

BAGRI FOUNDATION

# LONDON INDIAN FILM FESTIVAL

17 JUNE - 4 JULY



Image :  
Self- portrait by  
Chila Kumari Singh Burman





CARY RAJINDER SAWHNEY

Welcome back to the festival, which this year has evolved into a hybrid festival. You can watch it in cinemas in London, Birmingham, and Manchester, or on your own sofa at home, via our digital site [www.LoveLIFFatHome.com](http://www.LoveLIFFatHome.com), that is accessible anywhere in the United Kingdom. Our talks and certain events are also accessible worldwide.

A big personal thanks to all our audiences who stayed with the festival last year and helped make it one of the few success stories in the film industry. This year's festival is dedicated to you with love.

Highlights of this year's festival include our inspiring Opening Night Gala *WOMB* about one woman gender activist who incredibly walks the entire length of India to explore the experiences of other women in its billion plus population. See it at **BFI Southbank** and **Ciné Lumière**.

Our themed strands in this brochure cover online and cinema-based movie premieres and events. They start with our Young Rebel strand (which literally challenges all the stereotypes!) with UK premieres of a host of talented emerging filmmakers, showing young people's real-life challenges and experiences.

Our special strand this year is on Great British Asian filmmakers, and we are delighted to honour Film Producers and Directors such as director **Asif Kapadia** (*The Warrior, Amy, Senna*), and writer **Hanif Kureishi** (*My Beautiful Laundrette, The Buddha of Suburbia*). At the Barbican, we co-host a special retrospective of the films of activist filmmaker **Pratibha Parmar**. We will be celebrating the 20th production anniversary of feel-good hit *Bend It Like Beckham* with an intro by director **Gurinder Chadha**, at **Roof East Stratford**. UK director **Sarah Gavron** (*Rocks*), is expected to talk about her film *Brick Lane*. Alongside this will be a whole host of classic British Asian movies and talks including the rarely seen British Asian all-star film *Flight* - expect special guests for that one! Of course, we are also showcasing new British Asian talent in some amazing shorts packages. So it's your chance to find out more about 'our' rich story and contribution to the UK.

Dive deep into our Extra-Ordinary Lives strand with amazing dramas and documentaries from across South Asia. Including the must-see *Ahimsa: Gandhi*, *The Power of The Powerless*, a documentary on the incredible global impact of Gandhi's non-violence ideas; *Abhijaan*, an inspiring biopic exploring the life of the late and great Bengali actor **Soumitra Chatterjee**; Black comedy *Ashes On a Road Trip*; and Tiger Award winner at Rotterdam *Pebbles*. Look out for selected online premieres too.

We also introduce a new strand dedicated to ecology-related films, called *Save The Planet*, with some stirring features about lives affected by deforestation and rising sea levels, and how people are meeting the challenge.

We are expecting a host of special guests as usual and do check out our brilliant online **In Conversations** with Indian talent in June - where we will be joined by Bollywood Director **Karan Johar**, and rapidly rising talented actors **Shruti Haasan** and **Janhvi Kapoor**, as well as featuring some very informative online Q&As on all our films.

We are delighted to welcome back our many regular partners, including a thanks to our Title Sponsor **Bagri Foundation** who will be supporting us for the 7th Year in London. Thanks to **BFI Audience Fund**, **Birmingham City University**, and to our many friends and supporters.

To support the ongoing Covid pandemic in India and other South Asian countries, we are asking our audiences to visit our donations page at [LoveLIFFatHome.com](http://www.LoveLIFFatHome.com) and kindly help out if you can.

For cinemas, you can buy tickets via booking links on our website, or directly at partner cinemas. For online viewings, please follow the booking guidance on [www.LoveLIFFatHome.com](http://www.LoveLIFFatHome.com)

Please remember that Covid safety regulations are strictly administered by all of our venue partners and you will be required to wear a mask throughout all cinema screenings.

We look forward to seeing you in cinemas and online!

Warm regards,

Cary Rajinder Sawhney  
Executive & Programming Director

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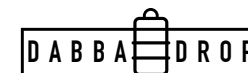
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## OPENING NIGHT

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UK Premiere

### **WOMB** (WOMEN OF MY BILLION)

English, Hindi, Tamil, Telugu  
with English subtitles  
India 2020 | 102 Mins

*Dir: Ajitesh Sharma*

A young woman, Srishti Bakshi embarks on a monumental journey, walking almost 4000km over 240 days, from Kanyakumari in the south, to Kashmir, in the North, along the way meeting and learning first hand about the experiences of many women from all corners of India. WOMB is a poignant and heart warming documentary exploring the social and political issues faced by women of today's India. It is a unique testament to seemingly insurmountable challenges in these unprecedented times and the everyday heroes who are battling to overcome.

CINÉ LUMIÈRE SCREENING IN LIAISON  
WITH INTEGRITY INTERNATIONAL

IN CINEMA Q&A WITH SRISHTI BAKSHI AND ANNA SMITH

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**17 June | 17:20 | BFI SOUTHBANK**

**22 June | 18:15 | CINÉ LUMIÈRE (EXTRA-ORDINARY LIVES STRAND)**

## CLOSING NIGHT

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### **FLIGHT**

English  
UK 1997 | 75 Mins

*Dir: Alex Pillai*  
*With: Mina Anwar, Kulvinder Ghir,*  
*Roshan Seth, Meera Syal*

A talented British Asian star cast comes together in this Northern family drama, sensitively written by Tanika Gupta and directed by Alex Pillai. Shikha (Mina Anwar), a young Hindu school girl from Lancashire town Accrington, secretly falls in love with a Muslim boy. As word gets out about their tryst, she is threatened and is forced to flee to London to escape the wrath of her patriarch father (Roshan Seth). In the big city she finds refuge in a secret women's shelter, where she discovers a new found sense of freedom, but her past soon catches up with her.

IN CINEMA Q&A WITH ALEX PILLAI + CAST AND CREW EXPECTED

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**2 July | 18:30 | CINÉ LUMIÈRE**

# BAGRI FOUNDATION PRESENTS



## The Bottom Drawer

Books that Changed My Life

27 MAY - 24 JUNE



@BagriFoundation



IMAGE CREDIT: KIER KUREISHI

### IN CONVERSATION WITH HANIF KUREISHI

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One of Britain's best known screenwriters, **Hanif Kureishi CBE** is of mixed Pakistani and English origin. He earned his degree in Philosophy at King's College London. He went on to write plays for the Hampstead Theatre, and by the age of 18, was with the Royal Court. He wrote *My Beautiful Laundrette* in 1985, a screenplay about a gay Pakistani-British boy growing up in 1980s London for a cult film directed by **Stephen Frears**, which won him an Academy Award nomination for Best Original Screenplay. Kureishi's drama *The Mother* was adapted into a movie by **Roger Michell**, which won a joint First Prize in the Director's Fortnight section at Cannes Film Festival. The television miniseries, based on the novel *The Buddha of Suburbia*, and film *My Son the Fanatic* based on his own short story of the same title garnered him recognition as an astute story teller. See him in a live Q&A on stage at the BFI Southbank, with the screening of *My Beautiful Laundrette*.

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18 June | 20:30 | BFI SOUTHBANK



### IN CONVERSATION WITH ASIF KAPADIA

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Oscar, Grammy Award, BAFTA winning British filmmaker **Asif Kapadia** is one of the first British Asians to make huge waves in the world of cinema. His first feature film *The Warrior* was nominated for three BAFTA awards, winning two, including Outstanding British Film of the Year. *The Warrior* was the first international role for the late, great **Irrfan Khan**. Kapadia won accolades for his trilogy of documentaries *Senna*, *Amy & Diego Maradona*, showing an uncanny ability to take archive footage and tell compelling cinematic stories about key figures and the price of fame. Kapadia directed episodes of the series *Mindhunter* for **David Fincher** & Netflix, he executive produced the music series *1971: 'The year that music changed everything'* and he co directed & executive produced the series *The Me You Can't See* with **Oprah Winfrey** and **Prince Harry** focusing on mental health and well being, both for AppleTV+. Watch him take a deep dive into his career on stage at The BFI Southbank, with acclaimed film critic **Hanna Ines Flint**.

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19 June | 20:10 | BFI SOUTHBANK



### IN CONVERSATION WITH GURINDER CHADHA

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Celebrating the iconic British BAFTA and Golden Globe nominated film *Bend It Like Beckham* at the 20th anniversary of it being in production, British Punjabi director **Gurinder Chadha** OBE, returns to the Festival to introduce this film at a unique open air screening at Rooftop East. Best known for her films like the BAFTA nominated *Bhaji on the Beach*, *Bride and Prejudice*, *Viceroy's House*, and *Blinded by the Light*, Kenya born Chadha started her media career in radio, and then TV as a BBC news reporter, going on to direct award-winning documentaries for the British Film Institute, BBC and Channel Four. Empowered by vibrant British Bhangra music, she created a seminal documentary on British Asian identity, entitled *I'm British, But...* Gurinder is a patron of Women in Film and TV UK and has been part of many firsts for a British Asian woman in cinema. She has collaborated numerous times with the double Oscar and double Grammy winner, AR Rahman, for the music that has adorned her films. In conversation with BBC presenters **Sunny & Shay Grewal**.

25 June | 20:45 | ROOFTOP EAST STRATFORD



### IN CONVERSATION WITH KARAN JOHAR

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The son of Bollywood producer **Yash Johar** of Dharma Productions, **Karan Johar** followed in his father's illustrious footsteps without missing a beat, ably aided by his mother, **Hiroo Johar**. Starting his career as an actor, he went on to create what is seen as the epitome of Bollywood cinema, working with lavish opulent sets, and working with the biggest names in the business. His foray into cinema came via his role as an assistant director on cousin **Aditya Chopra's** super hit film *Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge*, where he formed his close working relationship with **Shah Rukh Khan** and **Kajol**, creating his directorial debut, the multiple award winning *Kuch Kuch Hota Hai*. His work with *Kabhi Khushi Kabhie Gham...* starring **Amitabh Bachchan** and **Jaya Bachchan** followed to great success. His unique talent has resulted in his career expanding in cinema and also a large audience following in television. He speaks to Girls On Film and BBC's **Anna Smith** about his incredible career.

ONLINE AT [LOVELIFFATHOME.COM](http://LOVELIFFATHOME.COM)



### IN CONVERSATION WITH SHRUTI HAASAN

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Pan Indian actress and musician **Shruti Haasan**, was born to actors **Kamal Haasan** and **Sarika Thakur**, living her life around set visits, cameos, and ultimately a career in cinema. From acting in the acclaimed film exploring Gandhian principles, *Hey Ram*, as a child, to composing the score for *Unnaipol Oruvan* (Tamil remake of the Hindi film *A Wednesday*) to making her mark in films like *3* and *D-Day*, she has won Filmfare, IIFA and SIIMA awards for her silverscreen appearances. Her foray into Hollywood came by way of the series of the action drama series *Treadstone*. Her work as a playback singer in Indian cinema began with her first song aged six in *Thevar Magan* alongside thespian **Sivaji Ganesan**, by the legend **Ilaiyaraaja**. She discusses her career trajectory with BBC broadcaster and film critic **Ashanti Omkar**, in a candid In Conversation event on [www.loveliffathome.com](http://www.loveliffathome.com)

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[ONLINE AT LOVELIFFATHOME.COM](http://www.loveliffathome.com)



IMAGE CREDIT: HOUSE OF PIXELS

### IN CONVERSATION WITH JANHVI KAPOOR

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Born to the late legendary pan Indian actress **Sridevi** and Bollywood producer **Boney Kapoor**, **Janhvi Kapoor** has made her mark on Hindi cinema since her first foray onto the cinematic screen in 2018 with *Dhadak*. She took her early training at the popular Lee Strasberg Theatre and Film Institute in California. She went on to win accolades for her role in the Zoya Akhtar directed *Story 1* segment as part of the Netflix anthology, *Ghost Stories*. Her titular role in *Gunjan Saxena: The Kargil Girl* went on to win plaudits for her understated performance and physical transformation, playing one of India's first female air force officers. An actress for the modern age, with many films in the streaming sphere, Kapoor discusses her short but steady journey in cinema, with film critic **Mike McCahill** of *The Guardian* and *The Telegraph* on [www.loveliffathome.com](http://www.loveliffathome.com)

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[ONLINE AT LOVELIFFATHOME.COM](http://www.loveliffathome.com)





### IN CONVERSATION WITH PAM CULLEN

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**Pam Cullen** at 97 years young, is a true legend, with an incredible career spanning over fifty years in the Indian film industry. In this very rare, frank and at times witty Interview Pam talks to author and producer **Nasreen Munni Kabir** about her unique life and work. It starts in the 1940s, rebelling against her conservative English parents to join the 'Free India' movement and becoming involved with the nascent Indian High Commission and then the early National Film Development Corporation of India. Pam recounts her career experiences with the Indian independence leader **V.K.Krishna Menon**, setting up the UK's first Indian film screening after WW2. She later worked with Prime Minister **Indira Gandhi** and befriended the shy young **Satyajit Ray** on his early visits to London, rubbing shoulders with such luminaries as **Charlie Chaplin** and managing **Raj Kapoor's** press schedule in the golden age of cinema.

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ONLINE AT [LOVELIFFATHOME.COM](http://LOVELIFFATHOME.COM)



### IN CONVERSATION WITH AVTAR PANESAR

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Behind the surface glamour of the film industry are the key industry professionals who dynamically make it all happen. We are delighted to celebrate and talk to one such British hero **Avtar Panesar**, who over the last thirty years has been a pioneer of the UK Asian Bollywood film & music scene and has gone on to be a leading light in one of India's biggest hit movie studios - Yash Raj Films.

Avtar talks about his childhood, arrival from Punjab to London's Southall in the 1970s and how his father's strong immigrant work ethic inspired him. Starting as a stockroom assistant with EMI India he climbed to management within the company promoting Indian music. This soon took him into Hindi commercial cinema, where as a young man, his hard work and diligence caught the attention of movie moguls **Yash** and **Aditya Chopra**, who handpicked him to execute their vision to set up the company's international operations.

As success followed, Avtar then ascended to greater heights moving back to India at Yash Raj Studios, Mumbai to be dynamically involved with this legendary company's global expansion which now celebrates 50 years of movie-making.

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ONLINE AT [LOVELIFFATHOME.COM](http://LOVELIFFATHOME.COM)

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Younger people often challenge and change the world with fresh ideas and open hearts. We present a clutch of new films that depict young South Asians, some are joyous, while others present youth facing real-life challenges in South Asia today.



UK Premiere

**KOOZHANGAL**  
(PEBBLES)

Tamil with English subtitles  
India 2021 | 75 Mins

Dir: P.S Vinothraj  
With: Chellapandi, Karuththadaiyaan

Winner of the prestigious Tiger Award at this year's International Film Festival of Rotterdam, Koozhangal tells of Ganapathy, a wiry, chain smoking drunk, who discovers his wife has fled their poor village home. Ganapathy drags his young son out of school and they set off on a furious journey together across the arid and desolate landscape of Tamil Nadu to find his wife. P.S Vinothraj's majestic debut feature beautifully tells the tale of a troubled father-son relationship and explores the deeper mores of male powerplay.

ONLINE Q&A WITH P.S.VINOTHRAJ AND VIGNESH SHIVAN

23 June | 18:30 | CINÉ LUMIÈRE

30 June | 20:00 | RICH MIX



UK Premiere

## SEARCHING FOR HAPPINESS...

 CHILD FRIENDLY

A beautiful and tender tale about the many journeys people take in the quest for joy in a complex world. Four year old Shahida paints a smile on a red balloon and calls it "Happiness". Together with her mother she floats it away, hoping to spread happiness across the world. Shahida soon realises she misses her "happiness" and runs away from home in search of it. As she roams the hazardous streets of Kolkata, she comes across different characters, all who in some way are searching for their own forms of happiness.

ONLINE Q&A WITH SUMAN GHOSH

22 June | 20:50 | BFI SOUTHBANK

Bengali with English subtitles  
India 2021 | 63 Mins

Dir: Suman Ghosh  
With: Sudiptaa Chakraborty,  
Arindam Ghosh, Shahida Neera



UK Premiere

## POP CITY

Hindi with English subtitles  
India 2019 | 80 Mins

Dir: Rohit Mittal  
With: Arjun Radhakrishnan, Naina Sareen, Preeti Sharma

A young and ruthless gun for hire Gulshan, lives a lonely life in Mumbai, dreaming of becoming the number one hitman in the city. He is presented with the opportunity to achieve his goals after being approached by a mysterious organisation to kill a journalist. As Gulshan stalks his prey, learning his every move and planning when to make the hit, Gulshan's everyday life begins to get mixed in with his professional life and the best laid plans quickly vortex out of control

ONLINE Q&A WITH ROHIT MITTAL

18 June | 18:00 | ONLINE AT LOVELIFFATHOME.COM (AVAILABLE FOR 24 HOURS)



UK Premiere

### **KAYATTAM** (A'HR)

Malayalam with English subtitles  
India 2020 | 105 Mins

Dir: Sanal Kumar Sasidharan  
With: Manju Warriar, Gaurav  
Ravindran, Bhupendra Khurana

Kerala's enfant terrible director Sanal Kumar Sasidharan (*Sexy Durga*), returns to the festival with this new twisted Himalayan tale. Maya from Kerala connects with younger Akash on social media and they meet in person on a mountain trek. Their chemistry is instant and romance blossoms, however this budding union attracts the unwanted attention of several older male fellow travellers and threatens to derail their relationship.

ONLINE Q&A WITH SANAL KUMAR SASIDHARAN, MANJU  
WARRIAR AND BBC'S ASHANTI OMKAR

24 June | 18:00 | BFI SOUTHBANK



UK Premiere

### **I'LL MEET YOU THERE**

English, Urdu with English subtitles  
USA 2020 | 90 Mins

Dir: Iram Parveen Bilal  
With: Faran Tahir, Nikita Tewani,  
Sheetal Sheth

An insightful and moving portrait of three generations of a Muslim-American family, *I'll Meet You There* follows Majid, a Chicago policeman, and his teenage daughter Dua, a gifted ballet dancer. Their blissful life begins to take a turn after an unexpected visit from Baba, Majeed's long-estranged, religious father from Pakistan, which coincides with Majeed's new undercover assignment with the FBI. As Baba and Dua's relationship begins to blossom she is soon forced to pirouette between her passion for dance and her roots.

ONLINE Q&A WITH IRAM PARVEEN BILAL AND CAST  
AND BBC'S HAROON RASHID

1 July | 20:30 | CINÉ LUMIÈRE

2 July | 18:00 | ONLINE AT LOVELIFFATHOME.COM (AVAILABLE FOR 24 HOURS)



European Premiere

### **MARA PAAPA SUPERHERO**

Gujarati with English subtitles  
India 2021 | 120 Mins

*Dir: Dr. Darshan Ashwin Trivedi  
With: Bhavya Sirohi, Abhinay  
Banker, Shraddha Dangar*

This sweet and charming family film tells the story of a little Gujarati girl's quest to prove her street vendor father is secretly a superhero. Kanku is a happy-go-lucky kid who is able to find joy and happiness with the small things in life. One day while playing with her rich friend Kiara, she hears Kiara refer to her father as her superhero. Eager to understand, Kanku asks Kiara questions, the answers which lead her to believe her street vendor dad is also a superhero. She sets out at any cost to convince everyone of this fact.

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**19 June | 18:00 | WATERMANS**  
**26 June | 18:00 | ONLINE AT LOVELIFFATHOME.COM (AVAILABLE FOR 24 HOURS)**



UK Premiere

### **BITTERSWEET**

Marathi with English subtitles  
India 2020 | 101 Mins

*Dir: Ananth Narayan Mahadevan  
With: Akshaya Gaurav, Suresh  
Vishwakamra, Anil Nagarkar*

World premiered at Busan International Film Festival, Ananth Mahadevan's story is based on true life Indian crop workers struggles. In need of money, young Sugana quits college to work in the sugarcane fields with her family. Workers arrive by the truckload to work in this cash rich industry, but nothing is how it seems. Sugana discovers a harsh truth. She is absent for three days to accommodate her menstrual cycle and upon her return learns that she will have to pay a fine for the missed days. Hard up for money and with the system rigged against her, Sugana faces a harrowing choice that will affect the rest of her life.

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**ONLINE Q&A WITH ANANTH NARAYAN MAHADEVAN**

**20 June | 18:00 | ONLINE AT LOVELIFFATHOME.COM (AVAILABLE FOR 24 HOURS)**

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**STHALPURAN**  
(CHRONICLE OF SPACE)

Marathi with English subtitles  
India 2020 | 86 Mins

Dir: Akshay Indikar  
With: Neel Deshmukh,  
Anushree Wani, Sonia Mahale

Eight year old Dighu has recently moved with his mother and older sister from the city to his grandparents coastal village of Konkan and is finding it hard to adjust to his new life without his father who has disappeared seemingly without a trace. As Dighu struggles to find answers from the grown ups around him, he finds solace from his grief through his diary and imagination. Akshay Indikar's latest film is a gentle portrait of innocence and how children comprehend change and loss.

23 June | 18:00 | ONLINE AT LOVELIFFATHOME.COM (AVAILABLE FOR 24 HOURS)



European Premiere

**WINGMAN**  
(THE UNIVERSAL IRONY  
OF LOVE)



Hindi with English subtitles  
India 2020 | 85 Mins

Dir: Anuj Gulati  
With: Shashank Arora,  
Trimala Adhikari, Nakul Bhalla

Omi works as a call centre agent at a corporate dating service, where he is tasked with being a matchmaker for his urban callers. His personal life, however, is a shambles as his childhood sweetheart has decided to call it quits and his matchmaking skills seem to work for everyone but himself. As Omi's life continues to spin out of control and his pursuit of a married waitress hits the buffers he becomes unable to control his emotions leading to night of crazy events that could change his life forever.

24 June | 18:00 | ONLINE AT LOVELIFFATHOME.COM (AVAILABLE FOR 24 HOURS)





European Premiere  
**KASTOORI**  
(THE MUSK)

Hindi, Marathi with English subtitles  
India 2019 | 101 Mins

*Dir: Vinod Kamble*  
*With: Samarth Sonawane,*  
*Shravan Upalakar, Vaishali Kendale*

Vinod Kamble's movie tells of Gopi, an intelligent Dalit teenager, who has no choice but to engage in manual scavenging in order to pay for his education. He is teased at school for the smell of his body and clothes, with his classmates covering their noses when he walks past, never shy of reminding him that he "smells like a gutter". Gopi comes across the scent of a perfume called kastoori (the musk), and sees this as the way to get rid of his smell. Together with his friend Adim, they set off on a mission to get their hands on the precious scent.

[ONLINE Q&A WITH VINOD KAMBLE](#)

**28 June | 18:00** | ONLINE AT [LOVELIFFATHOME.COM](https://www.loveliffathome.com) (AVAILABLE FOR 24 HOURS)



UK Premiere  
**TRIJYA - RADIUS**

Marathi with English subtitles  
India 2019 | 91 Mins

*Dir: Akshay Indikar*  
*With: Abhay Mahajan, Girish*  
*Kulkarni, Anjali Jogalekar*

World Premiered at Shanghai Film Festival, Trijya tells of a young poet's journey of self-discovery. Avdhut, a migrant to the city of Pune, works part-time as a journalist writing the astrology column for a local newspaper. Even though he doesn't have a steady job he is under pressure from his family to get married and settle down but all Avdhut wants is to return to the simple life of his village and pursue his passion of poetry. Unable to deal with the mundanity of his life he decides to throw in his job and go on a journey to find himself.

[ONLINE Q&A WITH AKSHAY INDIKAR](#)

**29 June | 18:00** | ONLINE AT [LOVELIFFATHOME.COM](https://www.loveliffathome.com) (AVAILABLE FOR 24 HOURS)



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## GREAT BRITISH ASIANS

In this year of new realities and images of Britishness, it's important and indeed vital to consider the South Asian contribution to modern Britain. This is clearly seen in films and arts of the last 4 decades. LIFF presents a showcase of some epic films of the past, capturing our unique journey, as well as celebrating bright, new, emerging talent. Catch talks in cinemas and online with some of our greatest talents.

## GREAT BRITISH ASIANS

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MY BEAUTIFUL LAUNDRETTE © 1985 FILM FOUR LIMITED. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

### MY BEAUTIFUL LAUNDRETTE

English, Urdu with English subtitles  
UK 1985 | 97 Mins

Dir: Stephen Frears  
With: Daniel Day-Lewis, Gordon  
Warnecke, Syed Jaffrey

The iconic British comedy-drama written by Hanif Kureishi tells a story of culture, capitalism and sexuality in 80s Britain. Naseer (Syed Jaffrey), is a small time entrepreneur and admirer of Thatcher. He gives his shy nephew Omar (Gordon Warnecke), the dubious task of making a rundown laundrette profitable. All starts well until Omar's erstwhile street punk friend Johnny (Daniel Day-Lewis) turns up and they all get into a lather.

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WITH A RARE ON-STAGE CONVERSATION WITH HANIF KUREISHI

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18 June | 20:20 | BFI SOUTHBANK

## GREAT BRITISH ASIANS



THE WARRIOR: IMAGES COURTESY OF PARK CIRCUS/CHANNEL 4

### THE WARRIOR

English  
UK 2001 | 86 Mins

Dir: Asif Kapadia  
With: Irrfan Khan

Winning BAFTA's Best British Film, director Asif Kapadia's sweeping, mythical adventure stars the legendary Irrfan Khan as a heartless swordsman in ancient Rajasthan, who delivers death at the behest of his landowner boss. On one such mission he has a spiritual epiphany and renounces his vocation, however he soon becomes the hunted.

WITH AN ON-STAGE CONVERSATION WITH DIRECTOR ASIF KAPADIA

19 June | 20:30 | BFI SOUTHBANK



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## PRATIBHA PARMAR: BRITISH ASIANS - THE UNDERGROUND GENERATIONS

English  
UK | 85 Mins

Dir: Pratibha Parmar

SARI RED	1988   11 Mins
THE COLOUR OF BRITAIN	1994   50 Mins
BRIMFUL OF ASIA	1998   24 Mins

One of the UK's most prominent activist filmmakers - Pratibha Parmar has amassed a unique body of documentaries recording the evolution of British Asian identity from the mid-1980s onwards. British Asians - The Underground Generations starts with her iconic 'Sari Red' about racist attacks on Asian youth, to profiling artists such as Anish Kapoor, Shobana Jeyasingh and Tara Arts Theatre company who defined their art at the borderlines of nationhood and cultural hybridity in 'The Colour of Britain', to the flowering of the Asian arts scenes of the early 1990s with 'Brimful of Asia'. Expect a who's who of British Asian arts and culture!

FOLLOWED BY A Q&A WITH PRATIBHA PARMAR AND GUESTS

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25 June | 18:00 | BARBICAN



## PRATIBHA PARMAR: ASIAN ARTISTS IN EMERGENCE

English  
UK | 71 Mins

Dir: Pratibha Parmar

EMERGENCE	1989   24 Mins
MEMORY PICTURES	1986   20 Mins
FLESH & PAPER	1990   27 Mins

Our second programme of documentaries by legendary filmmaker Pratibha Parmar charts the rise of a new generation of Asian artists in Britain and globally from the mid 1980s to early 90s, with pioneering artists who broke artistic and cultural boundaries who were shaped by feminist and sexual politics. These films include rare conversations with photographer Sunil Gupta, visual artist Sutapa Biswas and acclaimed writer poet Sunita Namjoshi, who explore their practice and thoughts on contemporary culture. Parmar's free-flowing montage style brings artists and their works together, which in itself creates a sensory discourse.

FOLLOWED BY A Q&A WITH PRATIBHA PARMAR AND GUESTS

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26 June | 15:00 | BARBICAN

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### BEND IT LIKE BECKHAM



English, Punjabi, Hindi  
with English subtitles  
UK 2002 | 112 Mins

Dir: Gurinder Chadha  
With: Parminder Nagra, Keira Knightley, Anupam Kher

Come along and help celebrate this hit movie's 20th anniversary! Gurinder Chadha's joyous, feel good drama tells the story of Jess, whose parents are trying to raise her in a traditional Indian way, but all she wants to do is play football like her idol, David Beckham. While her flamboyant elder sister is preparing for her ornate wedding and a life of married bliss, Jess chances upon a professional women's football team and sees an opportunity to chase her dreams... and a soccer ball.

IN CINEMA INTRODUCTION BY GURINDER CHADHA  
AND OTHER SPECIAL GUESTS WITH BBC'S SUNNY & SHAY GREWAL

25 June | 20:45 | ROOF EAST STRATFORD



### BRICK LANE

English, Bengali, Arabic  
with English subtitles  
UK, Bangladesh 2007 | 102 Mins

Dir: Sarah Gavron  
With: Tannishtha Chatterjee,  
Satish Kaushik, Christopher Simpson

Director Sarah Gavron's (*Rocks, Suffragette*), BAFTA winning debut feature tells the story of Nazneen (Tannishtha Chatterjee), who's mother always told her she was a born survivor. Trapped within the four walls of her small flat in East London, in a loveless marriage with the middle aged Chanu, Nazneen however fears her soul is quietly dying. Hearing stories of her sister's carefree life back in Bangladesh, Nazneen struggles to accept her lot, and tries to plough on with her life, that's until a handsome and hotheaded young Market trader comes knocking at her door. Actor Tannishtha Chatterjee gained international notoriety with this controlled, yet commanding central performance.

IN CINEMA Q&A WITH SPECIAL GUESTS

25 June | 20:30 | GENESIS CINEMA



### **MUTINY: ASIANS STORM BRITISH MUSIC**

English  
UK 2003 | 83 Mins

Dir: Vivek Bald

An absorbing and thrilling account of the contribution of Asian musicians to British pop in the 90s. Over the course of seven years Vivek Bald captured the rise and fall of what was always imperfectly described as the “Asian Underground”. Shot with virtually no budget in a style that mirrored the ethos of the featured legendary artists such as Asian Dub Foundation, Talvin Singh and Fun^Da^Mental. Mutiny: Asians Storm British Music is part music documentary, part social history and remains as a unique time-capsule on the music culture of the British Asian second generation.

IN CINEMA Q&A WITH SPECIAL GUESTS

25 June | 20:00 | RICH MIX



IMAGE COURTESY OF PARK CIRCUS/FILM FOUR

### **WILD WEST**



English  
UK 1992 | 85 Mins

Dir: David Atwood  
With: Naveen Andrews, Sarita Choudhury, Ronny Jhutti

A rare chance to see this lively comedy following the outrageous fortunes of a Southall based Country & Western band as they chase their dreams of stardom. Zaf (Naveen Andrews), is a struggling lead singer of a band, who donning their stetsons, firmly believe that their act ‘The Honky Tonk Cowboys’ is the next big thing. As their aspirations soon start to crumble they have a chance encounter with the magnetic and talented Rifat (Sarita Choudhury), who promises to set them on the path to stardom and a once in a lifetime wild trip to Nashville USA. It all seems too good to be true!

1 July | 20:00 | RICH MIX



## GOLDEN AGE OF CINEMA

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### MUGHAL-E-AZAM

Urdu with English subtitles  
India 1960 | 197 Mins

Dir: K Asif  
With: Prithviraj Kapoor,  
Madhubala, Dilip Kumar

Think mirrored palaces, sumptuous technicolor and unforgettable songs. Mughal-E-Azam has it all! K Asif's spectacular epic historical drama tells the tale of a timeless love affair. Heir to the throne, Prince Salim (Dilip Kumar), has matured from a self-indulgent only child into a victorious and distinguished warrior. When he returns to the Mughal court he soon falls for the gorgeous, if lowly born, court dancer Anarkali (Madhubala), it provokes the ire of his father, Mughal emperor Akbar (Prithviraj Kapoor), who forbids them from getting married. As Anarkali takes a stand for her man, risking execution, father-son conflict explodes into a full blown battle.

---

27 June | 14:00 | CINE LUMIERE

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## 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 that show glimpses of real life in the sub-continent and Asian diaspora, which are sometimes challenging, sometimes feel good, even comic, but always compelling.

## EXTRA-ORDINARY LIVES



UK Premiere

### **KARKHANISANCHI WAARI** (ASHES ON A ROAD TRIP)



Marathi with English subtitles  
India 2020 | 108 Mins

Dir: Mangesh Joshi  
With: Amey Wagh, Mohan Agashe,  
Geetanjali Kulkarni

This black comedy road-movie starts as the dominant patriarch of the Karkhanis family passes away. His dysfunctional, aging siblings and his son cram into a Maruti van, leaving the city and heading to their distant homeland village, to scatter his ashes as per his final wish. The trip becomes unexpectedly adventurous as on the way scandalous secrets are revealed, forcing them all to face smoldering interpersonal conflicts that hilariously threaten to throw the journey off course.

ONLINE Q&A WITH CAST AND CREW

24 June | 20:40 | CINÉ LUMIÈRE  
27 June | 15:00 | GENESIS CINEMA



European Premiere  
**ABHIJAAN**

**Bengali with English subtitles**  
India 2021 | 160 Mins

*Dir: Parambrata Chattopadhyay*  
*With: Soumitra Chatterjee, Jisshu Sengupta, Quashi Mukherjee*

A beautiful and tender biopic paying tribute to a legend of Indian cinema, *Abhijaan* explores the incredible life and work of Bengali actor Soumitra Chatterjee, from his first foray into film acting as the lead character Apu in Satyajit Ray's *Apur Sansar*, to countless other classic roles he has portrayed across his long distinguished career. Soumitra Chatterjee tells his own story while accompanied by a magnificent who's who of Bengali cinema. Don't miss it!



SCREENING IN LIAISON WITH  
BENGAL HERITAGE FOUNDATION

ONLINE Q&A WITH PARAMBRATA CHATTOPADHYAY AND GUESTS

26 June | 20:15 | CINÉ LUMIÈRE



UK Premiere  
**AISE HEE**  
(JUST LIKE THAT)

**Hindi with English subtitles**  
India 2019 | 113 Mins

*Dir: Kislay*  
*With: Mohini Sharma, Harish Khanna, Sadhna Singh*

A joyous and inspiring tale of an older woman challenging society's narrow expectations of her. Mrs Sharma is the quiet 'ideal' wife of a government official living in a modest two story house in the small town of Allahabad. When her husband suddenly dies, she is expected to follow Indian custom and move in with her son and grandchildren, but she has other plans. Mrs Sharma wants, at long last, to explore her life and try new experiences, but this soon starts the neighbours gossiping, resulting in family tensions that soon threaten to curtail her new found freedoms.

ONLINE Q&A WITH KISLAY

29 June | 18:00 | BARBICAN



European Premiere

### **AHIMSA: GANDHI THE POWER OF THE POWERLESS**

English with no subtitles  
India, South Africa 2020 | 108 Mins

*Dir: Ramesh Sharma*

A compelling and powerful documentary exploring the roots and global impact of the Gandhian message of non-violence and peaceful resistance. Featuring interviews with renowned world class scholars, African American activists, like the late John Lewis, through to the Dalai Lama; it also shows rare archival footage of non-violent campaigns from India, USA, Poland and Hungary. Sharma's film decodes the revolutionary power of non-violence and how it inspired movements of resistance across the world, which continue to affect us today.

[ONLINE Q&A WITH RAMESH SHARMA AND OTHER SPECIAL GUESTS](#)

**20 June | 15:00 | BFI SOUTHBANK**



UK Premiere

### **NAZARBAND (CAPTIVE)**

Hindi with English subtitles  
India 2020 | 85 Mins5

*Dir: Suman Mukhopadhyay*  
*With: Tanmay Dhanania, Indira Tiwari*

After five years in prison, Vasanti is released only to realise that her husband has not come to receive her. Confused and in despair she begrudgingly teams up with Chandu, a male ex-con released on the same day, and together they embark on a quest to find her family. As the pair struggle through the streets of Kolkata their dependency on each other grows as their search becomes increasingly perilous.

**23 June | 20:45 | BFI SOUTHBANK**

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UK Premiere

### **GHAR KA PATA** (HOME ADDRESS)

Hindi, Kashmiri, English  
with English subtitles  
India 2020 | 67 Mins

*Dir: Madhulika Jalali*

A heartfelt documentary following director Madhulika Jalali as she searches for her identity as a Kashmiri Pandit woman. In the early 90s, six-year-old Madhulika and her family fled Rainawari - a quaint suburb of Srinagar - in response to Kashmir's separatist insurgency. Twenty four years later with no memory of her birthplace, she returns to visit her lost home with her family. Weaving together impromptu conversations, family anecdotes and stunning footage from the streets of Rainawari where she is welcomed back by her childhood neighbours, Ghar Ka Pata reveals deep and personal connections that go beyond religion and politics.

[ONLINE Q&A WITH MADHULIKA JALALI](#)

20 June | 16:00 | WATERMANS  
26 June | 16:00 | BERTHA DOCHOUSE  
30 June | 18:00 | ONLINE AT [LOVELIFFATHOME.COM](https://www.loveliffathome.com) (AVAILABLE FOR 24 HOURS)



European Premiere

### **BREAD & BELONGING**

Konkani, English, Kannada  
with English subtitles  
India 2020 | 51 Mins

*Dir: Sonia Filinto*

Set in the small but vibrant Indian state of Goa, Sonia Filinto's documentary tells a heart-warming story of food and cultural migration through the lens of Goa's most famous bread, pão. The film follows Alzira and her family who have been quietly following their love for baking for generations, but are nowadays struggling to keep their business alive in a changing world. Not far away, Kiran and his co-workers run a bakery with the tenacity of migrants, adapting to a new trade, new language and even new food. Meanwhile, Marius, a returning migrant with family roots in Goa, is on a mission to bring pão back to its former glory.

[ONLINE Q&A WITH SONIA FILINTO](#)

29 June | 20:00 | RICH MIX  
1 July | 18:00 | ONLINE AT [LOVELIFFATHOME.COM](https://www.loveliffathome.com) (AVAILABLE FOR 24 HOURS)



UK Premiere

### **GAMAK GHAR** (THE VILLAGE HOUSE)

Maithili with English subtitles  
India 2019 | 91 Mins

Dir: Achal Mishra  
With: Abhinav Jha, Mira Jha,  
Satyam Jha

In a north Indian village, a large extended family reunites at their ancestral home to celebrate a new birth in the family. It's a joyous and carefree occasion. Over the next two decades, through festivals and feasts, births and deaths and with children moving away to the city, the film observes the house age and fall into neglect with the passing of time. Achal Mishra's astonishing debut feature film is the most intimate of epics, beautifully exploring the ebb and flow of family life in an ever changing world.

THANKS TO DEAF CROCODILE FILMS / GRATITUDE FILMS

[ONLINE Q&A WITH ACHAL MISHRA](#)

**21 June | 18:00** | ONLINE AT [LOVELIFFATHOME.COM](https://www.loveliffathome.com) (AVAILABLE FOR 24 HOURS)



### **BAGANIYA** (GARDEN OF MEMORIES)



Bhojpuri, Bengali with English subtitles  
Bangladesh 2018 | 56 Mins

Dir: Humaira Bilkis

Filmed over the course of several months in Bangladesh's remote tea fields, Baganiya follows the incredible lives of three labourers. Padmoluv Bunarjee, in the last stages of his life, still remains nostalgic of his British Colonial masters. Young Chieftan Sojoy Yadav feels trapped by history, but continues his work in the tea fields and school drop out Chandan wants to elude this work and exploitation altogether. Through the lives of these three individuals from different generations, Humaira Bilkis weaves an elegant tale of labourers, whose lives are still impacted by the framework of colonial rules that still govern the tea industry.

ONLINE SCREENING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH BERTHA DOCHOUSE

[ONLINE Q&A WITH HUMAIRA BILKIS](#)

**22 June | 18:00** | ONLINE AT [LOVELIFFATHOME.COM](https://www.loveliffathome.com) (AVAILABLE FOR 24 HOURS)





UK Premiere

### LORNI - THE FLANEUR

Khasi, English, Hindi  
with English subtitles  
Singapore, India 2019 | 106 Mins

*Dir: Wanphrang K Diengdoh*  
*With: Adil Hussain, Elizer Bareh,*  
*Dawait Syiem*

Acclaimed actor Adil Hussain (*Life of Pi*, *Star Trek*), plays Shem, an out of work, self-styled detective with a sharp sense of the streets. Shem is offered an escape from his humdrum investigation work when he is suddenly asked to investigate the disappearance of an object of great cultural value. Navigating the narrow streets and dark alleys, Shem's journey takes him into the heart and soul of Shillong, where the city's unique political, racial and cultural identity soon complicate his investigation and even threaten his life.

ONLINE Q&A WITH WANPHRANG K DIENGDOH + SPECIAL GUESTS

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25 June | 18:00 | ONLINE AT [LOVELIFFATHOME.COM](https://www.loveliffathome.com) (AVAILABLE FOR 24 HOURS)



UK Premiere

### SWIMMING THROUGH THE DARKNESS

Bengali with English subtitles  
India 2018 | 76 Mins

*Dir: Supriyo Sen*

This inspirational documentary follows the eventful and at times chaotic life of blind swimmer Kanai Chakraborty. Despite being blind and the reservations of his family, Kanai decides to participate in the worlds longest swimming competition in the Ganges River to demonstrate the power of disabled people by challenging sports. *Swimming Through The Darkness* chronicles the roller-coaster journey of a gritty man determined not to let his blindness define him and to chase his own dream.

ONLINE Q&A WITH SUPRIYO SEN

---

26 June | 18:00 | ONLINE AT [LOVELIFFATHOME.COM](https://www.loveliffathome.com) (AVAILABLE FOR 24 HOURS)



## EXTRA-ORDINARY LIVES



### European Premiere **WHO IS BAUL**

Bengali, English with English subtitles  
India 2021 | 54 Mins

Dir: Sairam Sagiraju

Filmmaker Sairam Sagiraju, together with Grammy award winning composer Ricky Kej and historian Vikram Sampath set out on a monumental journey to document the philosophies and musical lineage of the Bauls of Bengal. For centuries Bauls have passed on their traditions of inner knowledge and spirituality through song and music. Declared as an Intangible Heritage of Humanity by UNESCO, The Bauls of Bengal have kept their philosophies alive for over a 1000 years, but modern demands threaten their simple, enlightened lifestyles.

ONLINE Q&A WITH SAIRAM SAGIRAJU

27 June | 18:00 | ONLINE AT [LOVELIFFATHOME.COM](https://loveliffathome.com) (AVAILABLE FOR 24 HOURS)

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## SAVE THE PLANET

A powerful, thought-provoking new strand of dramas and docs, that in different ways, reference rapid ecological change and Mother Nature as their backdrop - climate change and rising sea levels are two key factors impacting South Asia right now.

## SAVE THE PLANET

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### **NONAJOLER KABBO** (THE SALT IN OUR WATERS)



Bangla with English subtitles  
Bangladesh, France 2020 | 106 Mins

Dir: Rezwan Shahriar Sumit  
With: Fazlur Rahman Babu,  
Shatabdi Wadud, Titas Zia

Co-produced by Spike Lee's company, this lavishly photographed film was born to be seen on the big screen! Set in the stunning, unlimited vistas of coastal Bangladesh we meet Rudro, a young artist, who after the death of his father, relocates to a remote beach village to find closure and practice his craftsmanship. At first he is welcomed by the traditional locals, but when the fish shoals they rely on suddenly disappear, Rudro's modern ideas are blamed. As a cyclone approaches, social and physical storms threaten Rudro's way of life.

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ONLINE Q&A WITH REZWAN SHAHRIAR SUMIT AND CREW

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27 June | 15:00 | BFI SOUTHBANK  
1 July | 20:30 | GENESIS CINEMA



UK Premiere  
**KALIRA ATITA**  
(YESTERDAY'S PAST)

Odia with English subtitles  
India 2020 | 83 Mins

*Dir: Nila Madhab Panda*  
*With: Pitabash Tripathy*

Acclaimed Director Nila Madhab Panda's powerful new tale is set against a tableaux of rapidly evolving climate change. Gunu, a young man, is frantically trying to reunite with his missing family days before a predicted super cyclone. As coastal villages are being evacuated Gunu heads in the wrong direction towards his isolated home by the ocean, to find what he has lost. Gunu's challenging survival on the abandoned coast, his very existence and struggle to survive the fury of nature makes his journey a poetic portrayal of emotional trauma and human triumph.

ONLINE Q&A WITH NILA MADHAB PANDA

30 June | 18:30 | CINÉ LUMIÈRE



**SISTERS OF  
THE TREES**

Hindi, Marwari with English subtitles  
India, Argentina 2018 | 86 Mins

*Dir: Camila Menéndez, Lucas Peñafort*

Among the arid lands of Rajasthan, surrounded by marble mines lies the oasis-like village of Piplantri, where women are no longer worried about giving birth to a girl, who historically would have been seen as a burden. Since 2005, a small group of activists have changed society and now every time a girl is born in the village, the residents celebrate the occasion by planting 111 trees in her name. Sisters of the Trees is the intimate story of these brave women and the positive changes and challenges they face trying to raise their daughters for a better future, deeply connected to environmental conservation.

19 June | 18:00 | ONLINE ON LOVELIFFATHOME.COM (AVAILABLE FOR 24 HOURS)



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## SATYAJIT RAY SHORT FILM COMPETITION

The festival's annual Satyajit Ray Short Film Competition is a rare chance to see the works of talented and emerging filmmakers who are exploring themes of South Asian experience, that also reflect the humanist ideals of the legendary filmmaker Satyajit Ray. The winner will be announced on 2nd July.

Available online during the festival and in cinemas.

## SHORT FILM COMPETITION

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### SATYAJIT RAY SHORT FILM COMPETITION 1

Programme duration: 89 mins

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#### LATA

**Hindi, Marathi | 21 Mins**  
*Dir: Alisha Tejpal*

Honing a quiet strength, Lata, a domestic worker, navigates her way through an upper class home in South Mumbai. Doors consistently open and close, giving Lata selective access to the various realities that occupy this space.

#### BLACK GOAT

**Nepali, English | 12 Mins**  
*Dir: Tang Yi*

A new girl at a nunnery has her first period after hearing a late-night ghost story. She believes that she has been cursed and needs to sacrifice a black goat to avoid further misfortune.

---

**29 June | 18:30 | CINÉ LUMIÈRE**  
+ AVAILABLE ONLINE

## SHORT FILM COMPETITION

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### DHULO (THE SCAPEGOAT)

**Bengali | 25 Mins**  
*Dir: Tathagata Ghosh*

A young firebrand woman decides to stand up against the patriarchy and hate politics that has begun to infiltrate her rural Bengali village and threatens to destroy her way of life.

### ANITA

**Gujarati | 18 Mins**  
*Dir: Sushma Khadepaun*

While attending her sister's wedding in India, Anita tells her family of some big news and is pushed to question whether her life in America is any better than those in her hometown.

### 1978

**Urdu | 17 Mins**  
*Dir: Hamza Bangash*

Pakistan, 1978. Lenny, a rockstar from the Goan-Christian community, is offered the chance to reinvent himself as a state sanctioned singer. With Islamic fervor gripping the nation, he must decide if he can change with the times.

---

**29 June | 18:30 | CINÉ LUMIÈRE**  
+ AVAILABLE ONLINE



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## SHORT FILM COMPETITION

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### SATYAJIT RAY SHORT FILM COMPETITION 2

Programme duration: 106 mins

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#### BITTU

**Hindi, English with English subtitles | 21 Mins**  
*Dir: Karishma Dev Dube*

Set in a small Himalayan village, Bittu tells the story of a fiercely independent and foul mouthed little girl whose life is turned upside down after a careless act results in tragedy.

#### FRAYED LINES

**Kodava, Assamese with English subtitles | 20 Mins**  
*Dir: Priya Belliappa*

In the midst of coffee plantations in a remote corner of India, two individuals who don't speak a common language, connect and take a step away from a life they have known.

---

**30 June | 20:30 | GENESIS CINEMA**  
+ AVAILABLE ONLINE

#### SUMAMIME (WADE)

**Bengali with English subtitles**  
**10 Mins**  
*Dir: Upamanyu Bhattacharyya, Kalp Sanghvi*

In the future, the city of Kolkata is wrecked by climate change. Things take an even darker turn for one refugee family when they are ambushed by a tiger on the flooded streets.

#### KANYA

**Tamil with English subtitles**  
**16 Mins**  
*Dir: Apoorva Satish*

An adolescent girl's aspirations of becoming a competitive swimmer take an unexpected turn when she gets her first period.

#### TRANSIT

**Bangla with English subtitles**  
**19 Mins**  
*Dir: Ariq Anam Khan*

A man on the verge of poverty waits for a migrant visa to Italy in the hope it will change his and his families fortunes.

#### B. SELVI & DAUGHTERS

**Tamil with English subtitles**  
**24 Mins**  
*Dir: Drishya*

A woman in her 50s tries to deal with her fears and trepidation as she looks to break out of her cocooned life and start a business.

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## NEW BRIT-ASIAN SHORTS

Support your local filmmaker! A showcase of exciting and diverse emerging British Asian filmmaking talent is presented, as part of LIFF's highlight of British Asian focus. From award-winning dramas to insightful docs, we see a rarely presented slice of life of Asian Britain today. Expect a discussion with young filmmakers on stage and in the Barbican Cinema Cafe' afterwards.

## NEW BRIT-ASIAN SHORTS

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## NEW BRIT-ASIAN SHORTS

UK 2015 to 2020 | 77 Mins  
Dir: Various

---

### ALIEN CULTURE

16 Mins  
Dir: Iesh Thapper

Southall 1979 with tensions running high, a young man thinks his brother is in trouble but the truth is far from what he imagined.

### #WEAREHERE

4 Mins  
Dir: Hussina Raja

Short film dissecting representation of South Asians in film & TV

### VEST

12 Mins  
Dir: Samir Mallal

A fostered little boy runs away from home to potentially dire consequences.

---

30 June | 18:10 | BARBICAN

## NEW BRIT-ASIAN SHORTS

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### I CHOOSE

12 Mins

Dir: Tina Pastora

A young woman battling inner conflict and cultural heritage, escapes to Wales with her two daughters.

### KHAANA

8 Mins

Dir: Cary Rajinder Sawhney

An Orthodox Muslim woman living in London goes on a quest to find the perfect food.

### CHARIOT RIDERS

5 Mins

Dir: Kate Jessop

A charming tale of a young boy's feelings of love for his best friend, another boy.



### LITTLE ELEPHANT

5 Mins

Dir: Kate Jessop

The estranged relationship between a father and his lesbian daughter, now a young mother, unfolds as both characters reflect upon their past memories and lost connections.

### ARMOUR

5 Mins

Dir: Chila Kumari Singh Burman & Susanne Dietz

A short film exploring British Asian identity through the use of decorative symbols and jewelled body stickers.

### MEOW OR NEVER

10 Mins

Dir: Neeraja Raj

Madcap animated musical about a cat astronaut travelling the galaxy for the meaning of life.

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30 June | 18:10 | BARBICAN

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## BSL SPECIAL DOUBLE BILL



### UK Premiere FOR EACH OTHER

Assamese with English subtitles  
India 2019 | 22 Mins |

Dir: Rima Das

Malti is an earnest shop owner and Ramen a flamboyant rickshaw driver. Together they pave the way to connect their quaint neighbourhood in Assam to the outside world, but when testing times befall their town will they be able to stand up for each other?



### DOUBLE DISCRIMINATION

Silent with English subtitles  
UK 2015 | 28 Mins |

Dir: Rinkoo Bargapa

Double Discrimination is a personal yet hard hitting documentary by Rinkoo Bargapa, exploring peoples experiences of racism within the Deaf community.



IN CINEMA BSL SIGNED Q&A WITH SPECIAL GUESTS

26 June | 18:00 | GENESIS CINEMA

## TOO DESI TOO QUEER

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Punjabi, Hindi, English, Marathi with English subtitles  
India, USA, Pakistan, Canada | 65 Mins

Dir: Various

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The festival is proud to bring back its super-hit 'Too Desi Too Queer' short film programme, exploring the lives, experiences and well being of South Asian LGBTQIA+ communities in the Subcontinent and diaspora, through a dynamic and thought-provoking selection of recent LGBTQIA+ short films. There's a super-glam white marble staircase leading up to the cinema, so make sure you dress to impress and know how to walk it!

IN CINEMA Q&A WITH SPECIAL GUESTS

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25 June | 20:15 | CINÉ LUMIÈRE

PICTUREVILLE  
PICTUREVILLE

**WHERE**  
BREATHTAKING  
HARD-HITTING  
TEAR-JERKING  
PULSE-POUNDING  
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MIND-BLOWING  
GENRE HOPPING  
JAW-DROPPING  
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Q PICTUREVILLE BRADFORD

## YEAR ROUND PROGRAMME

Ever evolving into new territories, the festival this year is proud to deliver its first year round programme of high quality great films on [www.LoveLIFFatHome.com](http://www.LoveLIFFatHome.com). These films are available anywhere in the UK at any time. Check out these fierce and inspiring indie titles!



### **THANI THATUWEN PIYABANNA** (FLYING WITH ONE WING)

Sinhala with English subtitles  
Sri Lanka 2003 | 81 Mins

*Dir: Asoka Handagama*  
*With: Anoma Janadari, Gayani*  
*Gisanthika, Mahendra Perera*

A married man works as a mechanic in a small Sri Lankan town. His secret known to none but his wife, is that he is actually a woman. One day an accident causes his real gender to be discovered, setting off a chain of events that will change their lives forever. Asoka Handagama's subversive film, originally banned domestically satirises homophobia and sexual bigotry while serving as a brutal indictment of the sexual harassment experienced by working women in Sri Lanka.

ONLINE Q&A WITH ASOKA HANDAGAMA



### MONSOON

English, Malayalam, Assamese,  
Marathi, Hindi with English subtitles  
Canada 2015 | 108 Mins

*Dir: Sturla Gunnarsson  
With: Moushumi Chatterjee,  
the Prasad family*

This documentary feature, shot in stunning 4K, is filmed across the subcontinent, charting the giant rain system's path as it surges toward and gradually engulfs every region of India. It is a breathtaking cinematic journey into a terrain where nature, science, belief and wonder converge. It introduces us to a remarkable array of individuals whose lives are in different ways entwined with the phenomenon. For some, the great rains will be a time of bountiful sustenance, for others it will be a time of great hardship. All are caught in this timeless human drama. The outstanding score, composed by London's own Andrew T. MacKay, is based on the Malhar ragas and perfectly complements the multiple-award winning director's epic vision.

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ONLINE Q&A WITH STURLA GUNNARSSON



### HANK AND ASHA


English  
USA 2013 | 73 Mins

*Dir: James E. Duff  
With: Andrew Pastides,  
Mahira Kakkar*

Winner of the Slamdance Audience Award, this tender delight of a movie tells of the courtship of two loveable young strangers searching for connection in an online world. Adorable Indian, Asha, is studying in Prague, where she watches a film by an American, called Hank, which she adores, but misses him at the post screening Q&A, so she takes a risk and sends him a video blog. To her surprise handsome Hank responds with a video blog from his home in New York. Very quickly the two bond and are soon communicating regularly and before they know it, they plan their first actual date in Paris, but one of them has held back a secret.

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ONLINE Q&A WITH DIRECTOR JAMES E. DUFF AND PRODUCER  
JULIA MORRISON



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### RUNWAY

**Bangla with English subtitles**  
Bangladesh 2010 | 90 Mins

*Dir: Tareque Masud*  
*With: Fall Haque, Rabeya Akter Moni,*  
*Ali Ahsan*

Winner of a Cannes prize for his triumph *The Clay Bird*, this is the last offering from Tareque Masud who tragically died in an accident in 2011. Teenage Ruhul lives with his family in a small hut next to the runway of Dhaka international airport. His family struggle to make a living while he spends his days wandering under the shadow of the planes, aimless and frustrated in his futile efforts to find work. One day at a cyber-cafe he meets computer geek Arif (Ahsan) who introduces him to a group of other young men and what seems an inspiring new religious sect, but all is not what it seems and he quickly gets pulled into a world of violent revolutionary politics.



### ONE CRAZY THING

**English**  
UK 2016 | 94 Mins

*Dir: Amit Gupta*  
*With: Ray Panthaki, Daisy Bevan,*  
*Dan Renton Skinner*

This delightful charmer follows Jay, a former daytime TV star who is haunted by the sex tape that destroyed his life and turned his unknown actress girlfriend into an A-list Hollywood celebrity. As he cowers in obscurity managing his family's Indian restaurant, he meets his dream girl Hannah, a beautiful American music student who hates modern life, and above all, dishonesty. Jay must now confront the errors of his past, rather than hiding from his future. Filled with warmth, music and delicious Indian food, the film is also a celebration of modern London in all her glory. It features a winning performance from BAFTA Breakthrough Brit Ray Panthaki and a star-making turn from Daisy Bevan, the latest entrant from the revered Redgrave acting dynasty.

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**ONLINE Q&A WITH DIRECTOR AMIT GUPTA**





### MY HOME INDIA

English, Polish with English subtitles  
India, Poland 2019 | 45 Mins

*Dir: Anjali Bhushan*  
*With: Kira Banasinska, Wanda Novicka-Kashikar, Wanda Kuras*

This inspirational tear-jerker documentary uncovers a little-known story of unimaginable humanity, generosity and kindness. Towards the end of WW2, the Polish ambassadorial team in Bombay, led by the determined heroine Kira Banasinska and supported by several Indian states, dispatched a convoy of food relief and other essentials, thousands of miles to help the Polish refugees in Soviet Siberian labour camps. The expedition however returned to India with 5,500 women and children in the supplies trucks. Thanks to Kira and the hospitality of Indians, the refugees were welcomed and given dedicated settlements in Maharashtra. Over 70 years later a number of now elderly Polish people return for the first time to India to see where they experienced the joys of childhood.

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ONLINE Q&A WITH ANJALI BHUSHAN



### COURT

Marathi with English subtitles  
India 2019 | 116 Mins

*Dir: Chaitanya Tamhane*  
*With: Vivek Gomber, Vira Sathidar, Geetanjali Kulkarni*

Chaitanya Tamhane's tightly scripted and confidently directed second feature is set around a single court case in a Maharashtrian town. Within this seemingly simple courtroom drama, a subtle and fascinating exploration of the state of the nation India, westernised versus revisionist traditionalist values is uncovered. The outcome is increasingly unsettling, even dangerous, as the seeming stability and order of the British Raj based court system, is pitted against a changing India. An ageing, activist, folk singer is charged with inciting a sewerage worker to commit suicide by one of his 'inflammatory' songs. His defence lawyer, a westernised man defends the rights of the artist, while the female prosecutor states the singer, as the police have described him, is a threat to national security.

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ONLINE Q&A WITH CHAITANYA TAMHANE

## VENUES & WEBSITE

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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)

### 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)

### BERTHA DOCHOUSE

Curzon Bloomsbury  
The Brunswick Centre  
London WC1N 1AW

🚶 Russell Square  
(0.3 miles / 6 min walk)

**BOOKINGS:** 0333 321 0104  
[www.dothouse.org](http://www.dothouse.org)

### 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)

### CINÉ LUMIÈRE

17 Queensberry Place,  
London W1D 7DH

🚶 South Kensington  
(0.1 miles / 3 min walk)

**BOOKINGS:** 020 7871 3515  
[www.institut-francais.org.uk/cine-lumiere](http://www.institut-francais.org.uk/cine-lumiere)  
[box.office@institutfrancais.org.uk](mailto:box.office@institutfrancais.org.uk)

### 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.genesiscinema.co.uk](http://www.genesiscinema.co.uk)

### ROOF EAST STRATFORD

7 & 8 Stratford Multi Storey Car Park,  
Great Eastern Rd,  
London E15 1BB

🚶 Stratford

**BOOKINGS:**  
[www.rooftopfilmclub.com/london/venue/roof-east/](http://www.rooftopfilmclub.com/london/venue/roof-east/)

### RICH MIX

35-47 Bethnal Green Rd,  
London E1 6LA  
(Shoreditch High St Station)

**BOOKINGS:** 020 7613 7498  
[www.richmix.org.uk](http://www.richmix.org.uk)

ONLINE SCREENINGS AT  
**LOVELIFFATHOME.COM**

For updated information  
please check our website at  
[www.londonindianfilmfestival.co.uk](http://www.londonindianfilmfestival.co.uk)

# CALENDAR

## THU 17 JUNE

OPENING NIGHT

### WOMB

17:20 | BFI SOUTHBANK

### SATYAJIT RAY SHORT FILM COMPETITION

ONLINE UNTIL 4 JULY

## FRI 18 JUNE

### POP CITY

18:00 | ONLINE FOR 24 HRS

### MY BEAUTIFUL LAUNDRETTE

20:20 | BFI SOUTHBANK

## SAT 19 JUNE

### MARA PAAPA SUPERHERO

18:00 | WATERMANS

### SISTERS OF THE TREES

18:00 | ONLINE FOR 24 HRS

### THE WARRIOR

20:30 | BFI SOUTHBANK

## SUN 20 JUNE

### AHIMSA

15:00 | BFI SOUTHBANK

### GHAR KA PATA

16:00 | WATERMANS

## MON 21 JUNE

### GAMAK GHAR

18:15 | ONLINE FOR 24 HRS

## TUE 22 JUNE

### GARDEN OF MEMORIES

18:00 | ONLINE FOR 24 HRS

## WOMB

18:15 | CINÉ LUMIÈRE

### SEARCHING FOR HAPPINESS

20:50 | BFI SOUTHBANK

## WED 23 JUNE

### STHALPURAN

18:00 | ONLINE FOR 24 HRS

### PEBBLES

18:30 | CINÉ LUMIÈRE

### AZARBAND

20:45 | BFI SOUTHBANK

## THU 24 JUNE

### A'HR

18:00 | BFI SOUTHBANK

### WINGMAN

18:00 | ONLINE FOR 24 HRS

### ASHES ON A ROADTRIP

20:40 | CINÉ LUMIÈRE

## FRI 25 JUNE

### LORNI - THE FLANEUR

18:00 | ONLINE FOR 24 HRS

### PRATIBHA PARMAR 1

18:00 | BARBICAN

### MUTINY

20:00 | RICH MIX

### TOO DESI TOO QUEER

20:15 | CINÉ LUMIÈRE

### BRICK LANE

20:30 | GENESIS

### BEND IT LIKE BECKHAM

20:45 | ROOF EAST STRATFORD

## SAT 26 JUNE

### PRATIBHA PARMAR 2

15:00 | BARBICAN

### GHAR KA PATA

16:00 | BERTHA DOCHOUSE

### BSL SPECIAL DOUBLE BILL

18:00 | GENESIS

### SWIMMING THROUGH THE DARKNESS

18:00 | ONLINE FOR 24 HRS

### MARA PAAPA SUPERHERO

18:00 | ONLINE FOR 24 HRS

### ABHIJAAN

20:15 | CINÉ LUMIÈRE

## SUN 27 JUNE

### MUGHAL-E-AZAM

14:00 | CINÉ LUMIÈRE

### THE SALT IN OUR WATERS

15:00 | BFI SOUTHBANK

### ASHES ON A ROADTRIP

15:00 | GENESIS

### WHO IS BAUL

18:00 | ONLINE FOR 24 HRS

## MON 28 JUNE

### KASTOORI: THE MUSK

18:00 | ONLINE FOR 24 HRS

## TUE 29 JUNE

### TRIJYA - RADIUS

18:00 | ONLINE FOR 24 HRS

### AISI HEE

18:00 | BARBICAN

## TUE 29 JUNE

### SATYAJIT RAY SHORTS 1

18:30 | CINÉ LUMIÈRE

### BREAD & BELONGING

20:00 | RICH MIX

## WED 30 JUNE

### GHAR KA PATA

18:00 | ONLINE FOR 24 HRS

### NEW BRIT-ASIAN SHORTS

18:10 | BARBICAN

### YESTERDAY'S PAST

18:30 | CINÉ LUMIÈRE

### PEBBLES

20:00 | RICH MIX

### SATYAJIT RAY SHORTS 2

20:30 | GENESIS

## THU 1 JULY

### BREAD & BELONGING

18:00 | ONLINE FOR 24 HRS

### WILD WEST

20:00 | RICH MIX

### I'LL MEET YOU THERE

20:30 | CINÉ LUMIÈRE

### THE SALT IN OUR WATERS

20:30 | GENESIS

## FRI 2 JULY

### I'LL MEET YOU THERE

18:00 | ONLINE FOR 24 HRS

CLOSING NIGHT

### FLIGHT

18:30 | CINÉ LUMIÈRE

## SUN 4 JULY

LAST CHANCE TO WATCH  
SATYAJIT RAY SHORT  
FILM COMPETITION

ONLINE

## YEAR ROUND

AVAILABLE ONLINE

18:00 | FROM THU 17 JUNE

FILMS AVAILABLE FOR 1 YEAR

### ONE CRAZY THING

### HANK AND ASHA

### FLYING WITH ONE WING

### RUNWAY

### MONSOON

### COURT

### MY HOME INDIA