enough to appease the spirits and prevail over the projects of the vile speculators?

#### Production

#### Astra Film SARL

RCS Paris sous le numéro 2009 B 18808 1 Square des Bouleaux 75019 Paris, France T+33 1 42 40 86 91 Producer/Contact Francesca van der Staay T +33 686 587 221 francesca.staay@gmail.com Francesca van der Staay worked for different production companies as head of development, first in her hometown in Rome, then in Berlin where she has been living for 5 years from 1989 to 1994 and since in Paris. She then became project manager for the European Producers Club organising coproduction forums for several international film festivals such as Shanghai, Moscow, Sundance Karlovy Vary, San Sebastian and of course Berlin, Venice and Cannes.

In 2001 she started her own production company ADESIF Productions in association with Frederic Podetti. Since Adesif produced 4 films. FAR FROM SUNSET BOULEVARD by



Igor Minaiev, acclaimed by audiences and the press, RIPARO by Marco Puccioni, selected at Berlinale Panorama section in 2007 and over 50 international festivals, and DOUBLE-CROSSOVER by Charles Atzeni a film on a team of female rugby players. Furthermore the company produced 3 documentaries.

In 2009 she created a new company ASTRA FILMS and produced the film YOUR NEIGHBOUR by Anne Riita Ciccone an Italian-Finnish-French coproduction with Jean Hugues Anglade and Maya Sansa, which world premiered at the Rome Film Festival. Several new exciting projects are in development. Francesca is fluent in 5 languages (English, French, German, Italian and Dutch). During the seven years she spent lobbying and defending producers interests and organising coproduction forums for the European Producers Club she has built a very solid network of high-profile producers, distributors and institutions at an international level.

**Yves Cohen** - Screenwriter. After four years of travelling the world, one of which was spent in India, Yves set up and sold a number of successful businesses.

In 2009 he started his new activity in the film business and set up a Production branch within his company FI.

Since this time he spends part of his time in developing diverse motion picture projects and writing 2 screenplays.

In 2010 Yves bought the rights to Esther David's book, "The Book of Rachel" and wrote the first adaptation together with Joël Farges, after vast research on the Bené Israel community (Jewish community in India).



# Shankar Shambu

India

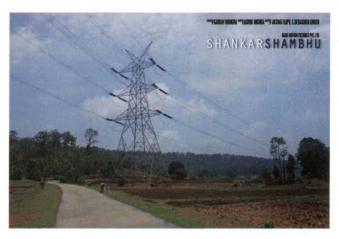
Genre: Format: Drama 35 mm

Length:

120 min

4.5 Crores INR Budget: Language: Hindi

The film tells the story of two dalit friends childhood Shankar and Shambu. The film opens with their reunion, after a couple of decades, in their native town. The disparity in the two friends' social standing makes them unable to meet eye to eve. The film is a



study of this estrangement.

The factors leading to this situation encompass a wide range of issues, including the complexity of politics and bureaucracy, land-grabbing, naxalism, caste politics and the destruction of a way of life. Both of them, in due course of time, are nonetheless challenged by the socio-political situation around them. Shankar is under pressure to prove his calibre as a bureaucrat and he is thwarted in his efforts by the local powers that be. Shambu, owing to his perceived closeness to the collector and his boastful nature, gets embroiled in the affairs of his village.

Things go from bad to worse for Shambu and his fellow villagers and Shankar gets embroiled deeper and deeper in corruption. Eventually, destiny brings them to a strange twist and new understanding dawns

#### Production

Oasis Motion Pictures Pvt. Ltd.

S334 Greater Kailash 2 110048 New Delhi, India

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Gaurav Dhingra - MD/Producer T +91 11 4102 0381

Sreejith J. Karnaver Aparna Sanyal

#### Gaurav Dhingra - MD/Producer

Gaurav has been working in the Indian entertainment industry since 2000. He has worked on some of India's most ambitious feature films, including Maqbool, Mangal Pandey, Rang De Basanti and Delhi–6. He has also worked on some of the largest international Television shows to be shot in India, including CBS' The Amazing Race History's Ice Road Truckers: Deadliest Roads. He has co-founded Mixed Media Productions and Oasis Television, which have handled prestigious and award-winning projects.



#### Sreejith Karnaver - Creative Producer

Sreejith is an alumnus of the Satyajit Ray Film and TV Institute with a specialisation in direction and screen-playwriting. He has worked on some of the boldest feature films made over the last years over the last few years, including, most significantly, Delhi Belly. As Creative Producer at Oasis Motion Pictures, Sreejith works closely with writers and directors on all their feature film projects.



#### Aparna Sanyal - Producer

Aparna is an award-winning filmmaker who has been working with non-fiction since 1999. She has worked on television documentaries for the CNN, BBC, Times Now and NDTV. She has also been the India Producer for History's IRT - Deadliest Roads, one of the biggest international Television documentaries to be shot in India. She is the co-founder of Mixed Media Productions and Oasis Television, companies that have put together award-winning, prestigious projects.



# Songs of Eternal Love

India

Genre:

Drama

Format:

35-mm (16:9)

Lenath:

110 min

Budget:

860,000 Euro

Language: English with some Hindi &

Malayalam

Brokeback Mountain ended with death. Songs of Eternal Love begins there.

After Humza, a young Sufi musician in his late twenties dies in an accidental car crash. his lover Aaron, a middle aged Jewish lawyer discovers that Humza had been living in United States illegally. In order to have his body released from US Authorities, Aaron must obtain a letter of consent from Humza's kin all of whom live in India.

With very limited time left, Aaron embarks on a search for Humza's family. A search that



takes him from his cozy and comfortable life in San Francisco through hectic and contrasting streets of Mumbai where the struggle for equality for gays and lesbians is bursting open with excitement and energy; and into the backwaters of Kerala where he meets Humza's traditional Muslim family who regard homosexuality as a disease, a depravity and a sin against Allah.

During this journey Aaron is forced to confront harsh realities of religious and social intolerance towards homosexuals around the world, as well as reflect on his own hidden desires, his personal bigotry and his place in this world. Every encounter, every experience brings him closer to his departed lover; loving and missing him more than ever.

'Songs of Eternal Love' is a sweeping tale of love, hope and spiritual awakening.

#### Production

#### Solaris Pictures

802, Bali Residency, Rathodi, Marve Road, Malad West, Mumbai 400095, INDIA

Tel.: +91.22.28618239 solaris.pictures.india@gmail.com www.solarispictures.com

Producer/Contact Sridhar Rangayan M +91.98211 40940 sridhar.rangayan@gmail.com

www.solarispictures.com/SR.htm

Sridhar Rangayan is a Bombay-based writer/ director whose films present hard-hitting social issues and critique with warmth, compassion, and humor. His award-winning films The Pink Mirror, Yours Emotionally, and 68 Pages are at the forefront of India's emergent queer cinema movement - ground-breaking in a country where homosexuality is still socially



unacceptable. These films have screened at more than 100 national and international film festivals; won several awards and has received critical acclaim. In 2006, he was awarded the South Asian & Foreign Achievers Award - which honors 50 achievers from around the world who have made an outstanding contribution in global mainstream media.

He has served as Jury Member for the Teddy Awards at Berlin International Film Festival 2010 in Germany and Matter of Act awards at Movies That Matter 2010 in Netherlands.

He is the also the Founder & Festival Director of India's biggest queer film festival - KASHISH Mumbai International Queer Film Festival which is the only LGBT film festival to be held in a mainstream multiplex theater with government clearance, screening over 120 films, attracting houseful audience and generating great media buzz. Awards:

Best Film on Social Issues at Ahmedabad Intl. Film Festival 2009 for '68 Pages'

- Silver Remi award at Worldfest-Houston 2008, USA for '68 Pages'
- South Asian & Foreign Achievers Award 2006 by Triangle Media, UK
- Bronze Remi award at Worldfest-Houston 2005 for 'Chakkad Bakkad Bumbe Bo'
- Jury Award for Best Film at 'Fire Island Film Festival 2004 for 'The Pink Mirror'
- Best Film of Festival award at 'Question de Genre' (France) 2003 for 'The Pink Mirror'
- RAPA award for Best Telefilm 2000 and RAPA award for Best Comedy1999

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## The Tantrik

Great Britain in development

Genre:

Psychological Thriller

Format: Length: 35-mm 100 min

Budget:

£300,000 (around 2.5 crores)

Language: Marathi



"The Tantrik" is an Indian "Rosemary's Baby", an atmospheric chiller set in India, by awardwinning director Smita Bhide. Smita's debut feature, "The

Blue Tower" won Best UK Feature at Raindance FF 2008 and sold to BBC Acquisitions.

Maya, a simple 16 year old village girl, is brought from her remote rural village to a rich house in Bombay to be married to the family son. What's wrong with this picture, why do they want her? As the creepy house begins to reveal its secrets, Maya discovers a plot against her involving Tantrik witchcraft and child-sacrifice, behind which hovers a sinister figure, the Tantrik. But Maya herself has her own secrets...

Originally developed with Warp X in the UK for their Darklight Women Directors Scheme, "The Tantrik" will be filmed in Marathi in Pune and environs.

#### Production

Monkey In Heaven Films

96d Lancaster Road LONDON W11 1QS UK

www.bluetowerfilm.com

Producer/Contact

Jamie Nuttgens

T +44 7801 697 500 jamie@monkeyinheaven.co.uk

Smita Bhide

T +44 787 099 5592 smita.bhide@virgin.net Smita Bhide – Writer/Director, was born in Bombay and educated in Pune and Oxford University. Her short films include Park Stories, starring Parminder Nagra (Bend It Like Beckham); the award-winning Cup & Lip, starring Nina Wadia (Goodness Gracious Me), and Snowman, for Channel 4 strand, Coming Up.

In 2008 Smita's debut feature, The Blue Tower, won Best UK Feature at Raindance Film Festival and sold to BBC Acquisitions. Desert Flower, the biopic of FGM campaigner/supermodel, Waris Dhiri, on which Smita worked as a writer and script doctor, was released worldwide in 2010.



As a screenwriter Smita has written for the UK's most prestigious directors: for Peter Webber, Peter Kosminsky and Kevin McDonald. She is currently writing Nemesis for Frank Spotnitz and Kudos.

As a Director she is developing The Tantrik, Queen of Fire with Dan Films and Kalki by Gore Vidal. In 2010 she shot her first film in India, a Marathi film, Another Planet.

Jamie Nuttgens – Producer. Jamie worked as a Director in UK Theatre and as a Copywriter in Advertising before moving into Film and TV. After Graduating from the National Film & Television School he joined BBC Drama as a Script Editor on shows like Casualty and including Jimmy McGovern's "The Lakes" and "The Scold's Bridle".

At ITV he produced the UK's top-rating Police series, "The Bill", and a successful spin-off series, "Burnside.

In 2001 he returned to directing and also wrote episodes of popular TV series.

More recently he co-produced "Red Riding", three features for Film Four with Revolution Films, and produced Smita Bhide's debut feature, "The Blue Tower", winning Best UK Feature 2008 at Raindance Film Festival. He is currently developing a raft of projects at all budget levels and is also a regular tutor in Direction and Screenwriting at the National Film & Television School, at the Met Film School at Ealing Studios, London and at Oxford University.

# Witness the Night Based on the novel by Kishwar Desai

Great Britain

Genre:

Thriller

Format: Length: 35-mm 100 min

Budget:

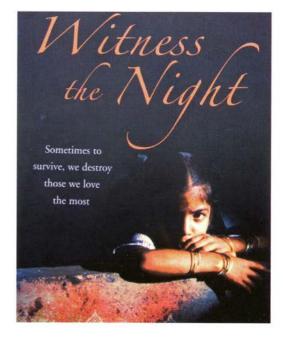
4 M USD

Language: English, small amount of

Punjabi

In this contemporary thriller, seven members of a prominent Punjabi family are murdered: poisoned and stabbed to death. The youngest daughter, Durga, is found unconscious in the family mansion, tied up, drugged and raped. Simran Singh (Archie Panjabi) is the social worker assigned to the case.

But nothing is quite as it seems. The victim will not speak; the police are reluctant to prosecute. And, as Simran is sucked into



investigating the family background, she finds a murky tale of female infanticide, sex trafficking, and a thrusting modern India, where some 44 million girls are missing.

Gradually we unravel the story: Simran exposes not only hypocrisy but medical malpractice, murder, systematic abuse and brutal violence, all done in the name of family honour and financial gain. This story explores, in the form of a gripping thriller, how such a thing can happen – and why so few people care.

Simran herself is an engaging, charismatic figure: unconventional, funny and free-living, but also tenacious, caring and fiercely committed to helping the victims of her society. She tackles authority with rage and humour. In the end, of course, she uncovers the truth. Whether she will be able to change anything is another matter.

**Tom Kinninmont** - Producer/Director. A London-based writer, director and award-winning former BBC drama producer, Tom began his career as a theatre writer, and was joint managing director of Independent Image from 1989 –2001, where he was responsible for more than 600 hours of broadcast television.



Today he works mainly in theatre and film. West End productions include The Seven Year Itch, starring Daryl Hannah and the smash-hit Jeffrey Bernard is Unwell, starring Peter O'Toole, which he also directed for television.

In film, Tom wrote Blind Witness for Prosieben in Germany and directed Luke Perry, Roger Moore, Olivia D'Abo, Tom Conti and Horst Bucholz in the American action movie, The Enemy. He produced Hostage, starring Sam Neill, Talisa Soto and James Fox, After Alice, starring Kiefer Sutherland and Blind Revenge, starring Daryl Hannah, Tom Conti, Elaine Paige and Miriam Margolyes.

Production
Complimentary Films Ltd.
116 Muswell Hill Road
N10 3JD LONDON
UK

Producer/Contact Tom Kinninmont T +44 2088832324 kinninmont@aol.com





# Indo-German Script Development Workshop February 7th - 9th 2012 in Berlin

Frank Stehling, Primehouse: "The demand for new stories in all of the three major continents for film and television production, India, Europe and the US, is strong. But in addition to a different culture of reception, national industries also tend to follow their own paths of story telling and script development. We offer the platform to support the three major regions and learn from each other!"



Stephan Ottenbruch (Life Entertainment): "Funny enough: All regions are facing a similar problem: Everybody is trying to produce films that are based on universal story terms, driven by the fear that the chosen stories might not work. And many films fail nationally and internationally, because they use old, conventional and standard formulas that had been successful for decades, but not any more. In times of global markets



and global audiences films need more than simple formulas.

# Looking for good told & fresh stories

With the support of "Germany and India 2011-2012: Infinite Opportunities", Life Entertainment, PRIMEHOUSE & MAMI (Mumbai Academy of Moving Images) are launching a Script Develop-

ment Workshop and Conferences for Media Professionals and Film Students in Berlin and Mumbai where Indian, American and European screen-writing methods are taught and discussed. Our first conference in Mumbai in October was a great success and we wish to continue in our intercultural exchange by developing 4 selected from screen-writing graduates (newcomers) and 4 projects selected from professional screenwriters.

#### Call for projects

Until the 20th of December 2012 screenwriters and producers from India and Germany are invited to send in their story proposals. We are looking for exposés (at least 4-5 pages), treatments and scripts (first drafts). The selected projects will be developed with the help of Indian and German mentors working together with the writers. The goal is

to develop a first draft from the exposés and treatments and a third or fourth draft for the applicants who started with a first draft. The best developed scripts will compete for an award at the 14th Mumbai Film Festival in October 2012.

Applications to: www.primexchange.eu

Further information: www.life-enter.de & www.germany-and-india.com

#### The Berlin Workshop

An IndoGerman Script Development Workshop and International Content Summit: Focus India will take place from 7-9 February 2012 in Berlin, Germany. Members of the Indian and the German Film Industry, writers, directors and producers as well as graduates and teachers from Indian and German filmschools, members of MAMI, FWA, The Producers



Alliance and VDD of Germany are invited to be part of the discussions and lectures in the workshop and the conference.

We are proud to welcome the eminent & awarded director Rajkumar Hirani (3 Idiots) and writer, director and producer Anurag Kashyap (tbc "Black Friday", "Dev D"), Anjum Rajabali (Eminent Writer & Head of Screenwriting Department FTII, Pune und Whistling Woods, Mumbai) and Dina Dattani (Lawyer, Fox International, "Slumdog Millionaire") and Srinivasan Narayanan (Director of Mumbai Film Festival) amongst others. Our German guests and speakers will be Alexander Thies, CEO NFP, Chairman of the German Producers Alliance); Tom Tykwer (tbc director Perfume, Cloud Atlas; Partner of X-Filme); Jochen Brunow (eminent Writer and Head of Screenwriting Academy at dffb), Torsten Schulz (eminent Writer: Boxhagener Platz, Head of the Department of Screenwriting at HFF, Babelsberg) amongst others.

The process of work and discussion on IndoGerman Scripts will continue until the Mumbai Film Festival in October 2012.

#### **Timeline**

Mumbai Film Festival 11th to 13th October 2011 Initial Workshop Forum, Panels & Case-Studies Berlin Film Festival 7th to 9th February 2012 2nd Workshop Forum & Discussion on First Scripts Mumbai Film Festival October 2012 Work on further Script Development

















# **Experts**

#### Marketing

#### Dina Dattani

**Dina Dattani** - Consultant - Media & Entertainment, currently working with international and domestic independent film companies, film makers, directors, sales agents, distributors and financiers-legal, structural and tax perspective.





Working with all major corporates in the media industry in India including most of the Hollywood studios now in India and key talent.

Corporate/Commercial – Extensive experience in M & A. Offshore Restructuring, JV, Branding, Merchandising, Capital Market Listings.

#### Indian Portfolio

Represents over 100 Indian companies and several Mumbai Stock Exchange multinationals Raising finance on & off market, branding & merchandising, Production, Distribution Agreements and Co–production, Finance and Structuring for Film Productions Houses, in India, Europe, USA. Cross border transactions and M&A between India and UK

#### Foreign Direct Investment

- · Government Advisor on FDI to Welsh Development Agency,
- Lectured extensively in India for FCCI, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), Nasscom and Export/Import Bank of India,
- Specialist in India and Eastern Europe,
- Assisting UK Trade & Investment offices both in India and UK with investments into the UK by Indian companies,
- Helped organise and participate in The Film London co-production workshop in Mumbai, Nov 2007,

# Experts

## Frank Stehling

Frank Stehling, CEO and owner of PRI-MEHOUSE GmbH, Berlin, brings with him over ten years of experience with the German capitol based funding body, Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg (MBB). During his time with MBB he was deputy director and leading the production department, business development, new media and not at least training initiatives. Moreover, from the very first beginning of the Ta-



lent Campus, he was a member of the Board. He is a member of the European Film Academy as well as the German association of game developer G.A.M.E. He has been active in many fields of the film and media business such as scriptwriting, direction, production and funding for at least 30 years.

As managing director Frank Stehling is responsible for the consulting wing of the company such as PRIME**SERVICES** and PRIME**PACKAGING**, which offers professional support and analyses in the areas of business development as well as script development, market research, marketing, world sales, financing and interactive media during the crucial phase of project development.

**PRIME**HOUSE GmbH, Berlin, founded in 2005, is focusing on the early linkage of interactive and classic formats and is representing the connection between film, television and games/interactive media. We are using the network we've built up for providing financial and marketing support to producers and users of the most diverse market segments during the project development phase. Our main intention is to assist film- and TV-producers as well as game developers in the areas of development, co-production and financing issues. In addition to that **PRIME**HOUSE is running the successful international coaching programmes PRIME**XCHANGE** Europe-India, focused on the exchange of Know How and projects with the Indian Market and PRIME**4Kids&Family**, focused on the development of family entertainment content.

#### Sunil Doshi

**Sunil Doshi** is quintessentially a film activist since many years. He has extended his interest and passion for cinema into production, acquisition and distribution of different & newer kinds of films and programming of the Indian films at various film festivals.

He was the Executive Director of the Information Film Festival of Children and young people for the film festival held in Udaipur (1993) and Hyderabad (1995) and also served as an International jury member at film festivals like



Annecey, Laun, Isfahan, Locarno Film Festival and Middle East International Film Festival.

NAVARASA (NINE EMOTIONS) is the First Film Produced by him which went on Winning the National Award in 2005 for the Best Film in Tamil Language post which he continued and have produced around 8 (Eight) films till date, all by the first-time Directors.

His passion & ambition for Cinema lead to the creation of NDTV Lumiere, an initiative to bring contemporary cutting edge World Cinema to India. He is the founder member & Director of NDTV Lumiere and is personally involved in the acquisition and distribution of these World Cinema Titles.

Alliance Media & Entertainment Pvt. Ltd. is a boutique production house which aims to produce high quality of films which are different, unique and out of the box in its approach, form and content. It has an objective to encourage young filmmakers who are willing to charter a unique style of story telling.

Alliance Media & Entertainment Pvt. Ltd. is also engaged in the business of acquisition of International films. It has successfully acquired and released Luc Jacquet's Oscar Winning Documentary - THE EMPEROR'S JOURNEY in India.

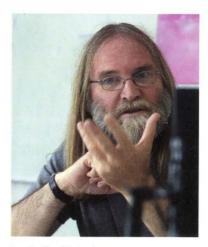
It enjoys very good business relationship with major European & Other World Sales Agents such as Wild Bunch, Celluloid Dreams, Studio Canal, MK2, Pathe, Memento, The Match Factory, Bavaria Films, Becker Films, Finecut, CJ Entertainment, SVT, AB Svenska, etc.

#### Script Consultant

# Experts

#### Phil Parker

Phil Parker is the director of NyAC, a new film production company founded in 2006 to create a series of original, feature films. He is one of Europe's most distinguished independent development consultants and has run a successful training and development consultancy, pH Screenplay, for over ten years. Clients include Aardmann Animation, Mob Films, Berlin Brandenburg Medienboard and numerous independent producers and screenwriters. Recent projects include the Oscar and Bafta winning "Wallace and Gromit- Curse of the Ware Rab-



bit'; the award winning 'El Greco' and 'Terry Prachett's Hogfather'.

In 2008 'The Pearce Sisters' scripted edited by Phil won BAFTA for best short animated film, amongst 36 other awards. 'San J' written by Joanne Leigh, and developed by Phil was selected from 2000 other screenplays to win the UK's prestigious 'Red Planet' award.

In 2003/4 Phil designed and produced an 'Introduction to Screenwriting' course for the UK Film Council. This programme involved training over 50 tutors, who have since taught over 2000 adult students throughout the UK, who have won numerous awards. The course went online at the Skillset website in 2009.

Phil was the founder, and the course director (until 2004) of the MA Screenwriting course at London College of Communication (formerly London College of Printing) part of the University of the Arts London. This is the most successful screenwriting course in the UK with over 180 credited screenwriters from its 250 graduates. Screenwriters from the course have won a Palme D'or, several BAFTAs, RTS awards, numerous short film festival awards, including Berlin and Toronto,, and been Oscar© nominated. 'The Art and Science of Screenwriting' (4th edition – Intellect Books, 2006) written by Phil is a new approach to writing and developing screenplays. Based on 'The Creative Matrix' this developmental theory combines six key elements of narrative - story, theme, dramatic form, plot, style and genre. This comprehensive approach is now in use by screenwriters, development executives, producers, and is widely taught throughout Europe on Masters' programmes. 'The Art and Science of Screenwriting' was published in Spanish in 2003, and German in 2005.

# **Experts**

#### Distribution

## **Chris Auty**

**Chris Auty** started his career as Film Editor of Time Out and European Editor of The Hollywood Reporter.

In 1985 he launched a new UK film distribution company, before also acquiring two of Britain's best-known art house cinemas (the Gate in London, and Cameo in Edinburgh), and co-financing and selling his first film (Peter



financing and selling his first film (Peter Greenaway's 'The Cook, The Thief, His Wife and Her Lover') around the world.

He became Managing Director of Jeremy Thomas' production company RPC (1991-99); served as a producer on many of its films ('Stealing Beauty', 'Blood and Wine', 'Crash'); and initiated the creation of international sales company Hanway Films..

In 1999 he became CEO of Virgin Group's film production company The Film Consortium, where he executive produced many of the 20+ films financed by the company, including BAFTA-winning 'My Summer of Love', Berlin Golden Bear winner 'In This World', and Cannes competitor '24 Hour Party People'. He led the business to create the publicly listed Works Media Group plc – developing a significant international rights business, and launching a successful UK distribution business (underpinned by a home-entertainment output deal with Universal UK), which he supervised until January 2011 – marketing and releasing over 50 films into the UK market.

For many years Chris has also run an 8-week MA film course at the National Film School; and is developing new films for private equity partnership Three Line Capital. He is on the governing board of the European Film Academy.

#### Financing

# Experts

## Jeremy Gawade

Jeremy Gawade has over 25 years experience in the film and TV sectors. Jeremy Gawade founded Lee & Thompson's film and television department when he joined the practice in 1990. He qualified in 1982 and, after a spell at a law firm specialising in film work, he left private practice to become a partner in an international film and television distribution company. He then worked as a consultant for various film production companies before bringing his diverse film and television experience to Lee & Thompson.



Jeremy has particular expertise in putting together finance distribution and co-production deals for major film and television productions. In addition, Jeremy is uniquely qualified to help clients finance, produce and exploit concert specials and other music based film programming. Increasingly, Jeremy acts for talent based production companies allowing actors, writers and directors a greater degree of ownership and control over their work.

Jeremy has also executive produced a number of programmes including "Sweet Home Chicago", the Spice Girls US Tour Documentary, various Concert Specials, the David Beckham ITV documentary, and also the BBC Millennium Spectacular from Greenwich. Some of his clients

Carlyle, Sigma Films, Endemol Entertainment UK plc, Léopard Films, Revolution Films and 3DD Entertainment.

of successful recording artists.

acquired by and "lost" to the major labels, the firm's music practice focused increasingly upon

with an in-depth knowledge and understanding of the music industry and the leading players within it.

# **Experts**

Sales

**Linda Kruse**, The Match Factory. Bachelor of Arts (ifs internationale filmschule köln) in Creative Producing 2009. Since then - Acquisition at The Match Factory.

THE MATCH FACTORY presents international arthouse films by both acclaimed directors and new talents, who are dedicated to telling stories in their own



original style. We set up strong and lasting relationships with filmmakers from all over the world, offering a home for their work as a reliable partner.

Over the past years, we presented films by such acclaimed masters as Aki Kaurismäki, whose entire library we represent, Wayne Wang or Theo Angelopoulos.

We're particularly looking for young directors and pave their way to the international market place, such as Jasmila Zbanic, Claudia Llosa or Yaron Shani and Scandar Copti to name only a few. Founded in 2006 by Michael Weber, Reinhard Brundig and Karl Baumgartner, THE MATCH FACTORY looks back to an impressive track record.

Our films have been successful at the box office all over the world and received awards on numerous important film festivals. In the short history of the company, we won the most important awards at all major international festivals, including the Palme d'Or, one Prix Du Scénario and one Prix de la Mise en Scène in Cannes, one Golden Globe, three Golden Bears, one Pardo d'oro in Lorcarno, three Special Jury Awards in Venice and three times the Golden Shell in San Sebastian. In two years, four of our films were nominated for the Foreign Language Oscar\*.



NFDC cinemas of india



MEDIA INTERNATIONAL