



2ND & 3RD  
DECEMBER, 2016

India International Centre  
40 Max Mueller Marg  
New Delhi



Toxics Link and India International Centre  
cordially invite you to the

Seventh Biennial Edition of

# QUOTES FROM THE EARTH

An environmental film festival

# SCHEDULE

## DAY 1

Friday, December 02, 2016

**9:30 - 11:00am**

Inauguration, Opening Performances,  
Welcome Address

TIME	FILM	FILM DETAILS
11:15 am	<b>More Than Honey</b>	German/Swiss German (English subtitles) 91 minutes
12:50 pm	<b>Saving the Saviour</b>	English 27 minutes
01:45 pm	<b>Death By Design</b>	English 74 minutes
03:05 pm	<b>Taming the Teesta</b>	English 16:42 minutes
03:30 pm	<b>Toxics Trail</b>	English/ Hindi 26:07 minutes
04:05 pm	<b>Hope: Climate positive stories from India</b>	English 30 minutes
04:45 pm	<b>Metamorphosis</b>	Spanish (English subtitles) 14:45 minutes
05:05 pm	<b>Bhopal Express</b>	Hindi (English subtitles) 100 minutes

## DAY 2

Saturday, December 03, 2016

**9:45 - 10:30am**

Cultural Performances

TIME	FILM	FILM DETAILS
10:30 am	<b>Making an ancient forest</b>	English 52 minutes
11:35 am	<b>Kaziranga</b>	English 15 minutes
12:00 pm	<b>Scavenging Dreams</b>	Hindi (English subtitles) 28 minutes
12:35 pm	<b>The Man Who Dwarfed the Mountains</b>	English 59 minutes
01:50 pm	<b>Kiska Jungle, Kiska Mangal? (Whose Forest is it anyway?)</b>	Marathi/Hindi (English subtitles) 21:07 minutes
02:30 pm	<b>Nagaland is Changing</b>	English 27:47 minutes
03:05 pm	<b>Dongar Dei Paribi Nahin (I cannot give you my forest)</b>	Kui (English subtitles) 45:30 minutes
03:55 pm	<b>Missing</b>	English 14 minutes
04:15 pm	<b>Valiya Chirakulla Pakshikal (Birds with Large Wings)</b>	Malayalam/ English/ French (English subtitles) 113 minutes



## MORE THAN HONEY

**Duration** 91 mins **Language** German/ Swiss German (English subtitles) **Year** 2012

### About the Director

#### Markus Imhoof

Oscar nominated director Markus Imhoof's work is often highly controversial. His 1968 film 'Rondo' was banned until 1975. His 1969 documentary about the mistreatment of horses in the cavalry was also censored; only in 2002 was it available to the public in its uncensored form. Imhoof's moral constitution is reflected throughout all his work, 'More than Honey' being no exception.

### Short Synopsis

"If the bee disappears from the surface of the Earth, man would have no more than four years left to live" – Albert Einstein. As bees continue to disappear on an international scale, Markus Imhoof shows us that there is more at stake than just honey. Seeking answers, this film embarks on a journey spanning the globe to meet with people whose lives depend on bees.



## SAVING THE SAVIOUR

**Duration** 27 mins **Language** English **Year** 2016

### About the Director

#### Jalal Ud Din Baba

Jalal Ud Din Baba is a contemporary student of documentary filmmaking. He has participated in documentary film making orientation workshops from British Council, Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC). He believes in the art of story-telling with utmost passion, dedication and clarity.

### Short Synopsis

'Saving the Saviour' follows Billa, its protagonist, an orphan who scavenges plastic waste and sells what he can. The film touches on the relationship between the boy and Wular Lake in Kashmir. By selling the trash he finds in the lake, Billa helps clean the lake, whilst also providing for his family. Billa reminds us that we must all play our part to save the planet, even if our role is as miniscule as his.





## DEATH BY DESIGN

**Duration** 74 mins **Language** English **Year** 2014

### About the Director

#### Sue Williams

Sue Williams formed Ambrica Productions to produce documentaries of international scope and interest. Contemporary China, which features prominently in 'Death by Design', has always been a special focus for her. Her fascination with contentious issues has earned her numerous awards, including the Cine Golden Eagle and two Edgar Dale awards.

### Short Synopsis

By 2020, four billion people will own a personal computer and five billion will own a mobile phone. In an investigation that spans the globe, filmmaker Sue Williams explores the underbelly of the electronics industry. From the intensely secretive factories in China to a ravaged New York community and the high tech corridors of Silicon Valley, 'Death by Design' tells a story of environmental degradation, health tragedies, and the fast approaching tipping point between consumerism and sustainability.



## TAMING THE TEESTA

**Duration** 16:42 mins **Language** English **Year** 2015

### About the Director

#### Taylor Graham

Taylor Graham is an experienced field researcher, having reported on protests on the Palestinian West Bank and having worked as a whitewater river guide on Morocco's remote Ahansal River. Graham's first documentary, 'Taming the Teesta', was released in 2015.

### Short Synopsis

'Taming the Teesta' traces India's mighty Teesta river upstream from the plains of West Bengal to its churning heights in the Himalayas. Along the way, the film tells the story of those fighting back against the rampant hydroelectric development taking place along the river's course and exposes the gross injustices done to the different regions' people and the environment by those who seek to dam the Teesta.



## TOXICS TRAIL

**Duration** 26:07 mins **Language** English/Hindi **Year** 2015

### About the Director

#### Ishani Dutta

Ishani Dutta started her career as a media researcher from Indian Institute of Mass Communication. Since two decades, she has been making documentary movies of different genres. Her various movies have been recognised in several film festivals like Fishing for Growth in Bangalore Film Festival 2014, Womb on Rent in International Film Festival of Goa IIFI, etc.

### Short Synopsis

The film is a candid look at the murky world of e-waste disposal ventures in India—a lawless, remorseless business of profit that leads to immense environmental and human hazard. It explores the huge informal e-waste recycling industry that thrives in the underbelly of India's urban centres with more and more semi-skilled or unskilled workers willing to take up such jobs which provide them an income.



## HOPE: CLIMATE POSITIVE STORIES FROM INDIA

**Duration** 30 mins **Language** English **Year** 2015

### About the Director

#### Rishu Nigam Gurmeet Sapal

Gurmeet Sapal is an expert in the field of wildlife and environmental films, whilst Rishu Nigam studies sustainable development issues, often concerning the sustainability of marginalised communities. They form a perfect combination in delivering a piece that highlights some of India's sustainable accomplishments.

### Short Synopsis

'Hope' studies a variety of local and national efforts towards a more sustainable future. In India, nearly 300,000 community groups are conserving forests voluntarily or with the government. India is aiming for 100 GW of solar power installed capacity by 2022. It will replace all incandescent bulbs with LED lights in three years. Hope is a collection of heartwarming stories that highlight the strength of India's traditions and ingenuity in addressing the crisis of climate change.



# METAMORPHOSIS

**Duration** 14:45 mins **Language** Spanish (English subtitles) **Year** 2016

## About the Director

### Adrian Arce

Adiran Arce has a Masters Degree in Media, Arts and Production, Film and Video stream as well as a Bachelors degree in Social Communication. Arce's acclaimed work has earned him the Jose Rovirosa Award for Best Documentary in 2004 and the Best Mexican Documentary Award at the Short Shorts Film Festival in 2014.

## Short Synopsis

'Metamorphosis' studies the Guadalupe Dam watershed, located at the northeast of Mexico City – a region of great biodiversity. It's a source of oxygen, drinking water, wood, food, medicinal plants and cultural elements for the inhabitants of the valleys of Mexico and Toluca. While an important home for the Otomí ethnic group, the watershed also shelters a peculiar species: the mountain axolotl (*Ambystoma altamirani*), a micro-endemic, endangered amphibian, unique in the world.



# BHOPAL EXPRESS

**Duration** 100 mins **Language** Hindi (English subtitles) **Year** 1999

## About the Director

### Mahesh Mathai

Mahesh Mathai began his career directing advertisements. His work includes directing of the Cadbury's Dairy Milk chocolate advert, the 'Gimme Red for Eveready Batteries' advert, and more. In 2000, he directed the film 'Bhopal Express'. He is also the founder of the 'Blue Frog' in Mumbai and has driven an ambulance through 15 countries across Europe and Central Asia.

## Short Synopsis

On December 3, 1984, over 40 tonnes of highly poisonous gas leaked out of the pesticide factory of Union Carbide in Bhopal, India. 8,000 people died in the worst chemical disaster in the history of humankind - and since then 20,000 have died from after-effects. Set amidst this tragedy, 'Bhopal Express' is a love story seen through the eyes of newlyweds Verma and Tara, and their friend Bashir.





# MAKING AN ANCIENT FOREST

**Duration** 52 mins **Language** English **Year** 2015

## About the Director

### Rita Schlamberger

Rita Schlamberger is an internationally acclaimed natural history filmmaker from Austria. For the past 23 years, Rita has produced and directed many award-winning natural history programmes for major broadcasters, including the BBC and National Geographic.

## Short Synopsis

This film travels deep into the remote forests of the Kalkalpen National Park in Austria – the largest area of wilderness in the Alps. Abandoned and unmanaged by man for close to a quarter of a century, the forest's dramatic cycle of growth and decay now rules the landscape. 'Making an Ancient Forest' studies the recovery of the forest, luring even the lynx to return 'home' after 115 years of absence.



# KAZIRANGA

**Duration** 15 mins **Language** English **Year** 2015

## About the Director

### Mariah Wilson

Mariah Wilson's work covers a whole range of pieces driven by morality. This includes her piece 'Revealing Hate' (2010) which studies the white supremacist movement in America, and 'Volunteer' (2012) which promotes eco-volunteering and its importance.

## Short Synopsis

'Kaziranga' explores the battle between poachers and conservationists in Kaziranga National Park, Assam, the last stronghold for the endangered Indian rhino. We see this world through the eyes of Uttam Saikia, a local journalist who is trying to use his community influence to reform poachers.



## SCAVENGING DREAMS

**Duration** 28 mins **Language** Hindi (English subtitles) **Year** 2008

### About the Director

**Jasmine K Roy**  
**Avinash Roy**

Jasmine and Avinash, both graduates of FTII, are independent filmmakers working under their own banner, Wanderlust Films. Their Diploma film 'Saanjh' (The Dusk) received the National Film Award in 2005 and was screened at several international film festivals. They have produced and directed short films and documentaries for prestigious national and international organisations.

### Short Synopsis

The film looks at the world of rag pickers and waste dealers in Delhi. This is big business that largely depends on the thousands of children working as rag pickers. The film is about them, their dreams and the dreams of a city gone haywire.



## THE MAN WHO DWARFED THE MOUNTAINS

**Duration** 59 mins **Language** English **Year** 2015

### About the Director

**Ruchi Srivastava**  
**Sumit Khanna**

Sumit Khanna started his film career working as an assistant to director Aziz Mirza and Saeed Mirza. Ruchi Srivastava has worked on multiple non-fiction formats in the last 11 years. Together they directed the film 'The Man Who Dwarfed the Mountains', showing their concern for the environment and their admiration for Chandi Prasad Bhatt.

### Short Synopsis

Seldom does a man's deeds loom so large that they dwarf the very mountains from where they emanate. One such person is Chandi Prasad Bhatt, who has strong claims to being the first modern Indian environmentalist, and arguably also its greatest. The film seeks to decipher the life, motivation and the work of a man who silently changed the paradigm of environment activism in India.



# KISKA JUNGLE KISKA MANGAL?

(Whose forest is it anyway?)



**Duration** 21:07 mins **Language** Marathi/ Hindi (English subtitles) **Year** 2015

## About the Director

**Aditi Saraswat**

**Akshay Panse**

**Rameshwar** **Jirwankar**

**Sujata Sarkar**

**Tanvi Khemani**

All the five directors are alumni of School of Media and Cultural Studies, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, and batch of 2014-2016.

## Short Synopsis

As Mumbai develops towards the suburbs, the forests of the Aarey Milk Colony are being encroached upon by urban expansion. While some Adivasi hamlets have to compete for resources with illegal slums that have mushroomed there, others have been displaced into an SRA building due to a large-scale real estate project. As the Adivasis of Aarey struggle to maintain their age-old relationship with the forests and the land of Aarey, we ask: whose forest is it anyway?



# NAGALAND IS CHANGING

**Duration** 27:47 mins **Language** English **Year** 2015

## About the Director

**Gurmeet Sapal**

Gurmeet Sapal is a director devoted to making wildlife and environmental films to sensitize viewers. He has done several Indian projects like 'Leopards in the Lurch', 'Silk Route', 'Chasing Butterflies', and International projects like 'The House of Mewar' (Germany), 'Der Fall Jesus' (Germany), 'Back to the Floors' (BBC World Service) and others.

## Short Synopsis

'Nagaland is Changing' studies the relationship between man and nature in Nagaland. After a ban on hunting, fishing, logging and the collection of forest produce, the reserve has become thick in forest and teeming with wildlife. However, some of the villagers want their land back, and some wish to hunt again. Lacking funding and support, the communities are finding it hard to conserve their forest, as is the case across many villages in Nagaland.



# DONGAR DEI PARIBI NAHIN

(I Cannot Give You My Forest)



**Duration** 45:30 mins **Language** Kui (English subtitles) **Year** 2014

## About the Director

**Nadan Saxena**

**Kavita Bahl**

Nandan & Kavita are independent filmmakers and media trainers. After seven years of working as journalists, they quit their jobs to follow their dreams in 1996. Their films are poignant portraits of these times, often blurring the line between documentary and cinema. Their numerous awards include the prestigious National Film Award for their three films.

## Short Synopsis

The film is an intimate poetic window into the lives of the Kondh tribe who eschew the duality of Man and Nature. Over generations of co-existence, they have internalised the Forest – pacing the rhythms of their lives with the cycle of the seasons. It also shows the mindless destruction done in forests of Niyamgiri in the name of development.



# MISSING



**Duration** 14 mins **Language** English **Year** 2015

## About the Director

**Krishnendu Bose**

Kishnendu Bose acquired his Masters degree in Economics from the Delhi School of Economics in 1985. Since then, his documentaries and films have earned him several international awards, including the CMS-UNEP Prithvi Ratna Award in 2009. He is also the founder of ECO (Earthcare Outreach Trust), helping and empowering children and adolescents across South Asia with the tools of filmmaking.

## Short Synopsis

This film travels the country and talks to women in agriculture, fisheries and forestry and helps in ensuring their voices reach the policy makers. From a far-flung hill village in the Himalayas, the women send out a strong positive message on a solution to local climate change through their own two- minute film.





# VALIYA CHIRAKULLA PAKSHIKAL

(Birds with Large Wings)

**Duration** 113 mins **Language** Malayalam/ English/ French (English subtitles) **Year** 2015

## About the Director

### Dr Biju

Dr Biju, also known as Bijukumar Damodaran, is a filmmaker whose work has won multiple national and international awards. Dr Biju is also a practicing homeopathy doctor. He has made seven feature films so far, all noted for their unique content and social commitment.

## Short Synopsis

'Birds with Large Wings' is a national award winning film (Best Film on Environment Preservation, 2015), that portrays the tragic effects of Endosulfan, a highly toxic pesticide, on people and the environment. This partly fictional representation sheds light on the consequences of Endosulfan use in Kasaragod, Kerala, lasting two and a half decades. The use of a fictional photographer and his visits between 2001 and 2012 reflects the very real and disastrous effects of the pesticide.





## QUOTES FROM THE EARTH

Environmental Film Festival “Quotes from the Earth” has been first-of-its-kind in the Indian Capital since 2004. It uses a discursive platform to highlight environmental challenges at the national and international level through films, which happens to be one of the most powerful medium of communication and discussion. The festival is a collaborative effort by Toxics Link and India International Centre, Delhi. Over a period of two days, it aims to bring under one umbrella the persistent and persuasive films from India and around the world. The festival aims to engage the audience for not only what exists, but also what steps to take in future towards environment conservation.

## ABOUT TOXICS LINK

Toxics Link 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 level.

We work with other groups around the country as well as internationally in an understanding that this will help bring the experience of the ground to the fore, and lead to a more meaningful articulation of issues.

## ABOUT 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 us at



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[www.toxicslink.org/filmfestival/qfte/index.html](http://www.toxicslink.org/filmfestival/qfte/index.html)



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