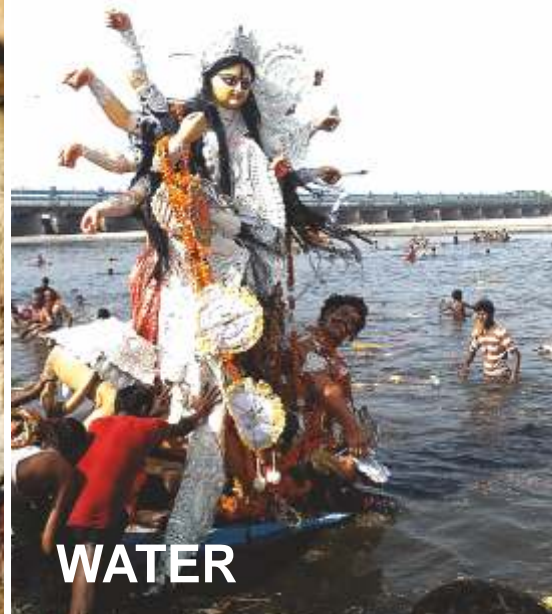
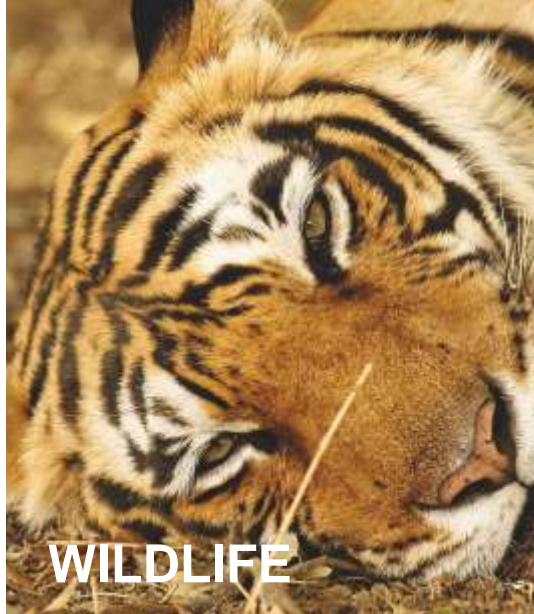


Toxics Link and India International Centre  
cordially invite you to Quotes from the Earth:  
The Environmental Film Festival  
Visualising Contemporary  
Ecological Challenges



Venue: India International Centre, 40, Max Mueller Marg,  
New Delhi Dates: Dec 6 and 7, 2012



# Quotes from the Earth

## Visualising contemporary ecological challenges

Toxics Link and India International Centre present 'Quotes from the Earth' an exploration of films on environment, at the IIC, Lodhi Road, New Delhi, on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2012 (Thursday and Friday).

This is the 5<sup>th</sup> edition, of the biennial film festival, being held since 2004. 'Quotes from the Earth' has attracted an overwhelming audience as well as films and filmmakers from around the globe. Starting in 2004, its prominence has grown each year. Over 26 films will be screened this year, all of which are new, having been produced over the past couple of years.

The films are chosen to depict the stark environmental challenges and conflicts confronting us in present times. It has grown from 18 films in 2004, to over 26 now in 2012. The films this year, throw light essentially on four categories of environmental concerns: The Earth, Water, Wildlife and Sustainability.

In this festival, as in previous ones, the environmental films aim to provide a discursive platform to highlight the ecological debates and challenges faced at the national and international level. 'Quotes from the Earth', 2012 will also have a separate section on International Films from various countries around the world. These films are from various genres, include animations, documentaries (from 2 minutes to 75 minutes in length) and different viewpoints.

The films deal with contemporary and ongoing important issues such as man-animal conflicts, threats to lakes of Kashmir and Manipur, river contamination, impact of mining, struggles to preserve tropical forests, dams and the water crisis, farmer suicides, struggles for livelihood, our vanishing biodiversity, forest conservation, wastes, dangers of pesticide, and nuclear safety. 'Quotes from the Earth' has also been traveling to various cities such as Kolkata, Ahmedabad and Hubli over the years.

The festival goes beyond viewing films. A panel discussion with eminent academicians, activists, media persons and filmmakers is followed by the screening of the films on the current debates.

Since its inception the focus and aim of the film festival has been awareness creation, and to create an informed discussion on the issues. It is strictly a non-commercial venture.

*Entry is free and open to all.*

*Toxics Link is an environmental NGO founded in 1996, engaged in disseminating information to help strength campaigns against toxic pollution, provide, cleaner alternatives and bring together groups and people concerned with, and affected by, this problem.*

## Tiger Dynasty

**Directed by:** S Nallamuth **Produced by:** Grey Films India for BBC Natural World **Duration:** 58 min **Language:** English **Year:** 2011

Baghani, a young tigress is airlifted from her home in Ranthambore National Park to Sariska National Park to found a new dynasty where all the previous 24 tigers were wiped out by poachers. She has company in Rajore, a hot blooded male. How will they fare in their new surroundings? Will they survive?

**About the Director:** Nalla is a freelance cinematographer known for his dramatic cinematography and keen eye for detail. He has spent the last five years of his life filming big cats.



## The Jungle Gang (rhino)

**Directed by:** Krishnendu Bose **Produced by:** EarthCare Productions (P) Ltd **Duration:** 15 min **Language:** English **Year:** 2012

First Indian wildlife film series for children which mixes animation and live action to tell stories of four endangered animals – rhino, elephant, tiger and bear. The film, commissioned by WWF-India, won at the Chinh India Kids Film in Delhi.

**About the Director:** Krishnendu Bose has been making documentary films for the past 25 years. His interests have always been ecology, environment and wildlife with a strong human element as an integral part.

## The Jungle Gang (bear)

**Directed by:** Dharma Singh and Krishnendu Bose **Produced by:** EarthCare Productions (P) Ltd **Duration:** 15 min **Language:** English **Year:** 2012

Part of the 'Jungle Gang' series, this film tells the story of the endangered bear; won at the Chinh India Kids Film in Delhi.

**About the Director:** Dharma has been closely working with Earthcare in various capacities and has transformed his knowledge of forest and animal behavior towards ecosystem conservation.



Day 1, Dec 6, 2012  
Registration and  
inauguration: 9 am





### Gaur In My Garden

**Directed by:** Rita Banerjee **Produced by:** Public Service Broadcasting Trust  
**Duration:** 27 min **Language:** English  
**Year:** 2012

The film explores human-animal interactions and conflicts arising in Kotagiri, Nilgiris, one of the key biodiversity hotspots in India. The gaur or the 'Indian bison' is on the IUCN red list of threatened species and is an endangered species under the Indian Wildlife Protection Act.

**About the Director:** Rita, heads Dusty Foot Productions, based in New Delhi. Her films focus on wildlife and the environment. Some of her films have also won many prestigious awards.

### A Cat Diary

**Directed by:** Nutan Manmohan  
**Produced by:** All Times Production  
**Duration:** 25 min **Language:** English  
**Year:** 2012

Maharaj Devi Singh Ji, scion of a small principality in Rajasthan, has an unusual muse – Zara, a female leopard, who recognises his call and even parades her young cubs for him to see. However, the villagers are getting restive as they think Zara's expanding family would be a threat to their livestock. The film portrays man-animal conflict from a wholly new perspective.

**About the Director:** Nutan is an independent film maker. Her film 'The Last Flight' on vulture conservation got the 'Wild Wing OBE' award in UK. This film led Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh - to change the policy on Diclofenac- the key drug which causes vulture crash.



### Chambal Gharial Crisis

**Directed by:** Ajay Bedi and Vijay Bedi  
**Produced by:** Public Service Broadcasting Trust **Duration:** 26 min  
**Language:** English **Year:** 2011

A disease struck at the core habitat of the Chambal Sanctuary in India which killed hundreds of gharials – accounting for more than half of the adult population in the entire area. If left unchecked, this epidemic could wipe out the endangered species entirely. The film – through on-site investigations – attempts to ascertain the cause of the deaths.

**About the Director:** The Bedi Brothers have worked on numerous natural history programs, documentary & corporate films and have won several national and international awards.

## Aanchar – A Lost Ecological Heritage

**Produced and directed by:** Shafqut Habib **Duration:** 16 min **Language:** English **Year:** 2002

The Aanchar Lake in Kashmir is dying a slow death under the stress of pollutants that flow into it from the sewages of the many residential colonies in the area. Official apathy and public negligence are just two more reasons. The filmmaker gives the lake under siege two decades at the most – unless corrective measures are taken immediately.

**About the Director:** *Shafqut is in the field of filmmaking for the last 20 years and has worked for Feature films, International travelogues, Documentaries, Educational programs.*



## Blue Goes Black

**Directed by:** Ishani K. Dutta **Produced by:** Carrot Films **Duration:** 2 min **Language:** English **Year:** 2010

The short film aims to sensitise people about the unabated polluting of the River Goddess, the Yamuna, every year due to immersion of idols after Durga Puja.

**About the Director:** *Ishani K Dutta has been at the helm of Carrot Films for the past 10 years and specializes in films relating to the civil society, environment and gender issues and believes that these are issues need immediate and unwavering attention.*

## The End Game

**Directed by:** Snehasis Das **Produced by:** Panos South Asia Fellowship **Duration:** 22 min **Language:** English / Manipuri **Year:** 2009

The Loktak Lake in Manipur plays a crucial role in the economy of the state. But the loss of verdant cover in the catchment area and the construction of the Ithai barrage have threatened its existence. The ecological processes of the surrounding wetlands including the survival of the Sangai deer are affected. What are the hopes for a fortune-reversal?

**About the Director:** *Snehasis has been in the field of environmental communication and produced some meaningful documentaries.*





## A Dam Old Story

**Directed by:** Tarini Manchanda **Produced by:** Public Service Broadcasting Trust **Duration:** 26 min **Language:** Hindi / English **Year:** 2011

Himachal Pradesh's picturesque Renuka Valley – home to bio-diverse forests, fertile farmlands and friendly people – now lies in the submergence area for a dam project meant to supply water to Delhi. The film explores the high stakes at play here. And the costs. What are the lessons to be learnt?

**About the Director:** *Tarini is a graduate of Environmental Policy, currently working as a freelance documentary film maker in Delhi. Her films take deep insight into environmental justice perspective on development and resource distribution.*



## Flowing Forever

**Directed by:** PC Anto **Produced by:** WWF-India **Duration:** 24 min **Language:** English **Year:** 2012

Join Cheenu, a boatman on the Ganga, as he takes you on a journey on one of the world's most revered rivers. Cheenu has seen the river's holy water getting murkier, the aquatic species dwindling, the pollution by toxic effluents, even how the river has disappeared in patches. However, Cheenu hasn't yet given up completely. Find out why.

**About the Director:** *An electronics and telecommunications engineer by training, P.C. Anto has over ten years of experience in communication in the social sector. He has directed numerous documentaries on Nature conservation, Health, Livelihood, Women.*

## Tar Sands: To The Ends Of The Earth

**Directed by:** Christopher Walker  
**Produced by:** Friends of the Earth Europe  
**Duration:** 28 min  
**Language:** English/ French  
**Year:** 2012

A Madagascar environmental activist travels to the epicentre of tar sand mining in Canada to learn more about the environmental and climatic impacts of the hugely controversial mode of oil extraction.

***About the Director:** Walker is a multi award-winning producer. Over the past ten years he has produced and directed several award winning films.*



## Les Brumes De Manengouba

**Directed by:** Guillaume De Ginestel and Jean-Thomas Renaud  
**Duration:** 52 min  
**Language:** French (with English subtitles)  
**Year:** 2007

In Cameroon, in the heart of a lost world, there is a tropical forest that is inundated with endemic plants. This area is also one of the few sanctuaries in the world which are home to great apes called Drills. The film immerses you in this enchanting region and takes you on a discovery of the flora and fauna, en route introducing you to the indigenous tribe fighting tirelessly to preserve the region from deforestation.

## E-Waste Land

**Produced and directed by:** David Fedele  
**Duration:** 20 min  
**Language:** English  
**Year:** 2012

Almost 50 million tonnes of electronic waste are generated worldwide every year. A large volume of second-hand and condemned electronic goods arrive in developing countries from the developed world. Without dialogue or narration, this film presents a visual portrait of unregulated e-waste recycling in Ghana, West Africa.

***About the Director:** David Fedele is an award-winning documentary filmmaker from Australia. He entered the world of documentary filmmaking through a love of travel and exploring different cultures. He has travelled extensively throughout Australasia, Europe, the Middle East, South America and Africa.*



## Krieg Der Ameisen (Ant Wars)

**Directed by:** Stefan Geier  
**Produced by:** ARTE, BR, Off The Fence  
**Duration:** 53 min  
**Language:** German (with English subtitles)  
**Year:** 2012

They are only 2mm in size, but has the potential to change a whole eco system! Meet the Argentine ant which has formed the largest super colony on the planet. Follow their story as scientists try to find ways to stop them from spreading out.

***About the Director:** Stefan Geier is a certified physicist working as a freelance science journalist, director and producer. He is the founder of German Production Company TonUndFilm and received multiple science journalism awards and international film festival awards.*



# SHORTS

Day 2, Dec 7, 2012

## Cotton On My Shroud

**Directed by:** Nandan Saxena and Kavita Bahl **Duration:** 75 min  
**Language:** Hindi / Marathi / English (with English subtitles) **Year:** 2011

As the Cold War came to an end, the companies that sold lethal substances for biological warfare began selling their wares as agricultural inputs. The film investigates how Monsanto manipulated government policy, fabricated field trials and enticed farmers with false claims and propaganda. A grim document of the outcome and the way forward.

**About the Director:** Nandan Saxena & Kavita Bahl work in the genres of documentary and poetry films. Their oeuvre spans the domains of ecology, livelihoods, development human rights and man's relationship with environment.



## 7 Short Films On The Commons

**Directed by:** Amar Kanwar **Duration:** 7 min  
**Language:** English **Year:** 2011

What are the Commons? Who owns them? What are the important elements pertaining to the Commons that we ought to recognise and value? What are our responsibilities towards our Commons? A series of seven short films that make you pause and think.

**About the Director:** Amar, a renowned filmmaker has participated in Documenta 11, 12 and 13 in Kassel, Germany. He is the recipient of the 1st Edvard Munch Award for Contemporary Art, Norway and an Honorary Doctorate in Fine Arts, Maine College of Art, USA.

## My Home Is Green

**Produced and directed by:** Sajan Sindhu **Duration:** 30 minutes **Year:** 2011

A poignant, animated tale of an ant and a caterpillar – both of whom are affected by pesticides. This film is dedicated to the children who lost their lives to the Endosulfan mishap in Kasargod, Kerala.

**About the Director:** Sajan Sindhu is an artist, social worker, environmental activist, writer for children and an animator. He has been awarded variously for his works including an award by the Kerala Cartoon Academy.





## Baiga – The Medicine Man

**Directed by:** Sumit Sisodiya **Produced by:** Dusty Foot Foundation **Duration:** 10 min **Language:** Hindi (with English subtitles) **Year:** 2012

Part of a series of films on conservation and sustainable use of medicinal and aromatic plants of Chhattisgarh, this film documents the traditional healing systems of the Baiga people, commonly known as 'medicine men'. It also throws light on the efforts to safeguard their future through the 'Bio Culture Protocol'.

***About the Director:** Sumit has shot films on Water Issues, Dams & Displacement, Right to Information, Education, Labor & Livelihoods, Land accusation & more recently Wildlife.*



## Get Up, Stand Up

**Directed by:** Sreemith N **Produced by:** Pedestrian Pictures **Duration:** 34 min **Language:** Tamil / Malayalam (with English subtitles) **Year:** 2012

Set against the backdrop of the people struggle against the Kundankulam Nuclear Power Project in Kerala, this film tries to answer many of the questions posed by nuclear power projects in general: the safety aspects, displacement, nuclear waste disposal, funding etc.

***About the Director:** Sreemith has directed several documentaries and music video on issues pertaining to the common people. He has also worked in mainstream TV channels.*

## Timbuktu

**Directed by:** Rintu Thomas and Sushmit Ghosh **Produced by:** Public Service Broadcasting Trust **Duration:** 29 min **Language:** English / Telugu (with English subtitles) **Year:** 2012

The film showcases the exemplary efforts of farmers in a tiny village in Andhra Pradesh who switched from chemical-based agriculture to organic farming – thereby planting the seeds of a silent revolution. Timbuktu also looks at the relationship a farmer shares with the land, the seeds and raises critical questions about food sufficiency – the core of very human existence

***About the Director:** Rintu and Sushmit Ghosh are award winning filmmakers who have produced and directed films that explore issues of gender, sexuality and environment.*



# Conservation

## A Pestring Journey

**Directed by:** KR Manoj **Produced by:** Rajani Krishnan for Tropical Cinema  
**Duration:** 66 min **Language:** English (Subtitles) **Year:** 2010

What are the legitimate forms and technologies of killing available in our culture? The film is essentially a voyage through two pesticide tragedies in India; blurring the boundaries of the self and other, life and death and other binaries we inhabit.

**About the Director:** Manoj is an independent filmmaker based in Kerala. All his films have won critical acclaim in India and abroad and were featured in the Indian Panorama.



## Mangroves – Guardian Of The Coast

**Directed by:** Mike H. Pandey  
**Produced by:** River Bank Studios  
**Duration:** 28 min **Language:** English  
**Year:** 2011

Mangroves have been declining all over the world due to anthropogenic and other threats. The film captures the efforts by NGOs, governments and local bodies to save these vulnerable ecosystems and possibly reinstate them to their former glory.

**About the Director:** Mike is a crusader for the environment and endangered species. The call of the wild has been Mike's passion and the care for a natural world pulled him into the vortex of Indian wildlife and film-making.

## Half A View

**Directed by:** Ankit Pogula **Produced by:** TERI **Duration:** 19 min **Language:** English **Year:** 2012

'Maximum city' Mumbai's ongoing conflict between environment and urban compulsions are brought to screen through the eyes of a little girl, Maya (meaning 'illusion'). The camera follows her as she embarks on a journey to explore the commonality between her name and that of the city. A trip into that illusory space we call 'city'.

**About the Director:** Ankit is an alumnus of Jamia Millia Islamia. He has been using film as a medium to engage on issues of Identity, Relationships, and Environment.



## The Lost Forest

**Directed by:** Ishani K Dutta **Produced by:** Ashish Dutta **Duration:** 21 min **Language:** English **Year:** 2012

Mangerbani – none can deny that the forest wasn't there because it was there for everyone to see. But the greed of land grabbers and developers has sealed its fate. This once treasure trove of rich traditions, folklore and rare animals and plants too have surrendered barren to government apathy and public insensitiveness.

**Panel Discussion:**  
**5:35 pm - 7:00 pm**

**"Influence of documentaries in shaping environmental discourses in India"**

# The Organisers

## **Toxics Link**

Toxics Link has a unique expertise in the areas of hazardous, medical and municipal wastes, as well as in specific issues such as the international waste trade, and the emerging issues of pesticides and POPs. Founded in 1996, it is an environmental NGO, dedicated to bring toxics related information into the public domain both relating to struggles and problems at the grassroots as well as global information to the local levels. We work with other groups around the country as well as internationally in an understanding that this will bring the experience of the ground to the fore, and lead to a more meaningful articulation of issues.

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## **India International Centre**

Founded in 1958 and inaugurated in 1962, the India International Centre is a premier non-official organisation in the capital, playing a unique cultural and intellectual role in the lives of the citizens. The Centre is non-official in character, non-aligned in its motivation and approach and uncommitted to any form of governmental, political, economic or religious affiliation.

*Contact:*

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*The event is supported by Swedish International Development Agency*

**Day 1, Dec 6, 2012 (Thursday)**

**WILDLIFE**

10:30 am Tiger Dynasty  
11:40 am Jungle Gang (Rhino)  
11:55 am Jungle Gang (Bear)  
12:20 pm Gaur In My Garden  
12:56 pm A Cat Diary  
1:31 pm Chambal Gharial Crisis

**WATER**

2:30 pm Aanchar  
3:00 pm The End Game  
3:32 pm Blue Goes Black  
3:45 pm A Dam Old Story  
4:20 pm Flowing Forever

**INTERNATIONAL**

5:00 pm Tar Sands, US  
5:30 pm Le Burmes, France  
6:25 pm E-Waste Land, Australia  
6:50 pm Ant Wars, Germany

**Day 2, Dec 7, 2012 (Friday)**

**SURVIVAL**

9:30 am Cotton On My Shroud  
11:00 am 7 Short Films On The Commons  
11:20 am My Home Is Green  
12:00 Baiga - The Medicine Man  
12:20 pm Get Up, Stand Up  
1:05 pm Timbuktu

**CONSERVATION**

2:30 pm A Pestering Journey  
3:45 pm Mangroves  
4:25 pm Half A View  
4:55 pm The Lost Forest

**Panel Discussion: 5:35 pm - 7:00 pm**

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