



Indian Film Festival of
MELBOURNE

1-11 May 2014

Presented by

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Image courtesy Eros International Ltd — Goliyon ki Rasleela Ram Leela

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Message from The Premier & Minister

On behalf of the Victorian Government, we are pleased to welcome the third Indian Film Festival of Melbourne, now a key event on Victoria's cultural calendar.

The Festival is a strong component of our commitment to strengthening Victoria's well-established cultural and economic relationship with India.

Since its inception in 2012, the festival has reached an ever-widening audience and delivered an extensive and colourful program, delighting festival goers and Indian film buffs.

This year's festival promises to be the most exciting yet, with a jam-packed program of film, dance, masterclasses and other interactive events, including the newly established awards program to recognise outstanding members of India's vibrant film industry.

The festival's short film competition will also continue to provide an excellent profile and platform for our up and coming screen practitioners both in India and Australia.

The Victorian Government is extremely proud of the diversity of our multicultural community and recognises the huge part the Indian community plays in Victoria.

As part of our Victoria-India Engagement Strategy, the Victorian Government has led several trade missions to India, reinforcing already strong ties, as well as forming new ones with the Indian business community.

Promotion of the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne has been a central part of these missions, with our government recognising the important part cinema has to play in this relationship.

On behalf of the Victorian Government, we congratulate Mind Blowing Films for once again facilitating an exciting program.

We thank our festival ambassador Vidya Balan, industry guests and Indian cinema legend Amitabh Bachchan who has agreed to open the festival.

So, to our local and international film-lovers and festival-goers alike: enjoy the magic of Indian cinema in our wonderful city and let's have the best festival yet.



The Hon Dr Denis Napthine MP
Premier of Victoria



The Hon Louise Asher MP
Minister for Innovation
Minister for Tourism and Major Events
Minister for Employment and Trade

Message from IFFM Festival Director

Mitu Bhowmick Lange

Welcome to the third Indian Film Festival of Melbourne, already the biggest event of its kind in the southern hemisphere.

This past year has been extraordinary for Indian film down under, culminating in the success of *Dhoom 3*, Australia's highest-grossing movie per screen on Christmas day. Increasingly, Melbourne's second generation Indians have introduced their mates and partners to the wild ways of Bollywood, offering a refreshing alternative to Hollywood's superhero movies and rom-coms.

With that in mind we are proud to bring you another fantastic program that showcases the best of Indian cinema in all its diversity, from Mumbai's Bollywood commercial output to more boundary-pushing regional affairs, including India's sub-continental neighbours.

In recognition of Australia's burgeoning love affair with Indian film, we are thrilled to honour its best and brightest at the inaugural IFFM Awards. It won't be an easy task to whittle down favourites, but with the help of an amazing jury (and IFFM's passionate audiences) we hope these awards will become a regular stop for India's most talented filmmakers.

Even the biggest filmmakers take a while to catch their big break; the Western Union Short Film Competition provides a platform to do just that. From receiving development funding from Film Victoria, to assisting with major commercial features, the success of previous finalists has proven that this competition really opens doors for new voices.

We continue our series of fascinating Masterclasses with a who's who of the Indian media landscape, all sharing their insights and experiences with Victorian filmmakers, students and fans. Melbourne's best movers will have the chance to show some formidable judges what they've got at the fiercely contested Telstra Bollywood Dance Competition in Federation Square.

So why not introduce yourself or a friend, or both, to the incredibly vibrant, always surprising world of Indian cinema at the best possible place... on the big screen.

Mitu Bhowmick Lange, IFFM Festival Director



Message from Festival Ambassador

Vidya Balan

Vidya Balan isn't just Indian cinema's golden girl; she is also IFFM's secret weapon. On screen she has transformed the portrayal of women for an audience of over a billion people and won countless awards doing it, including the prestigious Padma Shri, one of India's highest civilian honours, the National Film Award, and the Pride of India award. In 2013, Vidya was a member of the Cannes Film Festival Jury along with Steven Spielberg and Nicole Kidman.

We could not be luckier, more proud or more grateful, to have Vidya as the Ambassador for the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne.



"Namastē Melbourne! It is with great pride that I represent this wonderful festival that, in my humble opinion, helps to encourage greater understanding between our two countries. Melbourne has been wonderful to me and I am overjoyed to return the favour.

We aim to keep the festival fresh each year and I am very excited about the new IFFM Awards. This isn't just because I'm campaigning for a future award, I promise! It is a proud moment for Indians at home to see our film industry recognised around the world like this and Australian recognition is particularly lovely.

So thank you to IFFM and the Victorian Government for this opportunity. I hope you have a magical time, whether at the special events or at the cinema, enjoying these unique and very special festival."





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Advisory Board

Manika Jain

Consul General of India, Melbourne



Ms Manika Jain joined the Indian Foreign Service in 1993 after graduating in Law from University of Delhi. During her diplomatic career, she has served in Indian Missions in Portugal, Myanmar and Indonesia. In India, she has been on deputation to the Ministry of Commerce and worked in Trade Policy Division dealing with matters related to the WTO. In the Ministry of External Affairs, she has worked in Divisions which look after the relations between India and the countries of East Asia and India's Eastern Neighbours.

Anthony Pratt

Executive Chairman of Visy



One of Australia's largest privately owned companies, Visy employs more than 9,000 people across Australasia and the USA in recycling, paper, packaging and clean energy production. Firmly committed to environmental causes, Mr Pratt is a member of Tony Blair's Climate Group, sits on the National Board of the Muhammad Ali Museum and Education Center in Kentucky and is active in numerous charity organisations throughout Australia and the USA.

Pamela Chopra



As a celebrated playback singer Pamela Chopra stole the heart of legendary mogul Yash Chopra and sang on many of his greatest hits. A creative force in her own right, she co-wrote the classic *Kabhi Kabhie* and produced *Aaina* in 1993.

We are blessed that this indomitable lady continues her husband's passionate support of IFFM and the promotion of Indian cinema around the world.

Simi Garewal



As an actress Simi Garewal worked with directors including Satyajit Ray and Yash Chopra, but this stylish "lady in white" became even better known and hugely respected as a producer and presenter in

India. Not only has she changed the face of Indian television with her ground breaking talk shows, she also founded an award winning production company. In 2013, Simi headed the jury of the Indian TV Academy Awards.

Ronnie Screwala



As founder of UTV Group Ronnie Screwala built a small cable distribution venture into a multimedia conglomerate, turning the company into a major content generator, from soaps to critically acclaimed features including *Barfi!* and *Kai Po Che*.

After selling UTV to Disney, he merged the two organisations, laying the groundwork for Disney UTV's future. He is now pursuing other entrepreneurial interests and developing his humanitarian foundation.

Vikramjit Roy



When it comes to promoting Indian cinema there aren't many who can outshine Vikramjit Roy. He spent more than a decade with Sony Pictures Entertainment India as head of publicity. Now, as head of production

for the prestigious National Film Development Corporation of India he helps organise the country's mammoth film output and foster excellence, helping hits such as *The Good Road* & *The Lunchbox* reach screens and reap rewards.

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Short Film Competition Presented by Western Union

The mighty Western Union Short Film Competition goes from strength to strength in its quest to unearth exciting new filmmakers from India and Australia. All the entrants had to do was impress the director and writer of *Dhoom 3*, Vijay Krishna Acharya, along with the godfather of Aussie indie cinema himself, Paul Cox, in ten minutes or less with a film about 'hope'. No easy task then! But with previous winners earning Film Victoria funding and assisting the director of a major Bollywood feature, the rewards can far outlast their films' short running times. Western Union continue to make the world a smaller place by flying the lucky Indian winner to Melbourne and the Aussie winner to India. Catch the winning films at IFFM and size up your competition for next year!



Give Sheep a Chance



2013 winning film: Sati



Arranged Marriage



Short Film Competition Judges



Credit: Maggie Miles

Paul Cox

Credited as the father of Australian independent cinema, this prolific auteur has brought his distinctive vision to TV, documentaries, short films, 20 features and even a "macrocosmic" adventure for IMAX. International film festivals including Telluride, Istanbul and Calcutta, as well as New York's Film Society of Lincoln Center, have all honoured his work with retrospectives, but he shows no sign of slowing down; he is currently shooting a feature in India.



Vijay Krishna Acharya

Victor, as he's known by friends and colleagues, is currently the toast of Bollywood as the writer-director of *Dhoom 3*, now the highest grossing Indian film of all time. But like most success stories he didn't happen overnight, climbing the ranks and surviving the lows to reach the highs. In short, a great pair of eyes for spotting the real deal.

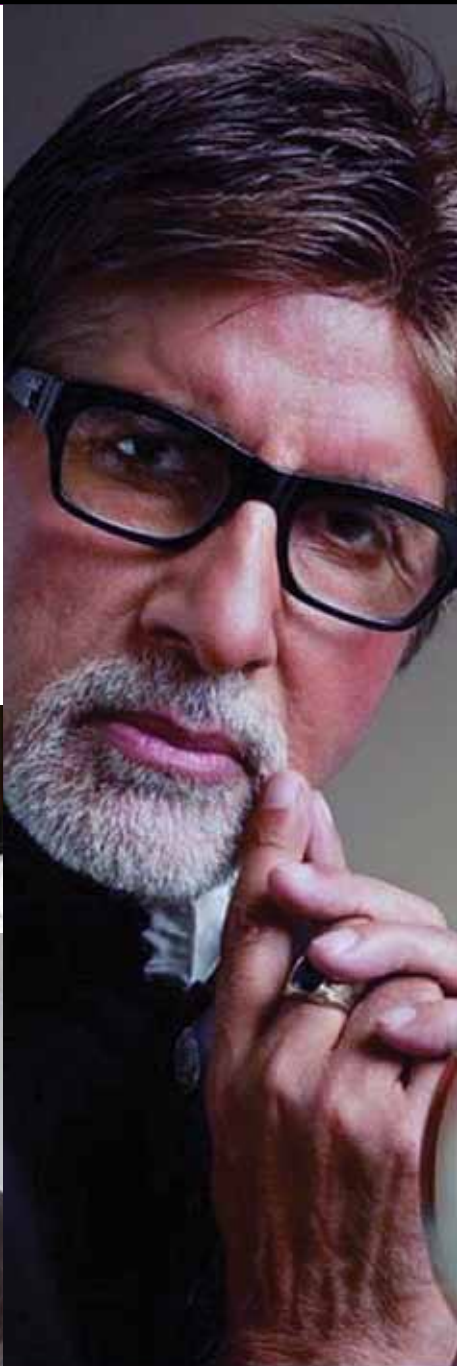
Festival Guests

Amitabh Bachchan

When it comes to the icons of Indian cinema they don't come any bigger than Amitabh Bachchan. Regarded amongst Indians as more of a god of cinema than a mere star, he is the undisputed godfather of modern Indian cinema. From the moment he first appeared as the 'angry young man' in the seventies, with his confident swagger and rich baritone voice, he practically defined Indian cinema as we know it today. The winner of three National Film Awards, four doctorates, fourteen Filmfare Awards, and France's Legion of Honour among countless other awards and honours from around the world, his influence stretches far and wide in India, where his work for UNICEF has helped to rid the country of polio.



But it took an Australian to persuade the man described by Truffaut as a "one man industry" to make his Hollywood debut in Baz Luhrmann's *The Great Gatsby* last year. Now Amitabh Bachchan's second 3D outing arrives in the newly restored *Sholay*. We are truly honoured to welcome this titan of cinema to Melbourne.



Festival Guests

Konkona Sen Sharma

The daughter of filmmaker and actress Aparna Sen, Konkona is one of India's leading stars of arthouse and parallel (independent) cinema.

She made her screen debut at the age of three and has since appeared in almost forty Hindi, Bengali and English language films.

Noted for her naturalism, especially playing ambitious and independent women, she has won two National Film Awards and starred in the late, great Rituparno Ghosh's last film.



Rakeysh Omprakash Mehra

A National and Filmfare award winning writer, director and producer, he's one of India's most successful and exciting filmmakers. With *Rang De Basanti* (*Colour of Sacrifice*), *Delhi-6* and now *Bhaag Milkha Bhaag* under his belt, he has attracted the attention of audiences and red carpets alike, while helping to redefine Indian cinema on the world stage.

A former commercials director for clients including Coke, Pepsi and Toyota, Mehra is easily one of India's most prolific film makers today.



Malaika Arora Khan

She is without doubt one of the most famous and enduring Bollywood sirens to light up a screen. A dancer since the age of four, Arora Khan's love of film led her from a successful modelling career to one of India's most unforgettable big screen debuts, as the lead dancer in *Dil Se*'s iconic 'Chaiyya Chaiyya' number on a moving train.

A star was born and, eschewing acting, she went on to produce both *Dabaang* movies with her husband Arbaaz Khan and is currently a judge on the massive *India's Got Talent*.





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Flights out of Australia are operated by Singapore Airlines, as well as its regional wing, SilkAir.



Festival Guests

Vijay Krishna Acharya

He may have written dialogue, dreamt up stories, penned lyrics and contributed complete screenplays for the movies but even he might not have dreamt that his sophomore directorial outing, *Dhoom 3*, would end up breaking so many box-office records.

A favourite of Yash Raj Films, he made his name in TV before segueing into movies and eventually directing Akshay Kumar in *Tashan*. With the mind-boggling success of *Dhoom 3* behind him, this impressively moustached fan of Tarantino and Woody Allen has become a force to reckon with in the Indian film industry.



Shaan Shahid

Hailing from a showbiz family, Pakistan's most acclaimed and influential actor made his screen debut at seventeen and has since appeared in hundreds of Urdu and Punjabi films, directed five features, been the face of Pepsi, Lux soap and telecom giant Mobilink, and even presented a morning TV show.

But the record-breaking success of hi-octane action thriller *Waar*, in which he plays a retired Pakistan Army officer sent to foil a terrorist plot, put all that in the shade and is now Pakistan's highest-grossing box-office hit of all time.



Hassan Waqas Rana

With the staggering success of *Waar*, the canny CEO of MindWorks Media has revolutionised commercial filmmaking in Lollywood (the nickname for Lahore's film industry), making homegrown content with mass appeal and encouraging a new generation of filmmakers to follow his lead. By tapping into Pakistani audiences' patriotic need to present their side of the war on terror, and employing higher production values, he has unlocked new markets.

He shows no signs of slowing down either, with *Waar 2* and *Delta Echo Foxtrot* both in the works, aiming to take Pakistani cinema to another level.



Festival Guests IFFM Awards Jury

The inaugural Indian Film Festival of Melbourne Awards (IFFM Awards) could not have a stronger and more diverse jury. Join them as they announce the winners of the first ever IFFM Awards. Deciding between such a rich and varied

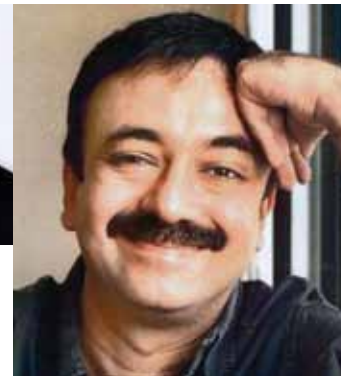
Festival Guests IFFM Awards Jury

slate of films is no easy task. Step forward our esteemed jury whose own credentials put them in rarefied company. We are incredibly grateful to the following people for lending their expertise to the IFFM Awards.



Phillip Noyce

His love of film took this award-winning director from an outback town in New South Wales to Hollywood's A-list, directing the likes of Nicole Kidman (*Dead Calm*), Harrison Ford (*Clear and Present Danger*), Angelina Jolie (*Salt*) and drawing an Oscar nominated performance from Michael Caine in *The Quiet American*. An executive producer of hit TV show *Revenge*, his proudest achievement is his film about Australia's 'stolen generation', *Rabbit-Proof Fence*. Last year Phillip served on the jury for the Vietnam International Film Festival.



Rajkumar Hirani

Hirani is one of India's most iconic film makers, who started his journey as a writer and editor after graduating from the Film and Television Institute of India.

Hirani has created a string of influential hits and has a skill for tackling weighty subjects with a populist touch. His next film, tentatively titled *P.K.*, is a political satire about God and the business of God.



Simi Garewal

As an actress she worked for directors including Satyajit Ray and Yash Chopra, but this stylish "lady in white" became even better known and hugely respected as a producer and presenter in India.

Not only has she changed the face of Indian television with her ground breaking talk shows, she also founded an award winning production company. In 2013, Simi headed the jury of the Indian TV Academy Awards.



Suhasini Maniratnam

An extremely popular star of South Indian cinema, Suhasini works in four languages and has been recognised across the board, picking up a National Film Award for Best Actress, Nandi Awards, Tamil Nadu and Kerala State Film Awards. In 1996, this wonderfully outspoken actress, writer, producer and cinematographer added directing to her resumé with *Indira*; for which she also wrote the screenplay. She runs the production company Madras Talkies with her husband, director Mani Ratman.



Jill Bilcock

One of the most sought after editors in the world, Australia's Jill Bilcock cut her first film on her kitchen table and has since brought her trademark 'zing' to films including *Strictly Ballroom*, *Elizabeth*, *Moulin Rouge!*, *Road to Perdition*, *Don't Be Afraid of the Dark*, *Red Dog* and Shekhar Kapur's upcoming *Paani*.

A multiple award winner, Jill served as a Gold Jury member for the Mumbai Film Festival in 2013.



Rajeev Masand

Getting his break at the age of 16 as a writer for The Times of India, Masand has since become one of India's most respected film critics as Assistant Editor of The Indian Express, Special Correspondent and Film Critic at Star News and Entertainment Editor and Film Critic at CNN-IBN. Voted Best Entertainment Critic three times by the National Television Awards, Rajeev is also a Contributing Editor for GQ India.



Events Opening Night

Festival opened by the legendary

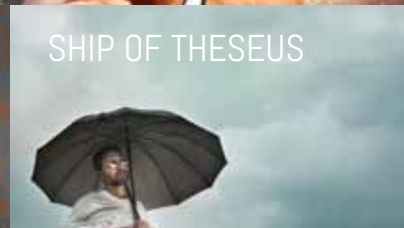
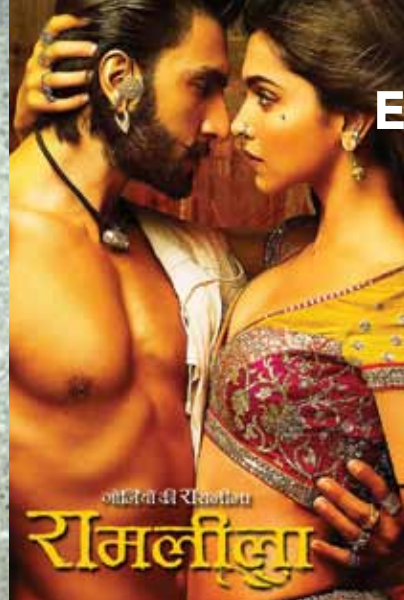
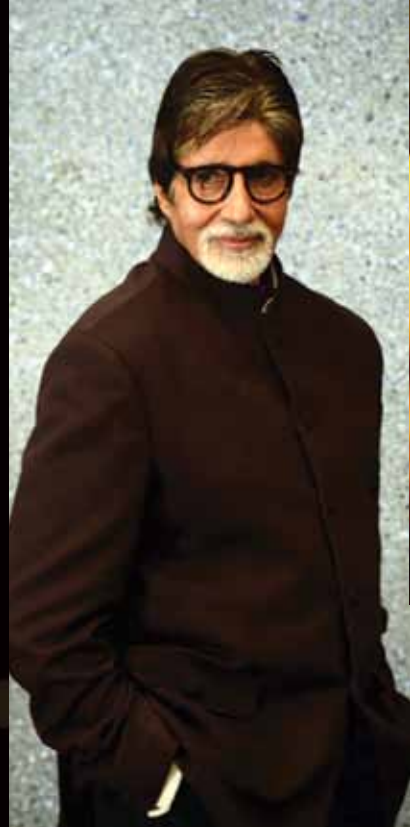
Amitabh Bachchan

The third Indian Film Festival of Melbourne is honoured, as the living legend of Indian cinema, Amitabh Bachchan will open the 11 days of festivities with the Australian premiere of one of the most loved films of our times, **Sholay 3D**.

It is impossible to separate Amitabh Bachchan from Indian cinema. He changed its direction forever as soon as he appeared as the now archetypal 'angry young man' in 1973's **Zanjeer**. It was a role he would triumphantly revisit two years later in the classic **Sholay**, the defining example of a 'masala' film in which many genres blend together.

It may be rightfully considered a classic of Indian cinema now, but when **Sholay** was first released in cinemas, audiences weren't quite sure what to make of it. With Western production values, brutal action, girl chasing and male bonding, stereo sound and 70mm prints, this unforgettable epic soon gripped the nation, playing in one Mumbai cinema for five continuous years.

Now **Sholay** adds to its ground breaking legacy with an added dimension and a glistening restoration. And for one lucky Melbourne audience the action will get even closer as the iconic Amitabh Bachchan himself introduces this special screening in person. A once in a lifetime opportunity to see this timeless classic as never before with India's greatest ever screen star up close and personal.



Events IFFM Awards Night



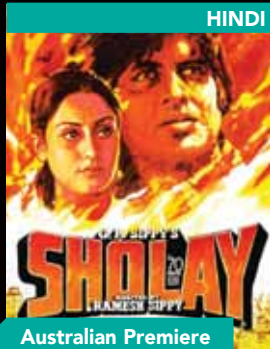
Melbourne's historic Princess Theatre is no stranger to firsts. Built in 1886, it boasted the world's first retractable roof and featured state-of-the-art electrical stage lighting. Now this beautiful landmark will host the inaugural IFFM Awards, recognising the best of Indian cinema live on stage.

Best Actor, Best Actress, Best Director, Best Film and Best Indie Film awards are all up for grabs, while the one and only

Amitabh Bachchan will receive the IFFM International Screen Icon Award for his magnificent contributions to world cinema.



Join us for an unmissable night of big laughs and maybe even a few tears as we thank the very best of Indian cinema live at the Princess Theatre on Melbourne's historic Spring Street.



Sholay 3D

2014 re-release

216mins

Festival Rating

Director: Ramesh Sippy

Cast: Amitabh Bachchan, Dharmendra, Sanjeev Kumar, Hema Malini, Jaya Bhadur

6:30pm, Thursday 1 May, HOYTS Melbourne Central



7pm, Friday 2 May, Princess Theatre, 163 Spring St, Melbourne

Events IFFM Awards Nominees

As voted by the IFFM 2014 jury, honoring outstanding direction in a feature film...

Nominees for Best Director



Presented by Western Union

The winners will be announced on May 2 at the IFFM Awards at the Princess Theatre.

Anand Gandhi *Ship of Theseus*



From humble beginnings writing for soaps, this young director has become one of India's most exciting filmmakers. His debut feature, the poetic and philosophical *Ship of Theseus* was selected

by the UK's esteemed film critic Derek Malcolm as a film that changed his life. So impressed was Australian legend Hugo Weaving that he attached his name to the film and presented it in Australia for its theatrical release.

Rakeysh Omprakash Mehra *Bhaag Milkha Bhaag*



This two time National Film Award winning director was so inspired by Milkha Singh's story he successfully bid for the shoes the legend wore

at the 1960 Rome Olympics. The passion showed with the Times of India saying he "explores characters so sensitively through tragedy and triumph that it sparks an emotional deluge."

Anup Singh *Qissa*



Singh drew on his own childhood experience of displacement from Tanzania to the UK to tell the story of a father (Irrfan Khan) who is desperate to preserve the family, no matter the

cost. Told in his beguiling magic-realist style, *Qissa* went on to win awards at Rotterdam and Toronto.

Ritesh Batra *The Lunchbox*

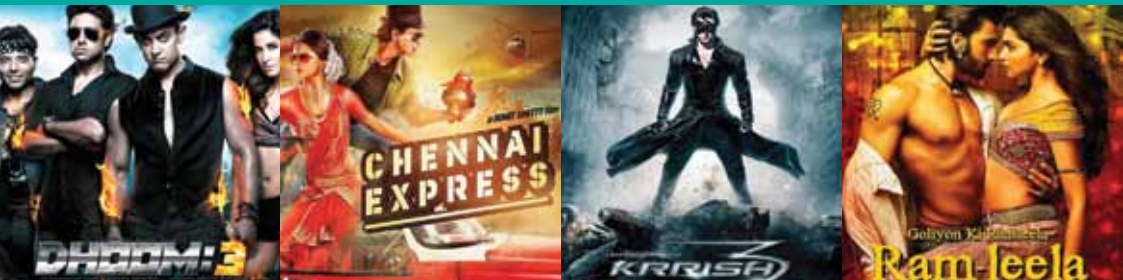


A Sundance Writers and Directors Lab alumni, his debut feature *The Lunchbox* won the Viewer's Choice Award at Cannes where it received a standing

ovation. It is now one of the all time highest-grossing independent films in India. "A delectable take on the hunger for connection," said The Los Angeles Times.

Based on highest grossing Indian film at the Australian Box Office.

Telstra People's Choice Award



Events IFFM Awards Nominees

As voted by the IFFM 2014 jury, honouring outstanding performance in a feature film...

Nominees for Best Performance

The winners will be announced on May 2 at the IFFM Awards at the Princess Theatre.

Best Actor

Farhan Akhtar *Bhaag Milkha Bhaag*



Renowned for his writing and directorial repertoire, Akhtar is a relative newcomer to the acting game.

However, in his visceral performance as Milkha Singh, his performance is far from amateur and nothing short of transformative and powerful.

Best Actress

Deepika Padukone *Goliyon ki Raseela Ram-Leela*



If starring in four massive hits in one year wasn't enough, the real proof that Padukone has made it is the positive appraisal from revered Bollywood actor Amitabh Bachchan for her portrayal of the doomed Leela in the Hindi *Romeo and Juliet*

adaptation. Praise doesn't come any higher than that.

Kangana Ranaut *Queen*



As the jilted young bride who discovers herself when she goes on honeymoon alone, Kangana Ranaut has had Bollywood's biggest hitters singing her praises. A star is born.

Irrfan Khan *The Lunchbox*



Young Irrfan Khan wanted to play cricket for a career but his family didn't approve. We owe them a debt of gratitude, if only for his nuanced performance as

curmudgeonly office worker Mr Fernandes. Variety agreed, praising his "extraordinary range and chameleon-like presence."

Nimrit Kaur *The Lunchbox*



Despite being best known in India as the star of the Cadbury commercial, director Ritesh Batra cast this respected theatre actress opposite Irrfan Khan on a hunch. His risk paid off. She earned rave reviews as a neglected housewife, helping *The Lunchbox* win the Viewers

Choice Award at Cannes.

Raj Kumar Yadav *shahid*



CNN-IBN's Rajeev Masand once described Yadav's delivery of a single line of dialogue as proof of "what a good actor can bring even to a small part." As the slain human rights lawyer Shahid Azmi, he carries

the entire film, with the Deccan Chronicle hailing his performance as, "nothing short of outstanding."

Sonakshi Sinha *Lootera*



She broke hearts as the overly protected young writer who falls hard for Ranveer Singh's mysterious stranger with tumultuous results. "Everything about this dark love story seems right thanks to Sonakshi Sinha's performance," lauded Filmfare's reviewer, and he wasn't alone.

Events IFFM Awards Nominees

As voted by the IFFM 2014 jury, honouring outstanding achievement in an independent film...

Nominees for Best Indie Film

The winners will be announced on May 2 at the IFFM Awards at the Princess Theatre.



Filmistaan

As with *Qissa* director Anup Singh, Nitin Kakkar grew up hearing stories from his grandparents about the trauma partition caused. Years later, this Punjabi filmmaker's award winning debut Hindi feature helps to heal through humour, celebrating the uniting power of cinema along the way.

The Lunchbox

This delicate examination of ageing and human connection has had critics and festival audiences reaching for superlatives. While India overlooked it for Oscar contention, international critics have called it the next big international hit. As one of the characters states, "Even the wrong train can take you to the right destination."



Ship Of Theseus

Writer/director Anand Gandhi proved he's at the vanguard of India's resurgent independent cinema with this lyrical examination of identity, beauty and death; through the stories of a photographer, a monk and a stockbroker. Shekhar Kapur called it simply, "The most significant film to have come out of India in a long time."



Events IFFM Awards Nominees

As voted by the IFFM 2014 jury, honouring outstanding achievement in a feature film...

Nominees for Best Film

The winners will be announced on May 2 at the IFFM Awards at the Princess Theatre.



Bhaag Milkha Bhaag

"A rousing and handsomely crafted biopic," raved Variety and audiences agreed, taking the box office figures to over one billion rupees. When US track legend Carl Lewis saw the film, he called Milkha Singh to honour both his and the film's achievements.

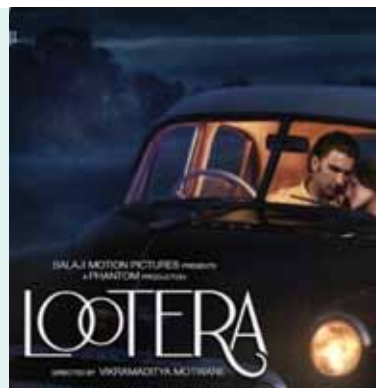
Goliyon ki Rasleela Ram-Leela

As the director of *Hum Dil De Chuke Sanam*, *Devdas* and *Black*, Bhansali is no stranger to epic, exquisitely staged romance. However, through his adaptation of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*—starring two of India's most coveted thespians—he managed to outdo himself.



Lootera

Following 2010's acclaimed *Udaan* was never going to be easy but Vikramaditya Motwane managed it with this impeccably crafted period romance. Praising its old world charm, Time Out London concluded, "Discerning fans of sensible Bollywood are in for a treat."





NACH BALIYE!

Bollywood is all about romance, action, comedy, drama, songs and of course DANCE! Here's your chance to put on your best dancing shoes and impress some of the biggest names in Bollywood!

Telstra is proud to support the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne in hosting the second Telstra Bollywood Dance Competition.

To register go to iffm.com.au/telstra



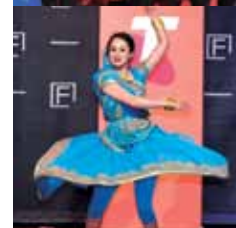
Events Telstra Bollywood Dance Competition



» Moments from the 2013 Telstra Bollywood Dance Competition

While Indian films don't all have musical numbers, no other film industry does them quite like India's. This could be why the Telstra Bollywood Dance Competition is so fiercely contested each year by dancers from across the country doing battle in solo and group categories in various age ranges. The stakes are raised by our daunting judges who this year are headed by the incredible Malaika Arora Khan. A judge on the massive *India's Got Talent*, Khan not only produced the *Dabaang* films but also starred in one of the most iconic Indian musical numbers of all time, performing 'Chaiyya Chaiyya' on top of a moving train in *Dil Se*. An interactive event, everyone in Federation Square can vote with their phone and one lucky dancer will win a trip to India courtesy of Gaura Travels.

3pm, Sunday May 4, Federation Square



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film

Every Saturday Night
Presented by Sandy George

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 SBS ONE

A Dangerous Method, 24 May

Events Masterclasses

Masterclass: *Presented by Australia India Institute* **Rakeysh Omprakash Mehra**

6pm, Sunday May 4, HOYTS Melbourne Central

A National and Filmfare award winning writer, director and producer, Mehra started out as a successful commercials director for major brands including Toyota, Coke and American Express. He formed his own production company and made the jump to features in 2001 with *Aks* starring Amitabh Bachchan. His 2006 hit, *Rang De Basanti*, rocked the country, awakening a new generation to government corruption and sparking widespread debate. In fact, "The RDB effect" is still used to describe instances of people power. Here, the man behind these films, as well as *Delhi-6* and *Bhaag Milkha Bhaag* (see page 31), will tackle one of the most important & interesting subjects that directors around the globe can discuss, 'the auteur theory' and how the director is the true author of the story. Mehra will showcase *Aks*, *Rang De Basanti*, *Delhi-6* and *Bhaag Milkha Bhaag* in his discussion.



Masterclass: **Suhasini Maniratnam** *Power of Dialogue*

7pm, Monday May 5, HOYTS Melbourne Central

A jewel of South Indian cinema, Maniratnam has mastered the art of penning dialogues in three languages in almost one hundred films, winning a National Film award and five Filmfare Awards for Best Actress, amongst many others. In 1993 she wrote the comedy thriller *Thiruda Thiruda* and two years later stepped behind the camera to direct *Indira*, which she also wrote. In 2010 she wrote the kidnap drama *Raavanan* starring Vikram and Aishwarya Rai Bachchan. Together with her husband, director Mani Ratnam, she runs Madras Talkies which produces features and television serials.



Masterclass: *Presented by Australia India Institute* **Konkona Sen Sharma** *Arthouse vs Mainstream*

6pm, Friday May 9, University of Melbourne

Renowned for her naturalism, Konkana is one of India's most respected contemporary actresses. She is also one of the most versatile having appeared in arthouse and mainstream films in three languages. Join this two time National Film Award winner for a rare insight into the sheer diversity of Indian cinema and her experiences working with some of India's best filmmakers, from arthouse to mainstream.



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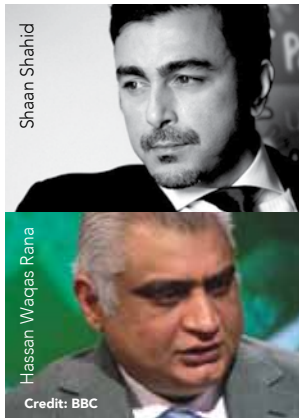
Events **Special Screenings with Q&As**

Q&A: **Shaan Shahid and Hassan Waqas Rana**

Film maker and actor from the Pakistani film **WAAR**

6pm, Saturday May 3, HOYTS Melbourne Central

The star and writer-producer behind blockbuster *Waar* hits Melbourne to introduce Pakistan's highest-grossing film of all time. With a sequel to the action thriller in the works, the film's incredible success, Shahid's status as Pakistan's biggest star and his massive filmography, there is a plenty to ask this dynamic duo. Meet the writer and producer behind the blockbuster *Waar*, Pakistan's highest-grossing film of all time.



Shaan Shahid

Hassan Waqas Rana

Credit: BBC

Q&A: **Rakeysh Omprakash Mehra** about *Bhaag Milkha Bhaag*

8:30pm, Saturday May 3, HOYTS Melbourne Central

Rakeysh Mehra, the lauded director of *Bhaag Milkha Bhaag*, the story of Milkha Singh, 'The Flying Sikh', is coming to Melbourne to discuss the film in all its glory. The film depicts the life of arguably India's most celebrated sportsman, a man who has been an inspiration to generations both on and off the track. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to interact with the director of this ground breaking work.



Q&A: **Vijay Krishna Acarya** session on *Dhoom 3*

6:30pm, Sunday May 4, HOYTS Melbourne Central

As the writer of all three *Dhoom* installments, and the director of the record-breaking third, no-one is better placed to explain the series' incredible success than Acarya. Starring Abhishek Bachchan and Uday Chopra as buddy-cop partners Jai Dixit and Ali Akbar, and a revolving cast of guest star villains (John Abraham, Hrithik Roshan, Aamir Khan), the *Dhoom* series has helped introduce Indian cinema to new audiences around the world and has become more successful with each film. Meet the writer and director of *Dhoom 3* to learn some of the secrets behind the highest-grossing Indian film of all time, both at home and around the world.



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Events Closing Night

Please join Konkona Sen Sharma to celebrate the end of the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne 2014 with a special screening of

BENGALI

Goynar Baksho

2013 · 141mins · Festival Rating
Director: Aparna Sen
Cast: Konkona Sen Sharma,
Moushumi Chatterjee,
Srabanti Biswas, Saswata Chatterjee



Australian Premiere

A jewellery box handed down through three generations of women reveals their respective places in society in this bittersweet comedy drama. Bengal's rich yet turbulent history is revealed when Chaitali asks the ghost of her grandmother if she may use her jewels to ease the family's financial situation. A family affair, Aparna Sen directs daughter Konkona in an adaptation of her husband Mukul Sharma's 1975 short story.

7:30pm, Sunday 11 May, HOYTS Melbourne Central

All program, films & guests are accurate at time of going to print but are subject to change. For most updated program please check our website www.iffm.com.au closer to the event.



FILM FESTIVALS:
Indian Film Festival
of Houston



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| Age VCE and Careers Expo | 2 May | Caulfield Racecourse |
| Experience La Trobe | 8 July | Melbourne Campus |
| Herald Sun Expo | 15-17 August | Melbourne Exhibition Centre |
| Open Day | 24 August | Melbourne Campus |

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latrobe.edu.au/experience

Hurrah Bollywood!

Pure Bollywood escapism with the biggest hits of the last 12 months from Mumbai's greatest commercial studios.



HINDI

Bhaag Milkha Bhaag (Run Milkha Run)

2013 • 187mins • MA+15

Director: Rakeysh Omprakash Mehra
Cast: Farhan Akhtar, Sonam Kapoor

The incredible true story of Indian track legend Milkha Singh has wooed Indian critics and audiences alike, taking 6 Filmfare awards in 2013. With part of the film, set in Melbourne, Aussie audiences will find a lot to love here too, including a role for Melbourne. Following the massacre of his family during the India-Pakistan partition of 1947, Singh escaped life on the streets by becoming sporting icon. "An engrossing example of the sweeping, stirring biography," says the LA Times.

8:30pm, Saturday 3 May, HOYTS Melbourne Central

FILM FESTIVALS & AWARDS:

Indo German Film Festival
Ladakh International Film Festival
• 5 Filmfare Awards 2014 including Best Film, Director (Mehra) and Actor (Akhtar)



HINDI/TAMIL

Chennai Express

2013 • 142mins • M

Director: Rohit Shetty
Cast: Deepika Padukone, Shahrukh Khan, Satyaraj

"King" Khan stars as an irresponsible ladies man in Mumbai who agrees to scatter half of his grandfather's ashes in southernmost India. Intending to meet his other bachelor mates in Goa instead, his plans are derailed by the stunning lady in his train carriage who is running from the marriage her mafia don father arranged. Director Shetty gleefully twists Bollywood conventions and brings the pumped up action he's famous for.

3:30pm, Sunday 4 May, HOYTS Melbourne Central

AWARDS:

• Filmfare Award for Sony Trendsetter of the Year 2014



HINDI

Dhoom 3 (Blast 3)

2013 • 172mins • M

Director: Vijay Krishna Acharya
Cast: Aamir Khan, Abhishek Bachchan, Katrina Kaif, Uday Chopra

India's favourite buddy-cop series hit unprecedented heights with this installment becoming the highest-grossing Bollywood film of all time, both at home and overseas. Bachchan and Chopra return as the crime-fighting odd couple, this time hitting the streets of Chicago in search of an audacious and cunning bank robber with a few tricks up his sleeve.

6:30pm, Sunday 4 May, HOYTS Melbourne Central

INFORMATION:

• Highest grossing Indian film world wide.



Hurrah Bollywood!



HINDI

Lootera (Robber)

2013 · 136mins · M
Director: Vikramaditya Motwane
Cast: Ranveer Singh, Sonakshi Sinha

Prepare to be swept away by this sumptuous romance set in 1953, a time when aristocrats—or 'zamindars'—still ruled large areas. Heartthrob Singh plays a young archaeologist who arrives in West Bengal to excavate a temple. But when the local zamindar's daughter falls for him he must choose between her and his shadowy past, reaping betrayal, tragedy and redemption in the process.

6pm, Monday 5 May, HOYTS Melbourne Central

FILM FESTIVALS:

Silent River Film Festival 2013
 San Diego Asian Film Festival 2013
 Jagarn Film Festival 2013



HINDI

Goliyon ki Rasleela Ram-Leela

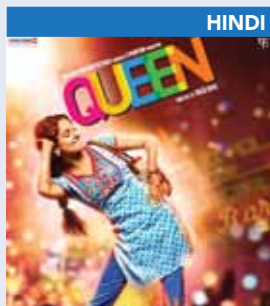
(A Play of Bullets: Ram-Leela)
 2013 · 153mins · M
Director: Sanjay Leela Bhansali
Cast: Deepika Padukone, Ranveer Singh

If you thought you'd seen every possible take on Romeo and Juliet, think again. In this dazzling critical and commercial hit, literature's most famous star-crossed lovers are members of warring families in an infamous Gujurati town; where guns are the local produce.

8:15pm, Thursday 8 May, HOYTS Melbourne Central

FILM FESTIVALS & AWARDS:

Marrakech International Film Festival
 • Deepika Padukone has won Filmfare Award for Best Performance.
 • This year, Deepika Padukone has won a Life OK Screen Award for her performance.



HINDI

Queen

2014 · 145mins · Festival Rating · Director: Vikas Bahl
Cast: Kangana Ranaut, Lisa Haydon, Rajkumar Rao

When a naive, sheltered young girl from Delhi is left standing at the altar by her self-absorbed fiancé she heads to Europe anyway rather than face her disappointed family. Despite never even having left the house on her own before, Rani (Hindi for Queen) hits Paris and Amsterdam with abandon and, with the help of some hilarious new friends, discovers herself for the first time. An unmissable coming of age story and a stunning feature from director Vikas Bahl. "Kangana Ranaut's performance is outstanding," added the Times of India.

6pm, Friday 2 May, HOYTS Melbourne Central



HINDI

Shaadi Ke Side Effects (Side Effects of Marriage)

2014 · 142mins · M
Director: Saket Chaudhary
Cast: Farhan Akhtar, Vidya Balan, Ram Kapoor

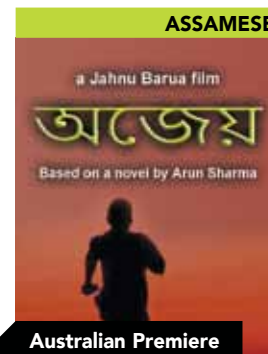
Our own IFFM Ambassador Vidya Balan headlines alongside *Bhaag Milkha Bhaag* star Farhan Akhtar as Trisha and Sid, a young married couple who seem to have the perfect, fun-loving relationship. Until, that is, an unexpected pregnancy brings the couple first seen in *Side Effects of Love* down to earth with a bump. Can their relationship survive diapers? Does the birth of a child mark the end of your own dreams? What does it do to a marriage?

2pm, Saturday 3 May, HOYTS Chadstone



Beyond Bollywood

There are many Indian film industries outside of Mumbai's hit factories, varying greatly in style from state to state. Singing and dancing largely give way to other concerns beyond 'Bollywood'.



ASSAMESE

Ajeyo (Invincible)

2013 · 117mins · Festival Rating
Director: Jahnú Bahrua
Cast: Rupam Chetia, Jupitora Bhyan

A story set at the peak of Gandhi's freedom movement in the North East of India; Ajeyo explores the issues of caste, child marriage, non-violence and the role of women bringing about social change. Despite being a high school dropout, protagonist Gojen is a tutor to a hot-headed Muslim girl, Hasina. Through a series of flashbacks: we see the reasons behind Gojen's hotheaded attitude towards society, his time as an activist and heroism in the village.

4:30pm, Saturday 10 May, HOYTS Chadstone

FILM FESTIVALS:

Mumbai International Film Festival



MARATHI

Anumati

2013 · 120mins · Festival Rating
Director: Gajendra Ahire
Cast: Vikram Gokhale, Reema Lagoo, Neena Kulkarni, Subodh Bhawe

Anumati is the story of retired Ratnakar Pathare's attempts to save his dying wife, Madhu, who has suffered brain hemorrhage. The story takes the audience on a journey, revisiting memories of Ratnakar and Madhu's marriage and visiting old relationships. Despite the anguish and pain, Ratnakar is ever hopeful that his wife will survive this.

6:50pm, Sunday 4 May, HOYTS Chadstone

FILM FESTIVALS:

New York Film Festival 2013



BENGALI

Apur Panchali

2013 · 97mins · Festival Rating
Director: Kaushik Ganguly
Cast: Parambrata Chatterjee, Parno Mitra, Ardhendu Banerjee

The young star of Satyajit Ray's classic *Pather Panchali* is still the most famous child actor in Indian film history almost sixty years later. But what happened to the boy who had never acted before and never would again? Director Kaushik Ganguly, using the real story as a springboard to explore the similarities between the life of Subir Banerjee and the iconic Apu, won Best Director award at the International Film Festival of India.

5pm, Saturday 3 May, HOYTS Chadstone

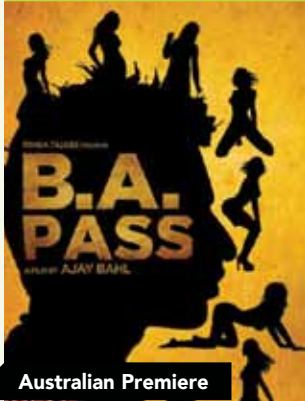
FILM FESTIVALS & AWARDS:

Goa Film Festival 2013
 Pune International Film Festival 2014
 • Best Director, International Film Festival of India 2013



Beyond Bollywood

HINDI



Australian Premiere

B.A. Pass

2013 · 95mins

Festival Rating

Director: Ajay Bah

Cast: Shilpa Shukla, Shadab Kamal, Rajesh Sharma, Dibyendu Bhattacharya

After losing his parents in a car accident, Mukesh stays at his Aunt's house in Delhi. Enrolled in a futile course in college; he finds peace by playing chess at the local cemetery. The rest of the time he spends worrying over ways to make a living and taking care of his sisters. When Mukesh meets Sarika 'auntie' at a kitty party, little does he know of the city and it's ways and means to survive. Sarika seduces Mukesh, shy and inexperienced he falls for her. What follows is his downward descent into the depths of debauchery.

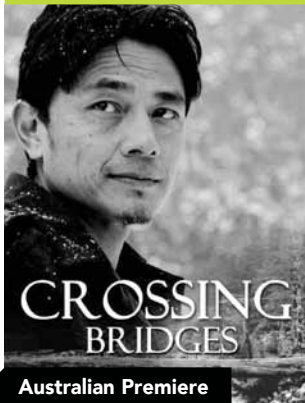
9pm, Friday 2 May, HOYTS Melbourne Central

AWARDS:

- Best Film Award in Indian Competition and Best Actor Award, Odisha's Cinefest Festival of Asia and Arab Cinema
- Nominated for the Golden Zeech for the Best First Fiction Feature Film, Montreal World Film Festival 2012
- Voted Best Film by the French Audience (pre du Public), South Asian Film Festival Paris 2013



SHERDUKPEN



Australian Premiere

Crossing Bridges

2013 · 104mins

Festival Rating

Director: Sange Dorjee Thongdok

Cast: Anshu Jamsenpa, Phuntsu Khriem

When Tashi, a man in his early thirties, loses his high profile position after an eight year tenure, he is forced to come back to his village in the remote northeast region of India. Eagerly awaiting news of potential prospects in the city, he begins to experience the life and culture of his native place and its people.

7pm, Tuesday 6 May, HOYTS Chadstone

FILM FESTIVALS:

- Mumbai Film Festival
- Dharamshala Film Festival



HINDI



Australian Premiere

Filmistaan

2012 · 117mins

Festival Rating

Director: Nitin Kakkar

Cast: Sharib Hashmi, Inaamulhaq, Kumud Mishra, Gopal Dutt

Filmistaan is the story of wannabe actor Sunny, who gets kidnapped by Pakistani terrorists while assisting an American documentary team in rural Rajasthan. After realizing they had mistakenly kidnapped the wrong person, the Pakistani terrorists decide to hold Sunny hostage in a small Pakistani village.

3:30pm, Saturday 10 May, HOYTS Melbourne Central

FILM FESTIVALS & AWARDS:

- Mumbai Film Festival
- 24th Palm Springs International Film Festival
- 23rd TROMSO International Film Festival Norway
- 36th Göteborg International Film Festival Sweden
- Special Jury Mention, Busan Inter-national Film Festival, South Korea 2012
- Silver Crow Pheasant Award for Best Debut, International Film Festival of Kerala 2012
- Best Feature Film, Indian Showcase, Delhi International Film Festival 2012
- Best Feature Film in Hindi, 60th National Film Awards 2012
- Best Debut Director and Best Upcoming Film, 5th Jaipur International Film Festival 2013
- German Start of India Award, 10th Indian Film Festival, Stuttgart 2013



Beyond Bollywood

GUJARATI



Australian Premiere

The Good Road

2013 · 92mins · Festival Rating

Director: Gyan Correa

Cast: Poonam Kesar Singh, Priyank Upadhyay, Shamji Dhana Kerasia

When veteran commercials director Gyan Correa needed inspiration for his next project, he hitchhiked across the desert and salt flats of rural Gujarat, listening to the stories of the truck drivers that picked him up. The harsh landscape turned out to be a source of inspiration for the filmmaker in his debut feature, as he follows three sets of travellers.

8:50pm, Saturday 10 May, HOYTS Chadstone

FILM FESTIVALS & AWARDS:

- South Asian International Film Festival 2013
- Portland International Film Festival 2013
- Best Gujarati Film, 60th National Film Awards
- Best Film Jury Award Indian Film Festival, Houston



HINDI



Australian Premiere

Jal

2013 · 121mins · Festival Rating

Director: Girish Malick

Cast: Tannishtha Chatterjee, Saidah Jules, Purab Kohli

Jal revolves around a young man named Bakka, who is gifted with a special ability to find water in the desert. Set in the Rann of Kutch, Bakka tries to solve the drought problems in his village, but faces unforeseen circumstances when he tries to help a female ornithologist save flamingos at the same time.

4:30pm, Sunday 11 May, HOYTS Melbourne Central

FILM FESTIVALS:

- Busan International Film Festival of India
- International Film Festival of India



HINDI



Australian Premiere

Lakshmi

2013 · 109mins · Festival Rating

Director: Nagesh Kukunoor

Cast: Monali Thakur, Shifaali Shah, Satish Kaushik, Ram Kapoor

Lakshmi is the true story of a courageous 14-year-old girl, sold into prostitution, who escapes and takes the nexus of dangerous traffickers to court and wins in a historic landmark case in India.

7pm, Friday 2 May, HOYTS Chadstone
8:30pm, Tuesday 6 May, HOYTS Melbourne Central

AWARDS:

- Winner, Audience Awards, Palm Springs International Film Festival 2014



HINDI



Australian Premiere

Lucia

2013 · 136mins · Festival Rating

Director: Pawan Kumar

Cast: Neenasam Sathish, Shruthi Hariharan, Achyuth Kuma Hardhika Shetty, Balaji Manohar

The renaissance of Bangalore's film industry heats up with this award winning crowd-funded psychological thriller from one of India's most exciting new wave of directorial talent. The line between dreams and reality blur when a cinema usher becomes addicted to *Lucia*, a sleeping pill that causes fevered dreams.

6:30pm, Friday 9 May, HOYTS Chadstone

FILM FESTIVALS & AWARDS:

- Chennai International Film Festival 2013
- Audience Choice Award London, Indian Film Festival 2013



Beyond Bollywood

KONKANI



Australian Premiere

Mortoo

2013 · 109mins · Festival Rating
 Director: Jitendra Shikerkar
 Cast: Rajdeep Naik, Prashanti Talpankar, Prince Jacob

Mortoo is a black comedy about a humble villager who cremates the dead. Mortoo goes through bad times, and along with his street savvy brother-in-law, comes up with a unique Cremation Insurance Scheme, which takes care of one's funeral for a small premium. Against all odds—and with the assistance of an immoral politician—Mortoo makes it big; with interesting repercussions.

7pm, Monday 5 May, HOYTS Chadstone

FILM FESTIVALS:
 International Film Festival of India 2013



ORIYA / HINDI



Australian Premiere

Oonga

2013 · 98mins · Festival Rating
 Director: Devashish Makhija
 Cast: Raju Singh, Seema Biswas

Just as Avatar leaves Pandora for the forests of eastern India, when a young boy from a remote village runs away to the big city to see the mythical Rama. His odyssey drives him across forests, rivers and roads; but can the big, blue god help him save his village from invading miners and a corrupt government? Inspired by the rapturous reaction of Adivasi tribe members to Cameron's epic and the recognition of their own struggles.

7pm, Thursday 8 May, HOYTS Chadstone

FILM FESTIVALS:
 Mumbai Film Festival
 New York Indian Film Festival



PUNJABI



Australian Premiere

Qissa (Fable)

2013 · 109mins · Festival Rating
 Director: Anup Singh · Cast: Irrfan Khan, Tillotama Shome, Rasika Dugal, Tisca Chopra, Nandita Das

Set in the deadly tumult of 1947's India-Pakistan Partition, the amazing Irrfan Khan (*D Day*, *Life of Pi*) plays a tyrannical Sikh father who moves his family to escape ethnic cleansing. But when his wife gives birth to another girl, threatening the end of the family name, he chooses to raise his daughter as a boy.

3:30pm, Saturday 3 May, HOYTS Melbourne Central

FILM FESTIVALS:
 Abu Dhabi Film Festival
 Toronto International Film Festival 2013
 Busan International Film Festival 2013
 Mumbai International Film Festival 2013
 2014 International Film Festival of Rotterdam



HINDI



Australian Premiere

Shahid

2013 · 118mins · M · Director: Hansal Mehta · Cast: Rajkumar Rao, Tigra Manshu Dhulia, K K Menon

The incredible true story of slain human rights lawyer Shahid Azmi. From 'slumdog' beginnings, he was caught up in 1993's Mumbai riots as a teen and fled to a Pakistani terrorist training camp. Disillusioned by talk of jihad he returned to Mumbai where he was tortured under India's anti-terrorism laws. Defying all odds, he obtained a law degree and successfully defended those wrongly accused of the 2008 Mumbai attacks—before his untimely demise.

6pm, Tuesday 6 May, HOYTS Melbourne Central

FILM FESTIVALS:
 Toronto International Film Festival 2012
 New York Indian Film Festival 2013
 Indian Film Festival Stuttgart 2013
 Human Rights Film Festival 2013
 Dubai International Film Festival 2014



Beyond Bollywood

TAMIL



Australian Premiere

Sodhu Kavvum (Evil Engulfs)

2013 · 138mins
 Festival Rating
 Director: Nalan Kumaraswamy
 Cast: Vijay Sethupathi, Sanchita Shetty, MS Bhaskar

Tamil cinema takes a refreshing turn with this hilariously twisted black comedy about a 40-something kidnapper who just can't ignore his conscience. When he teams up with three hapless partners to kidnap a politician's only son they get way more than they bargained for.

2pm, Sunday 4 May, HOYTS Chadstone

FILM FESTIVALS:
 Mumbai Film Festival 2013
 Chennai International Film Festival 2013
 Kerala Film Festival 2013



TELGU



Australian Premiere

Venkatdri Express

2013 · 127mins
 Festival Rating
 Director: Merlapaka Gandhi
 Cast: Sundeep Kishan, Rakul Preet Singh, Nagineedu

Just catching a train becomes a series of gruelling trials for poor Sundeep. The law according to his zero-tolerance father is clear. You get one hundred slip-ups and then you're thrown out. Since even wrongfully peeing as a toddler is a crime, it's no surprise that we meet Sundeep on his ninety-ninth. So when the family must catch a train together for a wedding, it sets in motion wild comedic ride that could make or break the whole family.

6:50pm, Sunday May 4, HOYTS Chadstone FYI: No English subtitles



MALAYALAM



Australian Premiere

5 Sundarikal (5 Beautiful Women)

2013 · 140mins · Festival Rating
 Directors: Shyju Khalid, Sameer Tahir, Aashiq Abu, Amal Neerad, Anwar Rasheed
 Cast: Anikha Chethan, Isha Sharvani, Nivin Pauly, Kavya Madhavan, Biju Menon

Don't understand women? Then settle in for a romantic anthology of five stories directed by five young guns of Mollywood (Malayalam cinema). A schoolgirl photographer, an inquisitive woman on a night-drive with her husband, a New Year's Eve reveller, a woman facing a tragedy close to home and a newlywed married to a midget each provides an avenue for exploring the theme of love and different facets that make up a woman. "Strikes a chord, with its serene, sweet moments," said Variety.

7:30pm, Saturday 3 May, HOYTS Chadstone



New Voices

Indian independent cinema has surged over the last few years. Here are some of the exciting new filmmakers who are challenging the status quo and breaking new ground.

HINDI



Australian Premiere

Barefoot to Goa

2013 · 78mins · Festival Rating
Director: Praveen Morchhale
Cast: Farrukh Jaffar, Purva Parag, Gaurav Patel

FILM FESTIVALS:
 Mumbai Film Festival 2013
 Chennai Film Festival 2013
 Bengaluru Film Festival 2013



A road movie with a big heart and small actors, Morchhale's debut feature is the perfect getaway for some armchair tourism while highlighting the importance of family and the bonds we can lose living in city. We follow two young grandchildren who run away to Goa to bring their ailing grandmother home, by any means of transport necessary. An example of India's new generation of filmmaking and told largely without dialogue when a look will do, the Mumbai Film Festival described it as, "a breath of fresh air for Indian cinema."

7pm, Saturday 10 May, HOYTS Chadstone

HINDI



Australian Premiere

Chor Chor Super Chor

2013 · 98mins · Festival Rating
Director: K Rajesh · Cast: Deepak Dobriyal, Anshul Kataria, Avtar Sahni, Priya Rawat, Chandras Tiwari

FILM FESTIVALS:
 Chicago South Asian Film Festival 2013



In the crowded by-lanes of old Delhi, Shukla runs a small photo studio as a front for the young criminals he has groomed in the dark arts of petty street crime. Meanwhile, gang member Satbir commits to making an honest man of himself but his honourable intentions are soon threatened by the arrival of a beautiful girl with her own, possibly nefarious, ideas in mind. A comedy of criminal proportions ensues as rival gangs and rising hormones clash.

7pm, Wednesday 7 May, HOYTS Chadstone

TAMIL



Australian Premiere

Illai

2013 · 67mins · Festival Rating
Director: Rajiv Reddy Pochareddy
Cast: Pritham Chakravarthy, Manjula Odanadi



A sprightly little girl becomes lost in a metropolis and must navigate its hostile streets for clues as to where she lives. She instinctively lures a kind baker, three young rag-picking boys and a hard-hearted old woman into her search. *Illai* unfolds as these reclusive characters zealously bond and set off on a journey that reflects the continual ebb and flow of life itself.

6:30pm, Thursday 8 May, HOYTS Melbourne Central

New Voices

HINDI / HIMACHALI



Australian Premiere

Liar's Dice

2013 · 103mins · Festival Rating
Director: Geetu Mohandas
Cast: Geetanjali Thapa, Nazawazuddin Siddiqui, Manya Gupta

FILM FESTIVALS:
 Mumbai Film Festival 2013
 Sundance Film Festival Utah 2014



Buckle up for this award-winning road movie named after the dice game in which players must deceive and detect their opponent's deception. The acclaimed star of *ID* (IFFM 2013) plays a headstrong young woman who ignores her village elders and takes her young daughter, and their goat, on a dangerous search for her husband in Delhi. Fellow indie-darling Siddiqui, (star of *Monsoon Shootout* and *The Lunchbox*) is the resourceful army deserter who might just need them as much as they need him. "An assured feature debut..." said Variety.

8:45pm, Saturday 10 May, HOYTS Melbourne Central

ENGLISH / HINDI



Ship of Theseus

2013 · 143mins · Festival Rating
Director: Anand Gandhi
Cast: Neeraj Kabi, Sohuh Shah, Aida Elkashef, Faraz Khan

FILM FESTIVALS:
 Sydney International Film Festival
 BFI London Film Festival
 Hong Kong International Film Festival 2013
 Tokyo International Film Festival 2013
 Dubai International Film Festival 2013



The incredible feature debut of writer and director Anand Gandhi is just the latest in a string of critically acclaimed indie films that are currently redefining Indian cinema in the eyes of global audiences. Gorgeously shot on a Canon EOS, it follows three organ transplant recipients – a photographer, a monk and a stockbroker – exploring the nature of identity and change over time. "Cerebral, visually stunning and completely different to anything we've seen before from independent Indian cinema," raved Screen International. "Indie Indian cinema has finally come of age..." wrote Variety.

8:45pm, Monday 5 May, HOYTS Melbourne Central

ENGLISH / HINDI



Victorian Premiere

The Lunchbox

2013 · 104mins · Festival Rating
Director: Ritesh Batra
Cast: Irrfan Khan, Nimrat Kaur, Nawazuddin Siddiqui

FILM FESTIVALS & AWARDS:
 Toronto International Film Festival 2013
 Vancouver International Film Festival 2013
 Zurich International Film Festival 2013
 Dubai International Film Festival 2013
 Stockholm International Film Festival 2013
 Zurich International Film Festival 2013
 • Cannes 2013 (International Critics' Week)



Two of India's hottest actors star in this heartwarming drama that will have foodies salivating. When a housewife suspects her husband of infidelity she starts sending incredible home-cooked meals to his work via Mumbai's famous food delivery network of white-jacketed 'dabbawallas'. But when her sumptuous looking tiffin boxes mistakenly reach the desk of a middle-aged curmudgeon (Khan), his thank you note sparks an unlikely relationship. Think *84 Charing Cross Road* with better food and, according to The New York Times, "more than a touch of Ernst Lubitsch."

6:30pm, Saturday 10 May, HOYTS Melbourne Central



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From the Subcontinent

Travellers will find a lot to love here as we check out the latest and greatest films from some of India's closest neighbours, on the big screen where they belong. Films from Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal and Bangladesh that are a much loved section of our festival.

SRI LANKA



Australian Premiere

Bombs and Roses

2013 · 90mins · F R · Sinhala · Director: Anuruddha Jayasinghe · Cast: Upeksha Swarnamali, Mahendra Perera, Bimal Jayakodi, Dharshan Dharmaraj

As a bomb silently makes its way through the streets of Colombo it momentarily connects citizens from every walk of life. Writer/director Jayasinghe sets the action over the course of a single day, capturing slices of life in the shadow of indiscriminate death.

6:30pm, Friday 9 May, HOYTS Melbourne Central



PAKISTAN



Australian Premiere

Good Morning Karachi

2013 · 90mins · F R · Urdu/English
Director: Sabiha Sumar · Cast: Amna Ilyas, Beo Raana Zafar, Yasir Aqueel

Leave your preconceptions about Pakistan at the door for this touching coming of age tale set within the country's burgeoning media and fashion world. A beautician whose dream of becoming a model meets fierce resistance from her mother and fiancé.

8:30pm, Friday 9 May, HOYTS Melbourne Central

FILM FESTIVALS:
36th Göteborg International Film Festival, Sweden 2012
South Asian Film Festival, New York 2013
Mumbai Film Festival 2013
Rain Dance Festival, UK 2013



BANGLADESH



Australian Premiere

Jonakir Alo (Light of a Firefly)

2014 · 112mins · F R · Bengali/Bangladeshi
Director: Khalid Mahmood Mithu
Cast: Mamnun Hasan Emon, Mim Bidya

When Kabita discovers she cannot bear children and voices a desire to adopt, her husband and conservative in-laws strongly oppose her. However, a chance meeting with legendary Bangladeshi artist SM Sultan inspires her and could change the direction of her life.

6pm, Wednesday 7 May, HOYTS Melbourne Central

FILM FESTIVALS:
Tribeca Film Festival
Florida Film Festival
Melbourne International Film Festival
Jaipur Film Festival



SRI LANKA



Australian Premiere

Miles of a Dream

2013 · 84mins · F R · French/Sinhala · Director: Udaya Dharmawardena · Cast: Pauline Delpech, Lakshan Abenayaka, Lindrachapa Liyanage, Ayesha Disanayaka

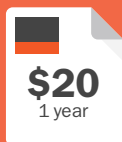
From one of Sri Lanka's next wave of filmmaking talent, *Miles of a Dream* charts the physiological impact of a love triangle. When a Sri Lankan illegal immigrant in Paris begins a relationship with a local girl, Eve, it helps him deal with his mother's death back home.

4:40pm, Sunday 11 May, HOYTS Chadstone



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From the Subcontinent

NEPAL



Australian Premiere

Pailahuru

2013 · 88mins · F R · Nepalese
 Director: Eelum Dixit
 Cast: Sandip Chhetri, Shristi Ghimire, Himali Dixit

Set in the complex caste system of Nepal's Kathmandu Valley, this classic love triangle story is a reflection on female empowerment and the hard choices required to bring about change. As the Valley awaits the rains, the citizens of the inner city of Patan seek deliverance through affection, empathy and subterfuge.

8:30pm, Wednesday 7 May, HOYTS Melbourne Central

FILM FESTIVALS:
 Mumbai Film Festival 2013
 Festival du Film d'Asie du Sud Transgressif 2013



BANGLADESH



Australian Premiere

Pipra Bidya

2013 · 93mins · F R · Bengali/
 Bangladeshi/ English · Director: Mostofa Sarwar Farooki · Cast: Noor Imran Mithu, Sheena Chohan, Sabbir Hasan Likhon

Every day on the way back to his suburban home, Mithu, a struggling young graduate, looks towards the dazzling city of Dhaka. Losing sight of his place in the world, he embarks on a fantastical journey to a place where "truth is what one has and lies are what one creates."

2:30pm, Sunday 11 May, HOYTS Chadstone

FILM FESTIVALS:
 Dubai International Film Festival



SRI LANKA



Australian Premiere

Thanha Rathi Ranga (Between Yesterday and Tomorrow)

2013 · 80mins · F R · Tamil/Sinhala
 Director: Nilendra Deshapriya
 Cast: Adam Adamally, Kamal Addaraarachchi, Thumindnu Dodantenna

After the end of a long civil war in Sri Lanka, three friends embark on an adventurous journey to a land that was once forbidden.

4:50pm, Sunday 4 May, HOYTS Chadstone

FILM FESTIVALS:
 Bengaluru Film Festival 2013



PAKISTAN



Australian Premiere

Waar (The Strike)

2013 · 130mins · F R · Urdu/English · Director: Bilal Lashari · Cast: Shaan, Hamza Abbasi, Shamoob Abbasi

Inspired by the Taliban's 2009 attack on a Lahore police training centre, *Waar* features Pakistan's biggest star, Shaan Shahid, as a retired security officer returning home to save the country from a major terrorist attack. Wresting the narrative of the war on terror away from India, and focusing on the effects of the struggles on the lives of Pakistan's security officers, the film's big budget action and unabashed patriotism struck a nerve that saw it crush all box-office records.

6pm, Saturday 3 May, HOYTS Melbourne Central



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Acknowledgements and credits

Festival Director

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Festival Co-directors

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Festival Design

Catherine Donaldson

Festival Key Art

Goliyon Ki Rasleela Ram Leela courtesy
Eros International
Ship Of Theseus courtesy Recyclewala Films

Festival Website

Vishakha Bhuvania

Festival Publicist

Miranda Brown, Monica Bhattacharya

Festival Team

Natascha Charak, Leanne Tonkes, Abbey Barnes,
Divya Thaper, Alexis Agostino, Viney Shah,
Christopher Kosmer, Jake Ryan, Andy Roberts
Sania Younis Ali, Ling Ang, Christina Critch and
Vyshnavee Wijekumar.

Festival Curator

Uma Da Cunha, Onir

Writer/Creatives

Andy Roberts

Festival Trailer

Daniel Howe

Creative Team

Ian Anderson, Paul Cross

A Big Hug to...

Vidya Balan, CG Melbourne, Manika Jain,
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Government.

All our wonderful volunteers.

And all of you who entered our various
competitions to make it such a roaring success!

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Schedule

HOYTS Melbourne Central

Level 5, Corner Swanston & La Trobe Streets, Melbourne



Ticket information: Call 1300 357 357 or go to hoys.com.au

| DATE | DAY | TIME | FILM | LANGUAGE | DURATION |
|--------|-----------|--------|---|-----------------------|----------|
| 1 May | Thursday | 6:30pm | SHOLAY 3D <i>Opening pronouncement by Shri Amitabh Bachchan</i> | Hindi | 216mins |
| 2 May | Friday | 6pm | QUEEN | Hindi | 145mins |
| 2 May | Friday | 9pm | B.A. PASS | Hindi | 95mins |
| 3 May | Saturday | 3:30pm | QISSA | Punjabi | 109mins |
| 3 May | Saturday | 6pm | WAAR <i>Q&A with Shaan Shahid and Hassan Waqas Rana</i> | Urdu / English | 130mins |
| 3 May | Saturday | 8:30pm | BHAAG MILKHA BHAAG <i>Q&A with Rakeysh Omprakash Mehra</i> | Hindi/Tamil | 187mins |
| 4 May | Sunday | 3:30pm | CHENNAI EXPRESS | Hindi | 142mins |
| 4 May | Sunday | 6:30pm | DHOOM 3 <i>Q&A with Vijay Krishna Acarya</i> | Hindi | 172mins |
| 5 May | Monday | 6pm | LOOTERA | Hindi | 136mins |
| 5 May | Monday | 8:45pm | SHIP OF THESEUS | English / Hindi | 143mins |
| 6 May | Tuesday | 6pm | SHAHID | Hindi | 118mins |
| 6 May | Tuesday | 8:30pm | LAKSHMI | Hindi | 109mins |
| 7 May | Wednesday | 6pm | JONAKIR ALO | Bengali / Bangladeshi | 112mins |
| 7 May | Wednesday | 8:30pm | PAILAHARU | Nepalese | 88mins |
| 8 May | Thursday | 6:30pm | ILAI | Tamil | 67mins |
| 8 May | Thursday | 8:15pm | GOLIYON KI RASLEELA RAM-LEELA | Hindi | 153mins |
| 9 May | Friday | 6:30pm | BOMBS & ROSES | Sinhala | 90mins |
| 9 May | Friday | 8:30pm | GOOD MORNING KARACHI | English/Urdu | 90mins |
| 10 May | Saturday | 3:30pm | FILMISTAAN | Hindi | 117mins |
| 10 May | Saturday | 6:30pm | THE LUNCHBOX | English / Hindi | 104mins |
| 10 May | Saturday | 8:45pm | LIAR'S DICE | Hindi / Himachali | 103mins |
| 11 May | Sunday | 4:30pm | JAL | Hindi | 121mins |
| 11 May | Sunday | 7:30pm | GOYNAR BAKSHO <i>Closing Night film Q&A with Konkona Sen Sharma</i> | Bengali | 141mins |

Schedule

HOYTS Chadstone

Chadstone Shopping Centre, 1341 Dandenong Road, Chadstone



Ticket information: Call 1300 357 357 or go to hoys.com.au

| DATE | DAY | TIME | FILM | LANGUAGE | DURATION |
|--------|-----------|--------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------|
| 2 May | Friday | 7pm | LAKSHMI | Hindi | 109mins |
| 3 May | Saturday | 2pm | SHAADI KE SIDE EFFECTS | Hindi | 142mins |
| 3 May | Saturday | 5pm | APUR PANCHALI | Bengali | 97mins |
| 3 May | Saturday | 7:30pm | 5 SUNDARIKAL | Malayalam | 140mins |
| 4 May | Sunday | 2pm | SODHU KAVVUM | Tamil | 138mins |
| 4 May | Sunday | 4:50pm | THANHA RATHI RANGA | Tamil / Sinhala | 80mins |
| 4 May | Sunday | 6:50pm | ANUMATI | Marathi | 120mins |
| 4 May | Sunday | 6:50pm | VENKATDRI EXPRESS | Telugu | 127mins |
| 5 May | Monday | 7pm | MORTOO | Konkani | 109mins |
| 6 May | Tuesday | 7pm | CROSSING BRIDGES | Sherdukpen | 104mins |
| 7 May | Wednesday | 7pm | CHOR CHOR SUPER CHOR | Hindi | 98mins |
| 8 May | Thursday | 7pm | OONGA | Oriya / Hindi | 98mins |
| 9 May | Friday | 6:30pm | LUCIA | Kannada | 136mins |
| 10 May | Saturday | 4:30pm | AJEYO | Assamese | 117mins |
| 10 May | Saturday | 7pm | BAREFOOT IN GOA | Hindi | 78mins |
| 10 May | Saturday | 8:50pm | THE GOOD ROAD | Gujarati | 92mins |
| 11 May | Sunday | 2:30pm | PIPRA BIDYA | Bengali / Bangladeshi / English | 93mins |
| 11 May | Sunday | 4:40pm | MILES OF A DREAM | French / Sinhala | 84mins |

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|-------|-----------|--------|----------------------------|
| 5 May | Monday | 12noon | BEWAKOOFIYAAN |
| 6 May | Tuesday | 12noon | GORI TERE PYAR MEIN |
| 7 May | Wednesday | 12noon | BAND BAJA BARAAT |
| 8 May | Thursday | 12noon | TOTAL SIYAPPA |
| 9 May | Friday | 12noon | BARFI |

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