

OPEN FRAME 2006

15-24 September

Programme

Friday, 15 September

Auditorium

10:00 am

INAUGURATION

Rajiv Mehrotra, Managing Trustee, PSBT
Jocelyne Josiah, Advisor, Communication & Information for Asia, UNESCO
Abhijit Dasgupta, Board Member INPUT and Secretary, INPUT Society, India
Raj Liberhan, Director, India Habitat Centre
Alice Cicolini, Head, Arts and Culture, British Council
Philip Cox and Andy Glynne, DFG

10:45 am

**HOW TO READ A DOCUMENTARY FILM
Understanding Illusion and Dismantling the Medium**

(Media Workshop – by prior registration)
Philip Cox and Andy Glynne
(Documentary Filmmakers' Group, UK)

02:30 pm

**STARDUST, Ciaran Donnelly, Ireland, 50 min
INPUT**

In 1981, a nightclub fire in Dublin killed 48 working class teens. Twenty-five years later, the victims remain largely uncompensated. Some argue this is because of their social background and lack of political clout. This serial drama tells the story of what came before and after this seminal disaster in Ireland's history.

03:30 pm

**TIMUR: THE HISTORY OF THE LAST FLIGHT, Natalia Gugueva, Russia, 26 min
INPUT**

The history of the last flight of the great Russian pilot Timur Apakidze, as told by his friends.

04:00 pm

THEY CHOSE CHINA, Shui-Bo Wang
Canada, 52 min, **INPUT**

A documentary about POWs who refused to be repatriated to their homelands after the Korean War and chose instead to remain in Communist China.

05:00 pm

PASSING CONFLICT, Pankaj Rishi Kumar
30 min, **PSBT**
(Followed by discussion with the Filmmaker)

A series of four short films on various forms of conflict, commissioned by Pankaj Rishi Kumar on behalf of PSBT.

BOL GOLU BOL, Suvir Nath, 5 min

A young boy and girl are sitting in a secluded place. What brings them there is conjecture but what will transpire between them is of interest...

BARE, Santana Issar, 10 min

A daughter's search to find meaning, if any, in her relationship with her alcoholic father.

THE MALL ON TOP OF MY HOUSE, Aditi Chitre, 5 min

An animation film dealing with the issue of rampant land reclamation by the flouting of environmental laws and the consequent displacement of the fishing community.

A PLACE TO STAY, Prayas Abhinav, 5 min

An exploration of the feeling of homelessness. While thousands in the city of Mumbai lose their homes every month, thousands also find one...

06:00 pm

THE AFTERLIFE OF EINSTEIN'S BRAIN
Stefan Randstrom, Canada, 41 min, **INPUT**

Immediately after the death in 1955 of the 20th Century's most renowned scientist, the brain of Albert Einstein was removed in the hope that it would help in the search for the physical origin of intelligence. But what followed is a surreal journey for the brain and the filmmaker, each criss-crossing in the search for meaning in what may ultimately be unknowable, the mystery of genius.

06:45 pm

ALMITA DEL CHE (SOUL OF CHE),

Hugo Martín Salas Terán, Bolivia, 30 min
UNESCO

In the present times, in Vallegrande (Bolivia), Che Guevara is considered to be a miraculous soul that intercedes in favour of his believers. This documentary presents the story that the Vallegrandinos want to tell about Che.

07:15 pm

GREEN BUSH, Warwick Thornton, Australia
26 min, **UNESCO**

Local DJ Kenny realises his job at the community radio station is about more than just playing music. Kenny jokes that his Green Bush show is broadcast to a 'captive' audience – namely the local prison. While taking requests from those on the inside and out, Kenny has to cope with the results of a wild night outside and learn his place in the circle of violence.

Saturday, 16 September

Auditorium

09:30 am

COLLOQUIUM
Media & Public Responsibility

02:00 pm

PROSTITUTION BEHIND THE VEIL
Nahid Persson, Sweden, 60 min, **INPUT**

Filmmaker Nahid Persson journeys back to her homeland, Iran. There she meets two friends, each of who lives in a one-room flat facing a courtyard in a run-down block of flats. Theirs is a hard life. An unsentimental portrait of two women forced to turn to prostitution to support themselves and their children in today's Iran – a result of a failed revolution.

03:00 pm

EYES WIDE OPEN, Kaushik G. Ray, India
40 min, **UNESCO**
(Followed by discussion with the Filmmaker)

In Belgaum district of Karnataka, the pernicious practice of dedicating young girls to the goddess Yellamma and subsequently turning them into 'sex slaves' and prostitutes, euphemistically termed devdasis or jogins, continues to prevail. Through the experiences of Shobha Gasti, an ex-devdasi herself, the film traces the efforts made by devdasis to reverse their situation and achieve equal status in society.

04:00 pm

TO THINK LIKE A WOMAN, Arpita Sinha

30 min, **PSBT**

The film reflects on the numerous silences that shroud the lives of young, educated, 'independent', 'modern', single women in urban India . Conversations with four women reveal their inner conflicts, dissonances and crises of identity...

04:30 pm

GENDER UNPACK, Anjali Monteiro and K.P. Jayasankar, 30 min, **PSBT**

A series of four short films commissioned by Anjali Monteiro and K.P. Jayashankar on behalf of PSBT that question the construction of our gendered identities and their manifestations in everyday lives. The films explore the little ways in which we resist and subvert these modes of power.

OUR SISTERS, Chitra Venkataramani, 8 min

The film looks at the way we are taught to understand our genders – fixed and unchangeable – the way gender is introduced in classrooms and homes in a clinical manner.

THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS

Sheetal Gokhale and B. Prasad, 8 min

The film spans a day in the life of a twenty four year old man, caught by his sister while experimenting with her clothes and make-up one afternoon. The film portrays his discomfort with his endowed gender and the subsequent shame at his confusion.

LOST AND FOUND, Akhila Krishnan, 8 min

This docu-fiction, through a male and female protagonist, explores the relationships of gender roles and stereotypes with an individual's identity and their negotiation with each other in everyday life.

A DAY'S JOB, Abeer Gupta, 8 min

The film is an account of the present-day trade and lives of the Koli fisherwomen in Mumbai, woven against a folk narrative.

05:00 pm

AAMAKE BOLTU DAU (I HAD SOMETHING TO SAY), Fauzia Khan, Bangladesh, 40 min
UNESCO

The film explores the subject of reproductive health of adolescent girls across classes in Bangladesh.

05:45 pm

MOUSTACHES UNLIMITED, Vasudha Joshi
30 min, **PSBT**

The film explores masculinities and femininities through what moustaches mean to men and women and the power dynamics that operate amongst men and women.

06:30 pm

FORUM: DECONSTRUCTING GENDER*
(*Panellists to be confirmed)

Arpita Sinha, Anjali Monteiro, K.P. Jayasankar, Fauzia Khan, Vasudha Joshi, Radhika Chopra, Gautam Bhan (moderator)

07:30 pm

THE GIANT BUDDHAS, Christian Frei
Switzerland, 96 min, **INPUT**

In February 2001, six months before the attacks on the American twin towers, the Taliban issued a decree calling for the destruction of all non-Islamic statues in Afghanistan, including the Bahmian Buddhas. This thought provoking documentary reveals the consequences of religious fanaticism as it exposes the hypocrisy of global indignation.

Sunday, 17 September

Auditorium

10:00 am

WORLD PREMIERE
REVISITING PUBLIC SERVICE TELEVISION
(A series of 7 fiction and documentary films)
UNESCO

THE BOX, Zabreen Hasan, Pakistan, 8 min

The concept of the global village implies communication between all peoples and cultures on the planet.

THE CHILDREN OF DARFUR
Camilla Nielsson, Denmark, 24 min

The everyday lives of children living in Darfur's refugee camps.

CUALQUIER CIUDAD, John Jairo de Los Rios
Colombia, 8 min

The critical situation of young people in Cazuca, afraid to become the victims of blind violence.

VILLAGE NOMADE, Mahaman Souleymane
Niger, 25 min

When the environment becomes the enemy...a poetic look at human beings' fight against nature.

THE PLACE I CALL HOME, Tamer Ezzat
Egypt, 49 min

What circumstances, what desires lie beneath the decision of leaving one's own country? Egyptians speak about their dreams and tell their stories.

MOTHERS ON WHEELS, Mario Piazza
Argentina, 52 min

How do women with disabilities cope with the daily activities of motherhood?

MEENA, Jasmine Kaur and Avinash Roy, India
21 min (Followed by discussion with the Filmmakers)

Through Meena, Rohan is introduced to another world that is far beyond his own. On how education leads children into a new universe...

02:30 pm

SEOUL TRAIN, Jim Butterworth, Lisa Sleeth
and Aaron Lubarsky, US, 60 min, **INPUT**

The film exposes the complex geopolitics and bureaucracy entangling the lives of thousands of North Korean refugees as well as the story of activists who put themselves in harm's way to save them via a clandestine underground railroad.

03:45 pm

THE WHISTLE BLOWERS, Umesh Aggarwal
44 min, **PSBT**

An investigation of the issue of pesticides in bottled water and soft drinks manufactured by reputed MNCs like Coca Cola and Pepsi in India which was recently revealed in a report by the Centre for Science and Environment

04:30 pm

MERE DESH KI DHARTI, Sumit Khanna
60 min, **PSBT**

In our effort to achieve food security, have we compromised on food safety? The film investigates the impact of pesticides as they enter the food chain.

05:30 pm

BULLSHIT, PeA Holmquist and Suzanne Khardalian, Sweden, 73 min, **UNESCO**

Her opponents call her 'The Green Killer'. They gave her 'The Bullshit Award' for sustaining poverty. TIME magazine says she is a hero of our times, an icon for youngsters all over the world. This is a film about Vandana Shiva, Indian environmentalist and nuclear physicist.

07:00 pm

**FORUM: PESTILENT PESTICIDES:
QUESTIONS AND QUESTIONERS***

(*Panellists to be confirmed)

**Umesh Aggarwal, Sumit Khanna,
Vandana Shiva, Suhel Seth,
Paranjoy Guha Thakurta (moderator)**

08:00 pm

MY LIFE IS MY SONG, Gopal Sharman
30 min, **PSBT**

(Followed by discussion with the Filmmaker)

The story of the Langas, folk musicians from Jodhpur, with their five-century-old tradition, leading us into their hopes for their children, their fears for the survival of their art in the commercial entertainment world today and their solace in the mystical songs that form their repertoire.

Monday, 18 September

Auditorium

09:30 am

**THE SUBJECT IN DOCUMENTARY
Ethics, Controversy, Money, Exploitation
and Real People's Lives**

(Media Workshop – by prior registration)

Philip Cox and Andy Glynne

01:45 pm

LA SIERRA, Scott Dalton and Margarita Martinez, Colombia, 53 min, **INPUT**

In the context of the Colombian civil conflict, as guerrillas and paramilitaries sought to control marginal city neighbourhoods, the conflict turned into a brutal turf war that has pitted adjacent barrios against each other. The film explores life over the course of a year in one such barrio, through the prism of three lives.

02:45 pm

KOLKATA PROTESTS, Abhijit Dasgupta
30 min, **PSBT**

(Followed by discussion with the Filmmaker)

The film portrays the unique character of Kolkata, the city of protests and processions. Why do Kolkatans protest frequently? Why do they react so violently at the slightest provocation? The film explores some of these poignant questions.

03:30 pm

EL CORNO EMPLUMADO (THE PLUMED HORN), Anne Mette W. Nielsen and Nicolienka Beltrán F., Mexico, 54 min, **UNESCO**

(Followed by discussion with the Filmmaker)

*This documentary takes a journey into the past to revisit the histories, thoughts, dreams and visions of poets who came together during the sixties to produce *El Corno Emplumado/ The Plumed Horn*, which became a cultural bridge between North and South America and one of the most significant poetry magazines of the era.*

05:00 pm

OF SUCH TIMES: THE MODERN INDIAN WOMAN - REFLECTIONS AND JOURNEYS THROUGH FIVE DECADES, Vandana Kohli
30 min, **PSBT**

(Followed by discussion with the Filmmaker)

The film captures the lives and experiences of a range of women, all graduates from LSR, one of India's foremost colleges for women. The film weaves together these various narratives in the context of the changing political times as these women reflect on their work, successes, aspirations and the significant place the college holds in their lives.

06:00 pm

BRAIN DAMADJ'D TAKE II, Paul Nadler
Canada, 43 min, **INPUT**

He's boisterous. He's abrasive. And Paul Nadler refuses to let a traumatic brain injury stop him from living the life he wants.

07:00 pm

FORUM: CINEMA AS PERSONAL EXPERIENCE*

(*Panellists to be confirmed)

Abhijit Dasgupta, Paul Nadler

07:45 pm

A NATIONAL BOMB, Vagif Mustafaeov
Russia, 99 min, **UNESCO**

In the post-Soviet Republic of Azerbaijan, the heroes were fired from the film studio but they are going on with the film shooting in their imagination and trying to find some money to accomplish the film.

Tuesday, 19 September

Auditorium

09:30 am

WORKSHOP ON PROPOSAL WRITING
(Media Workshop – by prior registration)
(Students submit their own proposals which are pitched and discussed in class)
Philip Cox and Andy Glynne

Casuarina

11:00 am

BRIEFING SESSION FOR FILMMAKERS
UNDP, UNFPA, PSBT

Auditorium

02:00 pm

ROSES FOR SIGNORA RAISA
Natalia Ivanova, Russia, 40 min **UNESCO**
(Followed by discussion with the Filmmaker)

Raisa notices a special Russian poster in Italy and thus begins a son's search for his mother, across countries, and across a huge time span. A moving film that provides rare glimpses into recent and not so recent history.

03:00 pm

SISAI, David Gavro, Israel, 57 min, **UNESCO**
(Followed by discussion with the Filmmaker)

Twenty year old Sisai, Ethiopian immigrant in Israel, lives with his adoptive family – the Gavros. Father Gavro returns from Ethiopia with news of Sisai's biological father's whereabouts. Confused by the news and the fresh confrontation with his past, Sisai does not share his family's excitement. The director, who is also Sisai's brother, joins him and their father in a journey to

Ethiopia, on their search for identity, blood connection, love and longing.

04:15 pm

THE KILLING FIELDS, Sanjoy Roy and Manoj Kumar, 30 min, **PSBT**

A look at the ritual of animal sacrifice at the religious fair held annually at Bhunkhal Kalika Devi temple in Garhwal.

04:45 pm

ECO-DHARMA, Malgorzata Skiba, 30 min **PSBT**

The story of the dedication and sacrifice of the Bishnoi community, the oldest practicing environmentalists of India from Western Rajasthan, to whom preservation of wildlife and forest is a religion.

05:15 pm

THE FRAGILE WEB, Mike H. Pandey, 30 min **PSBT**

An exploration of the interdependence of all life forms on earth – a fragile web of life – which binds us together in a unique relationship – each strand dependent on the other for survival.

06:00 pm

FORUM: ECOLOGY MATTERS*

*(*Panellists to be confirmed)*

Sanjoy Roy (moderator), Manoj Kumar, Malgorzata Skiba, Mike H. Pandey Sudhir Mittal

07:00 pm

WHITE WALLS, Meital Abekassis, Israel 50 min, **UNESCO**

Shahar, a photographer, engages with conflicts that are integral aspects of Israeli society, whose members must choose between tradition and progress, family and career and between self fulfilment and detachment from one's roots.

08:00 pm

WHOSE IS THIS SONG, Adela Peeva Bulgaria, 70 min, **INPUT**

A funny, dramatic and tragicomic account of the search for the truth about a song. It portrays, with a sense of humour, some of the typical features of the character of the people of the Balkans, for example, their habit of appropriating all that is good and denying the others the

right to possess the same qualities, the same songs, the same customs, the same temperament.

Wednesday, 20 September

Auditorium

09:30 am

**DIRECTING THE DOCUMENTARY
Modern Techniques and the Art of
Storytelling**
(Media Workshop – by prior registration)
Philip Cox and Andy Glynne

02:00 pm

**MIRADA DE CONDOR (VIEW OF THE
CONDOR)**, Cecilia Posada, Spain/ Colombia
54 min, **UNESCO**
(Followed by discussion with the Filmmaker)

A documentary that profiles contemporary Colombian artists while looking at their sources of inspiration, the importance of living in Colombia and how the conflict in the country affects their art.

03:15 pm

BEYOND THE MIRAGE, Nutan Manmohan
30 min, **PSBT**
(Followed by discussion with the Filmmaker)

An exploration of the battle for food and habitat in the skies of Delhi among the small and the big birds that throng the city. It documents the increase in the crow and kite population and the consequences this has for small birds such as sparrows and pigeons, who are fast losing this war against larger predators.

04:15 pm

ON GOD'S SIDE, Birgit Nissen Pedersen
Denmark, 49 min, **INPUT**

Everyday we are told that Islamic fundamentalism is threatening our democracies, that there is a clash of civilisations. But who has ever talked to a hardcore Islamist, let alone gone to pay him a visit? Journalist Martin Krasnik, a stern democrat and defender of liberal values, decides to find out what political Islam is really about. With humour, honesty and persistence, Martin brings us up close with another outlook on right and wrong.

05:15 pm

**LAJI'OUN MADA AL-HAYAT (REFUGEES
FOR LIFE)**, Hady Zaccak, UAE/ Lebanon
48 min, **UNESCO**

(Followed by discussion with the Filmmaker)

Through the experiences of three families of Palestinian refugees living in Tyre, South of Lebanon, and a human rights activist, the film looks at their everyday struggles, their aspirations to communicate with their relatives in Germany and their continuous waiting.

06:00 pm

ROCKIN' THE HIMALAYAN KINGDOM
Dorji Wangchuk, Bhutan, 48 min, **UNESCO**

(Followed by discussion with the Filmmaker)

A film on the first-ever rock concert in the Kingdom of Bhutan. Blot, the most popular rock band from the Netherlands, journeys to this once-secluded kingdom – as part of their international UMOJA project. How will the people from a land of monks and mountains who never saw a rock band before, receive this strange music? And how will blot's rock music, which is rhythmic and loud, blend with the slow-paced and soft melancholic tunes of the Himalayas?

07:00 pm

ART IN EXILE, Nidhi Tuli and Ashraf Abbas
40 min, **PSBT**

An exploration of the quiet struggle by Tibetans in exile in India to keep their culture and identity alive. It focuses on the Norbulingka Art Institute at Dharamsala, which teaches pure Tibetan art forms and hopes to accomplish its goal of 'importing Tibetan culture back to Tibet.'

07:45 pm

DEMOCRACY IN EXILE, Tashi Wangchuk and
Tsultrim Dorjee, 30 min, **PSBT**

The film explores the debate among the general mass of Tibetan people in India: about the two major possible goals of future Tibet – 'Genuine Autonomy'; a middle path proposed by the Tibetan Exile Government; and an 'Independent Tibet' as proposed by the Tibetan Youth Congress.

08:30 pm

FORUM: TIBET IN EXILE*

(*Panellists to be confirmed)

**Nidhi Tuli, Tashi Wangchuk, Tsultrim
Dorjee, Tempa Tsering, Rajiv Mehrotra
(moderator)**

Thursday, 21 September

Auditorium

10:00 am

**FRIDA MAESTRA, EL ARTE AL
ENCUENTRO DE LA VIDA (FRIDA
MAESTRA – ART REACHES OUT TO LIFE)**
Luisa Riley, Mexico, 52 min, **UNESCO**

A portrait of the great painter Frida Kahlo as an art teacher through the testimonies of her close students who went on to create a revolutionary movement.

11:15 am

SPEER AND HITLER, Heinrich Breloer
Germany, 90 min, **INPUT**

A docu-drama based on the life of Albert Speer, the master architect of the Third Reich, the Minister of Armaments and Adolph Hitler's closest friend. This film opens the shimmering veil of myths and half-truths obscuring this central figure of the Nazi regime and a man of profound contradictions.

02:00 pm

VILLAGE OF DUST, CITY OF WATER
Sanjay Barnela, 30 min, **PSBT**
(Followed by discussion with the Filmmaker)

A film that negotiates the rough terrain of water use and misuse across India.

02:45 pm

**ANGOLA SAUDADES DE QUEM TE AMA
(FROM THE ONE WHO LOVES YOU)**
Richard Pakleppa, Angola/ South Africa
65 min, **UNESCO**
(Followed by discussion with the Filmmaker)

It is a people's story told from the street up: one which through the eyes of five individuals living in a contradictory world captures a unique moment in Angola's history.

04:00 pm

THAT YEAR THAT DAY!!!, Meenakshi and
Vinay Rai, 30 min, **PSBT**
(Followed by discussion with the Filmmakers)

The film explores the mechanisms of attaining freedom from the images...visuals...memories which have the elements of child sexual abuse.

04:45 pm

THINKING ALLOWED, Judhajit Sarkar, India
54 min, **INPUT**
(Followed by discussion with the Filmmaker)

Myths get created over a period of time submerging the reality. They are fuelled by vested interests. Is Mother Teresa for real or a myth? If real what are her exact contributions? The film explores this thorny question and compels us to question ourselves. It is not just about Saint of the Gutters. It is as much about our city and about us.

06:00 pm

FORUM: DEMOCRATISING THE FILM FORM*

*(*Panellists to be confirmed)*

**Rahul Ranadive, Puneeta Roy
Jeebesh Bagchi (moderator)**

06:45 pm

SHAZIA, Arvind Sinha, 30 min, PSBT

(Followed by discussion with the Filmmaker)

An inspirational story of a girl from the slums of Kolkata, who is educating herself while earning a living and running her family.

07:30 pm

WELCOME 2 MY DEAF WORLD

Helen Gaynor, Australia, 52 min, **UNESCO**

The film follows two teenagers, Bethany and Scott, through the last few months of their schooling at the Victorian College for the Deaf in Australia, as they try to complete their studies, struggle for their independence and meet new people outside the sheltered world of their deaf school.

BUSINESS SKILLS WORKSHOP
For Documentary Filmmakers (20-24 September)
(By prior registration only)

Conducted by Peter Dally, Andy Glynne, Philip Cox, Kate Vogel

Venue: Basement Theatre

Documentary filmmaking is undergoing somewhat of a renaissance throughout the world and Indian filmmakers are in possession of a wealth of amazing stories and excellent skills. In the past, it's been difficult to match these two facts together since it's been difficult for Indian producers and directors to learn how to actually access the international market. This 5-day workshop is the first of its kind in giving an easy-to-understand and comprehensive overview of the important skills needed to produce, market and distribute an Indian documentary for the International Broadcast and Feature Film Market.

Schedule*

*(*Subject to change)*

20 Sept: How to Present your Project.

21 Sept: Introduction to Legal and Business Affairs and the ABCs of Feature Film Finance.

22 Sept: The Importance of Storytelling.

23 Sept: The Market: What is the World Looking For?

24 Sept: Pitching Forum: All delegates are invited to attend and observe the **"INDEPENDENCE IN 3 MINUTES"** Pitching Forum. This scheme is an initiative for Indian filmmakers produced by DFG Films in partnership with Channel 4 UK, The Public Service Broadcasting Trust, The British Council and the CBA-DFID Broadcast Media Scheme, wherein filmmakers pitch their ideas for a 3 minute documentary to a panel of commissioning editors and producers for broadcast on British and Indian Television. Finally, 8 films will be selected to go into production in November 2006.

**'INDEPENDENCE IN THREE MINUTES'
PITCHING WORKSHOP AND FORUM (22-24 September)**

(By prior registration only)

The directors of the best 16 short-listed proposals under the Independence in Three Minutes Project will be invited to attend a Formal Proposal and Pitching Workshop and will pitch their films to a panel in a public forum on 24 September 2006.

Venue: Basement Theatre

Schedule*

(*Subject to change)

22 Sept: Pitching Workshop for short-listed applicants, taught by international trainers.

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