

Theatre Film Theatre Festival of Shorts

DIRECTOR'S NOTES, SYNOPSIS AND CAST & CREDITS

The Company Theatre

AAB-E-ZAMZAM directed by Mohit Agarwal



Language - Hindi & English

Duration - 13.04 minutes

Director's Note

The film that I'm about to present in this Festival holds a special place in my heart for various reasons. One of them being that this is like my tribute to the sublime black and white era where everything was so simple yet the essence of cinema today, is something that was established then, all those years ago without the taam jham of glorious colours or effects. Retro has always been my love, and dance my study. I've learnt Street Style and Bollywood both of which I've tried to mix creating a perfect experimental blend of retro moves with a punch of Charlie Chaplin. Adding to it is the chase and pace of Tom & Jerry which gives the film the desired beat. In order to choose the right play that is apt for this style and devising, I thought of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" by Shakespeare. I believe the play has all the masala of a blockbuster Bollywood film ranging from being dramatic to being poetic with a tinge of chaos and magic and most importantly, lots and lots of fun!

Synopsis

Love. A simple four lettered word. Desired by all but only a few are lucky enough to live it. Because as Shakespeare has rightly said "The course of true love never did run smooth" But what if it did run smooth? What if someone gave you what your heart truly desired? - a love potion to instantly make a person fall in love with you! It was sometime around 1596 when Shakespeare wrote this comical fantasy play 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. The plot was full of anxiety, confusion and chaos, all because of a love potion which was supposed to uncomplicate feelings. Welcome to 2020 where we humbly try to adapt the same whimsical story into a musical episode where it's 'love' which drives the characters, emotions, actions and also the situations, but with a little help from fantasy characters and of course, the love potion. "Aab-e-zamzam" is a story of 4 people- Juni, Kuku, Nikki and Rocky and 2 magical beings- Oberon and Puck. It is a story of love, laughter and some serious chaos created by a simple love potion. Get ready to be caught up in this bewitching musical tale where 4 lovers, intoxicated in love, deal with each other bound by a magical spell reminding us of the famous quote "Love looks not with the eyes, but with the mind, And therefore is winged Cupid painted blind".

Cast & Credits

Cast - Rohan Joshi, Tenzin Dalha, Niharika Lyra Dutt, Avalokita Dutt, Rajat Kaul, Mrinal Dutt

Director - Mohit Agarwal

Screenplay - Akshay Anand Kohli
Produced - The Indian Gentlemen
Original Score - Rajarshi Sanyal
Choreography - Mohit Agarwal, Raj Sejpal
Editor - Manuj Kathuria
D.O.P - Mohit Agarwal
Lyrics - Akshay Anand Kohli
Song composition - Rajarshi Sanya, Mohit Agarwal, IP Singh
Additional Screenplay - Avalokita Dutt
Additional lyrics - IP Singh
Additional Mixing - Sidhant Mathur
Additional illustration - Priyanshi Vasani
Subtitles - Arohi Thatte, Akshay Anand Kohli 'Subtext'
Singers - Jahnvi Shreemankar, Avantika Ganguly, IP Singh, Omkar Patil, Mohit Agarwal
Art and Location - Rajat Kaul
Costume - Sheetal R
Poster - Sneha Joshi
BTS - Akshay Anand Kohli
Creative Assistance - Rudraksh Thakur
Catering - Mumma's Cuisine
Special thanks - Theatre film theatre festival, The Company theatre, Sukant Goel, Rajit Kapur, Rohit Tiwary, Bhushan Vikas, Saurabh Nayyar, Raghav Dutt, Jayesh Malani, Aarti Kohli, Sapan Saran, Ridhi Kohli, Neha Singh, Manya Grover, Nikhil Singh, Nikhita Singh, Manasi Pareek, Atul Kumar, Anupam Barve, Mallika Singh

WOMEN OF ROME directed by Sanya Sagar



Language - English

Duration - 5.50 minutes

Director's Note

The world of Julius Caesar is no different from the world we live in today. The great democracy of all times is very much run by men. The political leaders who work towards running their reign more than running their states. The senates and their conspiracies were to protect Rome but more to protect themselves from one another. Very much the way the world works, even today. Women were not a part of the senate but were aware of what the senates conspired. The servants, plebeians, augers and soothsayer, they whispered and the wind would bring it from the capitol to the wives, sisters or whores. Women were very much an object of desire or sometimes even used as an offering in exchange or power prosperity and the riches. Often brushed off, a woman's opinion didn't matter, they were said to be weak and feeble. This film is an adaptation of only the female excerpts from the play. Two women, very different in their approach to convince the husbands for their best interest. Neither of them could be heard enough and saved their husband's lives. Had Brutus and Caesar apprehended what their wife

had to say, maybe Caesar would be alive and Rome would not have seen the unfortunate days it saw after his murder.

Synopsis

Not all women of Rome followed the stereotype of being as womanly as most men expected them to be. Portia Brutus's wife and Cato's daughter, the strong, intelligent and loved wife of Brutus. She was fierce and often spoke her mind, and if need be, she wouldn't flinch in raising her voice to Brutus. However, even she couldn't stop Brutus from killing Caesar. Calphurnia on the other hand, the loyal wife of Caesar, she overlooked his infidelity all her life and still, only wished for her husband's good health, she had a dream about Caesar's ill fortune and tried to keep him home but Caesar was drowned in the pride of his dictatorship and couldn't bear to stay home over a foolish dream Calphurnia had. That said, the event took place, Calphurnia's dream turned out to be true, even her "begging upon the knees" couldn't keep Caesar home. Caesar went to the Senate house after all, and the Senates executed the plan and killed Caesar.

Cast & Credits

Written by William Shakespeare

Directed by Sanya Sagar

Performed by Sanya Sagar

VO CAESAR - Atul Kumar

VO BRUTUS - Akshat Mishra

Sound mix - Yash Thakkar

Additional Footage Provided by Videvo.net ; Videezy.com ; www.pexels.com

Artwork – The Fates Lacey Bryant

Artwork Public Domain – Brutus and Portia H. C. Selous ; Le_Suicide_de_porcia Pierre Mignard
Porcia Wounding Her Thigh Elisabetta Sirani ; Portia and Brutus Ercole de'Roberti ; The Death of Cato of Utica Charles Le Brun ; The Death of Julius Caesar Vincenzo Camuccini ; The Death of Julius Caesar Jean-Leon Gerome ; Judith with the Head of Holofernes Elisabetta Sirani ; The ideas of March Edward John Poynter. Cicero Denounces Catiline Cesare Maccari Fulvia With the Head of Cicero Pavel Svedomsky ; The Tusculum Portrait. Museum of Antiquities ; Marcus Junius Brutus National Museum of Rome ; Lupercalia God

Music by Beethoven - Symphony No. 3 in E flat major (Op. 55) Eroica Berliner Philharmoniker
Tchaikovsky - 1812 Overture (Full with Cannons)

SHAKKAR KE PAANCH DAANE directed by Chinmaya Sharma



Language – Hindi

Duration – 4.50 minutes

Director's Note

"It is often safer to be in chains than to be free." - Franz Kafka.

This film is an adaptation of Manav Kaul's play ' Shakkar ke 5 daane' . I drew inspiration to make this film when I read a line from the play which said " kayi bar lagta hai mai cheenti ho gaya hun. Yeh ek ajeeb ehsaas hai....." I wanted to explore the other side.... wondering if an ant can feel like a human being and if yes, what all elements can make him human..... what if the ant, instead of following his army , decides to go on his own journey and strives to attain an identity of his own.

It is an experimental animation film which follows symbolism as a way to express the thoughts which fall back on the grounds of existentialism; absurdity; life and death; being and nothingness, as also the quest for meaning

Synopsis

The film is an adaptation of the play “ Shakkar ke Panch Daane” by Manav kaul. It is a story about an ant, who lives an otherwise simple and mundane life but decides to make his unremarkable life worth reminiscing. He believes that his life is all about monotony and a process which he is unable to defy or break. It is his crusade against that, to make his life remarkably visible and worthy. He starts in a journey with a distinct goal and direction to find his worth but in the process he attains self realisation and finally, because of the circumstances, falls back into the mould.

Cast & Credits

Playwright - Manav Kaul
Writer & Director - Chinmaya Sharma
Animator & Editor - Deepti Ronghe
Voice and Sound - Paritosh Pande
Special Thanks – Yash Thakur

कूटद्वार (TRAP DOOR) directed by Nikhil Chaudhary



Language – Hindi, English & Sanskrit
Duration – 12.54 minutes

Director's Note

Where do we go after death? And how does time play its part? These questions have been a dilemma in the mind of many scholars indulged in both scientific and spiritual activity. The idea for the film was to use Hamlet dilemma, Ashwathama time trap and 'Vitruvian Man' consciousness around singularity to express the similarities between the concept of afterlife and relativity of time through a Mathematics scholar. The character of Ashwathama is an epitome of a time cycle that has no ending and beginning thereby sums up the real meaning of कूटद्वार (Trap Door).

I spent about a week developing the script, then started working with a storyboard to develop visual images as a blueprint to work from. We decided to shoot everything through DSLR but few shots will stick to smartphones in absence of a real shooting camera. Satyam Gangwar was the main lead, playing the character of a Mathematics scholar. Building with him remotely around shoot was an interesting task. There were 2 other actors involved, playing out the character of Hamlet and Ashwathama and I feel a great deal of gratitude to them for hanging out to film shooting despite tough situations around Covid-19. Everyone was fantastic and did an impeccable job. I would like to thank 'The Company Theatre' for bringing such a beautiful concept integrating 'Theatre and Cinema'.

In terms of timeline, shooting remotely and multiple uncertain lockdowns did pose a real challenge to complete the film within the given time frame. We completed the film in less than a month and ready to release by the end of August'20.

Synopsis

कूटद्वार (Trap Door) is a story inspired by the iconic characters of Hamlet and Ashwathama. The plot revolves around a mathematics scholar who's in search of the 'Afterlife' concept through consciousness, later to find himself trapped in the relativity of time.

Cast & Credits

Cast - Satyam Gangwar, Vaibhav Gupta, Namit Mishra, Pranjalya Singh

Editor & Sound Design - Haresh Chaudhary

Director of Photography - Amit Prasad, Saurabh Mishra

Music - Nikhil Chaudhary

Set & Props Design - Jaishri Bahori

Screenplay - Nikhil Chaudhary, Namit Mishra

Translation - Vaibhav Gupta, Saurabh Mishra

Director - Nikhil Chaudhary

Produced by Alchemy Theatre Society

CHITRANGADA 2020 directed by Neha Singh



Language - Hindi

Duration - 11.47 minutes

Director's Note

Chitragada 2020 is an attempt to understand what theatre and film as two separate but largely interconnected mediums can co-create, when let loose. The film tries to experiment not just with the original script that was written by Rabindranath Tagore, but also experiments with forms, cinematic language and performance. As a lockdown film, there is no reservation to show the limited production design and resources used in the film, which may actually add to the joy of knowing the world as we see it now, a new world, a new normal, where the behind-the-scenes become as important, if not more, than what the product is.

Synopsis

Chitrangada, the character from Mahabharat was first written about in the 4th century B.C. by Vyasa, then written about in a play called “Chitrangada” by the maestro Rabindranath Tagore in 1896 and I am making a theatre-film on it in 2020. But the beauty standards a woman must follow haven’t changed one bit in all these centuries. What was it that forced Chitrangada to transform from a warrior princess to a mute doll then? And what would Chitrangada be like in 2020? Any different or just the same?

Cast & Credits

Screenwriter and Director – Neha Singh
Cinematographer – Kumar Saurabh
Art Director, Editor & Colour Correction - Prashant Dubey
VFX - Akash
Sound Design & Mixing - Vanshshikha Sharma
Music – Aditya Ashwath
Song in the film “Qissa yeh ussi ka hai” – written & composed by Faiz Khan, originally used in Rasika Agashe’s play “Museum of Species in Danger”
Assistant Directors – Atul Ahalawat, Nilansh Trikha, Anushree Kushwaha
Still Photographer – Sukant Goel
Poster Design and Graphics – Meenal Singh & Erik Egerup
Producer – Rahi Film and Theatre
Performers- Moumita Roy, Dhruv Lohumi, Gagan Dev Riar, Neha Singh
Special Thanks – Heena Vasnani D Sooja, Humara Movies

THE UNBEARABLE GAZE directed by Priyanshi Vasani



Language – English

Duration – 11.30 minutes

Director’s Note

Shakuntala was a translucent part of my childhood. She had a role in all the bedtime stories told by my grandmother. As a child, I remembered her until I forgot about her. And as these stories ended, I thought the essence of Shakuntala would diminish and fade away with time. Instead she seemed to have always stayed with me.

I thought about her from time to time. I found that the more I grew up, the more she remained the same. Not of heaven, nor of earth. Not completely human or nymph and not of the forest, nor of the city. And this very question of belonging became my questions too. I realised the dualities that exist in her as a woman, exist in me too. If I may even be bold enough to say, that Shakuntala lives and exists in every woman.

One such woman is Sukoon, the protagonist in my film, who is constantly being watched and told what to do. Her need to be an explorer and her constant curiosity for belonging and freedom is what keeps propelling her life forward. On this path, she meets Shakuntala in the form of a cheeky but empowered bird. Together they explore these complex dualities of a woman's life in a man's world.

Unlike Kalidasa's Recognition of Shakuntala, this film tries to introduce a female gaze. Despite the title of the play, it never felt like the story being told was truly hers. There was a very strong societal lens - that male gaze - shadowing Shakuntala's inner world. This is where my inspiration was ignited. This film tries to create a safe space for her inner world to exist. Hopefully, with this film, Shakuntala is no longer a translucent part of me but rather someone that is seen for who she is - free.

Synopsis

Burdened by the fragmented domestic life, Sukoon Salot, a quiet yet responsible wife, often takes solace in daydreaming and recedes into her dream world. But today was no ordinary day, as she quickly begins to realise something or someone is following her while she goes about her daily chores. As an escape, she recedes into her dream world and meets a cheeky yet wise bird named Shakuntala. Together, will they figure out how to be free from being watched and followed?

Cast & Credits

Cast – Mia Maelzar as Sukoon & Shakuntala, Dushyant's Voice Over – Rahil Bhardwaj

Written, Directed & Edited by Priyanshi Vasani

Director of Photography & Colourist – Saket Gyani

Sound Designer – Nikhil Nagraj

Tabla Composition – Mohit Agarwal

Musician – Nayesh Pimpale

Illustrations & Poster Design – Apoorva Iyengar

Animation Graphics – Piyali Barua

Audio Support – The Gonzo Studio, Mumbai

Jaipur Team

Camera Operator – Deepanshu Kumawat

Production – Sankalp Sharma

Production Assistant – Ripon Dutta

Art Direction & Costume – Mia Maelzar

Spot Boy – Badal Sharma

Choreographic Assistance – Sankalp Sharma

Location Courtesy – The Tribe, Jaipur

Prop Courtesy – Maurya's Art, Jaipur

Camera Support – Ayush Vijay

Special Thanks – Bijoyini Sathpathy, Urmimala Sarkar, Sumedha Bhattacharya, Fade Singh, Atul

Kumar, Vara Raturi, Mallika Singh, Anupam Barve, Baani Singh, Shachi Dalal, Swarup Deb,

Ankush Nagpal (Awaaz Studio, Jaipur), Dhaneesh Jameson, Krishna Sharma

THE NATION I.E PEOPLE PRECEDE CITIZEN directed by Avinash Sapkal

Language - Marathi



Duration - 18.30 minutes

Director's Note

In the times of mandatory spatial isolation and social segregation, one is still made to believe that all of us share the same time, the time of the virus. Yet, on the one hand, we see some citizens stuck in their respective spaces as workers from home on the other hand, there are people left with no choice but to move from place to place to make a living. While the workers from home are connected mostly through the back-lit virtual reality, people in transit are more likely to encounter the light of the real situations. Dealing with the virtual attachment of citizens and the real inexistent connect of the people, this film tries to conjure up a real scenario, which seems impossible in reality.

Synopsis

Who decides who belongs to 'the Nation' and who does not? the Law or the People? In other words, who 'constitutes' the Law, the People or the Citizens? In this film, through the interplay of virtual and real, theatre and everyday, the film foregrounds the question of 'existence' as irresistible and sudden intrusion of 'real people' (one can variously name them as Dalit, proletariat, Muslim or migrant labourers) into the secure lives of 'citizens'. On the one hand, majoritarian politics simply deny or negate the 'existence' of these 'real people', making them 'inexistent'; while on the other hand, corporate media reduces them to a mere 'image', a spectacle. Compared to this 'spectacle' of the 'inexistent' people, well-meaning and conscientious 'citizens' find their 'virtual interface' more real, especially during the enforced lockdown and mandatory 'social distancing'. Yet what 'is' Real and what we call Reality might not be the same. In fact, the film wagers that 'real' is that which intrudes and unsettles 'reality', while resisting representation.

Cast & Credits

Cast - Madhura Jagude, Tushar Tengale

Delivery Boy - Tushar Tengale

Writer - Anuj Deshpande

Screenplay - Vaibhav Abnave

Director - Avinash Sapkal

Co-director - Saket Kanetkar

Editor - Ajinkya Kulkarni

Sound and Music - Saket Kanetkar

DOP - Niteesh Jangid

Assistant Camera Man - Avinash Sapkal

Costume - Devika Kale

Make up - Nichayatal Ingole

Poster Design - Sharvari Deshpande

AARZI directed by Rohan Phatak



Language - Marathi & Hindi

Duration - 12.01 minutes

Director's Note

The story that I attempt to bring forward is a poignant tale of four humans. On one hand, we have a couple who have some unsaid tension brewing between them as they face the grief of having lost a loved one and on the other, a playful duo of a young child and a fairly young woman who are simply going about their day without a care in the world. I want to create an air of mystery by posing the question of who these people actually are and what is it that they have gone through. Till the end there is not an iota of an indication as to who these four people are and whether or not they share any relationship with each other. I aim to present a slow burning narrative that will generate interest and curiosity in the audience's minds dropping hints about the reality here and there throughout.

Synopsis

A husband and wife are on their way back home after attending a funeral of a close one. Meanwhile, a young girl and a kid enjoy go about their daily routine with not a care in the world.

Cast & Credits

Director - Rohan Phatak

Producers - Varun Kodamana, Rohan Phatak

Associate Producer - Aishwarya Krishnan

Writers - Varun Kodamana, Rohan Phatak

Assistant Director - Hrishikesh Khadakkar

Cinematographer, Editor & VFX- Varun Kodamana

Assistant Cinematographer - Hrishikesh Khadakkar

Sound Design - Tamarapalli Vanshshikha Sharma, Varun Kodamana

Music - UJ

Poster - Aishwarya Krishnan

Cast - Palvi Jaswal, Isha Rahul Chivarikar, Sagar Kanole, Ankita Nikrad

ZAR directed by Zoya Khan



Language - English

Duration - 14.10 minutes

Director's Note

While the world fights a pandemic, our protagonist battles delusions or entities...she's not sure. The one thing she's sure of is that she ain't getting any sleep. Earphones, darkness and silence recommended.

Synopsis

This is a story of a woman haunted by insomnia, a Djinn and her hallucinatory mind that's weaning off medication during the Covid-19 lockdown.

Cast & Credits

Directed by - Sameer Ghauri & Zoya Khan

Screenplay - Sameer Ghauri & Zoya Khan

Cast - Zoya Khan, Sameer Ghauri

Cinematography - Sameer Ghauri

Editor - Zoya Khan

BRAIN SURGEON...? directed by Jayesh Jain



Language - Marathi & English

Duration - 18.58 minutes

Director's Note

As a director one thing that always attracts me about a story or a script are the situations in the script, the characters and most importantly - the honesty with which the script is written. How honest the story and its characters are? Pradeep Vaiddya's 'Brain Surgeon!' is a play script which had all these aspects which made me feel excited to work on this story and make a short

film about it. I always feel that a story or a film, regardless of any genre should never tell a person the absolute of the story or the characters, let alone impose it on the audience. It should always provoke thoughts in the minds of the audience. Working on this script was a roller coaster of a ride, filled with joy as the script caters to everything I believe, and creates a sense of ambiguity amongst us. At the end of it, the film literally initiates a chain of thoughts in your mind and keeps you on the edge throughout - which indeed is the purpose of the film. There are a few films which do not have one particular protagonist; it is for the audience to decide as to who actually is the Brain Surgeon...?

Synopsis

A young boy in his 20's who works as a clerk in a hospital, meets a girl in a library during his lunch time. What follows are some strange turn of events which reveal the internal conflicts, desires and complexes of the boy in an unusual way.

Cast & Credits

Cast - Gandhar Salvekar, Mukta Soman, Shailesh Kulkarni
Director- Jayesh Jain
Original Text- Pradeep Vaiddya
Screenplay -Gandhar Salvekar, Jayesh Jain
Director Of Photography- Tejas Sawant
Editor- Electric Langoor (Angad Kulkarni)
Creative Producer - Gandhar Salvekar
Exec. Producer - Gandhar Salvekar
Production Design and Management - Electric Langoor
Background Score - Aditya Pancholi
Sound Recording and Design - Renuka Joshi
Assistant Director - Tejas Soman
Camera Assistants - Chinmay Hande, Shreyas Mhaske
Floor Runner - Nachiket Kulkarni
Costume Design - Gandhar Salvekar, Jayesh Jain
Art Director - Electric Langoor
Colourist - Niteesh Jangid
Subtitles - Rupali Bhave
VFX - Lang Gang Effect
Extras - Nachiket Kulkarni, Pramod Jain, Prasad Salvekar, Angad Kulkarni, Milind Gokhale, Manasi Gade
Make-Up - Rujuta Salvekar
Catering by - Rujuta Salvekar, Uma Kulkarni
Special Thanks - Anupam Barve, Atul Kumar & TCT team, Kishor Shinde.

BLUD directed by NAMRATA BHATTACHARJEE



Language - English

Duration - 9 minutes

Director's Note

Based on a story of two sisters written 400 years ago, 'Blud' is an attempt to retell the tale if it took place in the 21st century where women are rewarded for being ambitious and must, by default, stand up for themselves. The film aims to highlight the nuances of a relationship between two sisters who live the same life but with two starkly different outlooks on it. This is about their subjective experience of the same objective situation. We cannot negate either of their stories. It is impossible to know, for sure, who is right and who is wrong. Pragya is deeply mentally affected by her relationship with her mother while Anugya is not. Anugya is deeply affected by her unrequited love at the hands of Farah while Pragya claims to be incapable of love. While their experiences are different, both are struggling with the idea of being unlovable. And perhaps, unable to love - something all of us struggle with at some point in our lives. This was not an easy film to make while quarantined. No film is easy to make when filming separately, but it was important for me to tell this story. This film serves as just a glimpse into the mindset of a person who has had to undergo the struggle of a muted turbulent relationship with a parent. Every single one of our lives is an intertwined web of subjective experiences. None of us get to be the judge of the value of these ordeals. 'Blud' is simply the twisted and confused presentation of one such relationship.

Synopsis

The events of the film unfold after a fight we do not witness between the mother and Pragya.

Pragya is "tyrannically proud" and does not back down in a fight. A trait she has developed with difficulty over the years. It is irrelevant whether she is right or wrong. A stand she has been forced to take after being told she is wrong for everything all her life by her own mother. Anugya is humble and sweet. She does not ask for anything and believes she doesn't deserve anything either. A belief both sisters share, but unlike Pragya, Anugya's belief does not come from years of manipulation by her mother. Instead, it comes from a place of gratitude for everything she already has. Both sisters have very different relationships with their mother, even though they were raised under the same roof. 'Blud' is the story of two sisters who look at the same situation with opposing lenses because of their contradictory personalities. The girls share more similar traits than one would think but have terminally opposite ways of acting them out. There is constant conflict that arises with Pragya and is countered with Anugya's perpetual desire to resolve said conflict. It is the aftermath of one fight.

It is the length of one conversation. But it is also a life-altering conversation. After all, it only takes one word, one sentence to shatter someone's world as they know it.

Cast & Credits

Writer, Director and Editor - Namrata Bhattacharjee

Cinematography - Anushree Khushwaha, Para Raturi, Pragya Mishra

Cast - Madhussneha Upadhyay as Pragya, Vara Raturi as Anugya, Pragati Mishra as Farah with Vanya Joshi as Mother

Film Composer - Aditya Pancholi

Animation - Arnab Bose, Kristine Rebello

Special Thanks - Anupam Barve, Niteesh Jangid, Vanya Joshi, The Company Theatre

PINJRA directed by Veer Salvi



Language – English & Hindi

Duration – 6.07 minutes

Director's Note

Many of us have had our fair share of moments where we need to hold ourselves back from falling too deep into the endless abyss that is social media. Unfortunately, like the character in this film, not everyone is able to do so. I wanted to show the relentless desire to seek validation which eventually pushes people over the edge.

Synopsis

A failed social media influencer tries to gain his lost relevance but when things don't go according to plan, his loved ones begin shutting him out. Has he gone too far down the social media rabbit hole?

Cast & Credits

Cast - Sanchit Malhotra

Voiceovers - Tejas Shukul, Yagna Prakas, Tanvi Chhabra

Poster - Trisha Salvi

Music - Tuhin Basu

VFX - Arnab Bose

Sound Design - Prashant Chaudhary

Cinematography - Veer Salvi, Simrankumar Puri, Amun Khot

Assistant Directors - Simrankumar Puri, Amun Khot

Directed, Written and Edited by - Veer Salvi

CHUHAL directed by Parth Bane



Language - Hindi

Duration - 12 minutes

Director's Note

Inspired by the lines and messages of the play Chuhhal by Manav Kaul and made it into an experimental short film. Idea behind this film is to show connection and relationships through symbolism, through visual and voiceover, abstract forms and fast cuts. My vision was to show connections through editing and how different we can create a story montage and tell story in different ways. And in this pandemic we tried our best to shoot with whatever resources we had... and added some beautiful and creative aspects to this wonderful script.

Synopsis

It is the story of two individuals who are attracted to each other but clash because they have different views on relationships.

Cast & Credits

Cast - Archisha Sinha, Mohit Tated

Editor - Parth Bane

Cinematographer - Koushik Katta

Sound Recording and Design - Shivkumar Reddy

ABEY CHUP! directed by Aarti Balaji



Language - Hindi

Duration - 12 minutes

Director's Note

The film combines Pirandello's idea of stock characters and with Epic Theatre, which constantly brings attention to the artificiality of the world created for the viewers. The film thus shows the process of its own shooting, blurring the lines between the final version and bloopers.

Synopsis

Inspired by Six Characters in Search of an Author by Luigi Pirandello, Abey Chup! is a short film that shows the process of shooting of the film itself, with self aware stock characters going tremendously wrong throughout, and the shooting ending up a failure after all the equipment gets stolen. The short film consists of seven characters; a gay couple, the mother of one them, the landlady, a sleepyhead, a robber, and the director (who is a voice over). The director gives instructions to the actors from behind the camera, and they repeatedly fail to shoot the required scenes due to lack of preparedness, interest, or various hilarious external circumstances, such as their overwhelming personalities. The film is a farcical comedy, and can be viewed either as a parody of low budget short-film making, or the actual process itself.

Cast & Credits

Alankrit Duggal, Jyotsana Siddharth, Lisha Bajaj, Vansh Sethi, Zinnia Ranji, Prerana
Writer, Director and Editor - Aarti Balaji

CHOICE directed by Akash Wagachoure



Language - Hindi

Duration - 6 minutes

Director's Note

Complete solitude in a relationship has always been a myth. Respecting your partner's choices and aspirations without binding each other in the name of love and giving them the space they require. Our society unknowingly teaches to have ownership over the other in the name of love or marriage. The characters in the film depict women with different choices and how in the course of life something is always compromised in the name of love and marriage.

Synopsis

Aarati, independent woman dwelling between what's right and wrong when it comes to choosing your aspirations and choices over love and relationship, Sudhir, who loves aarti but unknowingly gets caught into the cliché Mentality of relationship. The film 'choice ' takes you through their understanding and Definitions of how they aspire love and How these two different ideologies come to a common ground.

Cast & Credits

Cast - Riddhi Khandre, Bharti Perwani, Radhika Hangekar, Ritu Ahuja, Shruti Patil, Ria Mutha, Akash Wagachoure

Writer - Adapted from Chuhal by Manav Kaul

Script Editor - Akash Wagachoure & Riddhi Khandre

Editor - Oscar Shahapurkar

Creative Producer - Riddhi Khandre

Music - Aditya Pancholi

Poster Design - Atharva Gokhale

Camera Assistance - Ronit Barse

Director - Akash Wagachoure