

18th MUMBAI INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL, 2024
International Competition

Sr. No	Entry No.	Award money	Category of Award	Country	Title in English	Duration in Mins	Name of the Director	Name of the Producer	Citation
1	FFW 1325	Rs.10 Lakhs + Golden Conch+ Cert.	Best International Documentary Film	India	The Golden Thread	1:25:50	Nistha Jain	Nishtha Jain, Irena Taskovski Morana Komljenoviclkic	The Golden Thread is a film that is both an homage and an observation of the last vestiges of the industrial revolution impacted by the forces of economic change. The film illustrates the relationship of man to machine but also questions the equation by which capitalism values man as equal only to his labor. The stunning imagery and sound weave a beautiful narrative that reminds us of the reason why documentary is still such a compelling art form.
2	FFW1178	Rs. 5 Lakhs + Silver Conch+ Cert	Best International Short Fiction Film (upto 30 min.)	Estonia	Sour Milk	0:22:49	Vera Pirogova	Jon Gojani	Sour Milk eloquently portrays the intricate bond between mother and son, weaving a narrative rich in expectation and disappointment. The film's subtle and yet skilled direction guides viewers through a universal story of familial struggle and growth, where unspoken emotions shape the journey, illustrating that even the primal bonds of a mother and a son left unintended can sometimes curdle like milk.
3	MIFF 2276	Rs. 5 Lakhs + Silver Conch+ Cert.	Best International Animation Film	Poland	Zima	00:26:26	Tomek Popakul, Kasumi Ozeki	Marcin Podolec, Wiktorja Podolec	Zima: In a fishing village there is both violence and warmth as both humans and animals struggle to coexist with their own kind in an avant-garde abstract and courageous animated story. The simplicity of the monochromatic treatment belies a magical, expressive often dark underlying visual narrative punctuated by a muted spot of color, here, depicting pain, there, a sign of shame, an overall dystopian yet enthralling story as if it were a folktale from an unknown wintery land.
4	MIFF2138	Rs. 1 lakh + Trophy +Cert.	"Pramod Pati Award" for Most Innovative / Experimental Film (to Director Only)	Japan	The Old Young Crow	00:11:50		Liam Lopinto	The Young Old Crow is an inventive, magical storytelling of multiple dualities - two worlds defined by languages, cultures, generations, the living and the dead, even the mediums of animation and live action film. This creative kaleidoscope also manages simultaneously to incorporate a masterpiece of emotive texture involving nostalgia, family, loss, isolation and death within these complex layers.
5	MIFF2154	Certificate of Merit	Special Jury Mention	United States of America	Lovely Jackson	1:44:22		Matt Waldeck	Lovely Jackson is a riveting story of broken dreams, forgiveness and a mother's love but ultimately it is a portrait of how the human spirit can maintain courage and resilience in the face of extreme injustice, how one man could rise above his unbearable circumstance and find the strength not only to meet the worst with grace but to become a beacon of hope and redemption to others. The jury was inspired not only by the spirituality of the film but also the unusually creative techniques used to tell this compelling story.

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National Competition

Sr. No	Entry No.	Award money	Category of Award	Country	Title in English	Duration in Mins	Name of the Director	Name of the Producer	Citation
1	MIFF 2094	Rs. 5 Lakhs + Silver Conch +Cert.	Best Indian Documentary Film	INDIA	6-A Akash Ganga	79.00	Nirmal Chander Dandriyal	Annapurna Devi Foundation	An entrancing intimate documentary with an invisible protagonist which hypnotically draws you into the reclusive and guarded world of legendary musician Annapurna Devi. Her brilliance and talent would have remained hidden but for this intimate telling by flute-player Nityanand Haldipur, disciple and gatekeeper to the legendary musician. He lets us into his world step by step telling the fascinating story of a famously gifted musician, guru, woman and wife whose artistic and personal life took unexpected turns over and over, leaving one in awe and profoundly moved.
2	MIFF 2241	Rs. 3 Lakhs + Silver Conch +Cert.	Best Indian Short Fiction Film (upto 30 min.)	INDIA	Salt	11.00	Barkha Prashant Naik	Heramb Kirtany, Tanvi Ajinkya	A poignant and beautifully crafted father-son story which draws the picture of strain and silent grief in a household bereft of the mother and the process of learning to accept each other's grief in a few original and raw masterful strokes. In just 11 minutes, Barkha manages to explore the tender inter generational understanding of sexuality in an unusual and refreshing way as the duo learns to navigate life moving forward.
3	FFW 1251	Rs. 3 Lakhs + Silver Conch +Cert.	Best Indian Animation Film	INDIA	Nirjara	7.10	Gaurav Pati	National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad, India	Beautifully storyboarded, understated and poetically told story of how two brothers re-unite in grief navigating rituals on the ghats of Ganga and emotionally handling the shared loss of their mother. It's truly exceptional how this well written and accomplished dramaturgy in just 7 minutes, allows us to examine the nuanced relationship of a younger born and his elder brother invoking emotional resonance seldom explored in Indian animation.
4	FFW 1124	Certificate of Merit	Special Jury Mention	INDIA	A Coconut Tree	8.12	Joshy Benedict	Joshy Benedict, Robinson Thomas	With this Special Mention the Jury would like to highlight how this stunningly beautiful animation addresses the severe and urgent topic of migration and climate change. The color scape and bleeding frames of yellow and black etch a complete narrative that is urgent and original; making it a remarkable achievement in storytelling.
5	FFW 1382	Rs. 1 lakh + Trophy +Cert.	Dadasaheb Phalke Chitranagari Award for Best Debut Director	INDIA	And, Towards Happy Alleys	75.00	Sreemoyee Singh	Sreemoyee Singh, Hussain Currimbhoy	Sreemoyee takes us on her unique journey to Iran inspired by her passion for feminist poetry and Iran's rich film culture, thereby opening our eyes to the challenges faced by dissenting voices in the face of censorship. The jury was profoundly moved by this film's emotional depth and social relevance especially because it's a debut film.
6	N 0196	Rs. 1 lakh + Trophy +Cert.	IDPA Award for Best Student Film	INDIA	Chanchisoa (Expectation)	29.00	Elvachisa Ch Sangma, Dipankar Das	Dr Bhupen Hazarika Regional Govt. Film & TV Institute	This beautiful short fiction explores identity, love, and human connection between nature and a household in the matrilineal society of Garo Hills. The film's lush cinematography, complex storytelling and actors performances seamlessly work hand in hand to convey in subtle ways the underlying strains at large in this family; making it a remarkable achievement as a student film.
7	FFW 1021	Rs. 1 lakhs + Trophy +Cert.	Best short film on "India in Amrit Kaal" (upto 15 min.)"	INDIA	Life in Loom	100.00	Edmond Ranson	Francis Markus	Edmond takes up upclose to master weavers and the community from seven different states of India. Over the centuries these artisans have acted as custodians and passed on the skill from one generation to the next. As India steps into Amrit Kal, this film brings into focus the socio-economic and climatic challenges faced by these communities. There is a need to provide support to these communities so that the future of the craft and these communities is secure.

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Technical Awards - shared equally between one film each from International & National Competition sections

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1	M2413	Rs. 3 Lakhs + Trophy + Cert.	Best Cinematographer	Nepal	Dhorpatan	1:15:06	Babin Dulal		"Dhorpatan" utilizes stunning cinematography to capture the austere beauty of the Nepalese Himalayas which frame this intimate story of lifelong rivals forced to coexist in an abandoned village during a bitter winter. Through meticulous framing and evocative composition, the camera work in this film juxtaposing the unforgiving backdrop of harsh climate and shifting landscapes with detailed portraits of the central characters to accentuate themes of aging, loneliness, and the resilience of womanhood.
2	FFW 1214			INDIA	Entangled	19.56	Suraj Thakur		In this short fiction the camera sets the scene for the passing of Anna. The shots are masterfully composed and the camera knows precisely when to travel and when to remain static, what to show and what to leave out. The images carry us along with Anna and his desperate family towards the final release. The film's visual poetry and emotional depth are truly exceptional.
3	MIFF2136	Rs. 3 Lakhs + Trophy + Cert.	Best Editor	India	Karparaa	1:11:00	Vignesh Kumulai		"Karparaa" employs a contemplative editing style which emphasizes the passage of time and space, masterfully weaving poetic visuals of the key characters with the quiet meditative rhythm of rural life. In particular the film allows for moments of stillness which often transform the mundane into the profound, a deliberate editing approach which invites viewers to emotionally engage with the characters and their environment.
4	FFW 1002			INDIA	From the Shadows	76.00	Irene Dhar Mallik, Anuja Thakkar		Girls go missing – many of them, day in day out – trafficked for money. This documentary throws a light on what is going on, pointing us to activists and victims without exposing them to a voyeuristic eye. Artful editing lets us easily wander from one case to the next, from activist to artist, from one journey to another, finding the poignant highlights in the documentary footage to create a masterful dramaturgy.
5	FFW 1325	Rs. 3 Lakhs + Trophy + Cert.	Best Sound Designer	India	The Golden Thread	1.25.50	Niraj Gera		The Golden Thread, pays tribute to how narrative can be driven by attention to a soundscape by a dedicated sound crew determined to overcome the most challenging of environments - an arcane factory filled with mechanical noise and clatter. The sound design impressively navigates the dynamic interplay of brute machinery and a human labor force, creating an astonishing rhythmic adventure, at times in synchrony with the cadence of workers and at times unexpectedly silent where cacophony is expected, culminating in a stunning symphonic narrative journey.
6	N 0172			INDIA	Dhara Ka Tem (Time for Milking)	30.00	Abhijit Sarkar		In this short fiction you can hear when it is time for milking! The sounds impinge on the daily routines of this rural family and gives us the chance to travel to Punjab and take part in their lives – just by listening! This exceptional auditory backdrop complements the visuals, enhancing the film's overall impact and depth.

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FIPRESCI International Critic Jury Award

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1	FFW 1382	FIPRESCI certificate + Rs. 1 lakh + trophy	FIPRESCI International Critic Jury Award for best Documentary in National Competition	India	And, Towards Happy Alleys	75	Sreemoyee Singh	Sreemoyee Singh	This is a unique film by a young filmmaker who has crossed not only cultural, linguistic but also political boundaries to show, without anger but with passion, how to survive as an artist in a country ruled by harsh regulations. It shows an Iran usually hidden from Western eyes, the complex daily lives of filmmakers and women, and how they manoeuvre through the existing depths of darkness. She transforms the film into exactly what the Iranian poet Forugh Farrochzad wrote: "Bring me a lamp and a window through which I can see the crowd in the happy valley"