


PHIZZICAL, DE MONTFORT UNIVERSITY, TONGUES ON FIRE AND PHOENIX PRESENT

1st


# LEICESTER ASIAN FILM FESTIVAL

16-19 MARCH 2017

PHOENIX CINEMA AND ART CENTRE  
Midland Street, Leicester LE1 1TG

 leicesterasianfilmfestival

 @LeicAsianFilmFest

 leicesterasianfilmfestival

[www.leicesterasianfilmfestival.com](http://www.leicesterasianfilmfestival.com)

# 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



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*tongues on fire*

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Support Phizzical to produce the second Leicester Asian Film Festival in 2018  
please email [info@leicesterasianfilmfestival.com](mailto:info@leicesterasianfilmfestival.com) or call 07958 484858

# 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](http://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, Gujarati 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](http://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.**

**DMU  
SQUARE  
MILE**

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](http://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.

Director Rahat Kazmi

Cast Raghuvir Yadav, Sonal Sehgal, Veerendra Saxeena, Rahat Kazmi, Raina Bassnet, Shoib Shah, Tariq Khan, Sakshi Bhat

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](http://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

PHIZZICAL IN ASSOCIATION WITH  
BELGRADE THEATRE COVENTRY AND VIVACITY KEY THEATRE PRESENT



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# 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](http://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 warm-hearted friendship helps them find solace.

Director John Upchurch

Cast Ram Gopal Bajaj, Pankaj Tripathi, Samir Kochhar,  
Naseeruddin Shah

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



## FILM SCREENING

# BAZODEE

**Saturday 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](http://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



**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](http://www.phoenix.org.uk)**

Seeking freedom from monotony, we follow four feisty females, in their rebellious journey to self-fulfilment. Featuring a burkha-clad 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	<b>Dr. Pushpinder Chowdhry</b>
Festival Chair person	<b>Minu Bakshi</b>
Finance Director	<b>Sharnjit Bhalla</b>
Artistic Producer	<b>Sâmîr Bhamra</b>
Operations Director	<b>Saba Syed</b>
Festival Coordinator	<b>Jaanuja Sriskantha</b>
Business Development Officer	<b>Aashish Parmar</b>
Edinburgh Associate Director	<b>Dr. Ashvin Immanuel Devasundaram</b>
Leicester Associate Director	<b>Dr. Monia Acciari</b>
Short Film Co-ordinator	<b>Dan Jordan</b>
PR, Press and Publicity	<b>Pedro Carvalho, F-NIK PR Sundae PR</b>
PR and Marketing Assistant	<b>Naomî Rathod</b>
Social Media Coordinator	<b>Behzad Ahmad</b>
Video Editor	<b>Harish Gadappa</b>
Website & Volunteer Co-ordinator	<b>Rahîla Fateh</b>
Pakistani Arts Co-Ordinator	<b>Yasmin Qureshi</b>
Sponsor Liaison	<b>Nishi Anand</b>
PR India	<b>Shalmana Tendulkar</b>

# PHIZZICAL TEAM

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



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# 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.

## LEICESTER ASIAN FILM FESTIVAL

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.

### DMU Square Mile India

Square Mile India enables us to share the skills of DMU students and staff to make a positive change for thousands of people and involves DMU's pioneering international experience programme #DMU Global.



De Montfort University launches DMU Square Mile India



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](http://www.buildingaudiences.org.uk)

Email: [buildingaudiences@dmu.ac.uk](mailto:buildingaudiences@dmu.ac.uk)

Tel: **0116 201 3993**



**1st LEICESTER ASIAN  
FILM FESTIVAL  
16-19 MARCH 2017**

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	<b>CHARITY GALA</b> 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	<b>CLOSING GALA</b> 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 (LE1 1TQ) 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

**PHIZZICAL**  
PRODUCTIONS

**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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[www.phizzical.com](http://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/](http://phoenix.org.uk/event/leicester-asian-film-festival/) for latest updates.