

## **SPONSORS & PARTNERS**

Phizzical is a not-for-profit organisation run by a small team of dedicated people. The Leicester Asian Film Festival would not be possible without the invaluable support from its sponsors, partners, advisors and friends. Phizzical is grateful for their input.

#### **PUBLIC FUNDERS**







# Film Hub **Central East**

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## **Phoenix**

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## **WELCOME**

It is our utmost pleasure to invite you to the first **Leicester Asian Film Festival** at Phoenix Cinema with a treasure trove of contemporary and independent South Asian Cinema to be appreciated on the big screen.

Produced in partnership with Tongues on Fire's *London Asian Film Festival* and in association with De Montfort University, LeAFF's vision is to present the finest cinematic experiences, specially curated for the Leicester audience.

Our film programme has a rich array of films with unique perspectives from the subcontinent. To kick-start the 2017 programme, we have included the Gujarati film *Wrong Side Raju* premiering here in the UK, at our Opening Gala.

On the 70th anniversary of the Partition of India, *Mantostaan* and *Mango Dreams* are significant statements, and evocative views on the theme of separation and historical memory, besides being contemporary metaphors on the volatility of diversity and borders.

Within the current social and political climate, our beliefs of a multicultural and tolerant society should be heard louder than ever. In a time when the fight for gender equality is being battled fearlessly worldwide, LeAFF proudly celebrates female driven stories. *Lipstick Under My Burkha*, our closing film is a candid and emotional cinematic journey that pays homage to the complex micro-cosmos of contradictions and difficulties of today's women throughout the world.

LeAFF 2017 promises a vibrant, variegated, immersive and uplifting experience with something for everyone to savour.

**Sâmir Bhamra** Artistic Producer, LeAFF 2017 **Dr. Monia Acciari**Associate Director. LeAFF 2017







**UK PREMIERE OPENING GALA** 

## **WRONG SIDE RAJU**

## Thursday 16 March PHOENIX

7pm Film screening

£8.60 £6.90 concessions £6 students and under 25 years old.

0116 242 2800 www.phoenix.org.uk Ambitious and charming driver Raju has hopelessly fallen for French visitor, Shaily. His romantic slow motion life suddenly plummets to a halt, when he is involved in a hit and run incident, involving Shaily's close friend Tanmay. Embroiled in a controversial police case alongside Tanmay, son of affluent lawyer Mr. Amitabh Shah, will Raju escape this twisted labyrinth and get his life back on track?

Based on a real-life incident, this Gujarati thriller is one to catch!

Followed by Q&A with director Mikhil Musale and producer Amit Desai.

Director Mikhil Musale

Cast Kimberley Louisa McBeath, Asif Basra, Kavi Shastri

India, 2016, 160 minutes, Gujrati with English subtitles, Cert: UA



**CHARITY SCREENING** 

## YOU ARE MY SUNDAY

## Friday 17 March PHOENIX

6pm Film screening

£10 includes £1.40 charity donation

0116 242 2800 www.phoenix.org.uk Sundays were made for football on Juhu Beach for friends, Arjun, Rashid, Dominic, Mehernosh and Jayesh offering much needed escapism from their otherwise chaotic lives. One Sunday, they are joined by an old man who kicks the football into the face of a socialite politician, resulting in a sports ban. Consequently, the lads are separated from their youth-filled friendship, alongside the game that binds them. Will the friends find respite, happiness, and a football pitch again?

In association with DMU Square Mile India, raising funds for the charity.



Director Milind Dhaimade

Cast Barun Sobti, Shahana Goswami, Pallavi Batra

India, 119 mins, 2016, English, Hindi & Konkani with English subtitles, Cert: 18



#### **REMEMBERING PARTITION**

## **MANTOSTAAN**

### Friday 17 March **PHOENIX**

8.30pm Film screening

£8.60 £6.90 concessions £6 students and under 25 years old.

0116 242 2800 www.phoenix.org.uk Mantostaan lends its foundations to a deep historical mosaic of four of the most controversial and burning short stories penned by legendary and critically acclaimed Urdu writer, Saadat Hassan Manto. Haunting yet humorous, this dark satire unveils the gritty side of human life that exhaled from the 1947 Partition of India. Encountering extreme and irrevocable incidents of terror and bloodshed, we endure the sufferings of the common man and watch human beings exist as their worst enemies. Friend or foe?

Followed by a Q&A with director Rahat Kazmi and cast.

Rahat Kazmi

Raghuvir Yadav, Sonal Sehgal, Veerendra Saxeena, Rahat Cast

Kazmi, Raina Bassnet, Shoib Shah, Tariq Khan, Sakshi

India, 92 mins, 2016, Urdu with English subtitles, Cert: 18



#### **FILM SCREENING**

## **THOSE 4 WALLS**

## Saturday 18 March PHOENIX

4.30pm Film screening

£8.60 £6.90 concessions £6 students and under 25 years old.

0116 242 2800 www.phoenix.org.uk Homebound for his sister's UK wedding, and to reunite with best friends Aaron and Jayden, US banker Krish is about to be tangled in a web of deception, dreams, and disaster. On meeting domestically-abused Jasmine, things get complicated and with Jayden's singing debut on the horizon, a catastrophe strikes reviving a tragedy from the past.

Supported by a renowned British-Asian cast, *Those Four Walls* is a drama-induced saga of social issues that asks: *Can a better life be achieved?* 

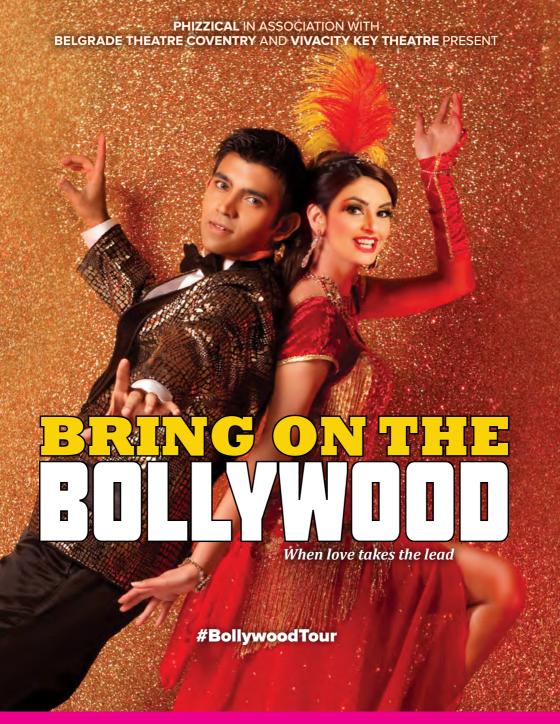
Followed by a Q&A with director Ameet Chana, producer Vallisa Chauhan and cast.

Director Ameet Chana

Cast Antony Costa, Kavi Shastri, Kabelan Verlkumar, Amara Karan, Kulvinder Ghir, Rakhee Thakrar, Javed Khan,

Shaheen Khan, Hassan Khan and Islah Abdur-Rahman

UK, 102 mins, 2016, English, Cert: 12A



a spectacular musical that combines Shakespearean style rom-com with Bollywood bling

RUGBY ADVERTISER

# TOURING NATIONALLY

#### **COVENTRY**

Saturday 6 – Saturday 13 May Belgrade Theatre

Box Office: 024 7655 3055 **belgrade.co.uk** 

#### **IPSWICH**

Tuesday 16 – Saturday 20 May New Wolsey Theatre Box Office: 01473 295900

wolseytheatre.co.uk

#### **KINGSTON**

Thursday 25 – Sunday 28 May Rose Theatre

Box Office: 020 8174 0090 rosetheatrekingston.org

#### **DONCASTER**

Wednesday 31 May – Friday 2 June Cast

Box Office: 01302 303959 castindoncaster.com

#### **HORNCHURCH**

Tuesday 13 – Saturday 17 June

**Queens Theatre** 

Box Office: 01708 443333 queens-theatre.co.uk

#### **POOLE**

Thursday 29 June – Saturday 1 July **Lighthouse** 

Box Office: 01202 280000 lighthousepoole.co.uk

#### LONDON

Thursday 6 – Saturday 8 July artsdepot

Box Office: 020 8369 5454 artsdepot.co.uk

#### YORK

Tuesday 11 – Saturday 15 July **Theatre Royal** 

Box Office: 01904 623568 **yorktheatreroyal.co.uk** 

#### **OLDHAM**

Tuesday 18 – Saturday 22 July **Oldham Coliseum Theatre** 

Box Office: 0161 624 2829 coliseum.org.uk

#### CORNWALL

Tuesday 1 – Saturday 5 August

Hall for Cornwall

Box Office: 01872 262466 hallforcornwall.co.uk

#### **OXFORD**

Tuesday 15 – Saturday 19 August

Oxford Playhouse Box Office: 01865 305305 oxfordplayhouse.com

#### **PETERBOROUGH**

Thursday 24 – Saturday 29 August

Vivacity Key Theatre Box Office: 01733 207239

vivacity-peterborough.com





#### **REMEMBERING PARTITION**

## **MANGO DREAMS**

Saturday 18 March PHOENIX

5pm Film screening

£5

0116 242 2800 www.phoenix.org.uk Having escaped the British partition of India, Dr. Amit Singh embarks on a journey to return to his childhood home for a final time. He must face some painful memories before dementia consigns him into a nursing home. Salim, a Muslim rickshaw driver agrees to drive the Hindu doctor to his destination, unaware of the complicated journey that lies ahead. Sharing their haunting past with each other, the pair forge a warmhearted friendship helps them find solace.

Director John Unchurch

Cast Ram Gopal Bajaj, Pankaj Tripathi, Samir Kochhar,

Naseeruddin Shah

USA-India, 93 mins, 2016, English, Cert: 18



#### **FILM SCREENING**

## **BAZODEE**

Satuday 18 March
PHOENIX
7.30pm Film screening

£8.60 £6.90 concessions £6 students and under 25 years old.

0116 242 2800 www.phoenix.org.uk Dutiful daughter Anita is set to marry rich Londoner Bharat, for the sake of her deep-in-debt family. But fate interrupts in the form of colourful Trinidadian musician, Lee de Leon. After winning hearts through his music, the pair discover their mutual love, leaving them in a state of *Bazodee* - confused love.

In this head versus heart battle, will Anita live up to her family's expectations or choose possible love? Expect vibrant soca dance rhythms in this sumptuous Caribbean-style Bollywood musical.

Director Todd Kessler

Cast Machel Montano, Natalie Perera, Kabir Bedi, Staz Nair,

Valmike Rampersad

Trinidad and Tobago, 101 mins, 2016, English, Cert: PG13

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#### **CLOSING GALA SCREENING**

## LIPSTICK UNDER MY BURKHA

## Sunday 19 March PHOENIX

2pm Film screening

£8.60 £6.90 concessions £6 students and under 25 years old.

0116 242 2800 www.phoenix.org.uk Seeking freedom from monotony, we follow four feisty females, in their rebellious journey to self-fulfilment. Featuring a burkhaclad college girl aspiring to be a pop-singer, a free-spirited and two-timing beautician awaiting escape, an oppressed housewife who is not just a baby-making machine, but a secret saleswoman, and widower Auntie Usha, who is rediscovering lust through a cheeky telephone romance with a handsome hunk.

This film is banned in India for courageously giving voice to every lipstick-wearing woman who is concealing her secret dreams and innermost desires.

Winner of Oxfam's Inaugural Best Film on Gender Equality Award at Mumbai Film Festival and Spirit of Asian Prize at Tokyo International Film Festival in 2016.

Director Alankrita Shrivastava

Cast Ratna Shah, Konkona Sen Sharma, Aahana Kumra, Plabita Borthakur

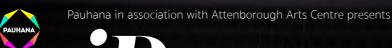
India, 152 mins, 2016, Hindi with English subtitles, Cert: 18

## **UK ASIAN FILM FESTIVAL TEAM**

Festival Director	Dr. Pushpinder Chowdhry
Festival Chair person	Minu Bakshi
Finance Director	Sharnjit Bhalla
Artistic Producer	Sâmir Bhamra
Operations Director	Saba Syed
Festival Coordinator	Jaanuja Sriskantha
Business Development Officer	Aashish Parmar
Edinburgh Associate Director	Dr. Ashvin Immanuel Devasundaram
Leicester Associate Director	Dr. Monia Acciari
Short Film Co-ordinator	Dan Jordan
PR, Press and Publicity	Pedro Carvalho, F-NIK PR Sundae PR
PR and Marketing Assistant	Naomi Rathod
Social Media Coordinator	Behzad Ahmad
Video Editor	Harish Gadappa
Website & Volunteer Co-ordinator	Rahila Fateh
Pakistani Arts Co-Ordinator	Yasmin Qureshi
Sponsor Liaison	Nishi Anand
PR India	Shalmana Tendulkar

## **PHIZZICAL TEAM**

Artistic Director	Sâmir Bhamra
Audience Development Officer	Hardish Virk
Social Media Partner	Punjab2000.co.uk
Web Media Partner	Biz Asia
Radio Partner	Sabras Radio
Phizzical Youth Board Members	Sandip Kaur Dhatt, Vishal Handa, Dan Jordan, Keral Mithabai
Phizzical Advisory Members	Jas Binag, Pritesh Chauhan, Sharnpal Jeetley, Shahid Iqbal Khan, Ben-azeera Lela, Chirag Lukha, Omar Khan, Hitz Rao, Atiqa Rehman
Phizzical Board Members	Kat Bailey, Bhavika Chauhan, Prabhjot Hunjan, Parminder Khela





# iDream

A PERFORMANCE INSTALLATION INSPIRED BY SHAKESPEARE'S A MIDSUMMER NIGHTS DREAM.



# **Building Audiences**

ENGAGING WITH THE CULTURAL DIVERSITY OF LEICESTER

De Montfort University are excited to support the first Leicester Asian Film Festival and celebrate the historical cinema going culture in Leicester.



It gives our **Cinema and Television History** (CATH) Research Centre an opportunity to conduct research on building audiences for culturally diverse arts and media and continue to lead on archival research nationally and internationally.





Part of the contributions from *You Are My Sunday* will be donated to the DMU Square Mile India charitable fund, to sustain the work in one of the poorest regions in India and the Gandhi ashram in Gujarat.

Building Audiences is funded by: DMU Square Mile India and DMU Local, and undertaken within the Cinema and Television History (CATH) Research Centre and Leicester Media School.

Contact: Dr Monia Acciari

Website: www.buildingaudiences.org.uk Email: buildingaudiences@dmu.ac.uk

Tel: 0116 201 3993







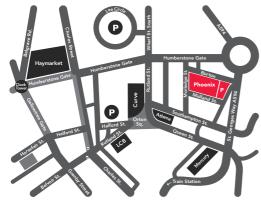




Date	Event	Time	Price: Full, Conc, U25/Student
16 Mar	<b>OPENING GALA</b> WRONG SIDE RAJU	7pm	£8.60, £6.90, £6
17 Mar	CHARITY GALA YOU ARE MY SUNDAY	6pm	£10
17 Mar	MANTOSTAAN	8.30pm	£8.60, £6.90, £6
18 Mar	THOSE 4 WALLS	4.30pm	£8.60, £6.90, £6
18 Mar	MANGO DREAMS	5pm	£5
18 Mar	BAZODEE	7.30pm	£8.60, £6.90, £6
19 Mar	CLOSING GALA LIPSTICK UNDER MY BURKHA	2pm	£8.60, £6.90, £6

#### PHOENIX CINEMA AND ART CENTRE

Midland Street, Leicester LE1 1TG



#### **PARKING**

There is a council pay and display car park next to Phoenix. Parking costs £1 for 1hr, £3 up to 3hrs, £4 up to 4hrs. Longer stays cost significantly more. Evening parking costs £2, from 6pm – 6am. On Sundays and bank holidays there is a £1 charge and a maximum stay of 4hrs. Please check notices in the car park for more details.

Rutland Street NCP on Halford Street (LE11TQ) is a short walk from Phoenix and costs £5.20 all day for Phoenix customers. Tickets must be validated at the Box Office

On-street parking is also available around Phoenix. Please always check the signs as restrictions may apply

Twitter: @LeicAsianFilmFest #LeAFF2017
Facebook: leicesterasianfilmfestival

**Leicester Asian Film Festival** is produced and presented by Phizzical Productions Limited in partnership with Tongues on Fire Limited, Phoenix Cinema and Art Centre and De Montfort University.

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4 Midland Street, Leicester, LE11TG Tel: 07958 484848 info@phizzical.com www.phizzical.com

All tickets are subject to availability and early booking is recommended. Due to circumstances beyond our control, screening times, titles and speakers may change. Please check phoenix.org.uk/event/leicester-asian-film-festival/ for latest updates.