



A SUMMER OF  
NEW INDEPENDENT  
**INDIAN FILMS**  
21 - 29 June 2018

Image: Frieda Pinto in Love Sonia



[www.londonindianfilmfestival.co.uk](http://www.londonindianfilmfestival.co.uk)



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A NEW VERSION BY ANIL GUPTA & RICHARD PINTO

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**The UK and Europe's largest South Asian film festival rocks up for its ninth year with an entertaining and thought provoking line-up of independent films that offer a rare window into a billion South Asian lives in the sub-continent right now.**

This year's highlights include a sparkling opening night in Leicester Square with the red carpet world premiere of **Love Sonia** – a compelling story of two teenagers' fight for freedom starring Freida Pinto, Demi Moore, Rajkummar Rao and Richa Chadda amongst others. Meanwhile, busting all stereotypes our Closing Night Gala is must-see Canadian family comedy **Venus**.

Our themed strands kick off with **Female Eye**, premiering the work of six women directors. We have the UK Premiere of British filmmaker Sangeeta Datta's gorgeous film **Bird of Dusk**, director Rima Das gives a Q&A with her uplifting mother daughter hit **Village Rockstars**. The innovative style of debut filmmaker Dar Gai's **Teen Aur Aadha** breaks new ground and don't miss the powerful Pakistani/ Norwegian drama **What Will People Say** by Iram Haq.

Another strong festival theme is **Fathers & Sons**, premiering dramas exploring masculinity and the enduring complexity of father and son relationships, including **In The Shadows**, a dark secret story, helmed by virtuoso actor Manoj Bajpayee, meanwhile raucous British comedy **Eaten By Lions** has an Asian lad searching for his dad.

True to the festival's mission to screen films about real people's journeys, add into our **Extra-Ordinary Lives** strand with amazing documentaries, dramas and shorts, from across India's far-flung regions. From Eastern India we showcase Nagaland music documentary **Up Down & Sideways**, from the South is Tamil drama **My Son is Gay**, North to Punjab we present road movie **Mehsampur** and from Bangladesh is **Doob (No Bed of Roses)** starring Irrfan Khan.

We are delighted to welcome back our many regular partners including Title Sponsor the Bagri Foundation, who share our passion for Asian arts and culture. We'd also like to thank our major supporters Sun Mark Ltd and BFI Audience Fund for their ongoing support and many more friends and supporters.

For the latest updates and additions to the programme do keep an eye on the festival website [www.londonindianfilmfestival.co.uk](http://www.londonindianfilmfestival.co.uk) and book your tickets as soon as possible to guarantee you get the film you want. See you at the festival!

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**Cary Rajinder Sawhney**  
Executive & Programming Director

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# LOVE SONIA

WORLD PREMIERE

**21 June | 18:15 |** CINEWORLD LEICESTER SQUARE

**23 June | 20:15 |** BFI SOUTHBANK



Inspired by true events, this is the story of a young Indian village girl, Sonia. Her life changes irrevocably when she is entrapped in the global sex trade while trying to save her beloved sister Preeti. Struggling to free herself from small-time pimps, Sonia does not realise they are merely the foot soldiers of a ruthless, powerful army with its reach around the world. As she becomes aware of the enormity of the odds against her, Sonia is sustained by a fragile dream that is worth surviving for. Battling with a strength she didn't know she had, her searing journey spans three continents and a lifetime of experiences that no young girl should have. Sonia is determined not to become one of the 800,000 women and children who are victims of the international sex trade industry every year.

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**English, Hindi, Cantonese with English subtitles**

**India 2018 | 120 Mins**

*Director: Tabrez Noorani*

*With: Mrunal Thakur, Freida Pinto, Demi Moore, Mark Duplass, Manoj Bajpayee, Rajkummar Rao, Richa Chadda, Riya Sisodiya, Anupam Kher, Adil Hussain, Sunny Pawar*

**Q&A with Director Tabrez Noorani, cast and crew**

# VENUS

29 June | 18:15 | BFI SOUTHBANK

UK PREMIERE



An award-winning, laugh-out-loud comedy about alternative family values, self-empowerment and love. Sid is a Montreal Punjabi, who after years of struggling with his identity has decided to have a sex change. Other than Sid's mom crying a lot, all seems to be moving in the right direction, that is until a 14-year-old boy turns up and insists that Sid is his long lost dad from a teenage affair. Shocked - obviously, Sid's world rapidly spirals out of orbit as Sid attempts to nurture this latch-on teenager who thinks having a transgender Dad is "cool", an in-the-closet partner and an about to combust Punjabi mom.

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English, no English subtitles

Canada 2017 | 95 Mins

Director: Eisha Marjara

With: Debargo Sanyal, Jamie Mayers, Pierre-Yves Cardinal, Zena Darawalla, Gordon Warnecke

Q&A with Director Eisha Marjara and others



## T FOR TAJ MAHAL

WORLD PREMIERE

23 June | 18:00 | CINEWORLD LEICESTER SQUARE

24 June | 18:30 | WATERMANS



In this inspirational charmer, an illiterate villager runs a roadside eatery near the main road to the world famous Taj Mahal. He is concerned that another generation of the villagers will also grow up without an education and get ridiculed and duped as he has been. He hatches a unique social enterprise idea of offering tourists who eat his food the option of paying their bill, or teaching the local youngsters. The idea is an initial hit, that is until a big company muscles in. This delightfully eye opening film features an outstanding cast of both international and Indian actors including Ali Faulkner (*The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn*), Pitobash (*Million Dollar Arm*) and Subrat Dutta (*Talaash*).

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**Hindi, English with English subtitles****India 2018 | 104 Mins****Director: Kireet Khurana****With: Subrat Dutta, Ali Faulkner, Pitobash, Bidita Bag, Raveena Tandon****Q&A with Director Kireet Khurana and guests**





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# SRIDEVI TRIBUTE. MR INDIA

23 June | 14:00 | GENESIS CINEMA



In December of last year LIFF was in touch with producer *Boney Kapoor* about *Sridevi* coming to this year's festival to receive our Icon Award. Sadly it wasn't to be, as the effervescent actress was snatched away in the prime of her life, so we are holding this fitting tribute to a great star. **Mr. India** is an extraordinary showcase of her everlasting talent. *Sridevi* plays an ebullient journalist who is in love with an invisible man *Mr India* (*Anil Kapoor*). They team to thwart the megalomaniac ambitions of the evil *Mogambo*, played memorably by the late, great *Amrish Puri*. Packed with chartbusting songs, including *Hawa Hawai* and *Kaate Nahin Kat Te* that feature two of *Sridevi*'s greatest ever dances, **Mr India** is a rollicking treat for the whole family.

Hindi with English subtitles  
India 1987 | 179 Mins

Director: *Shekhar Kapur*  
Presented by: *Mr Surinder Kapoor*  
Producer: *Mr Boney Kapoor*  
Written by: *Salim-Javed*

Thanks to:



Music: *Laxmikant-Pyarelal*  
With: *Sridevi, Anil Kapoor, Amrish Puri,*  
*Satish Kaushik*

Introduced by *Mira Kaushik*

# FEMALE EYE

We are delighted to screen a special selection of new films by some of the coolest award-winning South Asian women filmmakers on the planet.

The festival wouldn't be complete without a golden memory of one of Indian cinema's greatest with a screening dedicated to the late Sridevi.

INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

## TEEN AUR ADHA (THREE AND A HALF)

24 June | 20:00 | BFI SOUTHBANK

25 June | 20:50 | GENESIS CINEMA



This beautifully layered, and stylistically groundbreaking saga narrates the story of one house which exists in three different eras. A young boy struggles with the pressures of pre-pubescent school life. Twenty years later the house is now a brothel where a young virgin sex-worker is dealing with her first client. While 30 years later, the place is now a sublime home of an elderly couple that love, laugh and dance together, sharing many secrets of happy companionship. The film has been shot in three takes and a half-take at the end, which exhibits the house under renovation, symbolising the emergence of new stories and the inevitable nature of change in time.

**Hindi, Marathi with English subtitles**  
**India 2018 | 119 Mins**

*Director: Dar Gai*

*With: Zoya Hussain, Jim Sarbh, Suhasini Mulay*

Q&A with Director Dar Gai

ENGLISH PREMIERE

**VILLAGE ROCKSTARS****26 June | 18:30 | STRATFORD PICTUREHOUSE****27 June | 18:20 | BFI SOUTHBANK**

Recipient of multiple international awards, **Village Rockstars** is an instant crowd-pleaser. A single mother and her 10 year old daughter Dhunu live in a remote flood-prone Assamese village. Dhunu is not a shy, submissive girl and with a vibrant spirit and imagination she dreams of setting up her own rock band. She fashions a make-believe guitar out of expanded polystyrene and jams in the rice fields with her boy mates. Noticing an old guitar has come up for sale in the market Dhunu attempts schemes to raise money to buy it, but as the local women complain about Dhunu's un-girlish behaviour, her mother is forced to make a stand.

**Assamese with English subtitles**  
**India 2017 | 87 Mins**

Director: Rima Das  
 With: Bhanita Das, Basanti Das,  
 Manabendra Das



**Q&A with Rima Das (26 June : BSL signed)**

EUROPEAN PREMIERE

**BIRD OF DUSK****24 June | 15:00 | BFI SOUTHBANK****26 June | 20:00 | WATERMANS**

A fearless, elegant and poetic insight into the career and private life of the late and legendary director **Rituparno Ghosh**, who we are proud to say attended our festival in our early days. **Sangeeta Datta's** film invites reflections by some of Indian cinema's finest actors and filmmakers who recall Ghosh's impact on their lives including **Sharmila Tagore, Aparna Sen, Arjun Rampal, Nandita Das** and **Prasenjit Chatterjee**. These are montaged with Ghosh's films and his interviews depicting amongst other things an artist's relationship to their beloved city Kolkata and a personal crusade to find their non-gender specific identity.

**Bengali and English with English subtitles**  
**UK/India/Spain 2018 | 92 Mins**

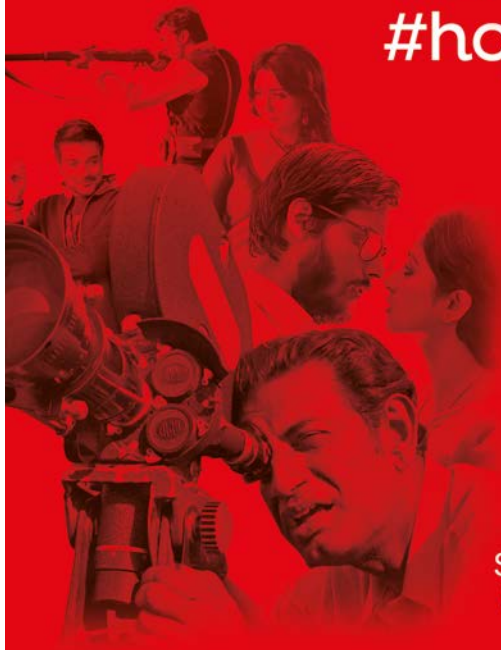
Director: Sangeeta Datta  
 With: Soumitra Chatterjee, Nandita Das, Aparna Sen, Kaushik Ganguly, Dorothee Wenner

**Q&A with Director Sangeeta Datta & guests**

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ENGLISH PREMIERE

## HVA VIL FOLK SI (WHAT WILL PEOPLE SAY)

26 June | 20:30 | BARBICAN

27 June | 18:30 | PICTUREHOUSE CENTRAL



Director *Iram Haq's* compelling tale has been collecting awards worldwide since its debut at the Toronto International Film Festival. It tells of a young Pakistani teenager, Nisha whose happy-double-life in Norway is torn apart when her father discovers her with her white Norwegian boyfriend. Outraged and under pressure from the community, he sends her off to Pakistan to 'learn how to behave properly.' Trapped in a land she doesn't know, with a hostile extended family who see her as a shameful westerner, Nisha is forced to make hard choices. *Maria Mozhdah* makes a powerful debut as Nisha with *Adil Hussain* as her troubled father.

Norwegian, Urdu with English subtitles  
Norway/Germany/Sweden 2017 | 106 Mins

Director: *Iram Haq*

With: *Maria Mozhdah, Adil Hussain, Rohit Saraf, Ali Arfan, Sheeba Chaddha*

With thanks to the Norwegian Film Institute.

Q&A with Director *Iram Haq*

UK PREMIERE

## KHO KI PA LU (UP DOWN & SIDEWAYS)

24 June | 16:00 | BARBICAN

27 June | 20:00 | WATERMANS



Close to the India-Myanmar border is the village of Phek in Nagaland. Nearly all of its 5,000 inhabitants grow rice for their own consumption. As they work in the fields the men and women sing together and as the seasons change so does the music, becoming increasingly hypnotic. The songs have been passed down for generations and tell stories of the land, love and the concerns of everyday life in an area that for many years has been troubled by political unrest. **Up Down & Sideways** is a stunningly beautiful ethnographic portrait of a community of rice cultivators and their memories of love and loss created from working together on the fields.

Chokri with English subtitles  
India 2017 | 83 Mins

Director: *Anushka Meenakshi, Iswar Srikumar*



# FESTIVAL CALENDAR

## THU 21 JUNE

**Opening Night**

**LOVE SONIA**

18:15 | CINEWORLD LEICESTER SQUARE

## FRI 22 JUNE

**GALI GULIYAN**

(IN THE SHADOWS)

18:00 | BFI SOUTHBANK

**MEHSAMPUR**

18:15 | PICTUREHOUSE CENTRAL

**BENGAL SHADOWS**

18:30 | LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS

**HALKAA**

(RELIEF)

20:00 | CINEWORLD WEMBLEY

**THE ASHRAM**

20:30 | CINEWORLD LEICESTER SQUARE

## SAT 23 JUNE

**SRIDEVI TRIBUTE.**

**MR INDIA**

14:00 | GENESIS CINEMA

**CYCLE**

16:30 | WATERMANS

**T FOR TAJ MAHAL**

18:00 | CINEWORLD LEICESTER SQUARE

**BASHMASUR**

18:30 | CINEWORLD WEMBLEY

**THE SONG OF SCORPIONS**

18:30 | PICTUREHOUSE CENTRAL

**LOVE SONIA**

20:15 | BFI SOUTHBANK

**MEHSAMPUR**

20:30 | CINEWORLD WEMBLEY

## SUN 24 JUNE

**BIRD OF DUSK**

15:00 | BFI SOUTHBANK

**THE SONG OF SCORPIONS**

15:00 | CROUCH END PICTUREHOUSE

**KHO KI PA LU**

(UP DOWN & SIDEWAYS)

16:00 | BARBICAN

**BASHMASUR**

16:00 | CINEWORLD WEMBLEY

**HALKAA**

(RELIEF)

16:30 | CINEWORLD LEICESTER SQUARE

**UMA**

18:30 | CINEWORLD LEICESTER SQUARE

**GALI GULIYAN**

(IN THE SHADOWS)

18:00 | BARBICAN

**DOOB (NO BED OF ROSES)**

18:30 | GENESIS CINEMA

**CYCLE**

18:30 | CINEWORLD WEMBLEY

## **T FOR TAJ MAHAL**

18:30 | WATERMANS

## **TEEN AUR ADHA**

(THREE AND A HALF)

20:00 | BFI SOUTHBANK

### **MON 25 JUNE**

## **MY SON IS GAY**

18:30 | SOAS

## **BENGAL SHADOWS**

18:45 | GENESIS CINEMA

## **EATEN BY LIONS**

18:45 | STRATFORD PICTUREHOUSE

## **TEEN AUR ADHA**

(THREE AND A HALF)

20:50 | GENESIS CINEMA

### **TUE 26 JUNE**

## **UMA**

18:30 | CINEWORLD LEICESTER SQUARE

## **VILLAGE ROCKSTARS**

18:30 | STRATFORD PICTUREHOUSE

## **BIRD OF DUSK**

20:00 | WATERMANS

## **HVA VIL FOLK SI**

(WHAT WILL PEOPLE SAY)

20:30 | BARBICAN

### **WED 27 JUNE**

## **VILLAGE ROCKSTARS**

18:20 | BFI SOUTHBANK

## **HVA VIL FOLK SI**

(WHAT WILL PEOPLE SAY)

18:30 | PICTUREHOUSE CENTRAL

## **SATYAJIT RAY SHORT FILM AWARD**

18:45 | SOAS

## **KHO KI PA LU**

(UP DOWN & SIDEWAYS)

20:00 | WATERMANS

## **EATEN BY LIONS**

20:00 | CINEWORLD LEICESTER SQUARE

## **THE ASHRAM**

20:30 | CROUCH END PICTUREHOUSE

### **FRI 29 JUNE**

## **Closing Night**

## **VENUS**

18:15 | BFI SOUTHBANK

# FATHERS & SONS

A vital relationship which forms the backbone of how men construct their masculinity and their futures is the relationship with the first man in our lives, nearly always our father. He can be an inspiring positive mentor, or at worst a carrier of toxic masculinity, that he may have in turn inherited.

We offer a few films to explore these complex father and son relationships.

## EUROPEAN PREMIERE **BHASMASUR**

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**23 June | 18:30 | CINEWORLD WEMBLEY**

**24 June | 16:00 | CINEWORLD WEMBLEY**



The former thief Dhaanu is heavily in financial debt, he returns to his Rajasthan village from the city to hide from a moneylender. His back against the wall, he decides to sell the prized family donkey, Bhasmasur, with whom his son, Tipu, shares a special bond. The trio set off by foot on a journey across the arid desert towards the city. Along the way numerous events take place bringing the absent father and his son closer together. As they arrive in the city however their relationship is put to an unexpected test.

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**Hindi with English subtitles**  
**India 2017 | 75 Mins**

*Director: Nishil Sheth*

*With: Trimala Adhikari, Mittal Chouhan,  
Raghav Dutt, Imran Rasheed, Bhushan Vikas,  
Ravi Goswami*

ENGLISH PREMIERE

**EATEN BY LIONS**

**25 June | 18:45 | PICTUREHOUSE STRATFORD**  
**27 June | 20:00 | CINEWORLD LEICESTER SQUARE**



A laugh out loud and wryly written British comedy about two half brothers who were brought up by their grandma in Bradford after their parents were accidentally killed by lions in a safari park. On their grandma's sudden death the teenage boys are looking for family care, but while one brother Pete, of English parentage, gets foisted on his controlling English aunty, the other brother Omar travels to the fabled holiday resort of Blackpool in search of his real Asian dad. Both brothers unable to cope with being separated soon end up together on the riviera of the North, as Omar discovers his new orthodox Muslim family all mayhem breaks loose.

**English (no subtitles)**  
**UK 2018 | 99 Mins**

*Director: Jason Wingard*

*With: Antonio Aakeel, Jack Carroll, Asim Chaudhry, Johnny Vegas, Nitin Ganatra, Kevin Eldon*

UK PREMIERE

**GALI GULIYAN  
(IN THE SHADOWS)**

**22 June | 18:00 | BFI SOUTHBANK**  
**24 June | 18:00 | BARBICAN**



In the walled city of Old Delhi, a reclusive shopkeeper spends his days obsessively watching people through hidden closed circuit cameras. When he overhears a boy being beaten by a man, he begins to frantically search for the child. As he becomes lost in the labyrinthine alleys of the city, his grasp on reality falters, until he eventually stumbles across a shocking truth about a father and an abused son. *Dipesh Jain's* feature film debut is a superbly dark and atmospheric psychological thriller that expertly explores the roots of paranoia.

**Hindi with English subtitles**  
**India / UK 2017 | 117 Mins**

*Director: Dipesh Jain*

*With: Manoj Bajpayee, Neeraj Kabi, Shahana Goswami, Ranvir Shorey, Om Singh*

**Q&A with Director Jason Wingard & guests**

**Q&A with Director Dipesh Jain**

# EXTRA- ORDINARY LIVES

LIFF showcases independent films which celebrate depictions of ordinary lives through fiction and documentaries.

This year we screen a selection of films, about the past and present, that show glimpses of real life in the subcontinent, which are sometimes hard, sometimes feel-good, and even comic but always compelling.

EUROPEAN PREMIERE

## HALKAA (RELIEF)

22 June | 20:00 | CINEWORLD WEMBLEY

24 June | 16:30 | CINEWORLD LEICESTER SQUARE



This lovely family film that addresses social issues in a light-hearted manner follows Pichku, a boy growing up in one of Delhi's oldest slums, who fights against having to defecate in the open. After failing to convince his family and others to build a toilet, Pichku and his friend Gopi make it their mission to try and get one built. This is the ultimate feel good film that is both charming and heart warming. Winner of the Grand Prix at the Children's Film Festival of Montreal (FIFEM), the film also boasts of a terrific soundtrack by virtuoso Bollywood composers Shankar-Ehsaan-Loy.

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**Hindi, with English subtitles**  
**India 2018 | 114 Mins**

*Director: Nila Madhab Panda*  
*With: Tathastu, Ranvir Shorey, Paoli Dam*

## THE SONG OF SCORPIONS

23 June | 18:30 | PICTUREHOUSE CENTRAL  
24 June | 15:00 | CROUCH END PICTUREHOUSE



Mesmerisingly beautiful – this poetic tale is set within the deep desert landscapes of rural Rajasthan. Nooran, is a defiantly independent young tribal woman trained by her grandmother in the ancient healing remedy of singing to counteract the deadly poison of scorpion stings. A lone camel herder Aadam (*Irrfan Khan*) is Nooran's admirer, spurned by her he hatches a twisted plot to win her heart. Director *Anup Singh's* meditative direction elicits intense but restrained performances from lead actors *Golshifteh Farahani* (*About Elly*) and *Irrfan Khan* (*The Lunchbox*) with a cameo by the legendary actress *Waheeda Rehman*.

Hindi with English subtitles  
India/Switzerland/France 2017 | 120 Mins

Director: Anup Singh  
With: Irrfan Khan, Golshifteh Farahani,  
Waheeda Rehman, Shashank Arora

UK PREMIERE

## MY SON IS GAY

25 June | 18:30 | SOAS : KHALIL LECTURE THEATRE



Varun is a happy-go-lucky, handsome young man who is the apple of his mother Lakshmi's eye. He believes his mother would be by his side no matter what. When Lakshmi discovers Varun is gay, she is shocked and vows it is something she will never accept. As he decides to move on with his life and find love, Lakshmi decides to seek out her lost son. *My Son is Gay* is a poignant tale of a multilayered mother son relationship, that sensitively tackles universal themes of tolerance and acceptance.



In Partnership with Queer Asia

Tamil with English subtitles  
India 2017 | 105 Mins

Director: Lokesh Kumar  
With: Anupama Kumar, Ashwinjith,  
Abhishek Joseph George, Kishore Kumar

Q&A with Director Anup Singh



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INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE  
**CYCLE**UK PREMIERE  
**MEHSAMPUR**

**23 June | 16:30 | WATERMANS**  
**24 June | 18:30 | CINEWORLD WEMBLEY**



In the village of Bhugaon, Keshav is a well-known astrologer with an even more famous yellow cycle, known as Sunshine. The cycle, inherited from his grandfather after he passed away, is Keshav's most prized possession. One evening two wandering thieves steal his bike and as Keshav pines away for his beloved machine, he is unable to focus on his astrology and his predications start going wrong. Unable to see Keshav crestfallen, the villagers band together to plan to somehow reunite the two. **Cycle** is a magical and life affirming story of love, hope and happiness.

**Marathi with English subtitles**  
**India 2017 | 101 Mins**

*Director: Prakash Kunte*  
*With: Hrishikesh Joshi, Bhau Kaman,*  
*Priyadarshan Jadhav, Deepti Lee*

**22 June | 18:15 | PICTUREHOUSE CENTRAL**  
**23 June | 20:30 | CINEWORLD WEMBLEY**



Quirky filmmaker Devrath arrives in Punjab to make a movie on the popular folk-singing duo Amar Singh Chamkila and Amarjot Kaur who were assassinated in the village of Mehsampur in 1988. He rescues a wannabe actress from lechers and finds a survivor of the assassination and the three of them go on a trip to Mehsampur. Their journey is a breathtaking ride culminating in an explosive finale. This bold, at times psychedelic, film merges fiction and documentary and explores narrative structures in a way Indian cinema has never seen before. Prepare to be shell-shocked!

**Punjabi, Hindi, with English subtitles**  
**India 2018 | 96 Mins**

*Director: Kabir Singh Chowdhry*  
*With: Navjot Randhawa, Devrath Joshi, Lal*  
*Chand, Surinder Sonia, Kesar Singh, Tikki, Jagjeet*  
*Sandhu*

UK PREMIERE

**THE ASHRAM****22 June | 20:30 | CINEWORLD LEICESTER SQUARE****27 June | 20:30 | CROUCH END PICTUREHOUSE**

After receiving a cryptic message, Jamie journeys deep into the Indian Himalayas to pick up on the trail of his girlfriend who has disappeared. There, he discovers a secretive community led by a guru with alleged mystical powers. As he tries to pry the secrets from the guru's devotees Jamie becomes more convinced that this mysterious community may know more about his lover's disappearance than they're telling him. *Ben Rekhi* brings together a star-studded cast for a story of mystical intrigue with a twisty plot and startling climax that is sure to provoke discussion.

**English (no subtitles)****India/USA 2017 | 90 Mins***Director: Ben Rekhi**With: Sam Keeley, Melissa Leo, Kal Penn, Radhika Apte, Hera Hilmar*

UK PREMIERE

**DOOB  
(NO BED OF ROSES)****24 June | 18:30 | GENESIS CINEMA**

Successful movie director Javed Hasan finds himself in a midlife crisis, questioning whether marriage and career have demanded too much from him. A tryst with Nitu, his daughter's childhood friend, turns into a national scandal and his loving family is torn apart. Javed and Nitu marry, but it's no bed of roses for the couple as they receive the wrath of judgmental Bangladeshi society. The latest film from Bangladesh's most renowned filmmaker features a powerful central performance from internationally respected Indian actor *Irrfan Khan*. The film has been festooned with accolades at the Moscow and Shanghai film festivals.

**Bengali with English subtitles****Bangladesh/India 2017 | 86 Mins***Director: Mostofa Sarwar Farooki**With: Irrfan Khan, Parno Mittra, Nusrat Imroz Tisha, Rokeya Prachy***Q&A with Director Mostofa Farooki**

DOCUMENTARY

**BENGAL SHADOWS****22 June | 18:30 | LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS****25 June | 18:45 | GENESIS CINEMA**

This hard-hitting documentary brings to light a lesser-known episode of the Second World War – the 1943 famine, during which time several million people starved to death in Bengal. Today, numerous historians, researchers and writers, from both India and Britain, blame the British Empire for the famine that occurred whilst the subcontinent was under its rule. Some historians allege that Winston Churchill was accountable for the famine and even refer to it as a crime against humanity. The film gives a voice to historians, researchers and survivors, who were witness to these tragic events.

**Bengali, English, French with English subtitles**  
**France/India 2017 | 48 Mins**

*Director: Joy Banerjee and Partho Bhattacharya*  
*With: Soumitra Chatterjee,*  
*Madhushree Mukerjee, Richard Toye*

EUROPEAN PREMIERE

**UMA****24 June | 18:30 | CINEWORLD LEICESTER SQUARE****26 June | 18:30 | CINEWORLD LEICESTER SQUARE**

Uma, a young girl who lives with her father in Switzerland, is diagnosed with a disease that could be terminal. Her greatest desire in life is to participate in the Durga Puja, the annual joyous celebrations which take place in October. The trouble is that Uma may not have until October and her father, with the help of an award-winning filmmaker and the entire city of Kolkata, undertakes to recreate the festival in the summer as a special treat for his beloved daughter. Based on a true story, ace filmmaker *Srijit Mukherji* crafts a life affirming emotional tale that is a celebration of the human spirit.

**Bengali with English subtitles**  
**India 2018 | 148 Mins**

*Director: Srijit Mukherji*  
*With: Jisshu Sengupta, Sara Sengupta,*  
*Anjan Dutt*

**22 June : Post screening discussion with**  
**Professors Amartya Sen & Tirthankar Roy**

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Edmund Burke

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# SATYAJIT RAY SHORT FILM AWARD

27 June | 18:45 | SOAS: KHALIL LECTURE THEATRE



The festival's annual Satyajit Ray Short Film Competition and Award is a rare chance to see the works of talented, emerging filmmakers, who are exploring themes of South Asian experience. The competition's final shortlist films are screened at SOAS on 27 June and the winner of the 2018 award is announced on the festival's Closing Night. In association with the Bagri Foundation.

## THE PEANUT SELLER

19 mins. Hindi, 2017 Germany/ India  
Dir. Etienne Sievers.

## MAUN

11 mins. Hindi, 2017 India  
Dir. Priyanka Singh.

## THE FISH CURRY

12 mins. Hindi, 2017 India  
Dir. Abhishek Verma.

## CIRCLE

14 mins. Hindi, 2017 India/ UK  
Dir. Jayisha Patel.

## PARO

20mins. Hindi, 2017 India  
Dir. Vijay Kumar.

## JAAN JIGAR

19 mins. Hindi, 2017 India  
Dir. Ranjan Chandel.

## DREAMS

10mins. Tamil, 2017 India  
Dir. Athithya Kanagarajan.

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### Mixed Programme

Various Languages with English subtitles.

Total running time 105 mins.

# VENUE BOOKINGS & DETAILS

Please book all  
tickets directly  
with venues.  
See Bookings  
contacts.

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## BARBICAN

Beech Street  
London EC2Y 8AE  
⊖ Barbican  
(0.3 miles / 6 mins walk)

**BOOKINGS:** 020 7638 8891  
[www.barbican.org.uk](http://www.barbican.org.uk)

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## BFI SOUTHBANK

Belvedere Road, South Bank  
London SE1 8XT  
⊖ Waterloo  
(0.2 miles / 5 min walk)

**BOOKINGS:** 020 7928 3232  
[www.bfi.org.uk/whatson/bfi\\_southbank](http://www.bfi.org.uk/whatson/bfi_southbank)

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## CINEWORLD LEICESTER SQUARE

5-6 Leicester Square  
London WC2H 7NA  
⊖ Leicester Square  
(0.1 miles / 2 min walk)

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## CINEWORLD WEMBLEY

Unit 107, London Designer Outlet  
Wembley Park Boulevard  
Middlesex HA9 0FD  
⊖ Wembley Stadium  
(Overground 0.1 miles / 3 min walk)

**BOOKINGS:** 0871 200 2000  
for all CINEWORLD CINEMAS:  
[www.cineworld.co.uk](http://www.cineworld.co.uk)

For updated information please check the LIFF website.  
**[www.londonindianfilmfestival.co.uk](http://www.londonindianfilmfestival.co.uk)**

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**CROUCH END PICTURHOUSE**

165 Tottenham Lane  
Crouch End, London N8 9BY

🚶 Hornsey  
(Overground 0.6 miles / 13 min walk)

**BOOKINGS:** 0871 902 5758

(calls cost 13p per minute plus your  
telephone company's access charge)  
[www.picturehouses.com](http://www.picturehouses.com)  
[crouchend@picturehouses.co.uk](mailto:crouchend@picturehouses.co.uk)

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**GENESIS CINEMA**

93-95 Mile End Rd  
London E1 4UJ

🚶 Whitechapel  
(0.4 miles / 8 min walk)

Mile End  
(0.8 miles / 17 min walk)

**BOOKINGS:**

020 7780 2000  
[www.genescinema.co.uk](http://www.genescinema.co.uk)

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**LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS**

Sheikh Zayed Theatre  
New Academic Building  
54 Lincoln's Inn Fields  
London WC2A 3LJ

🚶 Holborn  
(0.3 miles / 6 min walk)

**BOOKINGS:** 020 7107 5330  
[southasiacentre@lse.ac.uk](mailto:southasiacentre@lse.ac.uk)

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**PICTUREHOUSE CENTRAL**

Corner of Great Windmill Street  
& Shaftesbury Avenue  
London W1D 7DH

🚶 Piccadilly Circus  
(0.1 miles / 3 min walk)

**BOOKINGS:** 0871 902 5755

(calls cost 13p per minute plus your  
telephone company's access charge)  
[www.picturehouses.com](http://www.picturehouses.com)  
[central@picturehouses.co.uk](mailto:central@picturehouses.co.uk)

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**STRATFORD PICTUREHOUSE**

Salway Road  
London E15 1BX

🚶 Stratford  
(0.3 miles / 7 min walk)

**BOOKINGS:** 0871 902 5740

(calls cost 13p per minute plus your  
telephone company's access charge)  
[www.picturehouses.com](http://www.picturehouses.com)  
[stratford@picturehouses.co.uk](mailto:stratford@picturehouses.co.uk)

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**SOAS**

Khalili Lecture Theatre,  
College Buildings  
Russell Square

🚶 Russell Square  
(0.3 miles / 6 min walk)

Online booking only.  
Please check LIFF website for details.

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**WATERMANS**

40 High St  
Brentford TW8 0DS

🚶 Kew Bridge  
(British Rail 0.6 miles / 11 min walk)

**BOOKINGS:** 020 8232 1010  
[www.watermans.org.uk](http://www.watermans.org.uk)





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Park Nights 2017 / Shubbak Festival  
Bouchra Ouizguen: *Qorbeaux*  
(Friday 14 July, Serpentine Pavilion)  
Photo: © 2017 Hugo Glendinning



Soumik Datta  
© Debjyoti Bardhan

The Bagri Foundation offers a multidisciplinary events programme, aiming to foster understanding of Asian cultures, artistic exchanges & enriching experiences.

We are proud to bring to the UK the best of independent South Asian cinema with LIFF.

[www.bagrifoundation.org](http://www.bagrifoundation.org)

Squared Kufic Script Course  
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