



KATKATHA PUPPET ARTS TRUST
Presents

2nd edition of the International Puppet Film Festival

PuppetOscope

(Out of the Shadows, a special focus on Shadow Puppetry)

Supported by
Goethe-Institut / Max Mueller Bhavan New Delhi
In collaboration with India International Centre

Dates: 3rd-6th April, 2025
Venue- India International Centre

For queries, email:
katkathapuppet@gmail.com



ABOUT KATKATHA

The Katkatha Puppet Arts Trust is a Delhi based puppet theatre group that has in its last few years has brought together talents from all across the world not only for its puppet theatre productions but also towards developing a pedagogical environment in the form of masterclasses, trainings, festivals, and capacity-building workshops. Katkatha has started an International Puppet Film Festival, PuppetOscope, the only one in Asia with an overwhelming response in its first edition and the Puppet Fringe a platform for new talent in puppet theatre. This is the second edition of PuppetOscope.

Visit link or Scan QR for the glimpses of first edition.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y3swTPYTngo>



AN ODE TO KAMALADEVI CHATTOPADHYAY

This festival coincides with the birth anniversary of Smt. Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay (1903-1988), an Indian social reformer who worked tirelessly for the promotion of Indian handlooms, handicrafts and theatre in the newly independent India. She served as the chair of the National School of Drama and later headed the Sangeet Natak Akademi. She also was one of the founding members of the India International Centre where the whole festival is set to happen. Although her contribution towards the making of Indian society in the newly independent country was multifaceted, we however, would like to take this opportunity to celebrate her contribution towards creating a space for modern Indian theatre.



FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

Thursday, 3rd April 2025

Seminar: 10:00 am to 5:00 pm

Out of the Shadows: Discussions on the Plurality of Shadow Puppets

Venue: Seminar Hall, IIC, New Delhi

This seminar will explore the relationship between shadow puppet theatre with television, cinema, animation and mass communication in contemporary visual and popular history. The main attempt is to initiate conversations about the world of moving pictures specifically its link with leather shadow puppets of South-East Asia, South Asia and Central Asia to the birth of animation and the pre-cinema objects like: Magic Lantern and other image projectors, Motion Pictures before Film, Phantasmagoria (later known as Fantascopes), Bioscope, Zoetrope, Flip Books, Praxinoscope, Chronophotography-, Photographic Revolver, Camera Obscura, Peep Show (also known as Raree Show)

We will investigate the current state of shadow puppet theatre especially through the lens of propagation, promotion and transmission. We also intend to deliberate on the new technologies such as VR, Animation and augmented reality which have given shadow puppets a new form and dimension. This is to initiate a discussion around the changing world of mass communication and how all the aforementioned elements have impacted each other.

FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

Thursday, 3rd April 2025

Film Screening: 6:30 pm

Venue: C. D. Deshmukh Auditorium, IIC, New Delhi

FILM BEFORE FILM (1986)

Duration: 83 minutes Language: English

Director: Werner Nekes Country: Germany

Category: Documentary Film

Time slot: 06:30 PM

Synopsis

An exhilarating and amusing encyclopedic look at the "prehistory" of cinema. This film charts Nekes' fascination with moving pictures which led to the birth of film, covering shadow plays, peep shows, flip books, flicks, magic lanterns, lithophanes, scrolls and shadow puppets from across Asia and South Asia.

CAST AND CREW:

Director, Screenplay: Werner Nekes

Producer: Werner Nekes Filmproduktion

Cinematography: Bernd Upnmoor, Christoph Schlingensief, Serge Roman

About the Director

Werner Nekes was born on April 29, 1944 in Erfurt, Germany. He was a director and cinematographer, known for Hynningen (1984), Beuys (1981) and Jüm-Jüm (1967). He died on January 22, 2017 in Mülheim an der Ruhr, North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany.



FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

Friday, 4th April 2025

Film Screening: 10:00 AM to 06:00 PM

Venue: C. D. Deshmukh Auditorium, IIC, New Delhi

GREEN AND GOLDIE

Duration: 13 min 14 sec Language: Indonesian

Director: Daud Nugraha Country: Indonesia

Category: Children Film

Time slot: 10:00 AM to 01:00 PM

Synopsis

The story of a lonely gentle Green Giant who helped a childless old lady with his magical heirloom. Magically, a little girl came out from a giant golden cucumber. Goldie, the little girl, befriended the Green Giant, but alas, the villagers assumed that the scary-looking giant was going to kidnap her.

CAST AND CREW:

Writer: Andina Subarja

Producer: Ricca Virria

Key Cast: Pandji Pragiwaksono; Leyla Aderina

About the Director

Daud Nugraha, born in Indonesia, grew up amidst shadow puppetry. He graduated from Bandung Institute of Technology majoring in Visual Communication Design, where he learnt to amalgamate traditional and modern art practices. His illustration for Indonesia's 1001 Inspiration Design Festival's Cover Concept won several accolades. Now he is exploring a new kind of animation by blending the traditional art of shadow puppetry with modern storytelling and digital animation.



FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

Friday, 4th April 2025

Film Screening: 10:00 AM to 06:00 PM

Venue: C. D. Deshmukh Auditorium, IIC, New Delhi

DESA TIMUN (THE CUCUMBER VILLAGE) COLLECTION VOL. 1)

Duration: 32 min 28 sec Language: Indonesian

Director: Daud Nugraha Country: Indonesia

Category: Children Film

Time slot: 10:00 AM to 01:00 PM

Synopsis

Desa Timun (Cucumber Village) is the first animation film using "aniwayang" technique: traditional art of shadow puppetry made alive with the magic of modern storytelling and digital animation. The Cucumber Village is a story of three little mouse deers: Cila, Cili, and Cilo in their daily rural life.

CAST AND CREW:

Writer: Daud Nugraha; Peter Rhian Gunawan; Sundeia

Producer: Ricca Virria, Ricca Virria

Key Cast: Tisa Julianti, Aira Hariyadi, Daud Nugraha

Puppeteers: Regina Stela; Ayu Purbasari; Dian Rahmawan;

Sapta Nugraha; Ron Mangun Swamartya; Zidni Rahmatika

About the Director

Daud Nugraha, born in Indonesia, grew up amidst shadow puppetry. He graduated from Bandung Institute of Technology majoring in Visual Communication Design, where he learnt to amalgamate traditional and modern art practices. His illustration for Indonesia's 1001 Inspiration Design Festival's Cover Concept won several accolades. Now he is exploring a new kind of animation by blending the traditional art of shadow puppetry with modern storytelling and digital animation.



FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

Friday, 4th April 2025

Film Screening: 10:00 AM to 06:00 PM

Venue: C. D. Deshmukh Auditorium, IIC, New Delhi

NEE ENGEY (WHERE ARE YOU)

Duration: 150 min

Language: English, Kannada, Malayalam,
Marathi, Tamil, Telugu

Director: R V Ramani Country: India

Category: Documentary Film

Time slot: 03:00 PM



Synopsis

Before the advent of cinema, Shadow Puppet Theatre had been the prevalent and most popular form of entertainment for many centuries in India. The Shadow Puppeteers are the 'original filmmakers', who led a nomadic lifestyle, traveling, camping, setting up screens, and performing the story of Ramayana, adapting local languages and flavours. Today, there are only a few shadow puppeteers still practicing this art form.

This is a film by R.V. Ramani (2003) was supported by India Foundation for the Arts.

CAST AND CREW:

Produced, Written, and Directed by R. V. Ramani

Key Cast: Shadow puppeteer families

About the Director

R.V. Ramani is an award-winning Filmmaker, Cinematographer and a Teacher. In 1991, he directed and photographed his own independent short experimental film 'Saa', seeking his own rhythm, in the flux of rural and urban rhythms. Since then, Ramani has been exploring, experimenting and making independent films on various aspects of expression. With more than 30 independent films to his credit, he has carved his own niche in the avant-garde experiments. He also collaborates with other filmmakers as a Cinematographer.

FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

Friday, 4th April 2025

Shadaow Puppet Theatre Performance: 06:30 PM

Venue: C. D. Deshmukh Auditorium, IIC, New Delhi

EPISODES FROM RAMAYANA (from TAMIL NADU SHADOW PUPPETRY TRADITION)

Duration: 90 min

Language: Tamil

Group: Kalaimamani Muthulakshmana Rao and Team, Theni, Tamil Nadu, India

Category: Puppet Theatre Performance

Time slot: 06:30 PM

Synopsis

Episode from the Ramayana, in his unique storytelling style with comedy, songs, dance and action scenes woven seamlessly.

Experience the mastery and magic of Shadow Puppetry from one of Tamil Nadu's senior puppeteers. Muthulakshmana Rao, is also one of the puppeteers, featured in the film Nee Engey. A recipient of the Kalaimamani Award (Jewel of Art) from the Tamil Nadu government, he leads a troupe with his family members. He is a master in improvising and contextualising mythology with the contemporary, shifting time zones, effortlessly. The performance will be in Tamil. English translations of his performance will be provided.



FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

Saturday, 5th April 2025

Film Screening: 10:00 AM to 06:00 PM

Venue: C. D. Deshmukh Auditorium, IIC, New Delhi

THE LOST GLOVE

Duration: 06 min 48 sec Language: Non-verbal

Director: Lizzie Oxby, Sue Buckmaster

Country: United Kingdom

Category: Children Film

Time slot: 10:00 AM to 01:00 PM



Synopsis

It's that time of year when gloves get lost, and found... A short film that tells the charming story of a timid glove lost in a big city and features puppetry and animation skills.

CAST AND CREW:

Producer: Theatre-Rites

Artistic Director: Sue Buckmaster

Key Cast: Charlotte Dubery, Mohsen Nouri, Simon Palmer, Edward Wren

About the Director

Lizzie Oxby is a London based director, writer, designer specialising in creating inventive films which blend live action with animation and have a love of creating heightened worlds which often cross over from the dark to the beautiful in imaginative ways. A graduate of London's Royal College of Art, she has won over 20 film awards and nominations including a British Animation Award, a British Independent Film Award nomination, and Gold and Silver Mikeldi Awards at Zinebi (FIAPF). Lizzie creates work for the screen and stage.

FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

Saturday, 5th April 2025

Film Screening: 10:00 AM to 06:00 PM

Venue: C. D. Deshmukh Auditorium, IIC, New Delhi

PLANET UTOPIA – A POSSIBILITY

Duration: 25 min 33 sec Language: Non-verbal

Director: Silvana Marcondes, Amanda Vieira,
Evelyn Cristina, Kika Antunes, Natalia Peixoto,
William Simplicio

Country: Brazil Category: Children Film

Time slot: 10:00 AM to 01:00 PM



Synopsis

A film without words, which through shadow theater narrates the constitution of the universe, of living beings, of societies and their civilizing implications. In this way, we draw a parallel to the constitution of societies, from the most primitive to the contemporary world. The film does not present certainties, it opens possibilities for dreaming.

CAST AND CREW:

Film and Photo: Ligia Jardim

Video editing: Guta Pacheco

About the Director

The PAVIO de Abajour Company was created with the desire to research the world of shadows. The meeting of Amanda Vieira, Evelyn Cristina and Silvana Marcondes to create the shadows for the show “Histórias Que O Vento Contou” in 2007, together with the Orquestra Filarmônica Infanto-Juvenil, was the initial spark for this union. In 2011, they created the PAVIO de Abajour Company, which has been researching and developing its language ever since. Later, they joined forces with the trio Kika Antunes, William Simplicio and Natália Peixoto. The company also has a training program, in which it has taught a Shadow Immersion workshop for adults at the São Paulo Cultural Center and Flying Toys and Shadows workshops in various places.

FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

Saturday, 5th April 2025

Film Screening: 10:00 AM to 06:00 PM

Venue: C. D. Deshmukh Auditorium, IIC, New Delhi

THE MIGRANTS (RETIRANTES)

Duration: 13 min 23 sec Language: Non-verbal

Director: Maíra Coelho

Country: Brazil

Category: Fiction Film

Time slot: 10:00 AM to 01:00 PM

Synopsis

The short film tells the story of a woman traveling through an arid, depopulated region, unable to feed her baby. In a dreamlike vision, a religious procession praying for help, children, local peasants and a group playing traditional music are some of the figures who appear in this sensitive, magical portrait of a suffering people and their difficulties and idiosyncrasies.

CAST AND CREW:

Co-director: Juliano Ambrosini

Lead Cast (Puppeteers): Genifer Gerhardt (protagonist), Elaine Regina, Cacá Sena e Fernando Rossa

Puppet Art: Patricia Preiss Magda Gebhardt, Fernando Rossa
Andréia Tonet, Mírian Gama, Gustavo Silva, Karine Cupertino,
Manoela Cavalinho Branco, Tais Krug and Maíra Coelho

About the Director

Maíra Coelho is a Brazilian multi-artist who began her professional training in seeks to build image and movement using puppets, theater, dance and visual arts as a set and costume designer and later becoming an art director. She has worked with several state theater groups and has won state and national awards for her authorial projects.



FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

Saturday, 5th April 2025

Film Screening: 10:00 AM to 06:00 PM

Venue: C. D. Deshmukh Auditorium, IIC, New Delhi

THE PACKAGE

Duration: 14 min 03 sec Language: Français

Director: Lucie Émard

Country: Canada

Category: Fiction Film

Time slot: 10:00 AM to 01:00 PM

Synopsis

Octagenarian Jeanette lives alone. When 80-year-old Gerry moves into a little house in front of Jeannette's place, she is curious. When packages of every shape and size start to arrive, Jeannette gets out of her loneliness to live a last love story.

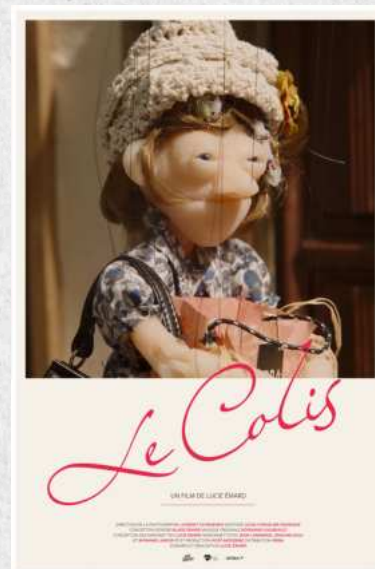
CAST AND CREW:

Screenplay, Artistic Director: Lucie Émard

Cinematographer: Laurent Schraenen

About the Director

Lucie Émard is a recipient of the grant from the Conseil des Arts du Québec in 2020, 2021 and 2022. She has made several puppet shows and given many training sessions in puppet manufacture and manipulation techniques for the last 27 years. For 10 years now, she is focused on fabricating and creating little characters made of silicone threads in their own scale. Her creations have been exhibited multiple times ever since she made her first short film— The Package.



FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

Saturday, 5th April 2025

Film Screening: 10:00 AM to 06:00 PM

Venue: C. D. Deshmukh Auditorium, IIC, New Delhi

SCRIBOUILIS

Duration: 11 min 40 sec Language: Français

Director: Noemi Belanger, Lisa Sfriso

Country: Canada

Category: Children Film

Time slot: 02:00 PM to 03:00 PM



Synopsis

Scribouillis is a tribute to the imagination of children and a metaphor for our fear of the unknown, which we must learn to tame.

Mimi, a curious three-and-a-half-year-old girl, is up before dawn. With no one else awake, she draws herself a playmate on the blackboard and the odd creature suddenly comes to life! Startled, but intrigued, she resolves to befriend it with games and treats. Everything is going great... until the creature takes an interest in her blankie!!

CAST AND CREW:

Writer: Noemi Belanger, Lisa Sfriso

Key Cast: Noemi Belanger, Maia Menard-Belanger

About the Director

Noémi Bélanger founded L'os de bois in 2018, a company specializing in puppetry, where she oversees the storytelling, directing, puppet making and character interpretation in her shows. As an author and a sculptor, she creates visual and narrative universes that are distinguished by a unique signature, using textile textures and the felting technique. Scribouillis, which she originally created as a puppet show, is her first cinematographic work.

Lisa Sfriso has been writing and directing for over twenty years. Her short La Casa del Nonno (1999), an experimental film about grief and absence, and Les Adieux (2005) about loss and childhood, have won awards at festivals in the United States, France and Canada. Her first feature documentary, À Contre-courant, won the Audience Award for Best Documentary at the festival Rendez-vous du cinéma québécois in 2013. With Scribouillis, she co-wrote and co-directed her first adaptation from theater to film.

FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

Saturday, 5th April 2025

Film Screening: 10:00 AM to 06:00 PM

Venue: C. D. Deshmukh Auditorium, IIC, New Delhi

LIFE CYCLES

Duration: 06 min 48 sec Language: Portuguese

Director: Thiago Bresani, Maria Soledad Garcia

Country: Brazil

Category: Children Film

Time slot: 02:00 PM to 03:00 PM

Synopsis

The story tells the relationship of a granddaughter and a grandmother and the moments of uncertainty in view of the impossibility of their meeting. A moving tale of loss, grief and rediscovered memories complete the eternal cycle of life...

CAST AND CREW:

Writer: Maria Soledad Garcia, Thiago Bresani

Producer: Lumiato

About the Director

Soledad Garcia is an actress, artist and a graduate in Theater of Puppets and Objects by the University of San Martin in Argentina. She is the founder and sombrist of Cia. Lumiato Teatro de Formas Animadas (2008).

Thiago Bresani graduated in Theater of Puppets and Objects from the University of San Martin in Argentina, he is the founder and Sombrist of Cia Lumiato Teatro de Formas Animadas (2008), which currently researches contemporary shadow theater in Brazil.



FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

Saturday, 5th April 2025

Film Screening: 10:00 AM to 06:00 PM

Venue: C. D. Deshmukh Auditorium, IIC, New Delhi

A TREASURE

Duration: 06 min Language: English

Director: Freddie Levin

Country: United States

Category: Children Film

Time slot: 02:00 PM to 03:00 PM



Synopsis

This children's story is about a poor tailor who dreams of a treasure over three nights and sets off in search of this treasure, convinced that it truly exists. He searches for the treasure and finds it where he least expects it and makes friends with a very unlikely creature.

CAST AND CREW:

Writer: Freddie Levin

About the Director

Freddie Levin has been making art of one kind or another for a very long time. She is a teacher, a writer, a children's illustrator, and a puppeteer. Her latest exploration is to combine all those 'hats' into making animated puppet films for children.

FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

Saturday, 5th April 2025

Film Screening: 10:00 AM to 06:00 PM

Venue: C. D. Deshmukh Auditorium, IIC, New Delhi

VALENTIN, THE PUPPETEER PUPPET

Duration: 04 min 54 sec Language: Non-verbal

Director: Naiara Parolin

Country: Brazil

Category: Children Film

Time slot: 02:00 PM to 03:00 PM

Synopsis

Valentin lives alone and to escape monotony and boredom, Valentin uses creativity to invent a new company, a puppet! Together, these two inanimate lives have fun and enjoy their puppet-like existence.

CAST AND CREW:

Writer: Naiara Parolin

About the Director

Naiara Parolin is a multidisciplinary artist with a 20-year career in the performing arts, working as an actress, puppeteer, teacher, director, and project coordinator. She graduated with a degree in Theater from the Faculty of Arts of Paraná in 2010. Since then, she has explored various facets of the performing arts, with a focus on Visual Theater, Puppetry, and corporeal mime. She has won several accolades and awards all over the western hemisphere.



FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

Saturday, 5th April 2025

Film Screening: 10:00 AM to 06:00 PM

Venue: C. D. Deshmukh Auditorium, IIC, New Delhi

AFTER THE ENDLING

Duration: 15 min Language: English

Director: Daniel A. Kelin

Country: United States

Category: Documentary Film

Time slot: 03:00 PM

Synopsis

This is a story of a pūpū kani oe (Hawaiian tree snail) named George and a tiny, yet vital, battle against extinction. Lonely George struggling to survive invasive threats the very last of his species.

CAST AND CREW:

Produced, Written and Directed by Daniel A. Kelin

Puppeteers: Danica Rosengren, Stephanie Conching,

Meredith Enos, Daniel A. Kelin, Eric West


Puppet Construction: Bonnie Kim

Director of Photography: Gerard Elmore

About the Director

Daniel A. Kelin started experimenting with puppet films during the pandemic. Many were featured in puppet slams across the US and Canada. Pacific Islanders in Communication awarded him a Short Film grant for "After the Endling." Other short puppet films have been featured in film festivals in Australia, Germany, India and the USA. A theatre artist otherwise, Daniel has been affiliated with theatres in the US, American Samoa, Marshall Islands, Pohnpei, Guam and India.





FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

Saturday, 5th April 2025

Film Screening: 10:00 AM to 06:00 PM

Venue: C. D. Deshmukh Auditorium, IIC, New Delhi

THE ADVENTURE OF PRINCE ACHMED

Duration: 01 hr 20 min Language: German

Director: Lotte Reiniger, Carl Koch

Country: Germany

Category: Fiction Film

Time slot: 04:00 PM

Synopsis

The Adventures of Prince Achmed is a 1926 German animated fairytale and the oldest surviving animated feature film.

A handsome prince rides a flying horse to faraway lands and embarks on magical adventures, which include befriending a witch, meeting Aladdin, battling demons and falling in love with a princess.

CAST AND CREW:

Writer: Lotte Reiniger

About the Director

Lotte Reiniger was born on 2 June 1899 in Berlin, Germany. She was a director and writer, known for Silhouetten (1936), Der Graf von Carabas (1935) and Lotte Reiniger - The Fairy Tale Films (1961). She was married to Carl Koch. She died on 19 June 1981 in Dettenhausen, Baden-Württemberg, Germany.

Carl Koch was born on 30 July 1892 in Nümbrecht, North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany. He was a writer and cinematographer, known for The Rules of the Game (1939), La Grande Illusion (1937) and Tosca (1941). He was married to Lotte Reiniger. He died on 1 December 1963 in Barnet, London, England, UK.



FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

Saturday, 5th April 2025

Shadaow Puppet Theatre Performance: 09:00 PM

Venue: Siddharth Hall, Goethe Institut, Max Mueller Bhavan, New Delhi

SITA APAHARAN: RAM-RAAVAN YUDDHA (from KARNATAKA SHADOW PUPPETRY TRADITION)

Duration: 9 hrs

Language: Kannada, Hindi

Group: Shri Raja Rama Togalu Gombu Mela, Hassan, Karnataka

Category: Puppet Theatre Performance

Time slot: 09:00 PM

FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

Sunday, 6th April 2025

Film Screening: 11:00 AM to 02:00 PM

Venue: C. D. Deshmukh Auditorium, IIC, New Delhi

BODY TRANSFERENCE

Duration: 45 min 51 sec Language: Spanish

Director: Catalina Bize del Campo

Country: Chile

Category: Fiction Film

Time slot: 11:00 AM to 02:00 PM



Synopsis

Body Transference talks about old age as a liminal experience between life and death. With real human scale hybrid puppets built as a senile projection of the puppeteers who manipulate them, the film intrudes in the everyday life of five seniors who are isolated from each other and privately face the challenge of living in a society that renegades old age, turning it into a synonym of precariousness and neglect.

CAST AND CREW:

Writers: Catalina Bize del Campo, Valesca Díaz Alvarez and Camila Cuesta

Cast: Catalina Bize del Campo, Camila Cuesta, Valesca Díaz Alvarez, Matías Segura Soto, Nicolás Vergara Núñez.

Puppet designer: Catalina Bize del Campo

Puppet makers: Catalina Bize del Campo, Camila Cuesta, Valesca Díaz Alvarez, Matías Segura Soto, Nicolás Vergara Núñez, Valentina Acuña Ulloa

About the Director

Catalina Bize del Campo has focused her career on puppet and object theatre, which has motivated her investigation concerning the relationship between plastic and scenic elements. Her work relates different practices regarding puppets: direction, writing, designing and acting. Catalina has worked as director in two puppet theatre companies— Principio Material and Teatro Marote, among other projects. She also directed one of the selected playwrights on the XI version of the National Playwright Showcase 2024 (Muestra Nacional de Dramaturgia). At the same time, she's part of the puppet theater company "Teatro y su Doble", participating in national and international tours and shows.

FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

Sunday, 6th April 2025

Film Screening: 11:00 AM to 02:00 PM

Venue: C. D. Deshmukh Auditorium, IIC, New Delhi

OUR TALES

Duration: 04 min 18 sec Language: Spanish

Director: Flavia Hevia

Country: Mexico

Category: Fiction Film

Time slot: 11:00 AM to 02:00 PM



Synopsis

Our tales is a short film designed to capture the vital memories held by immigrant women from their homelands and recreate them in Stop Motion Animation. This project is aimed at those non-linear stories, the elemental, sensorial memories that immigrant women carry from their homelands.

CAST AND CREW:

Conception, Script, Production and Direction: Flavia Hevia

Production: Gregg Parks, Lise Boyer

About the Director

Flavia Hevia is a multidisciplinary artist whose creative curiosity has led her to venture into visual arts, lighting and set design, puppetry and stop-motion animation. Her passion and commitment to each of her projects has earned her grants, residencies and awards in each of these fields, and her work has been presented around the world. Her fascination with nature, objects and myths is reflected in her work, which explores memory, immigration and a sense of displacement. She is originally from Mexico and lives in Montreal.

FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

Sunday, 6th April 2025

Film Screening: 11:00 AM to 02:00 PM

Venue: C. D. Deshmukh Auditorium, IIC, New Delhi

CHIAROSCURO

Duration: 09 min.

Language: Non-verbal

Director: Elias Djemil-Matassov

Country: Canada

Category: Fiction Film

Time slot: 11:00 AM to 02:00 PM



Synopsis

Chiaroscuro means that in-between the light and the dark that life operates in contrasts— between the puppeteer and the puppet; between shadow and light. A reciprocal relationship between the puppet and those who give it life, emotions flow in both directions. It is the story of the memory that is born and that dies. But memory rarely dies, to tell the truth.

CAST AND CREW:

Screenplay: Elias Djemil-Matassov, Elizabeth Crispo, Jean-Philippe Nadeau Marcoux

Cinematographer: Stéphane Thériault

About the Director

Elias Djemil is a multi-disciplinary artist and a curious human. Not limited to any register or technique, his artistic reflection takes shape above all via the universal medium of the image: "The image, of all kinds, frozen in time or in movement, invented from scratch or inspired by real[ity], always brings us not only towards ourselves, but especially towards the other". Torn between his love of figurative and abstract art, his approach is refined over fifteen short films and ten music videos awarded internationally as director and designer.



FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

Sunday, 6th April 2025

Film Screening: 11:00 AM to 02:00 PM

Venue: C. D. Deshmukh Auditorium, IIC, New Delhi

THE ROOM OF FORGOTTEN VOICES

Duration: 19 min 37 sec. Language: English

Director: Emma Fisher-Owen, Ivan Fisher-Owen

Country: Ireland

Category: Fiction Film

Time slot: 11:00 AM to 02:00 PM

CAST AND CREW:

Writer: Conor Madden, Emma Fisher-Owen,
Ivan Fisher-Owen

Key Cast: Conor Madden

Synopsis

A day in the life of Hugh's brain on a very normal day, but inside his head he encounters hundreds of versions of himself as he faces both himself and society's views of disability in the mirror. A day in the life of the inner workings of Hugh's brain as he heads out on a very normal day but inside his head is far from normal. The Room of Forgotten voices was written, directed, performed, animated and composed by 4 disabled artists and inspired by many real people's lived experiences.

About the Director

Emma Fisher is a stop motion animator, director, writer, production designer and puppeteer. She has recently been nominated for best set design at the Dublin Fringe 2023 for What is Not Ours to Carry (Ali Clarke). She set up Beyond the Bark, an inclusive animation and puppet theatre in 2006 that creates work for old and young audiences. Her works have won several awards and accolades.

Ivan Fisher-Owen is an animator, director, writer, inventor and engineer. His past artistic work includes making strange gadgets, costume design and creating art that uses wooden mechanisms to explore light and shadow. Ivan's engineering pursuits have included developing open-source 3D printable prosthetics, working on an immersive virtual experience for Microsoft Co-Founder Paul Allen. His invention of the first 3D printable prosthetic hand led to the receipt of awards including the Daily Point of Light Award from a former U.S. president. His most recent artistic work has focused on creating films incorporating live shadow puppetry and stop-motion silhouette animation and assisting on set designs with his wife and artistic partner, Emma Fisher-Owen. Ivan's most recent work was lead fabricator and cad designer on the set for Freefalling by Rough Magic and Lime Tree Theatre.

FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

Sunday, 6th April 2025

Film Screening: 11:00 AM to 02:00 PM

Venue: C. D. Deshmukh Auditorium, IIC, New Delhi

PERSEPHONE

Duration: 15 min.

Language: Non-verbal

Director: Emilie Racine

Country: Canada

Category: Fiction Film

Time slot: 11:00 AM to 02:00 PM



Synopsis

Created as a palimpsest blending of mythical references and personal mythology, Persephone traces the trajectory of an identity quest through a feminine lens, addressing mother-daughter transmission.

CAST AND CREW:

Coproduction: Création Vivante and Territoire 80

Screenplay, Artistic Direction, and Direction: Emilie Racine

Performance: Emilie Racine, Laurence Castonguay Emery, Jennyfer Desbiens, Marie-Claude Daoust, Sarah-Emilie Lévesque

About the Director

Emilie Racine is a puppeteer and filmmaker from Québec, Canada. She makes and animates different types of puppets– giant, fragmented, inhabited. Between 2012 and 2020, she produced six shows: décousues, Les Mariés Corbeaux, Céleste, L'Histoire de Pi, Habite-moi, and Le Chat pèlerin, which were presented in Québec, France, Mexico, Brazil, Tunisia, Madagascar, and West Africa. Between 2020 and 2023, she created a polyptych work titled Persephone, which is divided into several parts between multimedia installations, performances and a short film, presented in Taiwan in October 2023. Emilie Racine is the founder of the production company Création Vivante and the co-artistic director of the theater company Territoire 80.



FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

Sunday, 6th April 2025

Film Screening: 04:00 PM to 05:00 PM

Venue: C. D. Deshmukh Auditorium, IIC, New Delhi

INISKIM- RETURN OF THE BUFFALO

Duration: 39 min Language: English

Director: Leanne Allison, Pete Balkwill,
Amethyst First Rider

Country: Canada

Category: Documentary Film

Time slot: 04:00 PM

CAST AND CREW:

Produced by Leanne Allison & Amethyst First Rider

Cast: Nan Balkwill, Leroy Little Bear, Amethyst First
Rider, Pete Balkwill, Dave Lane, Pamela Heavy Head

Synopsis

"Iniskim: Return of the Buffalo" is a documentary that follows the story of a unique artistic project using large, illuminated puppet buffalo to retell a traditional Blackfoot legend about the return of the bison to the land, celebrating the reintroduction of buffalo to Banff National Park, and highlighting the deep cultural connection between Indigenous peoples and the buffalo, often seen as a symbol of resilience and hope.

About the Director

Leanne Allison is a filmmaker based in Canmore, Alberta known for her award-winning feature length National Film Board documentaries Being Caribou and Finding Farley. Both these films are based on long wilderness journeys in remote parts of Canada that continue to shape her work today. She is the co-creator of the National Film Board interactive documentary Bear 71. Losing Blue is her latest NFB short film about our impact on deep time processes in high alpine lakes in the age of the anthropocene.

Pete Balkwill is a founding co-Artistic Director of the Old Trout Puppet Workshop based in Calgary, AB. He is also the founding Educational Director of the Canadian Academy of Mask and Puppetry. His work with the Old Trout has carried him around the world as they ride the wave of puppet-renaissance currently at hand in popular culture today. With the Trout he has also participated in the creation of 4-short live action puppet films including, Honey Honey with Feist (Winner Best Music Video 2009), as well as Naughty To Nice co-produced by the National Film Board. Pete currently teaches in the Faculty of Arts at the University of Calgary.

Amethyst First Rider is a member of the Kainai Nation, Blackfoot Confederacy, Alberta, Canada and married to Leroy Little Bear. She is a leader in the performing arts community for more than 20 years, producing and directing plays depicting Aboriginal stories and culture. Her experience in the arts has included dance productions, consulting for the University of California, Berkeley's planetarium, as well as narration and production in the National Film Board's documentary: Kainayssini Imanistaiswa, The People Go On. She is central to the development and success of The Buffalo: A Treaty of Cooperation, Renewal and Restoration signed by over 40 First Nations and Tribes in Canada and the USA. It is the biggest modern Treaty amongst First Nations



FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

Sunday, 6th April 2025

Puppet Theatre Performance: 06:30 PM to 08:00 PM

Venue: C. D. Deshmukh Auditorium, IIC, New Delhi

Shadow Puppetry Shows

Group: UNIMA Puppeteers Trust-India : Foundation Course students

Category: Student's Puppet Theatre Performance

Time slot: 06:30 PM