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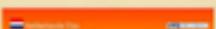


Toxics Link
the sustainable world



INDIA INTERNATIONAL CENTRE

Supported by



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Toxics Link and India International Center cordially invites you to
Quotes from the Earth: The Environment Film Festival, 2010
for Ecological Citizenship

Date: December 4 and 5, 2010 Time: 9 am to 9 pm
Venue: Auditorium, Main Building, India International Centre,
40 Max Mueller Marg, New Delhi - 110003



ABOUT THE FESTIVAL

Film Categories



EARTH



WATER



WILDLIFE



SUSTAINABILITY

Quotes from the Earth is the first of its kind in the Indian Capital since 2004. This being the fourth, the festival takes a leap of faith and acts as the fourth prong of the environmental debate and discussion with the theme as Ecological Citizenship, focusing on different issues, regions, and struggles to give audience a better chance to understand and engage with the environmental issues. Initiating, propagating and absorbing the idea of 'Eco-citizens', the films will throw light essentially through four categories: Earth, Water, Wildlife and Sustainability.

Quotes from the Earth provides a rare opportunity for people to delve - through a medium they are comfortable with - into an alternative reality that never reaches them via mainstream channels.

Aniruddha Sengupta, Writer

The festival surfaces the past, present, and future environment.

Lalithasangi, Student, Jamia Millia Islamia University

Quotes from the Earth is a platform which gives one and all the opportunity to discuss various environmental issues.

Heena Chugh, Media Professional

FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

Saturday, 4th December, 9:00 a.m. Meet Toxics Link

Ecological Readings (Supported by YouthReach) We who are smitten with the arrow of love and even know the power of it have somewhere lost the significance of this power when it comes to taking ownership and responsibility for environmental protection. Readings from the book, "The Secret Abode of Fireflies - Loving and Losing Spaces of Nature in the City" is an attempt to inculcate this idea of loving the presence of natural spaces, which we are about to lose rapidly.



Saturday, 4th December, 10 a.m.

The Last Days of Shishmaref (Special Screening)

Directed by Jan Louter. A Miror Film Production
91 min, Dutch (English subtitled), The Netherlands



'A moving film about identity, transience, mortality, and the clash between different eras and cultures'. Shishmaref is a community of about 600 people, located on an island just off the west coast of Alaska. The effects of global warming threaten the very existence of these people - so much that the entire population needs to be relocated off the island within 10 years. It depicts the impending end of the traditional lifestyle on the island of Shishmaref through the lives of three Inupiat families.



About the Director Jan Louter is the creator and director of many independent documentaries which are visually and conceptually both imaginative and challenging. Louter creates his imagery and soundscapes in order to translate important themes and undercurrents into an evocative story, which offers the viewer a new experience of the subject matter.

- Winner of World Wildlife Fund Award
- Nominated for Best Nature & Environment Protection Award
- Jury prize winner in the 'Best Documentary Feature' category at the Anchorage International Film Festival in Alaska
- Special Mention Jury Award at the AFI Fest in Los Angeles

The Earth Story, 11:30 a.m.
Directed by Megha Mathur and Sachi Tripathi
80 Secs, English (Animation), India



The Earth planet is compared to a football that is endlessly being kicked around from one environmentally destructive scenario to another. The film ends with a message – A damaged planet - not a good place to live.



About the Director Megha Mathur currently works for the Film & TV Unit, of the Energy and Resources Institute, New Delhi. A post graduate in Film & Video Communication Design from the National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad, Megha's interest lies in creating audio visual material to sensitize the mass audience about climate change and issues related to sustainable development.

India's Climate Fever, 11:30 a.m.
Directed by Arjun Pandey
15 min., English (subtitled), India



Is climate change impacting Human Health? Global Warming has the potential to affect human health in several ways. Voyage through the film to explore that as the planet warms, human beings, plants and animal species face the greatest threat, that of their very existence. Under the threat of Climate Change, the film explores the health security of India.

About the Director 27-year-old Arjun Pandey is a filmmaker from New Delhi who set up Ishwar Media "to allow any person across the planet who has made a film which is either fiction or documentary to be able to sell their films online as well as through a network of retail shops". Ishwar Media has three filmmakers and four titles under its banner, A DFF Environment Fellowship Film.

You Can Only Clap With Two Hands (Introduction, Awareness & Capacity), 12:00 p.m.
Directed By: Janne Van Houters
25 Min, English, The Netherlands
First time screening in India

An international training film (divided into nine chapters) for enforcement authorities of the Basel Convention and European Waste Shipment Regulation. Filmed in several countries worldwide with the help of many government authorities, it shows several best practices within enforcement. The focus is on prevention of illegal waste shipments.



About the Director Janne is the Programme Manager , International Enforcement Cooperation and the film is not only her directorial debut but also a sincere attempt to highlight her interventions.

Once my village, 12:30 p.m.
Directed by: Pranab K Ach
3 Min, Hindi (English subtitled), India



A poetic composition portraying the impact of industrialization on the traditional culture of the Jagur district of eastern Odisha in India. Jagur which was the ancient Capital of Kalinga has a rich village culture, which dates back to more than 2000 years is now lost.

About The Director Pranab Kumar Ach is 24 year old Indian photographer/cinematographer. He studied photography and visual communication at AUK Mass Communication Research Centre, Janta Milli Islamic in New Delhi from 2008-2010. He has recently been awarded the coveted Sony world photography Cannes-2009 held at Cannes, France.

Last Words of a Dying Tree, 12:40 p.m.
Directed by: Avinash Kumar Singh & Geeta Singh
Turtle on a Hammock Films
6 min, English (subtitled), India



A desperate call for restraint and understanding from the point of view of a tree. From the eyes of this tree the damage is caused by greed, conflict, misuse by man is expressed in ten poignant verses.

About the Directors Geeta & Avinash Singh lead an enthusiastic, young and talented team of filmmakers, in their production company Intyay. Their film, 'A Green Agony' was nominated for the Panda Awards at Whistrecon 2008. Currently they are producing a series for the Indian Government and Discovery Travel & Living.

Gao Gao Gao, 12:50 p.m.
Directed by: Kunash Chintawala, Center for Communication Development Studies
20 min, English with subtitles



Illegal and rapacious mining for iron ore is ravaging Gao. The film bears witness to this ongoing tragedy, where the state favors mining interests and money instead of sustainability and the wishes of its people.

About the Director Kunash, a winner at the Vatavaran film festival, 2009 has taught filmmaking and film studies at various institutions in India and the United States. Also lived and worked in Maharashtra.

Years, 1:20 p.m.
Directed by: Rashmi Rayudu, Trends Ad Film Makers Pvt. Ltd
130 min, English (subtitled), India

The film talks about the importance of saving water. Through a mother's assumption see the future struggle, which every living thing on earth may face one day.

Light of the Night, 1:25 p.m.
Directed by: Megha Mathur
4 min, English with subtitles



Shot in a few un-electrified villages of Rajasthan and Assam, the impact of solar lanterns has been tremendous in the lives of those residing here, both in terms of convenience and health. The film has primarily been shot after sunset, using solar lanterns as source of illumination.

About the Director Megha Mathur currently works for the Film & TV Unit, of The Energy and Resources Institute, New Delhi. A post graduate in Film & Video Communication Design from the National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad, Megha's interest lies in creating audiovisual material to sensitize the mass audience about climate change and issues related to sustainable development.

Diamonds and Rust, 1:30 p.m.
Directed by: Karuna D'Souza
10.7 min, English with subtitles

Kuchelli, a small village in the Samikata Kharsawan district of Jharkhand is surviving on a sponge iron plant set up by Kolkinor Industries at a close proximity to the village. This plant has the responsibility to contribute to the development of the village as per the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) by which they are earning large amounts of foreign income. The question is who is reaping the diamonds and who is reaping the rust.

About the Director A film and photography enthusiast into travel and music Karuna D'Souza is both into filmmaking and film appreciation.

WATER



Saturday, 4th December, 2:30 p.m.
Deluge
Directed by: Denwyn Jute Remedios
7.36 min, English (subtitled), 2D Animation

A giant ship emerges through the city to rescue two schoolboys from drowning during the 26 July 2005 floods in Mumbai.

About the Director Denwyn's love for animation and illustration led him from doing graffiti and paintings on the streets of Mumbai to the National Institute of Design where he honed his skills while experimenting with different forms of animation. From clay to paper to sand there isn't a medium which he hasn't experienced and brought the best out of.

Ganpati (Soppy Moreyel), 2:45 p.m.
Directed by: Dr. Mayuri Panse
8.30 min, Marathi with subtitles

The film explores the religious-national dichotomy! Ganpati festival - Ten days of tremendous festivities and fanfare followed by the immersion of the Ganapathis. Clay Plaster of Paris, even concrete-coated with paints containing cancer causing heavy metals go into our valuable natural resource: water. People argue on continuing the festival in the name of tradition. The fact remains - Intradition lies the solution!

About the Director Dr. Mayuri Panse is a rare combination of a dentist cum-filmmaker. A Graduate from Govt. Dental College, Aurongabad, she did her year of Internship at Govt. Dental College, Mumbai. She did several Continuing Dental Education courses after her graduation and

found restorative and cosmetic dentistry most appealing. She worked from 2004 to 2007 as a full-time dentist. She now does dentistry four days a week by appointments devoting the remainder of the week to filmmaking.

The Miracle Water Village, 3:00 p.m.
Directed by: Ritu Thomas and Bushnit Ghosh
Running Time: 12 min
Language: Marathi/English with English subtitles

Lying in one of the worst drought-prone regions of India, the village of Haware Bazar battled many decades of sparse rainfall and failed crops. However, 20 years ago, the entire village came together to script a silent revolution by designing a rainwater harvesting model that saved every drop of the scanty rain they received. Today, the village is literally an oasis in the middle of the desert, boasting of bumper harvests, dairy cooperatives, millionaire families and visionary farmers. An inspirational story of improvised farming industry in India that reversed its fortune through its visionary model of water management.

About the Directors Ritu Thomas and Bushnit Ghosh are recent graduates from the ARI, Mass. Communication Research Centre, Anna University, Chennai, New Delhi running their own production house Black Ticket Pictures, which is an independent media outfit based in New Delhi, India. Their award-winning films have been showcased in film festivals across the world and screened on national television in India.

The Land of Vanishing Lakes, 3:30 p.m.
Directed by: Ishani K. Dutta
20.09 min, English (subtitled), India

The most popular lakes of NCR have disappeared. The 2 billion year old water bodies of the Aravallis-Sutlej, Beikar, and Dandana, have all dried up. This film looks at the nexus between the corrupt bureaucracy

with the construction and the mining mafia.



About the Director Ishani K. Dutta, a postgraduate in English literature from Delhi was a Media Research Associate with Indian Institute of Mass Communications before joining television channels in 1993. Ishani, today, is on a mission to discuss, act and pray about a holistic change, one step at a time. Environment and health issues inspire her the most and she wants to do her bit, however small, for the cause.



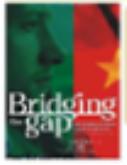
Reviving Faith, 4:00 p.m.
Directed by: Rishu Nigam
57 min, English with subtitles

The woods of Amasya Devi in Uttarakhand remain untouched by human influence. The film takes its viewers into sacred groves of the Himalayas that are still alive because of the faith of its people. It traces the struggle of the Himalayan people to save their resources from being plundered. What remains of the faith today?



About the Director Rishu Nigam has been associated with TERI, The Energy and Resources Institute, for the last seven years. Her films have focused on varied issues of environmental conservation and human development. Temperature, a documentary series, was one of her earliest projects. She also works as director of Fernequist, a children's quiz show on the environment, telecast on Doordarshan-National.





Discussion, 5 p.m.
Is environment education still confined to moral relativism?

Bridging the Gap, (Special Screening) 6:30 p.m.
Corinne van Egeraat & Kaja Draijer, The Netherlands
An Uswater Film coproduced by Zentropa, in association with Humanistische Omroep
95 min, Dutch (subtitled), The Netherlands

Daniel (26), the subject of Corinne's documentary is the new advisor to the Cameroonian government on exploiting the natural resources on behalf of an important international organisation. He is young and not easily intimidated, so the switch from his Dutch hometown Groningen to Cameroon initially passes off smoothly. But Cameroon is one of the most corrupt countries in the world not a place to take unnecessary risks. Disaster seems inevitable...



About the Director Corinne, a documentary filmmaker, began her career as an actress in theater and television. During the Dutch Film Festival 2004, she won the NFTVM Award for best new film and TV producer. Her documentary on the Virtual Highway Speeding on Micha Klein was first shown at IDFA2007.



Rosemarie Kraanen (1980) with Corinne Egerton took the initiative to open Documentary community of Bridging the Gap and all website-dekleur Doklager of broadcasting HUMAN. In addition, she works for the website of the broadcaster, HUMAN.nl. After studying Cultural Studies at the University of Amsterdam, she worked among others at the International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam, IDFA.

4 Elements, (Special Screening) 8:00 p.m.
Directed by: Jiska Rikkelts, FuWorks Production
95 min, Dutch (English subtitled), The Netherlands

Workers in four different countries are seen contending with fire, ocean waves, and the bowels of the earth and space travel. The struggle of man with the names of the elements is set to a four-part series.



About the Director Jiska Rikkelts studied at the National Film Academy of Amsterdam and Munich Film and Television Academy in Germany. Her graduate work was a short film 'Days Under' which was awarded many prizes among them also Special Mention at IFF Karlovy Vary 2004. The film is her first documentary. Screened as opening movie at IDFA - International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam and year later was in competition of IDF Karlovy Vary.



WILDLIFE

Sunday, 5th December, 9:30 a.m. (Special Screening)
Tiger Queen
Director & Cinematographer: S. Nallamuthu
112 min, English (subtitled), National Geographic Film, India



Tiger Queen explores the battle for power and supremacy in a wild tiger family. The legendary Machil has held Ranthambore's fort and the lakeside territory for 11 years. Her three cubs are on the verge of adulthood. One by one she pushes her sisters out, and eventually Machil. The Ranthambore Fort Territory finely get a new "Queen", but her victory is short-lived. For there comes a young dominant male, who eventually settles in the same domain.



About the Director Nalia is one of India's ace cinematographer, director and producer. In May 2007, he became the first Indian-cinematographer to go to Cannes Film Festival with HD for Hindi feature film "Dham" and in 2009, he was a Peer Judge for Cinematography at the Jacksonhole Wildlife Film Festival. "The idea of Tiger Queen came from the fact that I wanted to make a film that was strong on emotions and drama, and not just another save-the-tiger film or how they walk, mate, sit and eat," he says.

On the Right Track, 11:30 a.m.
Directed by: Rita Banerji
24 min., English (subtitled)

Are the missing elephants a concern for you? If yes, then the film is a must watch. The film documents a Rapid Action Project taken up by the Wildlife Trust of India that studied the problem and suggested solutions, ultimately ensuring no more elephant deaths on the 14 km track since 2001 in the Rajaji sanctuary in Uttarakhand.



About the Director Rita Banerji has bagged the Green Oscar for her film The Wild Meat Trail at Bristol. Rita Banerji heads Dusty Foot Productions, established in 2002, based in New Delhi, India. Dusty Foot represents a unique team of filmmakers, who all share a common vision - committed to producing quality programs related to environment and wildlife.



- Winner of two Gold awards for Excellence in Cinematography and Scriptwriting at the IDFA AWARDS 2007 and second prize at Jeevika 2007.

Diminishing Resources, 11:50 a.m.
Directed by: Himanshu Malhotra and Sabina Kidwai
15 min., English with subtitles, India

The coral reefs are under threat from an endless string of assaults – souvenir markets, aquariums, coral constructions, etc. Diminishing Resources seeks to sensitize the audience to these invisible crimes.



About the Directors Himanshu Malhotra, is a documentary filmmaker specializing in the area of environment and wildlife filmmaking. Over the years Himanshu has emerged as an expert director and cameraperson and is considered an authority in Conservation, Ecology and Health issues. Sabina teaches film editing at the Mass Communication Research Centre at Jamia Millia Islamia. She has worked on several scripting and editing assignments for the World Wide Fund and has assisted several filmmakers in India and abroad.

The Asiatic Lion-On A Roll/Cat!, 12:10 p.m.
Directed by: Praveen Singh, PSBT
33 min., English (subtitled), India.

The Asiatic Lion faces its biggest crisis in decades. Poaching and increasing conflict with people due to the limited habitat of Gir threatens to undo years of conservation. Does the Asiatic Lion have an alternative?



About the Director Praveen Singh starting out as a reporter with the Panda winning series, 'Living on The Edge' has been working in wildlife conservation related television programming. 'Indian Leopards – The Killing Fields' his first independent documentary won him many awards, including a 'Student Emmy' and The Best Film Award, Vizavaran, 2005. His photographs and videos are part of the Asia Trail Exhibit on Red Pandas at the National Zoo, Smithsonian, and Washington, D.C.

Kekexili (Mountain Patrol) Special Screening, 12:30 p.m.
Directed By: Lu Chuan, Huayi Brothers and Tahe Film Investment Co. Ltd
85 min., Chinese (English subtitled), China

Kekexili is the last unspoiled and uninhabited wide open space within China's borders as well as the last refuge for Tibetan antelope. After 1985, poachers began to hunt Tibetan antelope

in large numbers. In order to prevent the extinction of this species, volunteers formed a mountain patrol and engaged in tough battles with poachers, reports of which were covered widely by the media inside and outside China. A journalist visits and stays with the patrol, witnessing the lives of the patrolmen; their struggle with merciless poachers, the demanding natural environment, poverty and their own feelings...giving all they have, even sometimes their lives.

About the Director Lu Chuan (born 1970) is a Chinese filmmaker and screenwriter. He is the son of the novelist, Lu Tianming. Hailed as a major new voice in Chinese cinema, Lu's first two films were small-budget



productions, which garnered both Chinese and international acclaim: 2002's The Missing Gun and 2004's Kekexili: Mountain Patrol. Kekexili won both a Golden Rooster and a Golden Horse best picture award.

- Golden Horse Film Festival, 2004— Best Picture, Best Cinematography —Cao Yu, Best Director — Lu Chuan (nominated), Best Actor — Duo Buje (nominated), Best Original Screenplay — Lu Chuan (nominated)
- Tokyo International Film Festival, 2004— Special Jury Prize, Grand Prix (nominated), Golden Rooster Awards, 2005
- Best Film (shared with On the Mountain of Tai Hang)
- Berlin International Film Festival, 2005
- Don Quixote Award
- Sundance Film Festival, 2005
- Grand Jury Prize (nominated)
- Huabiao Film Awards, 2005— Outstanding Film, Outstanding Director — Lu Chuan, Hong Kong Film Awards, 2006, Best Asian Film



SUSTAINABILITY



Sunday, 5th December, 2:00 p.m. (Special Screening)

Cowboys In India

Directed by Simon Chambers, Tiffin Films and Rise films Production
76 min, English (subtitled), UK.

British filmmaker Simon Chambers, Director of this gently self-mocking travelogue, journeys to India in the hope of finding the answer to an honorable journalistic question: is it possible for a large industrial company to help a local community through corporate social responsibility? But the local community of Orissa will surely regret the day that Chambers drove into their town. First off, he recruits guides whose competence turns out to be questionable but he realizes that far from being wimps, they are heroes for daring to accompany the foolish foreigner despite threats from Vedanta.

About the Director Having gained a First Class Honours degree in sculpture from Bath Academy of Arts in 1983, Simon showed his work around Europe and the UK. But a burgeoning social conscience and eagerness to see how other people lived their lives led him to a two-year stint as a community worker on a travelers' site, later moving on to become senior youth worker at a rural activities centre for London teenagers.

The Latent City, 3:30 p.m.

Directed by Krishnendu Bose, Earthcare Films
96 min, English (subtitled), 56 min, India

Delhi. This city is old. 2500 years old. The city as a palimpsest. Layers of accumulated history and memory. The city transforms. The water turns black. The trees turn yellow. The city turns a foggy green. And the poor turn to dust. The city is transforming to become more efficient and modern. A

thought emerges. Selected artists from all over the world and India are invited to this city. In its transformative moment. To create art, in the everyday. Eight politically charged spaces are identified to be excavated and be transformed by the artists. 48 degrees Celsius. A reminder of our warming cities. This first public art ecology project in India is shaped. For 10 days in December 2008. Winner of Ecocinemas Award, Greece, 2010.

About the Director Krishnendu Bose set up Earthcare Films, making wildlife and conservation films. Harvesting Hunger – a film on the politics of food in India won the Special Jury Award at Okomedia Environment Film Festival in Freiburg, Germany in 2000 and awarded at the EarthVision Environment Film Festival in Tokyo 2001.

Jardhar Diary – a film on community conservation in the Himalayas was awarded by Earthvision Environmental Film Festival, Tokyo 2003. His film on the tiger crisis, Tiger - The Death Chronicles was awarded the Wildlife Conservation Award at the 4th Veteranen Film Festival 2007 and Conservation Award at the International Wildlife Film Festival at Missoula, Montana in 2008. He has been awarded the highest award in India for environment filmmaking, Prithvi Ratna in 2009.

Sunday, 4:30 p.m.
Discussion: Politics of the Environment: Blame it or own it?

Iron is Hot, 6:00 p.m.
Directed by Meghnath and Biju Toppo
Running Time: 25 min
Language: English with subtitles

'A story of people's survival juxtaposed with India's fastest polluting sponge iron industry.' This industry is relatively new. Starting with three plants in 1985, it has rapidly multiplied to 206 plants in 2005 and very soon the number will be 430 (unofficially this figure is still higher). These industries are mostly in Orissa, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and W.Bengal and a small number in Goa, Maharashtra and Karnataka. The major problem is that sponge iron is produced with coal-based plant, which is

extremely polluting and causes serious health hazards. The film conveys how governmental machinery is tilted towards and documents the effort of the people to save their land and livelihood.

About the Director Meghnath and Biju Toppo are founders of MOHRA, a group working in the field of culture and communication in Jharkhand. Meghnath is an activist working in Jharkhand for last 25 years. As a film maker he tries to document voices that remain unheard. Biju Toppo is one of the first Adivasi film makers to have effectively used the camera to counter the misrepresentation of his community by the 'mainstream' media. Their films have received national and international recognition.

- NSDFF Navteerangan Award 2009 Karmagat Winner
- IDFA Best Film On Environment 2009

The 4th Revolution: Energy Autonomy (First time screening in India), 6:30 pm

Directed by Carl A. Fischner
83 min, German and English, with English subtitles, Germany

After the "agrarian revolution," the "industrial revolution" and the "digital revolution," energy autonomy will be the fourth revolution, shifting power relations by democratizing power generation. Such is the persuasive argument of The 4th Revolution. Examining proponents and opponents of getting off the fossil and nuclear powered grid, the film highlights how changing to renewable sources is not only necessary but also possible. With discussions and examples from Mali to Denmark, the film moves the energy debate beyond CO₂ emissions, and calls for the borderless democratization of energy generation. The energy turn is not a technological issue, but an ideological one based on power relations and ownership structures: whoever owns the power, controls the power.



About the Director Carl A. Fischner is a journalist, filmmaker and

producer. After graduation he received a research contract from Deutsche Welle on the use of media in the Third World. Fechner insists on the importance of a fundamental rethinking through most of his films. All his films, therefore, encourage different models of sustainable action, which he proclaims through a series of international award-winning documentaries, PR campaigns and large-scale digital projects. The result: More than 20 international awards and honors in 1998 with the German and European Solar Prize.



Invisible (Special Screening) 8:00 p.m.
Directed by Roz Mortimer, Wonderring Productions
63 min, English subtitled, UK

An intriguing mix of fact and fiction Invisible tells the story of how man-made chemicals are building up in our bodies and being passed from mother to child. It is thought that these hormone-disrupting substances are affecting the reproductive systems and neurological health of animals and humans across the planet.

About the Director Roz trained as a textile designer at Middlesex Polytechnic in the early eighties but has been making films since 1995. Her earlier films have explored the relationships girls have with their dogs, Dog of my Dreams, and a woman's fascination with worms, Wormcharmer. Roz lives in London.

- Premiere: The British Museum, London, UK, 2007;
- Alternative, 14th Independent Film Festival of Barcelona, Spain, 2007;
- Festival dei Popoli, International Documentary Film Festival, Florence, Italy, 2007;
- Dokumentarkino, Oslo, Norway, 2007;
- Cambridge Film Festival, UK, 2007;
- Ecocines, Rodos International Film Festival, Greece, 2007;
- DOCSDF, International Documentary Film Festival of Mexico City, 2007;
- Cinema Verte, Iran International Documentary Film Festival, Tehran, 2007.

Peepli Live (Special Screening), 9:00 p.m.
Directed by Anusha Rizvi and Mahmood Farooqui
104 min, Hindi (English subtitled), India

Peepli Live is a 2010 Indian comic satire that explores the topic of farmer suicides and the subsequent media and political response. It is written and directed by Anusha Rizvi in her directorial debut, and produced by Aamir Khan Productions. The film stars Naya Theatre company member Omkar Das, Manikup as well as Naseeruddin Shah, Raghbir Yadav, Nawazuddin Siddiqui, Shalini Vabu and Malaka Shetty along with a number of newcomers. Peepli Live, distributed by UTV Motion Pictures, was released on 13 August 2010.

- India's official entry for the 83rd Academy Awards Best Foreign Film category.
- Winner of Best Director, Durban Film Festival.



About the Directors Anusha Rizvi is an India's film director and Screenwriter. Peepli Live is her directorial debut. The movie won the Best First Film award at the Durban film festival. Anusha Rizvi was a journalist before venturing into film direction. She approached Aamir Khan to make the film, he almost rejected the script, but finally made the film. It has been shortlisted in the Best Foreign Film category and has got the Oscar Award, 2011 nominations.

Mahmood Farooqui is a Delhi-based historian, writer and performer. After graduating from the Universities of Oxford, UK ('96) and Cambridge, UK ('98), as a Rhodes scholar from India, he started his own theater group called Dastak. Over the last five years, he has been working to revive a lost form of storytelling in Urdu called Dastangoi. His first book, Besieged: Voices from Delhi 1857, will be out in May 2010 by Penguin 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 1990, 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 coal levels. 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.

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India International Center

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 life of the citizens. The Centre is non-official in character, non-aligned in its motivation and approach and uncommitted to any particular form of governmental, political, economic or religious affiliation.

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