

Film Bazaar Online | November 20-25, 2021

WORK-IN-PROGRESS LAB 2021

We are pleased to announce the official selection of films for the Work-in-Progress Lab at NFDC Film Bazaar Online. This will be the second edition of the WIP Lab conducted completely online after the very successful online WIP Lab in 2020. This year's selection includes films made in six Indian languages - Assamese, Chhattisgarhi, Hindi, Kannada Marathi and Moran. Three of the five selected films are debut features.

The Work-in-Progress Lab is open only for fiction features aiming for a theatrical release. A maximum of five films are selected for this Lab. The director and editor of the selected film showcase their rough cuts to the panel of mentors and receive in-depth one-on-one feedback. The international editor assigned to the film guides the director and editor of the selected film through two sessions of the editing lab.

The international mentors include a film festival director, film critic, producers and film editors. They provide valuable feedback on the edit with the aim of helping the filmmaker achieve an accomplished final cut of the film.

Since its inception in 2008, the Work-in-Progress Lab has moulded films which have gone on to premiere at top international film festivals and receive critical acclaim. Some of the past projects of this Lab include *Paka (River of Blood)* (2020), *Pedro* (2019), *Shankar's Fairies* (2019), *Laila Aur Satt Geet* (The Shepherdess and the Seven Songs)(2019), *Fire in the Mountains* (2019), *Eeb Allay Ooo!* (2018), *Aise Hee* (2018), *Nimtoh* (2018), *Soni* (2017), *Moothon* (2017), *Bombay Rose* (2016), *The Gold-Laden Sheep and The Sacred Mountain* (2016), *Lipstick Under My Burkha* (2015), *Thithi* (2014), *Titli* (2013), *Killa* (2013), *Miss Lovely* (2011) and *Ship of Theseus* (2011).

Details of the selected projects for 2021 are –

1. *Baghjan* by Jaicheng Zxai Dohutia, *Assamese and Moran*
2. *Bailadila* by Shailendra Sahu, *Hindi and Chhattisgarhi*
3. *Ek Jagah Apni* (A Space of Our Own) by Ektara Collective, *Hindi*
4. *Follower* by Harshad Nalawade, *Marathi, Kannada and Hindi*
5. *Shivamma* by Jai Shankar, *Kannada*

1. Baghjan

75 min, Assamese and Moran

Director - Jaicheng Zxai Dohutia

Producer - Jaicheng Zxai Dohutia



Jaicheng Zxai Dohutia

Born in Tinsukia, Assam in 1982, Jaicheng Zxai Dohutia is a writer, director, editor and producer. He studied three-year Film & Video Editing in Jyoti Chitraban Film & Television Institute, Guwahati. His debut feature film *Haanduk* (The Hidden Corner) was a Film Bazaar Recommends film in bagged The Grand Jury Prize at 18th Jio MAMI Mumbai Film Festival 2016, Best Regional Film at 64th National Film Awards 2016, NETPAC Award for Best Asian film at All Light International Film Festival 2017, Best Director at Pick ur Flick Indie Film Festival, Best Film & Best Director at 7th Assam State Awards 2018 etc.

2. Bailadila

100 min, Hindi and Chhattisgarhi

Director - Shailendra Sahu

Producer - Raju Biswas



Shailendra Sahu

Shailendra Sahu is a post-graduate in Mass Communication from Jamia Millia Islamia. He started his career in Delhi as a cinematographer for a few years and is currently living in Belgahana, Chhattisgarh. This is his debut feature film.

3. Ek Jagah Apni (A Space of our Own)

100 min, Hindi

Director - Ektara Collective

Producer – Ektara Collective



ektara
collective

Ektara Collective

Ektara Collective is an independent, autonomous group of people who seek to combine creative efforts and imagination and collaborate with trained and untrained people to make fiction films that are content-wise and aesthetically located in our realities and experiences. They are based in Bhopal, India. Their earlier films have been *Chanda Ke Joote* (2011), *Jaadui Machchhi* (2013), *Turup* (2017) and *Hotel Raahgir* (2020).

4. Follower

98 min, Marathi, Kannada and Hindi

Director – Harshad Nalawade

Producers - Vinay Mishra, Saket Gyani and Maulik Sharma



Harshad Nalawade

Harshad Nalawade graduated from Symbiosis Institute of Media and Communication, Pune in 2012 with Films as his specialization. He started his career in Mumbai by writing and directing short films and working as an Assistant Director on various film projects. His first short film was nominated at the New York Indian Film Festival. Harshad comes from a small town in southern India and recently made his first feature film by crowdfunding the budget that involved a group of local actors. He is passionate about the stories that are set in conflict zones and likes to tell stories of people whose lives are in some ways affected by the social or political conflict of a society. Currently, he is developing a Netflix Original Show as a Writer/Creator.

5. Shivamma

90 min, Kannada

Director – Jai Shankar

Producer – Rishab Shetty



Jai Shankar

Having worked for an IT company for five years as an engineer, Jai Shankar quit his job to become a full-time filmmaker. He has written and directed several short films. The second one - Narasimaiah Film - won a few festival accolades and the latest one is Lachavva, a part of an anthology named Kathasangama. It won the Best Film Award in the Bangalore International Short Film Festival 2019, the Toto award for Best Film in 2020, a special mention in the Mumbai International Film Festival of 2019 and many more. Kathasangama is now available on Amazon Prime Video.

Work-in-Progress Lab Mentor Profiles

PHILIPPA CAMPBELL



Philippa is an Emmy, Golden Globe and PGA award nominee as the producer of both seasons of Jane Campion's international hit television series *Top of the Lake* starring Elisabeth Moss. A leading producer from Aotearoa, New Zealand, she has worked with, among others, directors Christine Jeffs, Toa Fraser, Jonathan King, Florian Habicht and Jackie Van Beek. Her features have premiered and won awards at major festivals including Cannes, Berlin, Sundance and Toronto, and have been distributed in key territories. Philippa consults for International screen agencies and development initiatives including NFDC's Work-in-Progress Lab and Script to Screen's Story Camp. She has co-productions with the UK and Australia in development and is in post-production with Loren Taylor's (*Eagle Vs Shark*) debut feature film *Going Going*.

DEREK MALCOLM



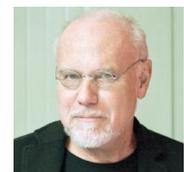
Derek Malcolm is a film critic with the Huffington Post, an entirely online American and British news aggregator and blog. It has a massive readership all over the world, including India. Derek has an illustrious background in film journalism and criticism, and he covers festivals all over the world. He is also the Honorary President of the International Film Critics Association (FIPRESCI), and President of the British Federation of Film Societies. He has served on juries at the three main European Festivals in Berlin, Cannes and Venice, as well as at Moscow, Istanbul, Goa, Singapore, Chicago, Dinard and Rio Festivals. He was formerly the Director of the London Film Festival during the 1980s and a former governor of the British Film Institute. He had also been the chief film critic at The Guardian for 35 years before moving to the Evening Standard, which Derek left in 2015 to join Huffington Post.

OLIVIA STEWART



Olivia Stewart's films as a producer include Terence Davies' *The Long Day Closes*, *The House Of Mirth*, Mark Herman's *Brassed Off* and Todd Haynes' *Velvet Goldmine*. Her work has now evolved into broader fields and in collaboration with the Binger Film Lab Amsterdam and NFDC India. She was Mentor/Creative Producer for Scott Graham's *Shell*, Ritesh Batra's *The Lunchbox*, Kanu Behl's *Titli*, Kim Farrant's *Strangerland*, Matt Sobel's *Take Me To The River*, Gurvinder Singh's *Chauthi Koot (Fourth Direction)* and Miransha Naik's *Juze*. In 2014, on behalf of the PJLF Arts Fund, she set up the EYE Prize with the EYE Film Museum, Amsterdam to support and promote an artist or filmmaker whose work unites art and film. In 2016, she started The PJLF Three Rivers Writing Residency Programme which offers writer/ directors a five weeks retreat to write and work with expert script advisors, and the chance to present their projects at the Dubai Film Festival. In 2017, she started the PJLF Three Rivers Editing Residency with Rima Das' *Village Rockstars*, which was selected for the Toronto, San Sebastian and Mumbai Film Festivals, where it won the Golden Gateway Award, the Oxfam Best Film for Gender Equality and Young Critics Choice Award. In 2017, Olivia co-authored Joan Leigh Fermor: *Artist and Lover*, a monograph of photographs published in March 2018. She is the Director of *Bellrock: Creative Scotland Screenwriting Workshops*, which is now in its 2nd year. She has been a jury member for the Locarno, Fajr, Asiatica, San Sebastian Film Festivals, and is a member of AMPAS, BAFTA and EFA.

MARCO MÜLLER



Film critic and historian, director and writer of documentaries about cinema, Marco is the Director of the Film Art Research Centre at the Shanghai University (where he also teaches Film Curating and Programming/Film Production/Film Architecture). He started working in 1978 as a festival programmer in Italy (Consultant for Asian cinema at the Venice Film Festival from 1981 to 1995). He created the *Ombre Elettriche (Electric Shadows) Festival*

in Turin (1981). Subsequently he was the director of the festivals of Pesaro (1982-1989), Rotterdam (1989- 1991) and Locarno (1992-2000), Venice Film Festival (2004-2011) and Rome Film Festival (2012-2014). After one year of head-programming festivals in Mainland China (Beijing IFF, Fuzhou Silk Road IFF), he directed until November 2016 the 1st Macau International Film Festival and Awards. He was through 2017-2020 the artistic director of PYIFF - Pingyao Crouching Tiger Hidden Dragon International Film Festival, the festival the celebrated director Jia Zhangke and him have created together. After taking care of PYIFF's international selection in 2021, he has now embarked on new festival projects in Shanghai and other Chinese cities. In his parallel career as a film-producer, Müller has produced and co-produced 11 features that include award-winning movies (Academy Award for Best Foreign Film, top-tier honours in Cannes, Venice and other major festivals) from Russia, Central Asia, Bosnia, China, Turkey, Iran and Brazil. He has also produced short films and documentaries. He has written and edited several books about Indian cinema and filmmakers, programmed Indian films and monographic retrospectives about Indian films and filmmakers for all the festivals he has directed. For his contribution to the international promotion of non-western cinema, he has received the top honours granted to foreign citizens for cultural merits by nine different Asian governments and foundations.



MARIE-PIERRE DUHAMEL

Graduated in Chinese studies and Cinema studies in Paris Universities, and after years spent distributing films in the French noncommercial cultural network, Marie-Pierre worked as a production manager for public television La Sept/Arte, before joining production company Pathé as a producer. She teaches in film and art schools both in France and abroad, including Paris' Fémis and Pompeu Fabra University in Barcelona. At Paris National Film School Fémis, she is part of the Editing Department teaching staff. She also worked as an editor and editing consultant for both fiction and documentary films, mainly from China and South-east Asia. She was a programmer for Locarno IFF and a member of the selection committee for Venice Mostra del Cinema and Roma IFF (2005-2014). She headed the film festival Cinéma du Réel - Centre Pompidou, 2004-2008. She is part of the team of the Pingyao Film Festival (China) headed by Chinese filmmaker Jia Zhangke. She curates retrospectives, film programs, workshops and tributes in France and abroad, and writes for various cinema publications, while continuing being an editor, editing consultant and film translator.



JACQUES COMETS

Jacques Comets has edited, among others, the films of Bernard Stora, Laurent Heynemenn, Raoul Peck, Christine Pascal, Joel Farges, Petr Vaclav, Djamshed Usmonov, Ramadan Suleiman, Pablo Aguero, Tsai Ming-liang, Tonie Marshall, Massoud Bakshi, Dima El-Horr, Pavel Giroud, Samuel and Frederic Guillaume. He has also co-edited or supervised the editing of feature films in Morocco (Narjiss Nejjar), Colombia (Maria Gamboa, Ruben Mendonza), Lebanon (Lamia Joreige), Switzerland (Jacob Berger, Germinal Roaux), Brazil (Beatriz Seigner) and Vietnam (Nguyen Hoang Diep). He has also edited Rohena Gera's film *Sir*. He is credited as a Creative Producer and Supervisor Editor on Miransha Naik's film *Juze*, Supervisor Editor on Rima Das' film *Village Rockstars* and on Prateek Vats's film *Eeb Allay Ooo!*. He headed the editing department of La Femis - the French National Film School - until July 2018. He was a part of many seminars, workshops and juries in film schools and universities in Switzerland, Chile, Cuba, Tunisia, Morocco, Albania, Iran, India (Goa, Dharamshala and Kerala) and Lebanon.



LIZI GELBER

Lizi Gelber was raised in Italy by American parents, and completed her education at Columbia University in NYC. She returned to Rome where she started working in film editing on feature films such as *Once Upon a Time in America* by Sergio Leone and participated in a prolific moment of filmmaking at Cinecittà. She then worked on feature films in Los Angeles for many years. She is grateful to have worked with many talented directors such as Roman Polanski, Michael Cimino, Robert Altman, Paul Schrader and Roland Joffé. She moved to Paris after meeting her French husband on a film in Zimbabwe, and became interested in the challenges of feature length documentaries, which combined her love of drama and storytelling with her concern for social issues. When Jonathan Demme spent a year in Paris shooting a feature, she edited and associate produced his documentary *The Agronomist*. She was also at the origin of *Sacro Gra*, Gianfranco Rosi's documentary which won the Golden Lion in 2014. She has continued to edit both feature films and documentaries, often supervising and helping to find solutions for problematic narratives.

ABOUT FILM BAZAAR

Since its inception in 2007, Film Bazaar has focused on discovering, supporting and showcasing South Asian films and talent in filmmaking, production, and distribution. The Bazaar also facilitates the sales of world cinema in the South Asian region. The 15th edition of NFDC Film Bazaar will be held online from 20-25 November, 2021.

ABOUT NFDC

Incorporated in 1975, National Film Development Corporation Ltd was formed by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (GoI) with the primary objective of promoting the good cinema movement. NFDC is instrumental in creating an ecosystem to support the financing, distribution, and development of independent films across the country.

Film Bazaar Work-in-Progress Lab Team can be reached at films@filmbazaarindia.com.