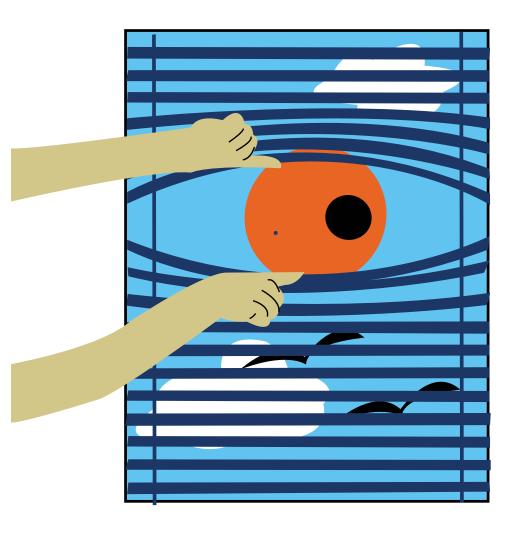
21 st

Kalpanirjhar International Short Fiction

International Short Fiction Film Festival Kolkata

13 to 16 December 2023









13 to 16 December 2023

13.12.2023

14.12.2023

15.12.2023 16.12.2023

4.30 pm Family / 30:00

BEHIND THE NIGHT / FREY / Switzerland / 2022 /

BLEH / The Netherlands /



Relations / Perspectives CAMOUFLAGE / The Netherlands / 2022 / 16:00 VIRAHA / India / 2021 /

France / 2022 / 23:00 19:00

2022 / 04:00

ENTANGLED / India / 2023 / 20:00

1.30 pm History / Aspirations / Anxieties

USA / 2022 / 14:00

YES, SIR / India / 2023 /

WITCHFAIRY / Belgium /

CHOMON, THE INCOHERENT / Spain / 2022

Luxembourg / 2022 / 16:00

A VISIT / South Korea / JUST BEFORE / France / 2023 / 15:00

4.30 pm Emotions /

Attachments HAPPY WOMEN'S DAY /

India / 2021 / 05:51 A BIT OF HAPPINESS /

India / 2022 / 14:33 MAASHI / India / 2022 /

29:49 SADABAHAR / India /

2022 / 12:55

A TIGER TALE. THEREFORE / India / 2023 / 24:00

IT SMELLS LIKE RAIN / India / 2023 / 10:00

CHORI WALI KAHANI / India / 2023 / 12:18

BROKEN WALL / India / 2023 / 18:00

Inauguration Ceremony

Festival inauguration by acclaimed filmmaker Atanu Ghosh, followed by screenings A WONDERFUL DREAM /

Canada / 2023 / 07:00 WHILE WE WERE HERE / Croatia/ 2022 / 15:00

HAWAWSHI / Egypt/USA / 2022 / 06:00

GRASS ON YOUR CLASS / France / 2023 / 24:00 FAR AWAY PORTRAIT OF A WOMAN / Iran / 2021 / 20:00

CHAMPARAN MUTTON / India / 2023 / 29:49



6.30 pm Film treats from the Goethe-Institut Kolkata

BALCONY CACOPHONY / The Netherlands / 2022 / 05:06

THE MAN WHO WAS **BASICALLY**

BAD AT EVERYTHING / Germany / 2022/ 04:03 INTRO / Germany / 2022 /

THE KIDNAPPING OF THE

PIG / The Netherlands / 2022 / 08:20

ABSOLUTION / Germany/France / 2007



7.00 pm Award ceremony followed by closing films



*Programme subject to change

D6.30 PM



6.30 pm Navarra Shortzinema meets Kalpanirjhar

A selection of recent films from Spain 24 SEVEN / Spain / 2023 /

29:00 ACTS IN PARTS / Spain /

2023 / 16:00 THE KISSES THAT I LOST / Spain / 2023 / 15:00 SIXTH FLOOR / Spain /

2023 / 15:00 BIRDIE / Spain / 2023 / 15:00

YOU CALLED ME SEPTEMBER / Spain / 2023 / 20:00

About Kalpanirjhar Foundation

Founded in 2001, the Foundation is committed to developing a democratic platform for the study and creative use of the entire range of the audiovisual media, particularly in their role in social critique, change and development. Aimed at practitioners and professionals, it is part of an informal network ready to share ideas and experiences and envisage and devise strategies and methods for positive changes in these fields and other related areas. The Foundation is engaged in initiating and continuing and maintaining dialogues between the makers and the consumers/viewers/listeners, sustaining an interactive field of creativity for a cause.

About Goethe-Institut / Max Mueller Bhavan Kolkata

The Goethe-Institut / Max Mueller Bhavan Kolkata is the cultural institute of the Federal Republic of Germany with a global reach. It promotes the study of German abroad and encourages international cultural exchange. The institute fosters knowledge about Germany by providing information on its cultural, social and political life.



Debalina Majumder Signature Film

Debalina Majumder is an award-winning independent filmmaker and cinematographer. Her film 'Joy Run' travelled to the 55th Berlin International Film Festival as part of the 'Shoot Goals! Shoot Movies!' short film competition of the Berlinale Talent Campus 2005. 'A Stranger in a Bioscope' was also a part of the same festival.

She has written, shot, and directed nationally and internationally acclaimed documentary films, short films and has been part of travelogues, music videos, telefilms and mixed genre as cameraperson, director. She is also a still photographer and passionate about issues of gender and sexuality, environment, people's movements, and occasionally writes for newspapers and magazines.

Debalina is one of the foremost documentary filmmakers working on gender and queer sexuality issues in India. Her film 'More than a Friend' is one of the two Indian films to find a mention in 'Queer Cinema in the World'. In addition, Debalina has worked as a cinematographer for national and international documentary and short films.

Film Editor: Farha Khatun

Music by: Santajit Chatterjee



Suvendu Chatterjee Jury

SUVENDU CHATTERJEE is a documentary filmmaker, photographer, photography curator and writer. His documentary film on the legendary photographer Shri Raghu Rai, 'Raghu Rai: Hearing through the Eyes' was shown at 22nd KIFF, 2016 and also selected in the competitive section at 10th International Documentary & Short Film Festival 2017, Kerala. He directed the film 'Making the Face' (2007), which won the Indian National Award in 2009. His other works include 'Across the River into the Forest', 'Debabrata' (1989), 'A Day from a Hangman's Life' (2005), 'Mahasweta Devi: Close Up' (MIFF Jury Award 2012).



Neelanjana Ghose

Jury

NEELANJANA GHOSE has been working with the kantha craft for over three decades. She started in the early 80s by assisting her mother – the pioneer of kantha revival – Sreelata Sarkar and has since dedicated her life to carrying forward this legacy. Neelanjana has weaved in her eclectic sensibilities in the traditional art form and has significantly contributed to making its appeal more global.

Neelanjana is also a well-known costume designer and has worked in over 20 feature films, including those of Goutam Ghose, Bedabrata Pyne, Suman Ghosh and Anjan Das. She has held several exhibitions of her kantha creations in Kolkata, Dhaka, Hyderabad, Bombay, Delhi, Rome and showcased her collection in Göteborg, Sweden with Wendell Rodricks and Rahul Mishra in 2010.



Indrani Chakrabarti Jury

Indrani Chakrabarti is a filmmaker based in Kolkata. She has been working as a writer and director for more than two decades.

Her pan-Indian documentary film 'Ladakh Chale Rickshawala' received the Best Adventure Film at the 65th National Film Awards in 2018. It has been screened at festivals in London, Melbourne, Bangalore, Delhi, Mumbai and Kolkata, to name a few.

Her Bengali feature film 'CHHAAD - The Terrace', produced by National Film Development Corporation (NFDC), has received the Special Jury Award at the 24th Kolkata International Film Festival 2022. It has been screened at festivals in Toronto, London, Dhaka, Stuttgart, Melbourne, Kolkata, and Bangalore.

13TH DECEMBER 2023

6.00 pm Festival inauguration by acclaimed filmmaker Atanu Ghosh followed by screenings

Title: A WONDERFUL DREAM

Details: Adolfo Aliaga // Canada // 2023 // No Dialogues // 07:00 min

Genre: Animation

Synopsis: A girl experiences an amazing and wonderful dream with a special close

relative.



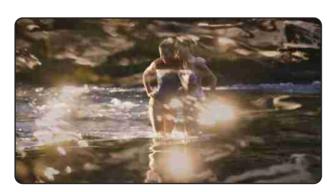
Title: WHILE WE WERE HERE

Details: Suncica Fradelic // Croatia // 2022 // Croation with English subtitles // 15:00 $\,$

min

Genre: Drama

Synopsis: Cinematic meditation on inevitable changes. Briefly depicted fragments from the characters' lives, through summer and winter, as each of them suffers a loss.



13TH DECEMBER 2023

6.00 pm Festival inauguration by acclaimed filmmaker Atanu Ghosh followed by screenings

Title: HAWAWSHI

Details: Waleed Bedour // Egypt, USA // 2022 // English // 06:00 min

Genre: Drama

Synopsis: When a woman tries to save a sexual harassment victim, the crowd at the restaurant don't back her up the way she expected.



Title: GRASS ON YOUR CLASS

Details: Claire Barrault // France // 2023 // French with English subtitles // 24:00 min

Genre: Comedy

Synopsis: At the Victor Hugo High School, French teacher Leïla Al Bachir has called a disciplinary hearing for one of her students: Simon Petit. In her quest to find a fair sanction for Simon, she realises her workplace is in serious trouble.



6.00 pm Festival inauguration by acclaimed filmmaker Atanu Ghosh followed by screenings

Title: FAR AWAY PORTRAIT OF A WOMAN

Details: Hosein Khami // Iran // 2021 // Farsi & Russian with English subtitles // 20:00

min

Genre: Drama

Synopsis: On the days when darkness covers the city, Sahand needs a photo to complete his photo collection. He is surrounded by his own mental images. In his fantasies, he meets his mistress at a point in Iranian history at the same time as the Russian occupation, but the cycle of historical and evil events prevents this meeting – until he wants to choose a hopeful and miraculous moment in the days of despair to take his last photo.



Title: CHAMPARAN MUTTON

Details: Ranjan Kumar // India // 2023 // Original with English subtitles // 24:00 min

Genre: Drama

Synopsis: This is a story of a family of rural Bihar. Since the end of the lockdown, Ramesh is barely managing to meet daily expenses for his family. Many hurdles are to be overcome before they would be able to enjoy mutton before the auspicious Kartik month begins because of which villagers would abstain from eating non-vegetarian food.



4.30 pm Family / Relations / Perspectives

Title: CAMOUFLAGE

Details: Bregt Pepijn Verhagen // The Netherlands // 2022 // Dutch with English

subtitles // 16:00 min

Genre: Drama

Synopsis: Fourteen-year-old Deniz lives in an unsafe home environment. This affects his relationship with his mother, his friends and his behaviour at school.



Title: VIRAHA

Details: Tanya Yadav // India // 2021 // Original with English subtitles // 30:00 min

Genre: Drama

Synopsis: The film explores the themes of separation and loneliness.



4.30 pm Family / Relations / Perspectives

Title: BEHIND THE NIGHT

Details: Jean Decré // France // 2022 // French with English subtitles // 23:00 min

Genre: Fantasy

Synopsis: Twenty-eight-year-old Julia is a photographer like no other. At night, deep in the forest, for those who ask her, she brings together for a portrait the members of the same family: the living and the spirits of the dead.



Title: FREY

Details: Christof Hofer // Switzerland // 2022 // Swiss German with English subtitles

// 19:00 min

Genre: Drama

Synopsis: 1873, Emmental. In a gloomy farmhouse parlor, two gendarmes encounter a corpse and a survivor. But the quest for family and vengeance has only just begun.



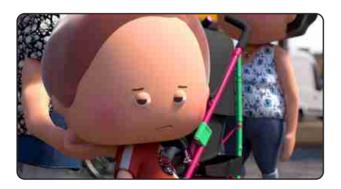
4.30 pm Family / Relations / Perspectives

Title: BLEH

Details: Tim Alards // The Netherlands // 2022 // No Dialogues // 04:00 min

Genre: Animation

Synopsis: While picking up his birthday cake, a 5-year-old notices zombies all around him. Zombies that are too busy with their phones and won't pay attention to their surroundings or traffic. Nobody seems immune to this virus. Could he be?



Title: ENTANGLED

Details: Sainath S. Uskaikar // India // 2023 // Original with English subtitles // 20:00 min

Genre: -

Synopsis: A successful artist counting his last breaths is entangled in his past life, full of music. In this conundrum, an unexpected solution rises to give the artist a safe passage to the next world.



6.30 pm Navarra Shortzinema meets Kalpanirjhar A selection of recent films from Spain

Title: 24 SEVEN

Details: Santiago Requejo // Spain // 2023 // Spanish with English subtitles // 29:00

min

Genre: Fiction

Synopsis: After several years working as a counselor in a high school, Maite, a vocational psychologist, receives an innovative employment offer: A job 24 seven.



Title: ACTS IN PARTS

Details: Sergio Milán // Spain // 2023 // Spanish with English subtitles // 16:00 min

Genre: Fiction

Synopsis: Marta's cancer makes a strong comeback. Tired of her luck, she decides to give up. That's when three stories, filled with the most unexpected humor, will come to help her rewrite her destiny.



6.30 pm Navarra Shortzinema meets Kalpanirjhar A selection of recent films from Spain

Title: THE KISSES THAT I LOST

Details: Marcos Chanca // Spain // 2023 // Spanish with English subtitles // 15:00 min

Genre: Fiction

Synopsis: Two strangers meet one night at a disco, confusing themselves with old loves from the past. Both will play with the idea of being someone they are not in order to heal the wounds of the past.



Title: SIXTH FLOOR

Details: Albert Carbó // Spain // 2023 // Spanish with English subtitles // 15:00

min

Genre: Fiction

Synopsis: Fina is the landlady of an apartment block in Barcelona. She has put one of her apartments up for rent and has arranged a visit with different potential tenants. Will everyone have the same opportunities?



6.30 pm Navarra Shortzinema meets Kalpanirjhar A selection of recent films from Spain

Title: BIRDIE

Details: Jesús Plaza // Spain // 2023 // Spanish with English subtitles // 15:00 min

Genre: Fiction

Synopsis: Birdie tells the story of Kate, an international dubbing actress who, after a voice-over job, connects with a desire that has been on her mind for too long. A tender story of connection between two people through voice and the importance of sharing important moments in life with our loved ones.



Title: YOU CALLED ME SEPTEMBER

Details: Fernando Bonelli // Spain // 2023 // Spanish with English subtitles // 20:00 min

Genre: Fiction

Synopsis: Julian is king of his little piece of park. Today, perhaps, he is a little less so: a girlfriend seems to have invaded his bench. Life, they say, is the sum of our decisions. Those of the past mark your present; those of today will decide your future.



Title: IF THERE IS NO STRUGGLE

Details: Jared Katsiane // USA // 2022 // English & Spanish with English subtitles //

14:00 min

Genre: Shorts

 $Synopsis: A young photographer celebrates \ historical \ figures \ via \ Boston's \ public$

art.



Title: YES, SIR

Details: Mudit Singhal // India // 2023 // Original with English subtitles // 20:24 min

Genre: Comedy

Synopsis: Ramnarayan Tiwari, a Brahmin, is a peon in a public sector undertaking where recently a Dalit has risen to become a big officer. Tiwari resents this. The officer's bathroom's drain has choked. This role-reversal story is about how this hierarchical order and Tiwari's caste prejudice towards the officer counterbalance each other to solve the problem of the choked drain.



Title: BICHOS

Details: Ares Sirvent // Spain // 2023 // Spanish with English subtitles // 06:00 min

Genre: Drama

Synopsis: Tano, an old man with Alzheimer's disease, begins to see bugs glowing on the wall that apparently are not there. this causes a confrontation with his son, Sebastián, who refuses to accept that his father is no longer well. Together with the youngest member of the family, they will have to make an exercise in empathy in order to accept the departure of a loved one, something that is not easy for them.



Title: WITCHFAIRY

Details: Cédric Igodt, David Van de Weyer // Belgium // 2022 // No Dialogues // 15:00

mir

Genre: Animation

Synopsis: Rosemary is a young fairy who thinks the life of fairies is really boring. She therefore wants to become a witch. Since her mother strongly opposes Rosemary's wish, Rosemary decides to pack her bags and leave for the witch forest.

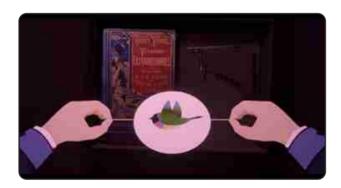


Title: CHOMON, THE INCOHERENT

Details: Cristina Gálvez, Javier Alvero // Spain // 2022 // No Dialogues // 08:00 min

Genre: Animation

Synopsis: A short film starring the pioneers of animation and cinema in the Paris of La Belle Époque. The sources of inspiration of Segundo de Chomón from Teruel and his contributions on the 150th anniversary of his birth.



Title: THE LAST PAPER

Details: Romain Gierenz // Luxembourg // 2022 // Luxembourgian with English subtitles // 16:00 min

Genre: Animation

Synopsis: While the couple Zoé and Ben are staying in a hotel in Paris, their sleep is disturbed by a rustling noise from the next room. At first they think it's a mouse that's up to mischief in a paper bag. But they quickly notice that the paper bag itself is making noises and seems to be breathing. Ben tries to be logical about it, but Zoé's emotions suggest that the bag found its way into her life for a very different reason.



Title: COLLECTING

Details: Marcos Gualda // Spain // 2022 // Spanish with English subtitles // 14:00 min

Genre: Comedy

Synopsis: Marita Carbone is an old aristocrat lady in decay. In order to mitigate her loneliness, she collects absurd things. One day, two Mormons disturb the peace of her home. "Collecting" is a black comedy that delves into consumerist compulsion, religious sentiment and the inability to love.



Title: A VISIT

Details: Hyo-Sik Kim // South Korea // 2022 // Korean with English subtitles // 08:00 min

Genre: Experimental

Synopsis: She works as a visiting nurse. She performs her duties with uncomfortable first meetings with customers and under anxious eyes. The situation is gradually tightening her thoughts and anxiety turns into fear.



Title: JUST BEFORE

 $Details: Sylvain\ Bressollette\ //\ France\ //\ 2023\ //\ French\ with\ English\ subtitles\ //\ 15:00$

min

Genre: Fiction

Synopsis: Time stands still just before a terrible car accident. The two motorists get out and see, frightened, the drama that will take place in a fraction of a second. A surreal negotiation follows between a stressed family man and a glib misfit.



Title: Balcony Cacophony

Details: Quentin Haberham // The Netherlands // 2022 // No Dialogue // 05:06 min

Genre: Animation

Synopsis: When a rich lady is forced to swap her mansion for a small apartment with a balcony, she has trouble getting used to her new neighbour and his strange hobbies. His loud music is the catalyst for an escalating quarrel, which takes on ever absurd forms in this jumpy animation. This ranges from simple noise pollution to incense terror and flying gin and tonic glasses. Will the two settle their dispute, or will things get relentlessly out of hand?



Title: The Man Who Was Basically Bad At Everything

Details: Erik Schmitt // Germany // 2022 // German with English subtitles // 04:03

min

Genre: Satire

Synopsis: This is the tragic story of a man who was basically very, very bad at everything. Until one day he meets this special person and his upside down world is turned upside down.



Title: Intro

Details: Anne Isensee // Germany // 2022 // German with English subtitles // 07:08

min

Genre: Experimental

Synopsis: An animated audio film about the audio descriptor Simone, who can't make sense of this very film in front of her, until the film starts making sense of her.



Title: The Kidnapping of the Bride

Details: Sophia Mocorrea // Germany // 2022 // German, Spanish, English with English subtitles // 30:12 min

Synopsis: Fred and Luisa have a unique relationship in which they've created their own world. At their wedding they are increasingly confronted with their social roles. As their families from Argentina and Germany are brought together, intercultural prejudices arise. A tradition of kidnapping the bride shakes the equality of the couple. Can love grow in this claustrophobic role play of marriage?



Title: Madden

Details: Malin Ingrid Johansson // Sweden // 2023 // Swedish with English Subtitles

// 12:23 min

Genre: Drama // Coming-of-age

Synopsis: Yearning for a teenage life away from the farm, the cows, broken fences and babysitting her little sister, Madden makes her way to the next town in a bright Swedish summer night.



Title: Penthouse

Details: Line Klungseth Johansen, Vegard Dahle // Norway // 2022 // Norwegian

with English subtitles // 18:53 min

Genre: Drama

Synopsis: The world is uninhabitable and flooded, and everyone has fled. Except for John and his concerned boyfriend Benjamin. As the water continues to rise, John begins to suspect that Benjamin intends to leave him. However, instead of confronting the problem, John distracts himself with tending to his vegetable garden.



Title: The Art of Authenticity

Details: Carlo Oppermann // Germany // 2021 // German with English Subtitles //

06:13 min

Genre: Comedy

Synopsis: Berlin is quite often pretty dirty. But what if there is one person who takes care of that every day? We tell the story of a one-man underground department that (by its own claim) makes Berlin the coolest big city in Germany. The Authority for Urban Authenticity.



Title: Ties

Details: Dina Velikovskaya // Germany, Russia // 2019 // No Dialogue // 07:39 min

Genre: Tragicomedy

Synopsis: There is a strong connection between parents and their child. A young woman leaves the parental

home to see the world. But the world of her parents is so tightly connected with her that by leaving, she

puts it at risk. It turns out that this connection can be also destructive.

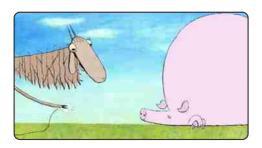


Title: Pig

Details: Jorn Leeuwerink // The Netherlands // 2022 // No Dialogue // 08:20 min

Genre: Tragicomedy

Synopsis: How long will an entire village be able to draw energy from just one source? The animal inhabitants have to realize that the pig's nose might not be the best way to get electricity after all.



Title: Absolution

Details: Markus Sehr // Germany, France // 2007 // German with English Subtitles

// 15:02 min

Genre: Drama

Synopsis: Thomas calls a Christian helpline and confesses to the woman, Susanne, that he has killed his wife, who was suffering from cancer. Their arguments lead to accusations. Yet Susanne does not suspect the true intensions behind Thomas' call.



Title: HAPPY WOMEN'S DAY

Details: Rohit Chavan // India // 2021 // Original with English subtitles // 05:51 min

Genre: Shorts

Synopsis: It is not enough to wish a 'Happy Women's Day' to celebrate Women's Day. The following short film attempts to convey that message in another way.



Title: A BIT OF HAPPINESS

Details: Ashish Madurwar // India // 2022 // Original with English subtitles // 14:33 min

Genre: Drama

Synopsis: A disabled man and a trans-person are living together as a couple, both facing their own unique difficulties. The film shows how a rough day can turn into "a bit of happiness" when people come together, expressing love and concern through their actions. This newfound happiness gives them strength to face life's challenges with positive outlook.



Title: MAASHI

Details: Vrushab Maitri // India // 2022 // Original with English subtitles // 29:49 min

Genre: Drama

Synopsis: A coming of age story of 10-year-old Chikoo, who witnesses the death of his beloved Maashi. A tale of love, loss, and belonging, 'Maashi' is about growing up and how grief changes us from within.



Title: SADABAHAR

Details: Suyash Kamat // India // 2022 // Original with English subtitles // 12:55 min

Genre: Drama

Synopsis: One night, when they find themselves falsely accused of robbery, band members of Sadabahar, a wedding brass quartet from UP working in Goa, have to decide between pursuing a livelihood as 'outsiders' in Goa and returning to the lives they left behind in their villages.



Title: A TIGER TALE. THEREFORE

 $Details: Abhradeep\ Ganguli\ //\ India\ //\ 2023\ //\ Original\ with\ English\ subtitles\ //\ 24:00$

min

Genre: Shorts

Synopsis: Naveen, a young Marathi migrant worker, searches for a job in the city of Pune to make both ends meet on his own. He finds an obscure job of performing as a tiger in front of certain elites of the society in an agency named 'New India Agency'; where the authority violates both his mind and physique in order to transform him into the aforesaid animal.



Title: IT SMELLS LIKE RAIN

Details: Annika Jäger // India // 2023 // English // 10:00 min

Genre: Experimental

Synopsis: A man is talking about the hydrologic cycle holding a cup of chai - the symbol of a break, coping with stress, enjoying life, sharing time with one another or simply nourishing one's body in India, waiting for rain. A water droplet is travelling through a woman's body. A relationship with this ever-existing cycle.



Title: CHORI WALI KAHANI

Details: Neelabh Gupta // India // 2023 // Original with English subtitles // 12:18 min

Genre: Shorts

Synopsis: This film tells the tale of two thieves who decide to steal from an old helpless lady. But the tables turn when she catches both the novice thieves. This film comically tries to explore the theme of loneliness.



Title: BROKEN WALL

Details: Mrinmoy Sarkar // India // 2023 // Original with English subtitles // 18:00 min

Genre: Drama

Synopsis: An old retired man, living in an almost deserted housing in Kolkata, feels lonely and suffers from an existential crisis. He seeks meaningful relationships with people around him and finds a connection with a child from the neighbourhood.





Chairman Gautam Ghose

Managing Trustee & Secretary

S V Raman

Trustees

Sandip Ray R N Banerjee Neelanjana Ghose Samik Bandyopadhyay

Kalpanirjhar Foundation

Block-V, Flat 50, 28/1A Gariahat Road, Kolkata 700029 Contact: 98301 39846; 98743 39898; 9903152919 E-mail: kalpanirjhar@gmail.com www.kalpanirjhar.com



Astrid Wege Director Goethe-Institut / Max Mueller Bhavan Kolkata

Sharmistha Sarker
Senior Manager Culture
Goethe-Institut / Max Mueller Bhavan Kolkata

Udatta Mohan Bhattacharya Coordinator, Film Archive Goethe-Institut / Max Mueller Bhavan Kolkata

> Assistance Sophie Dieckmann Soumya Deb Das

Technicals
Sajal K. Ghosh
Anshuman Saha

Organised by



and



Venue

Goethe-Institut / Max Mueller Bhavan Kolkata, 57A Park Street , Park Mansions, Gate Number 4, Kolkata 700016