

PSBT INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL ON
GENDER AND SEXUALITY
IDENTITIES AND SPACES
12-15 May 2007

Programme

Saturday, 12 May

10:00 am

INAUGURATION

Syeda Hameed

Member, Planning Commission

11:00 am

PSBT FILM

A BODY THAT WILL SPEAK

Sukanya Sen & Pawas Bisht, 30 min

(Followed by discussion with the Filmmakers)

A film about not being perfect. A film about the never ending attempts to make the body 'speak for the self in a meaningful and powerful way'. A journey to move beyond disorders and discover the real women battling the fantasies around and within them. Fantasies, unsparing and hard, staring down at them, telling them that 'they are never quite there, that they should be trying harder'.

11:45 am

SOUTH ASIA PREMIERE

ABOUT THE BODY, Alona Seroussi & Keren

Yehezkely – Goldstein, Israel, 55 min

Michal, Ilana, Hila and Aviv are four young women in their 20s, severely injured in terrorist attacks. For three months the camera follows them in a unique body workshop by Israel Prize Winning dancer Ohad Naharin. After the injury they were all compelled to confront a new perception of their selves and their femininity. A story about the brave journey they undertake to reconnect to their once cherished bodies.

- *Best Emerging Directors, Rehovot International Women's Film Festival, Israel.*
- *Montenegro International TV Festival, Yugoslavia.*
- *Palm Beach Jewish Film Festival, USA.*

12:45 pm

SOUTH ASIA PREMIERE
TOMBOYS! FEISTY GIRLS AND SPIRITED WOMEN, Julie Akeret & Christian McEwen
USA, 28 min

In this lively, inspiring documentary, interviews with African-American women are intercut with personal photographs and archival footage to celebrate tomboys of all ages. The connection between the rebel girl and the spirited woman is gloriously clear. Their tales of energy and enterprise are a revelation to us all.

- [Audience Award, Long Island Gay and Lesbian Film Festival.](#)
- [Northampton Independent Film Festival.](#)
- [Rocky Mountain Women's Film Festival.](#)

02:00 pm

WHO CAN SPEAK OF MEN?, Ambarien Al Qadar, Gazala Yasmin & Nihal, India, 30 min

An astonishing intimate documentary about middle class Muslim women in India who refuse to conform to feminine norms. They describe in poignant detail the everyday struggles they face in order to be true to themselves. The film is striking in the inclusion of a disarming seven-year-old, Chini, who stubbornly insists that 'she' is a 'he'. A revolutionary and subversive documentary for its portrayal of contemporary Indian Muslim women.

- [Rialto Theatres, Amsterdam.](#)
- [Berlin International Film Festival.](#)
- [The British Film Institute.](#)
- [Larzish International Festival of Gender and Sexuality.](#)

02:30 pm

INDIA PREMIERE
WHY MEN WEAR FROCKS, Neil Crombie, UK
50 min

Grayson Perry, happily married 44-year old cross-dressing potter and Turner Prize winner, explores in a totally honest, unsparring way what it feels like to be a transvestite and what it has taught him about sexuality and gender in our society generally. If, as Grayson will argue, cross-dressing is a complicated kind of flight from masculinity and the way it's policed, then it's the masculinity we should attend to, not just the cross-dressing. This is about why some heterosexual men cross-dress, but also why most men don't.

- [Best Regional Programme Award, Royal Television Society.](#)
- [Most Entertaining Documentary Nomination, Grierson Awards.](#)
- [Gender Bender International Festival, Bologna.](#)

03:20 pm

PSBT FILM

BEING MALE BEING KOTI

Mahuya Bandyopadhyay, 30 min

Shot in Kolkata, the film explores the experience of growing up gender variant and not being able to understand, let alone explain, the difference. The experience of a world where there is 'no one quite like me' is an intensely lonely, fractured and troubled one.

04:00 pm

PANEL DISCUSSION*

Interrogating Masculinities/ Femininities

(*Panellists to be confirmed)

Ambarien Al Qadar, Anindya Hazra

Radhika Chopra, Jaya Sharma

Mahuya Bandyopadhyay

05:00 pm

SOUTH ASIA PREMIERE

A GIRL NAMED KAI, Kai Ling Xue, Canada

08 min

A Girl Named Kai sets out to challenge our society's preconception of people who are considered Outsiders, while empowering the audience to continue to examine contemporary notions of internal and external social identities.

- *Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Rights Award, Fifth Annual Media That Matters Film Festival.*
- *The 23rd Vancouver International Film Festival.*
- *The 23rd Reeling: Chicago Lesbian and Gay International Film Festival.*

05:10 pm

SOUTH ASIA PREMIERE

BLACK AND WHITE, Kirsty MacDonald

New Zealand, 17 min

"Oh my God! It's a hermaphrodite!" screams the nurse, moments after Mani Mitchell is born in 1953. Fifty years later, Black and White interweaves the stories of intersex activist Mani Mitchell and acclaimed photographer Rebecca Swan, exploring their potent collaboration.

- *Best New Zealand Short Documentary and Best Emerging Director, International Documentary Festival, New Zealand.*
- *Audience Award, Austin International Film Festival.*
- *Monterrey International Film Festival, Mexico.*
- *International Women's Film Festival, Dortmund / Cologne.*

05:30 pm

GENDER TROUBLE, Roz Mortimer, UK
24 min

In this lyrical and moving documentary, four intersex women tell their stories with astonishing bravery and candour. Set against beautiful yet unsettling backgrounds of organically transforming family photographs, orchids and topiary gardens, Melissa, Mary, Barbara and Sara speak openly about hermaphroditism and the secrecy surrounding their conditions and lives.

- [Adelaide Feast Festival, Australia.](#)
- [Question de Genre Cultural Festival, France.](#)
- [London Gay and Lesbian Film Festival, UK.](#)

06:00 pm

P(L)AIN TRUTH, Ilppo Pohjola, Finland, 15 min

P(l)ain Truth tells the story of a transsexual's transformation from a biological woman into a biological man. Using poignant imagery, text and music, the film describes the range of emotions that she goes through during the different stages of the painful transformation.

- [Teddy Bear for Best Short Film, Berlin International Film Festival.](#)
- [Public Prize in National International Competition, Tampere International Film Festival](#)
- [Best Short Film, Turin Film Festival.](#)

06:15 pm

PSBT FILM

BEYOND REFLECTION, Umesh Bist, 30 min

A poignant journey with Tista Das -a person in conflict with the accepted gender stereotype, a person abused, victimised and condemned for her very predicament. The film walks with Tista as she triumphs in freeing her feminine soul curiously trapped by nature in the body of a man.

07:00 pm

PANEL DISCUSSION*

Bodies that Matter

(*Panellists to be confirmed)

**Kirsty MacDonald, Umesh Bist
Nivedita Menon, Gautam Bhan**

08:00 pm

SOUTH ASIA PREMIERE

C.R.A.Z.Y, Jean-Marc Vallée, Canada
130 min

This richly nostalgic, ebulliently unsentimental story of a middle-class Montreal family spans the 60s to the 80s. Zachary is the fourth and cutest of five very different sons. Filling his parents' prescriptions is not easy for a

boy who suspects from an early age that he's less interested in girls than he is in their boyfriends. C.R.A.Z.Y. admits us into his hilarious fantasy world, surprising and unexpected journey that ultimately leads him to accept his true nature and, even more importantly, leads his father to love him for who he really is.

- *Best Film, Best Director, Best Screenplay, Best Cinematography, Best Editing, Prix Jutra Awards, Quebec.*
- *Best Motion Picture, Achievement in Art Direction/ Production Design, Genie Awards, Canada.*
- *City Award for Best Canadian Feature Film, Toronto International Film Festival.*
- *Audience Award, AFI Los Angeles International Film Festival.*
- *Canadian submission for 2005 Best Foreign-Language Film Oscar.*
- *Vancouver International Film Festival.*

Sunday, 13 May

10:00 am

SOUTH ASIA PREMIERE THE MAN WHO STOLE MY MOTHER'S FACE, Cathy Henkel, Australia, 74 min

Two days before Christmas in 1988, Cathy Henkel's 59 year-old mother Laura was sexually assaulted and brutally bashed in her home in Johannesburg, South Africa, by a local white teenager. Although Laura identified her attacker from a school photograph, the man was never charged and remained free. In an attempt to help her mother heal, filmmaker Cathy Henkel took matters into her own hands and confronted her mother's attacker. The film is an intimate look at the long-term effects of rape and a profoundly moving account of one family's quest for truth.

- *Best Documentary, Discovery Channel IF Awards, Australia.*
- *Finalist, Independent Spirit Award, Lexus IF Awards.*
- *Best Documentary Feature, Tribeca Film Festival*
- *Hot Docs International Documentary Film Festival.*

11:15 am

SOUTH ASIA PREMIERE RAPE FOR WHO I AM, Lovinsa Kavuma South Africa, 27 min

Every twenty-nine seconds a woman is raped in South Africa. This powerful documentary offers a fascinating and moving insight into the lives of South Africa's black

lesbians who, raped because of their sexuality, refuse to become victims.

- Audience Award for Best Short, Commonwealth Film Festival.
- Jury Award for Best Short Film, Philadelphia Gay and Lesbian Film Festival.
- Best Short Film, Seattle Gay and Lesbian Film Festival.
- Sundance Film Festival.
- Frameline, San Francisco International LGBT Film Festival.

11:45 am

PSBT FILM

A PRESENCE IN MY DREAM

Priya Krishnaswamy, 30 min

A personalised account of child abuse in modern urban India.

12:15 pm

PSBT FILM

ON MY OWN AGAIN, Anupama Srinivasan

30 min

The film weaves together images, sounds and words in an attempt to trace the thoughts and feelings of people as they try to comprehend, cope with, fight against and overcome the consequences of child sexual abuse. It is not a film about the abuse; it is a film about the survivor.

12:45 pm

PANEL DISCUSSION*

Healing from Abuse

(*Panellists to be confirmed)

**Priya Krishnaswamy, Anupama Srinivasan
Seema Prakash**

02:00 pm

SOUTH ASIA PREMIERE

TINA IN ZIMBABWE, Robbie Hart, Zimbabwe

26 min

In Zimbabwe, Tina Machida is fighting for the rights of gays and lesbians despite death threats, and a president who calls homosexuals "dogs and pigs." At eighteen, her parents had her raped to change her ways, but Tina has fought on.

- Best Canadian Short Documentary, Toronto Gay and Lesbian Film Festival.
- Special Courage Award, OUTTAKES, Dallas.
- Certificate of Merit, San Francisco International Film Festival.
- UTFEST, Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Film Festival.
- United Nations Association Film Festival, Stanford.

02:30 pm

MANY PEOPLE, MANY DESIRES

T. Jayashree, India, 46 min

Cutting across class, gender, language and caste, the film tells the stories of gay/bisexual/lesbian persons living in the city of Bangalore. Through them, it brings forth the debate on the basic right to one's sexual/gender expression and aims to mobilise debate and discussion and generate support from within and outside.

- *Best International Documentary, New York International Independent Film and Video Festival.*
- *Berlin Lesben film Festival*
- *London Lesbian and Gay Film Festival.*
- *Newfest, New York Gay and Lesbian Film Festival.*

03:15 pm

ZERO DEGREES OF SEPARATION

Elle Flanders, Canada, 89 min

The film looks at the current Middle East conflict through the lives of two mixed Palestinian and Israeli gay couples. Distilling the everyday acts of courage and resistance and interwoven with her grandparents' archival footage of the early days of Zionism, the filmmaker takes us on a unique and beautifully cinematic tour of the dream and the reality of Israel and Palestine.

- *Best Documentary Award, 28th International Film Festival, Creteil.*
- *Silver Conch Award, Mumbai International Film Festival.*
- *Best Documentary Jury Award, Frameline, San Francisco Lesbian and Gay Film Festival.*
- *London Lesbian and Gay Film Festival.*
- *Official Selection, Hot Docs Film Festival.*

04:45 pm

SOUTH ASIA PREMIERE

FREEDOM TO MARRY, Carmen Goodyear & Laurie York, USA, 57 min

Freedom to Marry documents the stunning celebration which began on February 12 2004, in the city of San Francisco when new, straight, married Mayor Gavin Newsom felt compelled to recognise the rights of same-sex couples to be treated equally. The film captures one of the most important events in the historic fight for civil rights for gays and lesbians everywhere!

- *Audience Award Winner, 17th Annual OUT ON FILM Atlanta Gay and Lesbian Film Festival.*
- *Best Documentary, Juror's Award, Outflix Film Festival*
- *Frameline, San Francisco Lesbian and Gay International Film Festival.*
- *Outfest, Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian International Film Festival.*
- *Austin Gay and Lesbian International Film Festival.*

05:45 pm

SOUTH ASIA PREMIERE

DADDY & PAPA, Johnny Symons, USA

60 min

Through the stories of four different families, Daddy & Papa delves into some of the particular challenges facing gay men who decide to become dads. From surrogacy, foster care and interracial adoption, to the complexities of gay marriage and divorce, to the battle for full legal status as parents, it presents a revealing look at some gay fathers who are breaking new ground in the ever changing landscape of the American family.

- *Golden Gate Award, Best First Person Documentary, San Francisco International Film Festival.*
- *Audience Award for Best Documentary, Florida Film Festival.*
- *Official Selection, Sundance Film Festival.*
- *Documentary Most Likely to Change the World, Detroit Docs Film Festival.*
- *Audience Award for Best Independent Documentary, ImageOut/ Rochester Gay and Lesbian Film Festival.*
- *Best Documentary, Dallas OUTTakes.*

07:00 pm

PANEL DISCUSSION*

Being Queer

*(*Panellists to be confirmed)*

**Tina Machida, Molly McKay
Pratibha Parmar, Gautam Bhan
Lovinsa Kavuma**

08:00 pm

SOUTH ASIA PREMIERE

NINA'S HEAVENLY DELIGHTS

Pratibha Parmar, UK, 94 min

Nina Shah is a feisty young Indo-Scottish woman with an identity crisis. When her father dies suddenly, Nina is forced to return and run the family owned Curry House. This reunites her with her childhood friend Bobbi, a Bollywood drag queen and brings her face to face with Lisa, a charismatic young woman to whom Nina's father sold 50 per cent of the restaurant. Nina embarks on a personal mission to win the 'Best of the West' curry competition, a highly coveted prize in the world of Indian cuisine. But Nina's feelings are thrown into turmoil when she realises that she is falling in love, with Lisa! Can she win both prizes?

- *London Gay and Lesbian Film Festival.*
- *Chicago International Film Festival.*
- *Annual IAAC Film Festival in NYC, US.*

Monday, 14 May

10:00 am

PSBT FILM BUMBAIYAA

Kartikeya Narayan Singh, 60 min

The film strives to gauge the sexual attitudes of the people of the metropolis Mumbai and the relationship that the city shares with sex- the tastes, practices and multiple points of view.

11:00 am

BEAUTY PARLOUR, Mehreen Jabbar Pakistan, 18 min

Four faces, four masks and four short sketches of lives, loves and desires from Pakistan, traced through visits to the beauty parlour. Two friends long for intimacies of a different kind, a to-be-bride longs for another while getting ready for her wedding, the 'other woman' struggles to define her existence via her relationship with her married lover and a physically challenged transvestite has dreams of a different kind. This short film explores themes that could not be expressed on mainstream Pakistan television at the time.

- [The Hong Kong International Film Festival.](#)
- [The San Francisco Asian-American Film Festival.](#)
- [The Toronto Inside Out Festival.](#)
- [The New Orleans Film Festival.](#)

11:20 am

BETWEEN THE LINES: INDIA'S THIRD GENDER

Thomas Wartmann, Germany, 94 min

The film follows photographer Anita Khemka as she sets out to explore the hidden hijra subculture of Bombay, fascinated by the ornate femininity and captivating spiritual powers of the outcast hijras - biological men who dress as women but reject identification with either gender. Following three hijras, Khemka enters the vibrant yet struggling hijra communities, openly discussing many intimate details of their lives such as their matriarchal surrogate families, castration ceremonies, thoughts about sexuality and relationships and the challenges of overcoming economic dependence on begging and prostitution. Uniquely engaging because of Khemka's ability to initiate personal dialogue about femininity, sexuality and persistent cultural stereotypes about gender, this artful film provides fascinating insights into a social group that is a growing leader in the fight for gender and sexuality rights in India.

- [Third TRI Continental Film Festival, India.](#)
- [New York Lesbian, Gay, Transgender Film Festival.](#)

- 'Critics Week', Locarno Film Festival.
- The London Lesbian & Gay Film Festival.

DISCUSSION*

(*Discussion to be confirmed)

**Kartikeya Narayan Singh, Ponni
Anita Khemka, Laxmi Narayan Tripathi**

02:00 pm

PSBT FILM

KANYASHALA, Ganga Mukhi, 30 min

Students from Kanya Vidyalaya, an all girls' school at Vajreshwari, share the stories of how they joined the school and their dreams for the future. Along the way, the film looks at how a segregated all-girls' space is an extension of existing social norms, enabling certain modes of becoming while seeking to restrict others.

02:30 pm

PSBT FILM

LAYING JANAKI TO REST

Madhureeta Anand, 30 min

The film explores the symbolic relationship of Sita, a goddess from the epic Ramayana, with the image of women in India.

03:00 pm

THE DAY I WILL NEVER FORGET

Kim Longinotto UK, 92 min

A gripping feature documentary that examines the practice of female genital mutilation in Kenya and the pioneering African women who are bravely reversing the tradition. In this epic work, women speak candidly about the practice and explain its cultural significance within Kenyan society. The film paints a complex portrait of the current polemics and conflicts that have allowed this procedure to exist well into modern times.

- WIN Award for Best Documentary Film, Sundance Film Festival.
- Amnesty International DOEN Award, International Documentary Film Festival, Amsterdam.
- Best Documentary, Hot Docs Documentary Film Festival.
- Humanitarian Award for Outstanding Documentary, Hong Kong International Film Festival.
- San Francisco International Film Festival.
- Adelaide International Film Festival.

04:30 pm

PSBT FILM

BLOOD ON MY HANDS, Surabhi Saral

Manak Matiyani & Anandana Kapur, 30 min

The film deals with how a woman's menstrual cycle is recycled from being a marker of her fertility to something

that renders her untouchable and hence subject to multiple taboos and regulations. There is an inherent hypocrisy in society that both celebrates the fertility of a woman as well as considers her menstruating body impure. As an individual, a woman or young girl is isolated in her struggle to come to terms with the transformations in her body.

05:00 pm

PURITY, Anat Zuria, Israel, 63 min

A rare and special look into the world of Jewish religious married life and sexuality, a topic hardly documented. The story of a purification ritual, a hidden path of struggle for religious women in the framework of strict, masculine religious law, that shapes the life of a couple and of female sexuality. The story of a subtle female rebellion within the religious world, expressed through the personal point of view of the director and the other women in the film. Their openness to the camera breaks a profound taboo of silence rooted in two thousand-year-old laws and contemporary social pressures.

- Golden FiPA Award in Creative Documentary, FiPA, France.
- Mayor Award for Best Documentary Film, Jerusalem International Film Festival.
- Special Prize and Audience Award, Yamagata.
- Best Director Award, One World International Human Rights Festival, Prague.
- Montreal World International Film Festival.
- Amsterdam International Documentary Film Festival.

06:00 pm

SOUTH ASIA PREMIERE

FOURTEEN, Nicole Barnette, USA, 07 min

Fourteen year old Hannah awakes to a momentous day of gifts and attention. She soon realises that this day of great celebration will have significant consequences on her future.

- Official Selection, Sundance Film Festival.
- Official Selection, Seattle Film Festival.
- Official Selection, Nashville Film Festival.

06:15 pm

SOUTH ASIA PREMIERE

IN THE MORNING, Danielle Lurie, Turkey
10 min

In this daring short drama based on a true story, a young woman is brutally attacked, and the responsibility of restoring her family's lost honour is left in the hands of her younger brother: a 13 year-old boy. The film is a revelation: highlighting a disturbing phenomenon that is increasingly common, frequently unreported and rarely punished. Whether called honour killings, dowry deaths or crimes of passion, the outcome is the same: women

are twice victimised, first as targets of the crime and then sought out for revenge.

- *Humanitarian Award, Cleveland International Film Festival.*
- *Best Short Narrative, Nashville Film Festival.*
- *Best Short, Beverly Hills Film Festival.*
- *Premiere, Sundance Film Festival.*
- *Official Selection, Tribeca Film Festival.*
- *Boston International Film Festival.*

06:30 pm

PANEL DISCUSSION*

Exploring Traditions and Taboos

*(*Panellists to be confirmed)*

***Madhureeta Anand, Surabhi Saral
Kamla Bhasin, Uma Chakravarti
Vani Subramanian***

07:45 pm

SOUTH ASIA PREMIERE

LOVING ANNABELLE, Katherine Brooks
USA, 77 min

A precocious Senator's daughter falls in love with her teacher at a stodgy Catholic girl's boarding school. This passionate tale of forbidden love explores the complexity and controversy of love and struggle between two women who have every reason to deny their feelings. Blind to the world around them, the two journey into a love affair destined to change their lives forever.

- *Audience Award for Best Feature, Outfest.*
- *Grand Jury Award for Best Actress, Outfest.*
- *Audience Award for Best Feature, Out on Film, Atlanta.*
- *Best Narrative Feature, Austin Film Festival.*
- *Audience Award, Melbourne Festival.*
- *Cinequest Film Festival.*

Tuesday, 15 May

Auditorium

10:00 am

PSBT FILM

MIRROR MIRROR ON THE WALL –“WHO AM I AFTER ALL?”

Naina Kapur & Smita Bharti, 30 min
(Followed by discussion with the Filmmakers)

The film traces the engagement of students of the Uttam School for girls, Ghaziabad, with their dilemmas about sexuality, along with their parents and teachers. Gradually through the process, they move towards enabling questions, responsible choices and healthy sexuality.

10:45 am

DELHI - MUMBAI - DELHI, Saba Dewan
India, 63 min

Riya dances in the beer bars of Mumbai to make a living. The documentary follows her from her home in Delhi to Mumbai where hundreds of working class girls come in search of work and a future. Riya's future is unpredictable and the present is marked with its own difficulties. The police harass her family in Delhi, there is constant pressure from her agent in Mumbai to attract more tips and the work itself is demanding. However, there are other girls to have fun with, there is money to dress well and then there are men... admirers promising the moon. The documentary is an intimate portrait of the everyday in the life of the girls, their agents and their neighbourhoods. Shot in the backdrop of the Maharashtra Governments' controversial move to ban girls from dancing in beer bars, it interweaves stories of gender, labour, sexuality and popular culture within an increasingly globalised economy.

- IDFA.
- South Asian Human Rights Film Festival, New York.
- 3 Screens Film Festival, Indian Social Forum.

11:45 am

PSBT FILM
FIGHT TO DANCE, Anish Patel, 30 min

The documentary focuses on the struggles faced by former "dance-bar girls" who have been rendered unemployed overnight by the Maharashtra state government's decision to ban dancing in bars where liquor is served. The film focuses on three such ex-bar-dancers and follows their personal struggles as they actively try to over-turn the State government's ban and encourage other bar dancers to come forward and demand their right to earn a living.

12:15 pm

PSBT FILM
MORALITY TV AND LOVING JIHAD
Paromita Vohra, 30 min

The film looks outside the frames that weave the frenetic tapestry of Breaking News on India's news channels to uncover a town's complex dynamics – the fear of love, the constant scrutiny and control of women's mobility and sexuality, a history of communal violence, caste brutalisation and feudal. Assuming the tone of pulp fiction and tabloid features it examines the legacy of this kind of story telling, from the relishing accounts of true crime magazines like Manohar Kahaniyan to the double morality of pulp detective fiction to the tabloid news on Indian TV, to tell a thrilling but disturbing tale of it's own.

12:45 pm

PANEL DISCUSSION*
Sexual Morality and Moral Sexuality

(*Panellists to be confirmed)

Saba Dewan, Anish Patel

02:00 pm

TIED HANDS (YADAIM KSHUROT)

Dan Wolman, Israel, 90 min

"Tied Hands" tells the story of a sensitive and complex relationship between a mother and her ailing son. A mother goes out on a desperate search for a little Marijuana, to ease her son's pain. In her, turbulent, journey in the streets of Tel-Aviv, old truths from her past come back to life and threaten to break down a wall of denials behind which, she's been hiding all her life.

- [Special Award, Jerusalem International Film Festival.](#)
- [Fesbiofest Film Festival, Prague.](#)
- [Israfest, Los Angeles.](#)
- [Mumbai International Film Festival.](#)

03:30 pm

NAHEED'S STORY, Beena Sarwar, Pakistan
20 min

The film records the struggle of Pakistan's finest exponent of the classical dance form 'kathak', to be able to dance in Pakistan. Banned from appearing on TV after Gen Zia's military coup of 1979 and subsequent 'Islamisation' of the laws and media, she had to move to England in order to continue dancing. 'Naheed's Story' is about a life which stands as a metaphor for Pakistan's little-recorded struggle for secularism and pluralism, freedom of expression and women's rights.

- [Seattle Film Festival.](#)
- [Film South Asia, Kathmandu.](#)
- [Sheffield International Documentary Film Festival.](#)

04:00 pm

SOUTH ASIA PREMIERE
GIRL WRESTLER, Diane Zander, USA
53 min

GIRL WRESTLER follows 13-year-old Tara Neal, a Texas teenager who upsets traditional expectations by insisting that girls and boys should be able to wrestle on the same mat. Zander follows Tara through a crucial period in her wrestling career—the last year that she is allowed to wrestle boys under state guidelines.

- [Frameline, San Francisco Lesbian and Gay Film Festival.](#)
- [Hot Docs Canadian International Documentary Festival.](#)

05:00 pm

SOUTH ASIA PREMIERE

A KNOCK OUT, Tessa Boerman & Samuel Reiziger, Netherlands, 53 min

Boxing champion Michele Aboro grew up in South London, where life for a girl was never easy, let alone for a mixed-race lesbian girl. Thanks to her tenacious spirit and an uncanny talent for combat sports, she put her difficult past behind her and managed to sign a contract with the biggest boxing promoter in Europe. She won all 21 fights, 18 of them with a knockout – an exceptional achievement in women’s boxing. But despite her spectacular record in the ring, her career came to a sudden halt when her promoter broke her contract under the belief that she was not “promotable.” Refusing to vamp up her image and pose naked in magazines, this undefeated world champion was abandoned by an industry more interested in selling sex than sport.

- [International Documentary Film Festival, Amsterdam.](#)
- [Pink Apple, Schwullesbisches Film Festival, Switzerland.](#)
- [Frameline Festival, San Francisco.](#)
- [Atlanta Gay and Lesbian Film Festival.](#)

06:00 pm

ALL ABOUT OUR MOTHERS

Manak Matiyani & Kuber Sharma
India, 45 min

A personal documentary, the film is a portrait of the mothers of the two directors. An exploration of gender positions in their own families, it looks at their family histories in the backdrop of larger developments in the women’s movement and the leftist ideology. From being a quirky portrait of their families and growing up experiences, the film would move to deeper issues of women’s spaces and freedom within the family.

- [Asian Festival of First Films, Singapore.](#)
- [3 Screens Film Festival, Indian Social Forum.](#)

06:45 pm

PSBT FILM

GOODBYE MOTHER, Joydeep Ghosh, 30 min

During the festival of the divine mother, a child was born in Kolkata who did not have any mother. The filmmaker travels to his hometown to trace the changing pattern of motherhood through technology, gender power, psycho-social issues and the conflict between selfhood and motherhood.

07:20 pm

PANEL DISCUSSION*

Subverting Boundaries

(*Panellists to be confirmed)

**Syeda Hameed, Urvashi Butalia
Joydeep Ghosh, Manak Matiyani**

Paranjoy Guha Thakurta

08:15 pm

JOY, Julie Shles, Israel, 90 min

Despite her limited means, Joy Levine does everything to try and fill her life with happiness. Her existence changes for the better when she is chosen to appear on a game show called "Gotta Be Happy," and she sets about to plan a surprise party for her parents to help them reconcile with their friends. The selection for the game show comes at a cost: Joy must open up her private life to the world for all to see, and address many issues buried deep in her psyche and in the past of her parents. This journey will provide all involved with the opportunity for growth, change, happiness, and in Joy's case, a chance at true love.

- [WorldFest - Houston International Film & Video Festival.](#)
- [Atlanta Jewish Film Festival.](#)
- [Chicago Jewish Film Festival.](#)
- [UK Jewish Film Festival Toronto Jewish Film Festival.](#)

ASSUME NOTHING
PENGODASWAN



We Never Ask for It A Blank Noise Installation

**"Blank: no form, no meaning.
Noise: heightens, builds, breaks form."**

Blank Noise is a public, participatory art project that seeks to challenge public spaces where we confront sexual harassment. Such experiences can alter and skew the relationship women have with their own bodies and are damaging to both sexes. Through street interventions, using various media, Blank Noise proposes to build public dialogue around women and men and their relationship to their city."

www.blanknoiseproject.blogspot.com

**Jasmeen Patheja
Abigail Chrisman
Annie Zaidi
Harneet Bhatia
Amit Kendurkar
Abhishek Baxi
Naveena Swapnabh
Saumya Agarwal
Sidharth Srivastava**

CREDITS

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