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**MUSEUM
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MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE AND THE INDIA CENTER FOUNDATION PARTNER TO LAUNCH INDIA KALEIDOSCOPE FILM FESTIVAL, DECEMBER 8–11, 2016

U.S. Premiere of *India in a Day* from Executive Producer Ridley Scott and Google to open the festival

NEW YORK, NY, November 1, 2016—**Museum of the Moving Image (MoMI)** and **The India Center Foundation** are launching *India Kaleidoscope*, an exciting new festival that will present film lovers with a chance to immerse themselves in the unique sights and sounds that make up the Indian regional, independent film landscape. These films, which delve into the most relevant and pressing topics facing India, are being made by today's most progressive filmmakers working in regional languages such as Marathi, Kannada, Tamil, and Bengali. Their films are insightful, topical, and provocative, bringing to light the dynamism and the challenges that face modern India and her many diverse communities.

"Consistent with our mission to offer a platform for barrier-breaking and emerging work from the subcontinent, the films featured in *India Kaleidoscope* film festival are eye opening studies from all corners of India," said Priya Giri Desai, a Founding Director of The India Center Foundation. "The India Center Foundation is proud to present many of these new voices for the very first time in North America. The festival represents the kind of work we hope to continue: quality collaborations that result in exposure to new sights and sounds to inspire our audience."

"India Kaleidoscope is an auspicious start to MoMI's collaboration with The India Center Foundation. This dynamic partnership is proven by the quality of the Festival lineup and the participation of so many emerging and established film directors," said the Museum's Chief Curator, David Schwartz.

"We are thrilled to turn the spotlight on Indian regional cinema, showcasing its diversity and richness," added Christina Marouda, Festival Organizer and MoMI's Director of Development.

The inaugural *India Kaleidoscope* Festival, taking place **December 8 through 11** at the Museum, will feature eight films, including seven new titles that will be making their U.S. or North American premieres and one special presentation of a classic Indian film. Most

films will feature directors in person. The Opening Night film is ***India in a Day***, an ambitious documentary project initiated by Google and comprised of images shot by thousands of people throughout India, artfully edited by director **Richie Mehta** (who will appear in person on Dec. 8), and executive produced by **Ridley Scott** and **Anurag Kashyap**.

Other highlights include a pairing of ***Ghatashraddha (The Ritual)***, a key work of the Indian New Wave by pioneer Kannada director **Girish Kasaravalli**, with ***Harikatha Prasanga (Chronicles of Hari)***, the directorial debut of **Ananya Kasaravalli**, daughter of Girish Kasaravalli, with both filmmakers appearing in person; and the Closing Night film ***Tope (The Bait)***, a seductively surreal, folkloric fable from prominent Bengali director, **Buddhadeb Dasgupta** (who will appear in person on Dec. 11). See below for the full lineup.

The India Kaleidoscope 2016 programming committee includes Priya Giri Desai (The India Center Foundation), Priyadarshini Shanker (NYU Cinema Studies), Anupama Kapse (Queens College), Tristine Skyler (writer and producer), and Christina Marouda (Museum of the Moving Image, founder of Indian Film Festival Los Angeles); with additional programming support from Uma da Cunha.

Tickets:

Tickets for Opening Night are \$30; all other tickets are \$15 (with discounts for Museum members at select levels). Advance tickets are available online at movingimage.us/india-kaleidoscope.

Location:

Museum of the Moving Image

Sumner M. Redstone Theater

36-01 35 Avenue, Astoria, Queens, New York 11106 | Phone: [718-777-6800](tel:718-777-6800)

FILMS AND SCHEDULE FOR KALEIDOSCOPE INDIA 2016:

***India in a Day* - Director Richie Mehta attending**

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 7:30 P.M.

U.S. PREMIERE | SCREENING FOLLOWED BY OPENING RECEPTION

India/UK. Dir. Richie Mehta. 2016, 86 mins. DCP. In Hindi and English with English subtitles. Over the course of a single day in October 2015, thousands across India recorded and shared moments from their everyday lives. From over 16,000 submissions, director Richie Mehta fashioned a vibrant, richly sensorial mosaic that reflects the subcontinent's extraordinarily diverse range of people, places, experiences, and perspectives.

***Loktak Lairembee (Lady of the Lake)* - Director Haobam Paban Kumar attending**

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9, 7:30 P.M.

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

India. Dir. Haobam Paban Kumar. 2016, 71 mins. DCP. In Manipuri with English subtitles.

With Ningthoujam Sanatomba, Sagolsam Thambalsang. Set amidst the unique community of fishing families that populate the floating islands of northeast India's Lake Loktak, the spellbinding narrative debut from nonfiction filmmaker Haobam Paban Kumar blends documentary-like realism with a touch of the surreal.

***Lathe Joshi* - Director Mangesh Joshi attending**

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2:00 P.M.

U.S. PREMIERE

India. Dir. Mangesh Joshi. 2016, 104 mins. DCP. In Marathi with English subtitles. With Chittaranjan Giri, Ashwini Giri, Seva Chouhan, Om Bhutkar. After losing his job, a lathe worker takes a stand to reclaim his dignity in a society that no longer seems to value him. This lyrical, meditative character study is both a moving portrait of a man and a perceptive look at globalization's human toll.

***The Violin Player* - Director Bauddhayan Mukherji attending**

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 4:30 P.M.

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

India. Dir. Bauddhayan Mukherji. 2015, 72 mins. DCP. In Hindi with English subtitles. With Ritwick Chakraborty, Adil Hussain, Nayani Dixit, Sonam Stobgais. A chance encounter with an enigmatic filmmaker sets a struggling violinist on a surprising journey of self-discovery. This mesmerizing tale of art and destiny conjures a quietly gripping air of mystery as it builds towards its soul-shaking denouement.

***Sila Samayagalil (Sometimes)* - Awaiting confirmation on talent attending**

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 6:30 P.M.

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

India. Dir. Priyadarshan. 2016, 110 mins. DCP. With Prakash Raj, Sriya Reddy, Ashok Selvan. In a doctor's office waiting room, eight people of varying backgrounds nervously await the results of their HIV tests. When they learn that one among them has tested positive, tensions mount and anxious guessing games begin. This richly emotional comedic drama tackles a serious subject with compassion and unexpected humor.

***Ghatashraddha (The Ritual)* – Director Girish Kasaravalli attending**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2:00 P.M.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

India. Dir. Girish Kasaravalli. 1977, 108 mins. 35mm. In Kannada with English subtitles. With Meena Kuttappa, Naraya Bhat, Ajith Kumar. One of the key works of the Indian New Wave, this spare, haunting drama tells the story of a bond that develops between two outsiders: a Brahmin boy who contends with bullying at school and an unmarried young woman who faces excommunication when she becomes pregnant.

***Harikatha Prasanga (Chronicles of Hari)* - Director Ananya Kasaravalli attending**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 4:30 P.M.

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

India. Dir. Ananya Kasaravalli. 2015, 105 mins. DCP. In Kannada with English subtitles. With Shrunga B.V., K.G. Krishnamurthy, Ganesh Kelamane. The lines between stage and

reality begin to blur for a male actor who plays female roles in traditional Yakshagana theater. Taking the form of a faux-documentary, the provocative feature debut of Ananya Kasaravalli examines issues of gender, performance, and identity within Indian society.

***Tope (The Bait)* - Director Buddhadeb Dasgupta attending**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 7:30 P.M.

U.S. PREMIERE | CLOSING NIGHT

India. Dir. Buddhadeb Dasgupta. 2016, 88 mins. DCP. In Bengali with English subtitles. With Sudipto Chatterjee, Kajal Kumari, Ananya Chatterjee, Chandan Roy Sanyal, Paoli Dam. Internationally renowned auteur Buddhadeb Dasgupta directs this seductively surreal, folkloric fable about three fantastical characters—a traveling tightrope walker, a tree-dwelling postman, and a wealthy, tiger-hunting raja—whose lives intertwine in the lush Bengal countryside.

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ABOUT MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

Museum of the Moving Image advances the understanding, enjoyment, and appreciation of the art, history, technique, and technology of film, television, and digital media. In its stunning facilities—acclaimed for both its accessibility and bold design—the Museum presents exhibitions; screenings of significant works; discussion programs featuring actors, directors, craftspeople, and business leaders; and education programs which serve more than 50,000 students each year. The Museum also houses a significant collection of moving-image artifacts.

www.movingimage.us

ABOUT THE INDIA CENTER

The India Center is a national, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization in the United States dedicated to the study of the Indian subcontinent, the promotion of its cultural life, and the unique relationship between India and the United States. Based in New York City, The India Center hosts dialogues and exhibitions, mounts programs, educates audiences, and fosters debate focused on India's future as well as its rich and varied past. It is also a home for the ever-evolving stories of Indian Americans in the form of a comprehensive oral history archive. The India Center is a platform for both established and emerging experts and artists exploring the evolution of the world's largest and most complex democracy. The India Center is supported primarily by patrons, foundations and the public. It is not affiliated with either the U.S. or Indian government.

www.theindiacenter.us

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MUSEUM INFORMATION

Hours: Wednesday-Thursday, 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Friday, 10:30 to 8:00 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, 11:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. **Holiday Hours:** Closed November 24 and December 25. Early closing on December 24 (at 4:00 p.m.) and December 31 (at 5:00 p.m.). Open Monday, December 26;

Tuesday, December 27; Monday, January 2, 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Museum Admission: \$15 adults (18+); \$11 senior citizens (65+) and students (18+) with ID; \$7 youth (ages 3–17). Children under 3 and Museum members are admitted free. Admission to the galleries is free on Fridays, 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Film Screenings: Friday evenings, Saturdays and Sundays, and as scheduled. Unless otherwise noted, tickets are \$12 adults / \$9 seniors and students / \$7 children 3–17 / free for Museum members at the Film Lover and Kids Premium levels and above. Advance purchase is available online. Tickets purchase may be applied toward same-day admission to the Museum's galleries.

Location: 36-01 35 Avenue (at 37 Street) in Astoria.

Subway: M (weekdays only) or R to Steinway Street. Q (weekdays only) or N to 36 Avenue.

Program Information: Telephone: 718 777 6888; Website: movingimage.us

Membership: <http://movingimage.us/support/membership> or 718 777 6877

Museum of the Moving Image is housed in a building owned by the City of New York and has received significant support from the following public agencies: New York City Department of Cultural Affairs; New York City Economic Development Corporation; New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature; Institute of Museum and Library Services; National Endowment for the Humanities; National Endowment for the Arts; and Natural Heritage Trust (administered by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation). For more information, please visit movingimage.us.