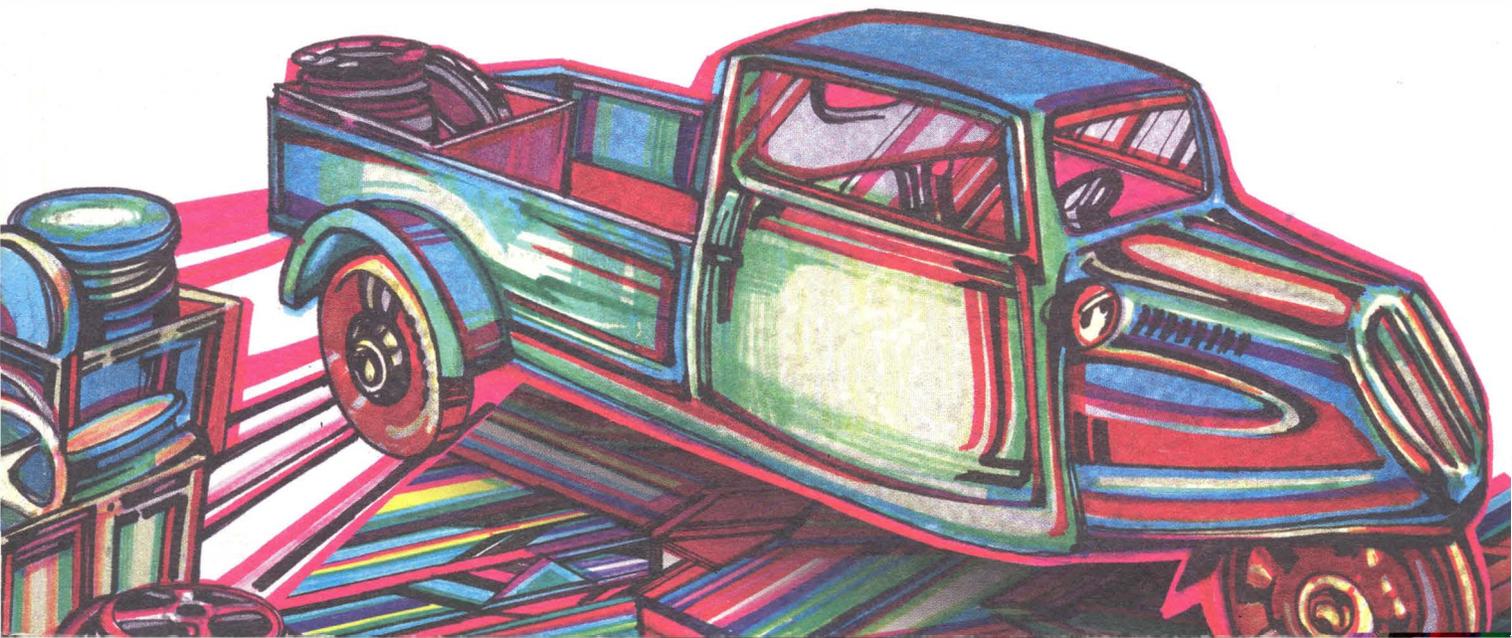




**WORK IN PROGRESS  
PROJECTS**

2011







## WELCOME TO FILM BAZAAR 2011

Film Bazaar is an evolving film trade market organised annually with a view to promote South Asian cinema globally, and to strengthen the connect between Cinemas from South Asia and film communities across the globe. The main focus at FB has always been to act as a catalyst of progress for the emerging film markets of South Asia, and make available a platform for attending film professionals that enables them to buy, sell, exhibit, pitch, and network with industry peers and mentors.

It is our endeavor at NFDC to analyse the present-day needs of filmmakers and conceive workshops and programs that cater to all faculties of the filmmaking community. It is on the same lines that we have introduced Market Recommendations this year, a program initiated to specifically provide avenues for projects in need of gap financing, distribution partners and placement at key international film festivals. We work towards bringing an innovative feature to FB each year that serves specific interests of filmmakers and provides them with state-of-the-art facilities to position their films internationally from India. 2007 onwards, FB has seen a significant surge in attendance with each passing year. The number of countries & participants has successively increased along with applicants to the Co-Production Market where we present 23 new projects with South Asian stories each depicting diverse cultural milieus, historical eras and remarkable plots integral to the region they come from.

We have partnered with Binger Filmlab (Netherlands) and Venice International Film Festival (Italy) for the Screenwriters' Lab that presents six original stories from the heartland of India. We wish to express our gratitude & pleasure in earnest to the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting for their robust support, our Official Partners Incredible India, and likewise to our Digital Partner Qube Cinema Network, our Transportation Partner Hyundai, our Beverage Partner Remy Martin and all our Sponsors, Media Partners, Exhibitors, Mentors Project Advisors, Screenplay Readers, Speakers, & Delegates who have supported our efforts at FB and have been instrumental in its modest successes.

FILM BAZAAR TEAM



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## WORK IN PROGRESS PROJECTS

Distinguished international mentors advise and guide filmmakers on their rough-cut projects submitted at the lab prior to 'picture lock'. The Lab is a collaborative process directed to improve their work.



## B. A. PASS India | Fiction

Language	Hindi
Director	Ajay Bahl
Producer	Tonga Talkies
Cast	Shilpa Shukla, Rajesh Sharma, Dibyendu Bhattacharya, Geeta Sharma, Shadab Kamal
Writer	Mohan Sikka
Director of Photography	Ajay Bahl
Editor	Pravin Angre



Ajay Bahl

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### Synopsis

In an unfortunate car accident, Mukesh, a 19 year-old small town boy, loses both his parents. Burdened by the responsibility of two young sisters and with his fate in the hands of his relatives, he is sent to Delhi.

Staying at his aunt's house and enrolled in a 'good for nothing' course in college, he finds peace by playing chess at the local cemetery where he makes his first friend in the city, Johnny. Rest of the time he worries over ways to make a living and take care of his sisters.

*B.A. Pass* is a story looking at the fatal promise of a new life. When Mukesh meets Sarika 'Aunty' at a kitty party little does he know of the city, its people and its ways and means to survive. Sarika seduces Mukesh; shy and inexperienced, he falls for her. What follows is a twist of destiny, a kind of story that appears in the tabloids as 'heinous acts of crime'.



## Director

Ajay started his career as an independent cinematographer in advertising, shooting commercials for eminent brands like Idea Cellular, Kwality Walls, Surf, Voltas, Bajaj Auto, Fiat, and Godrej to name a few.

In 2006 Ajay started his production house Penumbra Pictures and produced, directed and shot commercial and corporate videos.



Always wanting to be a feature filmmaker, Ajay started Tonga Talkies in 2010. He read Mohan Sikka's short story titled *The Railway Aunty* in the anthology *Delhi Noir* (Harper Collins 2010) and contacted Mohan to acquire rights to turn it into a feature film which is now titled *B.A. Pass*.

# MISS LOVELY India | Fiction

Language Hindi  
Director Ashim Ahluwalia  
Producer Future East Film Pvt Ltd  
Cast Nawazuddin Siddiqui,  
Niharika Singh, Anil George  
Writer Ashim Ahluwalia (Story)  
Uttam Sirur (Co-writer)  
Director of Photography Mohanan



Ashim Ahluwalia

## ASHIM AHLUWALIA

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## Synopsis

Bombay 1988. Vicky and Sonu are brothers and partners in crime. They produce 'C' grade films in the shadowy margins of Bollywood - lurid horror films, bandit pictures and sleazy social dramas. From a humid two-bedroom flat, amidst spilled whisky and bouts of womanizing, Vicky churns out raunchy titles like *Dolly Darling* and *Lady James Bond* for India's small-town picture houses. He leaves the donkeywork to Sonu - his withdrawn, dim-witted younger sibling - who often cleans up the mess that Vicky leaves behind.

One day, Sonu encounters a mysterious small-town girl on the train and is immediately smitten by her innocent beauty. She's only just arrived in Bombay and her vulnerability

soothes his own sense of restlessness and unease. Her name is Pinky and she's an aspiring actress.

Hard-edged hustler Vicky claims that the girl is nothing more than a gullible piece of flesh but Sonu is captivated by Pinky's naive charm. He knows that only she can save him, make his isolation and failure disappear.

Now head-over-heels in love, Sonu begins to resent being his brother's lackey, cleaning up his criminal mess and roping in innocents for their sordid pictures. He has bigger dreams. Sonu wants to make a film of his own, with Pinky in the lead - a double debut - producer and star. Not the shameful, ugly trash of his brother's taste but something beautiful, even romantic.

Although he doesn't know the story yet, he already knows the title. The film will be called *Miss Lovely* and Sonu will do whatever it takes to make it.

But nothing is what it seems in this garish underworld of shifting alliances, double dealing, and quivering flesh. Out on the streets two years later, Sonu realizes that his whole world has turned upside down.

In this baroque tale of betrayal and doomed love, the animal instincts of the struggling actress Pinky prove to be the most cutthroat of all. As paranoia and violence spiral out of



control, brother turns on brother, and blood spills like water. Sonu, now alone and abandoned, aimlessly wanders the streets, junkyards and Spanish-themed cabarets, aching for one last glimpse of Pinky. But the young girl with stars in her eyes has long since moved on to greener pastures.

## Director

Ashim Ahluwalia was born in Mumbai, India. He studied film at Bard College in New York. His first feature-length project, *John & Jane* premiered at the Toronto Film Festival in September 2005. Canada's largest daily newspaper, The Toronto Star, described it as the 'No. 1 pick' at the festival. HBO Films subsequently acquired the film for a US release, a first for any Indian production. In 2006, *John & Jane* showed at the Berlin International Film Festival and New Directors/ New Films in New York. It has also screened at other festivals such as Edinburgh, Vancouver, Cinema Du Reel, Jeonju and Durban. *John & Jane* won the international award at the European Media Art Festival, the Director's Guild of America Jury Award and the Maysle Brothers Award. After strong reviews from the New York Times, Spiegel, BBC and the global press, the film was distributed worldwide. In September 2007, *John & Jane* also won the most prestigious film award in India - the 53rd National Film Award.

Ahluwalia's films have been shown at venues such as the Tate Modern in London, Museum of Modern Art (New York) and the Centre Pompidou in Paris. He was commissioned to work on a film & architecture installation for the 10th Venice Architecture Biennale.

In August 2010, Ahluwalia was named 'One of the best emerging film directors working today' by Phaidon Press in 'Take 100: The Future of Film.'





# MUMBAI CHA RAJA

India | Fiction

Language	Hindi
Director	Manjeet Singh
Producer	Cinemanjeet Creations
Cast	Rahul Bairagi, Arbaaz Khan, Tejas Parvatkar, Dhanshree Jain, Salman Khan
Writer	Manjeet Singh
Director of Photography	Siddharth Kay
Editor	Tinni Mitra
Music	Manish Tipu
Sound Designer	Ayan Bhattacharya



Manjeet Singh

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## Synopsis

Rahul, a 14 year-old kid has a troubled childhood. His father is a drunkard and jobless, whose frustration vents out in the form of violence on Rahul and his mother. On the eve of Ganesh Immersion Rahul's father gets violent. Rahul escapes from his clutches, running with his hands tied by a polythene bag onto the roads, full with people immersed in their own worlds. Arbaaz, a balloon selling kid is waiting with roasted potatoes for

Rahul to arrive with salt and pepper, which they both had stolen earlier. The kids embark on their own journey in the midst of Ganesh festival celebrations. They survive and celebrate the moments in life. They swim under the waterfall, run away with an auto rickshaw while the driver is urinating, chase girls, steal potatoes/candies, fight among themselves, etc. Rahul also has a plan to handle his father!



## Director

An engineer by qualification, Manjeet Singh moved on to study film making at New York Film Academy. He started the concept of covering the making of films online, at [www.passionforcinema.com](http://www.passionforcinema.com) during the shoot of Anurag Kashyap's *No Smoking*. He has worked as assistant director, made short films and is collaborating with the so called 'the new wave' of Indian independent filmmakers as screenwriter | director | producer.



*Mumbai Cha Raja* is his debut feature film. Manjeet recently attended the workshop on Curatorship, conducted by the Katha Foundation and is keen on curating film festivals in future.

# THE GOOD ROAD

India | Fiction

Language	Gujarati
Director	Gyan Correa
Producer	National Film Development Corporation Ltd.
Cast	Sonali Kulkarni, Ajay Gehi, Keval Katrodia, Shamji Dhana, Priyank Upadhyay, Poonam Singh
Writer	Gyan Correa
Director of Photography	Amitabha Singh
Editor	Pareesh Kamdar
Music	Rajat Dholakia
Sound Designer	Resul Pookutty



Gyan Correa

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## Synopsis

Kutch, Gujarat. Three sets of people travel on a highway, cutting through the Banni, bordering the Rann. All are looking for something, but over the next twenty-four hours, will discover something altogether different – something new about themselves.

On this road today, the lives of three children from worlds apart and entirely unknown to themselves, are to be inextricably linked.

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Pinky, 7, is unwell, and in her little village healthcare is poor. Pappu, her uncle (and foster-father) is a truck driver and the family's only support. Driving the highways just doesn't pay enough. Now Pappu has been presented a plan to raise a tidy sum of money. He is to surrender his vehicle to a gang of highway thieves. An accident will be staged. Pappu will 'die'. This is to be his last journey as a truck driver.



Aditya, 7, finds himself in a situation nothing could have prepared him for. His is a stereotypical urban family, carefully arranging their lives to skim over even the remotest possibility of confrontation. Now what began as a road holiday in the family's prized SUV takes an unfortunate turn. Through a careless oversight, Aditya is left behind on the highway. When they discover that their child is not with them, David and Kiran will spend several agonizing hours and many hundred kilometres, backtracking to find their son.



Poonam, 9, is the third child of the story. She is on the run, hoping to find her way to and refuge in her grandmother's house, set in a distant village in Kutch. On the run, desperate and broke, she unwisely stops at the Topaz. Later this night when it

is too late, Poonam will discover another dimension to this apparently warm and friendly girl's 'tie-n-die' cottage industry commune.

Aditya will be found by Rathore, a dhaba owner and put onto Pappu's truck to be dumped at the largest dhaba in the area.

It is the presence of this little city boy on his truck, and the interactions that follow, that will force Pappu to fundamentally re-examine himself. And, has Aditya found a new, if wholly unlikely, home on this truck?

Poonam will be trapped and find herself confronted forcefully with the very same choices she is running away from. Where will this young girl turn? Cornered, she takes refuge in the troupe bus of topaz that has long since abandoned the road.

And, what will become of David and Kiran? Dazed and confused, are they up to meeting the challenge fate has ordained for them?

Aditya has grown up and found a new world outside his family.

And Pappu will find a strength and conviction deep within. Pinky will have a new hero.

And thus unfolds *The Good Road*.

## Director

Gyan Correa is a Mumbai based advertising and documentary film director. He has his own production company. Gyan has directed over 500 TVCs for India and the wider Asian markets. He has also written and directed the JPGL adventure TV serial for telecast across Central and East Asia. Gyan is presently completing his feature film *The Good Road*, and will shortly begin work on his second.





# The Ship Of Theseus India | Sweden | Fiction

Language	English   Hindi
Director	Anand Gandhi
Producer	Ridhi Sidhi Films Pvt. Ltd.
Cast	Aida El-Kashef, Neeraj Kabi, Soham Shah, Amba Sanyal, Sameer Khurana, Faraz Khan
Writer	Vinay Shukla, Manoj Shah
Director of Photography	Anand Gandhi
Editor	Pankaj Kumar
Sound Designer	Gabor Erdelyi Jr



Anand Gandhi

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## Synopsis

A blind photographer, celebrated for her intuitive excellence, successfully captures the essence of her experience in a photography. She loses her genius when she gains sight after a cornea transplant. She begins to come to terms with the loss of her art, as she moves on to experience the world first hand.

A monk, wed to his vow of non-violence and active against inhumane treatment to animals, is forced to make a choice between death and medicine - medicine that is either derived from, or tested on animals. As death closes in, he re-questions all the ideas that he has always taken for granted.

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A young stockbroker has a frictional relationship with his grandmother, who he nurses in a hospital. When he discovers that a neighbouring patient has had his kidney stolen, he sets out on a trail that leads him to a kidney tourism racket. Altruism and concern lead him further to the recipient of the kidney, living in Sweden.

These three characters are inextricably linked in their life predicament.



## Director

*Anand Gandhi* was born in Mumbai. After dropping out of his formal education, he traveled extensively across India taking up short courses in subjects as diverse as theoretical physics, Gandhian economics and Indic philosophy. At 19, he wrote his first professional play *Sugandhi*. This was followed up by eight award winning plays that he wrote and directed. Anand also wrote for two popular soap operas that went on to become the longest running shows in the history of Indian television. He was 20 at the time, and decided to stop writing for TV due to strong aesthetic differences. Anand wrote, directed and produced his first short *Right Here Right Now* in 2003, which went on to win several international accolades.



## WORK-IN-PROGRESS LAB MENTORS

### Derek Malcolm

Is a distinguished film critic & historian. He is the author of Century of Films, which includes his favorite films from around the world. He is also the president of British Federation of Film Societies & the International Film Critics Circle. Derek is a world-renowned film critic and still contributes actively in the paper as a columnist.



### Yukie Kito

Kito is a producer known for the internationally setup films. A Thousand Years of Good Payers directed by Wayne Wang (2007) won the Golden Shell at San Sebastian International Film Festival. Tokyo Sonata directed by Kiyoshi Kurosawa (2008), coproduction with Fortissimo Films was an official selection for Un Certain Regard at the Cannes International Film Festival in 2008 and won the Jury Special Award and also won the Best Picture at Asian Film Awards in Hong Kong in 2009. Kito, native of Tokyo, Japan, started her career at JVC Entertainment Inc. in Los Angeles as a manager of marketing and promotion. She then joined Tokyo-based Media Suits as an acquisition executive. She started her producing career at Entertainment Farm to be Co-Producer of Namesake directed by Mira Nair.



## Chris Paton

Chris Paton is Senior Vice President of Acquisitions & Development at Fortissimo Films, an international film sales organisation specialising in the presentation, promotion and distribution of unique, award winning and innovative feature films from independent filmmakers from all over the world.



Fortissimo's most recent acquisitions include Ribhu Das Gupta's *Michael* and Wei Te-sheng's *Warriors Of The Rainbow: Seediq Bale*. Upcoming features include Kevin Macdonald's documentary *Marley*, David Siegel and Scott McGehee's *What Maisie Knew*, Tobe Hooper's *Djinn* and John Cameron Mitchell's *How To Talk To Girls At Parties*.

Paton previously served as Vice Chairman at DDA Public Relations, the premier independent international entertainment public relations company. He has over 20 years experience working on films during production, festival premieres and International release campaigns as well as representing film festivals including Venice, Turin, Hong Kong, Rotterdam and Dubai for which he continues to provide press & publicity consultancy.

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