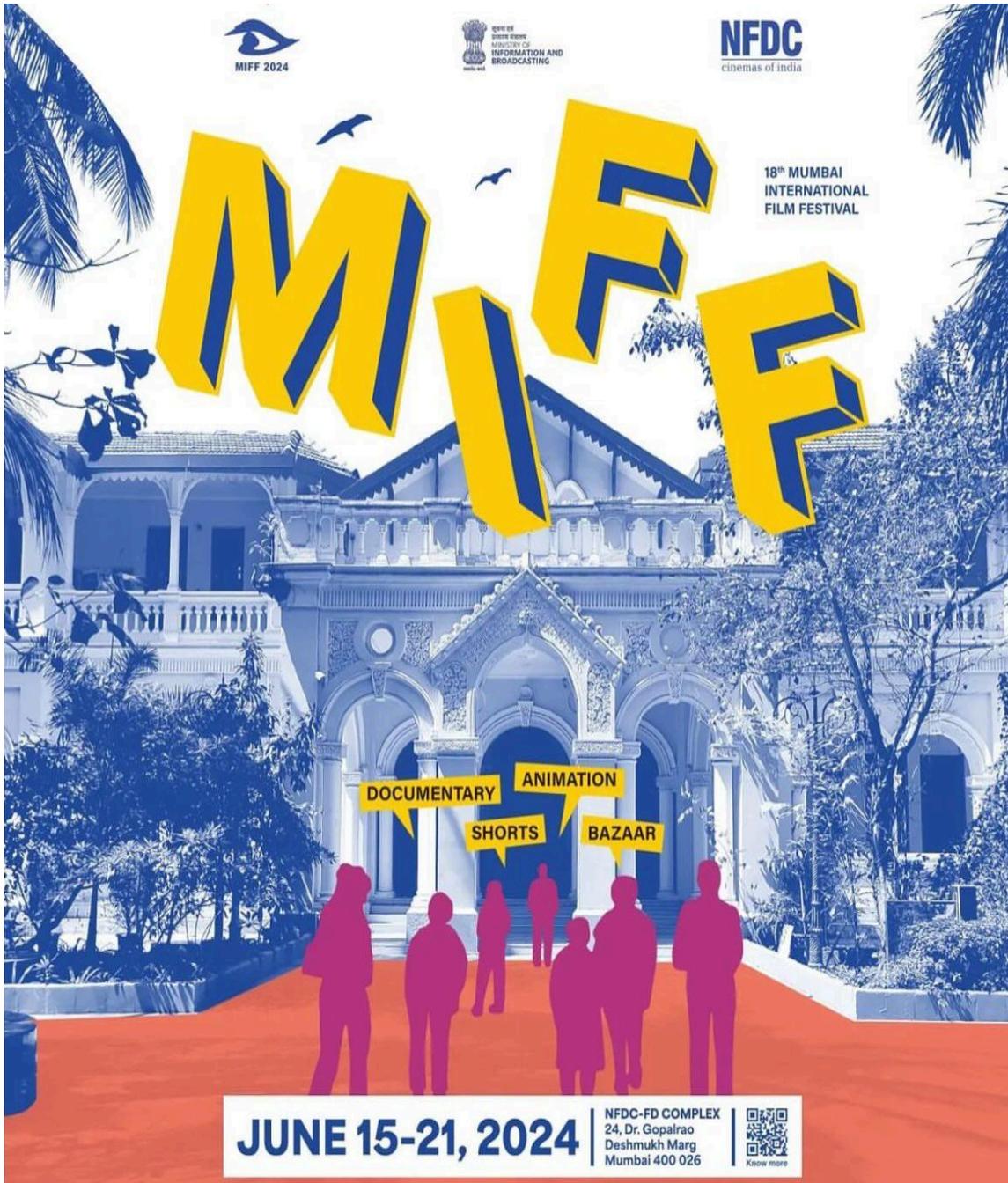


18TH MUMBAI INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL
OFFICIAL REPORT



MIFF

18th MUMBAI
INTERNATIONAL
FILM FESTIVAL

DOCUMENTARY ANIMATION
SHORTS BAZAAR

JUNE 15-21, 2024

NFDC-FD COMPLEX
24, Dr. Gopalrao
Deshmukh Marg
Mumbai 400 026



Know more

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OVERVIEW OF MIFF 2024

The 18th Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF 2024) concluded with a testament to cinematic excellence and cultural diversity. Extending its footprint from Mumbai to Delhi, Kolkata, Pune, and Chennai, MIFF 2024 showcased an impressive array of films that resonated across India.

Film Selection and Diversity: MIFF 2024 presented a formidable lineup, featuring 25 films in the International competition and 77 in the National competition, spanning 34 languages. Notably, the festival selected 34 documentaries, 37 short fiction films, 15 animations, and 6 films exploring 'India in Amrit Kaal', offering a compelling mix of narratives.

Special Screenings and Packages: The festival spotlighted 54 animation films across curated packages like French, Slovenian, Argentinean, Greek, and Oscar nominees, alongside a retrospective curated by Georges Schwizgebel. Special showcases included themes on Asian women filmmakers, wildlife conservation, cultural restoration, and films catering to Divyangjan audiences. Digitally remastered classics from the BFI archive, including "Around India with a Movie Camera" from 1899, featured Indian sign language, audio descriptions, and same-language subtitles for enhanced accessibility, in collaboration with Svayam.

International Presence and Collaborations: MIFF 2024 proudly featured 18 films from international locations such as Japan, Russia, Belarus, Iran, Italy, Vietnam, and Mali, complemented by 44 films from Indian film schools and Babelsberg University, Germany. Collaborations with leading OTT platforms like Amazon, Disney Hotstar, and DocuBay enriched the festival's global appeal. The "Best of Fest" selection included 12 short films from Berlinale and 12 Oscar-nominated short films. The "Mosaics" section presented 19 documentary and short fiction films from around the world, alongside special screenings of acclaimed films. MIFF collaborated with OTT platforms like Amazon, Disney Hotstar, and DocuBay to showcase their works.

Premieres and Participation: In the non-competitive section, MIFF premiered 8 World Premieres, 5 International Premieres, 18 Asian Premieres, and 21 India Premieres, attracting participation from 62 countries—a significant increase underscoring MIFF's growing international influence, with notable contributions from Mali, Algeria, Lithuania, and Rwanda.

Attendance and Media Coverage: The festival welcomed 12,027 delegates, including 1,527 international participants, marking substantial growth from previous editions. Media coverage was extensive, with over 100 Mumbai-based journalists and 150 publications featuring more than 500 news clips. Thirty national and local news channels, along with 40 digital platforms, provided daily coverage. MIFF's social media presence across Instagram, YouTube, Facebook, and Twitter garnered over 56 million impressions and reached 12 million users.

For the first time, the **National Institute of Design (NID)** created MIFF's visual identity and branding, designing various creative and design collateral.

Awards and Recognitions:

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The International Competition Jury, comprising distinguished film personalities Keigo Bang, Barthelemy Fougea, Audrius Stonys, Bharat Bala, and Manas Choudhary, awarded the Golden Conch for Best Documentary Film, the Silver Conch for Best International Short Fiction Film and Best Animation Film, and the Pramod Pati Award for the most innovative/experimental film.

The National Competition Jury, including notable figures Adele Seelmann-Eggebert, Dr. Bobby Sarma Baruah, Apoorva Bakshi, Munjal Shroff, and Anna Henckel-Donnersmarck, conferred awards for Best Indian Documentary, Short Film, Animation, Best Debut Film (sponsored by the Government of Maharashtra), and Best Student Film (sponsored by IDPA). They also presented Technical Awards and a Special Award for the Best Short Film on 'India in Amrit Kaal'. Three Technical Awards for Cinematography, Editing, and Sound Design were given across both competitions.

The festival reintroduced the **FIPRESCI Award**, offering a certificate and a cash prize of 1.00 Lakh INR. The FIPRESCI Jury comprised Axel Timo Purr, Alexandra Porshneva, and Meghachandra Kongbam. MIFF awarded a total of Rs. 42 Lacs across various categories, celebrating outstanding contributions to cinema.

MIFF 2024 culminated with the presentation of prestigious awards:

MIFF proudly announced the prestigious V Shantaram Lifetime Achievement Award for Shri Subbiah Nallamuthu, a renowned wildlife filmmaker from Chennai, celebrated for his award-winning series "Living on the Edge."

International Competition

- **Best Documentary Film : The Golden Thread**, directed by Nishtha Jain. The closing film, showcased on June 21, 2024, is the winner of the Golden Conch.
- **Best Short Fiction Film (up to 30 min.): Sour Milk** directed by Vera Pirogava
- **Best Animation Film: Zima**, directed by Tomek Popakul and Kasumi Ozeki
- **Special Jury Mention: Lovely Jackson**, directed by Matt Waldeck
- **Pramod Pati Award for Most Innovative/ Experimental Film: "Old Young Crow"**, directed by Liam LoPinto

National Competition

- **Best Indian Documentary Film : 6-A Akash Ganga**, directed by Nirmal Chander Dandriyal
- **Best Indian Short Fiction Film (up to 30 min.): Salt**, directed by Barkha Prashant Naik.
- **Best Indian Animation Film: Nirjara**, directed by Gaurav Pati.
- **Special Jury Mention: A Coconut Tree**, directed by Joshy Benedict.
- **Dadasaheb Phalke Chitranagari Award for Best Debut Film (sponsored by the Government of Maharashtra): And, Towards Happy Alleys**, directed by Sreemoyee Singh.
- **IDPA Award for Best Student Film: Chanchisoa (Expectation)**, directed by Elvachisa Ch Sangma and Dipankar Das.
- **Best Short Film on "India in Amrit Kaal" (up to 15 min.): Life in Loom**, directed by Edmond Ranson.

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- **FIPRESCI International Critics Prize:** “And Towards Happy Alleys”, directed by Sreemoyee Singh

Technical Awards were also presented:

- **Best Cinematographer:**
 - Suraj Thakur for the film **Guntata Hriday He (Entangled)**
 - Babin Dulal for the film **Dhorpatan**
- **Best Editor:**
 - Irene Dhar Mallik and Anuja Thakkar for the film **From the Shadows**.
 - Vignesh Kumulai for the film **Karparaa**
- **Best Sound Designer:**
 - Niraj Gera for the film **The Golden Thread**.
 - Abhijit Sarkar for the film **Dhara Ka Tem (Time for Milking)**.

Conclusion: Since its inception in 1990, MIFF has been a beacon of excellence in South Asian cinema. Held biennially, the festival continues to evolve, enriching the cultural fabric of the region and beyond. MIFF 2024 not only celebrated outstanding films but also fostered a spirit of collaboration, creativity, and global cultural exchange. Here’s to the enduring legacy of MIFF and the limitless future of world cinema!

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ABOUT MIFF

- **Indian Heritage of Cinematic Excellence**

The Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF) is a landmark event, proudly holding the title of the oldest and largest film festival dedicated to documentary, short fiction, and animation films in South Asia. Established in 1990 (initially as the Bombay International Film Festival), MIFF has grown into a vibrant platform showcasing the finest works by Indian and international filmmakers. Organized by the National Films Development Corporation of India (NFDC), the apex body of filmmaking in India, under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, MIFF remains a cornerstone of the Indian cultural landscape.

- **A Global Stage for Storytelling**

MIFF transcends borders, attracting entries from a vast array of countries, languages, and artistic styles. This creates a unique space for filmmakers and film enthusiasts to come together, share diverse perspectives, and explore exciting collaborative opportunities. It's a melting pot of creativity, fostering dialogue and exchange of ideas that fuel innovation within the filmmaking community.

- **Championing Powerful Narratives**

Documentaries have a long-standing history of sparking social change and shaping realities. MIFF recognizes this power by meticulously curating a selection of impactful Indian and international documentaries. Over the past three decades, the festival has become a nurturing ground for aspiring and established filmmakers who use their craft to make a difference in the world.

- **More Than Just Screenings**

MIFF offers a rich and engaging experience beyond the red carpet and screenings. Specially curated programs like country focuses, retrospectives, tributes, and selections of award-winning and student films provide a diverse cinematic journey. To further ignite discourse, MIFF organizes workshops, masterclasses, panels, and open forums. These sessions delve into the evolving landscape of filmmaking, exploring themes of social change, technological advancements, and the ever-changing art of storytelling. Industry meets are also facilitated, fostering connections and collaborations in film production and distribution.

The First Documentary Film Bazaar

The prestigious MIFF is hosting its first-ever Docu-Film Bazaar, a three-day event from June 16th to 18th designed to ignite your creative spark. Imagine a vibrant hub buzzing with established filmmakers and fresh talent, all ready to collaborate and push the boundaries of documentary storytelling. This is your chance to connect with industry experts, get invaluable feedback on your project, and propel your documentary onto the global stage. The Docu-Film Bazaar is more than just a marketplace. It's a launchpad for powerful narratives. Whether you're in pre-production, knee-deep in editing, or ready to showcase your finished masterpiece, the Bazaar has something for you.

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- **Showcasing Films, Recognizing Talent**

MIFF not only provides a platform for exceptional films but also honours excellence. A distinguished jury of filmmakers, academics, and industry veterans meticulously evaluate entries. The most deserving documentaries, shorts, and animations are then awarded the coveted Golden Conch and Silver Conch, along with trophies and cash prizes.

- **The Festival, A Legacy**

MIFF extends its reach beyond its primary venue, Mumbai, by organising screenings in other parts of India. At the 18th MIFF, films will be screened simultaneously across Mumbai, Chennai and Delhi. This ensures wider accessibility for filmmakers, students, cinephiles, and anyone with a passion for cinema. MIFF's commitment to showcasing groundbreaking films, fostering dialogue, and nurturing talent has cemented its legacy as a premier event for non-feature filmmaking in South Asia and a true champion of cinematic excellence.

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FESTIVAL COORDINATION CELL

Six Committee has been constituted for smooth functioning of 18th MIFF-2024:-

1. 9 (Non Official) Members, Organizing Committee has been constituted by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting vide dated 06.10.2023. The 01st meeting of Organizing Committee was held on 02.11.2024 and the approved minutes conveyed by the ministry vide dated 18.12.2023

2. 15 (Non Official) Members, Selection committee(for both National and International Competition) had been constituted by Festival Director with the approval of Ministry of I&B vide dated 13.03.2024

3. First time 5 Members (Non Official), Technical Committee had been constituted to over all managing the technical aspect and set-up for 18th MIFF-2024 by Festival Director with the approval of the Ministry of I&B vide dated 13.03.2024

4. FIPRESCI Critics Jury Award had been reconstituted by the Ministry through rationalization of Award vide 14.12.2023. This award has been re launched again after 2012. 3 Members Committee (Non-official) has been deputed by FIPRESCI Committee with the approval conveyed by the Festival Director and the Ministry of I&B vide dated 08.01.2024 & 08.02.2024. But this award has been given for Best Indian Documentary for the National Competition Section.

5. 10 (Non- Official) Members, Jury (for both National and International Competition) had been constituted by the Festival Director with the approval of the Ministry of I&B vide dated 13.03.2024.

6. 5 Members(Non-Official), Sub-committee of Dr. V. Shantaram Lifetime Achievement Award has been constituted by Festival Director with the approval of the Ministry of I&B vide dated 13.03.2024

The total award including Dr. V. Shantaram Lifetime Achievement Award has been distributed in 15 categories at the opening/closing ceremony of 18th MIFF-2024:-

I. In International Competition :- (In 4 Category)

1) "Best International Documentary Film" shall be honoured with Golden Conch and cash prize of Rs.10 Lakh and

2) "Best International Short Fiction Film" (upto 30 min.) in the International Competition shall be awarded with Silver Conch and cash prizes of Rs.5 lakh and

3) "Best International Animation Film" in the International Competition shall be awarded with Silver Conch and cash prizes of Rs.5 lakh.

4) Besides, a Special Jury Award "Prmod Pati Award for Most Innovative/Experimental Film" carrying a trophy & cash prize of Rs.1 Lakh shall be given in the International Category.

II. In the National Competition:- (In 3 Category + 2 Sponsored Award)

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- 1) “Best Indian Documentary Film” in the National Competition shall be awarded with Silver Conch and cash prizes of Rs.5 lakh.
- 2) “Best Indian Short Fiction Film (upto 30 min.) shall carry Silver Conch and cash prizes of Rs.3 lakh and
- 3) “Best Indian Animation Film” awards shall carry Silver Conch and cash prizes of Rs.3 lakh each.

There shall also be also two sponsored award in National Category:-

- 1) Best Debut Film and
- 2) Best Student Film

carrying Trophy and cash prize of Rupees One Lakh each in the National Competition.

III. Apart from the above, three Technical Awards for

- 1) Cinematography,
- 2) Editing and
- 3) Sound Design,

Each carrying Certificate & Cash Prize of Rs. Three Lakh, common from National & International Competition, shall also be awarded in the 18th MIFF-2024.

IV. A Special Award for Best Short Film on “India in Amrit Kaal” (upto 15 min.) (for Indian film maker only) shall also carry a trophy and Cash Prize of Rs. One Lakh in National Category.

V. FIPRESCI Award for Best Indian Documentary from National Competition Section also carry a trophy and Cash prize of Rs. One Lakh.

VI. Dr. V. Shantaram Lifetime Achievement Award carries Rs.10 Lakhs + Golden Conch+ Cert

National Film Development Corporation extensively used social media platforms like Twitter, Facebook, YouTube and web-fliers to reach out to filmmakers.

Entries for MIFF 2024

Online entries for MIFF 2024 were opened on 15th January 2024. 29th February, 2024 was the cut off date for receiving entries – both National as well as International.

Early Bird (15-1-2024 to 15-2-2024):

International

Film makers SAARC & BIMSTEC Countries	: US \$ 30
Film makers from other Countries	: US \$ 50
Indian film makers	: INR 1,500

National (Filmmaker from India only)	: INR 1,000
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With Late Fees (16-2-2024 to 29-2-2024):

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An additional Late Fees of Rs. 500/- for Indian filmmakers in both categories and 20\$ for filmmakers from other than India in International Competition.

- During 18th edition of MIFF-2024, record 1018 films had been submitted for the Competition Sections through MIFF website and Film Freeway website.
- Total 102 films selected by the 3 Selection Committees of eminent film experts for the International (25) and National (77) Competition sections. The Selection Committee also unanimously remarked that very high quality of film submissions had been received this year which made the selections tough.
- Total 16 films selected for the Prism (Non-Competition) Section for the International (07 films) and National (09 films) Sections.
- The invitation letters/correspondences to all the Organizing Committee members, Selection Committee members, Technical Committee members, FIPRESCI Jury and Dr. V Shantaram Lifetime Achievement Award Sub-committee members were sent through Festival Coordination Cell under the guidance of Festival Director, MIFF-2024.
- The correspondences with the Ministry for various approvals/sanctions were sent and followed up by Festival Coordination Cell.
- The correspondences with the State Government, Police Commissioner, BMC, Fire Brigade etc. for NOC requirement were sent and followed by the Festival Coordination Cell.
- The meeting of Sub-committee of Dr. V Shantaram Lifetime Achievement Award, MIFF-2024 was duly conducted under the supervision of Festival Coordinator, MIFF-2024.
- The invitation cards of opening & closing ceremony of MIFF-2024 to Organizing Committee members, Selection Committee members, Technical Committee members, FIPRESCI Jury and Dr. V Shantaram Lifetime Achievement Award Sub-committee members and 118 filmmaker whose film(s) selected in Competition Category (International & National) and Prism (International & National), Local Authoritative i.e. State Government, Police Commissioner, BMC, Fire Bridged, Local Police Station etc. were delivered through Festival Coordination Cell.
- Coordination with the Protocol Unit, MIFF-2024 for arrival and departure of VVIPs VIPs and Delegates/Guests by the Festival Coordination Cell under the supervision of Festival Coordinator, MIFF-2024
- The results of the Selection Committee (International & National) were not received to Festival Coordination Cell in due time, therefore the invitation letters to the filmmakers whose films were selected, were not sent in time which results in delay in submission of travel plans and screener of the film from the filmmakers.

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Hospitality and Coordination:

- The MIFF-2024 team has shown great dedication to ensuring the comfort of our filmmakers. However, there were some areas where communication and coordination between the Hospitality Unit, specifically the Hotel and Transport Units, could be improved. Some filmmakers expressed concerns about the hospitality services, particularly regarding the hotels arranged through MakeMyTrip. Feedback indicated that the location and ambience of the selected hotels did not meet expectations.

Way Forward:

- **Hotel Selection:** To enhance future experiences, it is recommended that the Hotel Unit conduct thorough inspections and reccees of potential accommodations to ensure they meet the festival's standards and the filmmakers' expectations.
- **Enhanced Communication:** Strengthening communication channels between the Transport Unit and filmmakers will help prevent any misunderstandings and ensure a smooth and welcoming experience for all guests.
- **Technical Support:** The MIFF-2024 team faced some challenges with resolving technical issues related to the screeners of films. Despite the efforts of the Print Checking Unit, some issues remained unresolved until the last minute.

Way Forward:

- **Proactive Technical Checks:** Implementing more rigorous and proactive technical checks well in advance of the festival will help to identify and address any issues early on. This approach will ensure a seamless screening experience for filmmakers and audiences alike.
- **Technical Support Team:** Establishing a dedicated technical support team to work closely with the Print Checking Unit can provide additional expertise and resources to resolve any issues promptly.

By addressing these areas with a proactive and collaborative approach, MIFF can continue to elevate its standards and provide an exceptional experience for all participants.

- Letters to filmmakers whose films were awarded in MIFF-2024 were sent through Festival Coordination Cell under the supervision of Festival Coordinator, MIFF-2024.

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FUNCTION UNIT

The 18th edition of the Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF) 2024 is a significant cultural event that involves meticulous planning and execution. The Function Unit of MIFF 2024 plays a crucial role in ensuring the success of the festival by managing various logistical and ceremonial aspects. This report outlines the major roles and responsibilities of the Function Unit, detailing the tasks and activities that contribute to the smooth functioning of the event.

1. Distribution of Invitation Cards

Closing Ceremony & Dinner:

- **Total Guests:** 380

Opening Ceremony & Dinner:

- **Total Guests:** 646
- **Total Dinner:** 331

Responsibilities:

- Compile and maintain an accurate guest list for both the opening and closing ceremonies.
- Categorize guests into different groups (A+, A, B) based on their importance and seating arrangement.
- Design and distribute invitation cards, ensuring timely delivery to all invitees.
- Coordinate with printing services for the production of invitation cards.
- Manage RSVPs and confirmations to ensure a clear understanding of the expected number of attendees.

2. Monitoring Audience Occupancy

Objective:

- Ensure accurate tracking of audience occupancy in all auditoriums across India (Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai, Pune and Mumbai) during MIFF 2024.

Responsibilities:

- Implement an audience monitoring system to track attendance in real-time.
- Coordinate with local venue managers to collect and report occupancy data.
- Analyze occupancy trends to ensure optimal utilization of auditoriums.
- Address any issues related to over- or under-occupancy promptly.

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3. Managing & Executing Presentations

Objective:

- Oversee presentations before each screening in all auditoriums at the NFDC-FD complex.

Responsibilities:

- Prepare and schedule presentations, including welcome addresses, felicitations, and award presentations.
- Coordinate with presenters and ensure they are briefed and prepared.
- Manage technical aspects, such as audio-visual equipment, to ensure smooth presentations.
- Ensure timely and professional execution of all presentations.

4. Finalization of Chief Guests and Guests of Honour

Objective:

- Select and invite Chief Guests and Guests of Honour for the opening and closing ceremonies.

Responsibilities:

- Identify suitable candidates for Chief Guests and Guests of Honour.
- Extend formal invitations and manage their responses.
- Coordinate their participation, including travel, accommodation, and itineraries.
- Prepare and manage protocols for their attendance and involvement in the ceremonies.

5. Coordination with Decoration Unit

Objective:

- Collaborate with the decoration unit for the opening and closing functions of MIFF 2024.

Responsibilities:

- Plan and design the decoration themes for the events.
- Coordinate with the decoration team to implement the designs.
- Ensure decorations are in place well before the start of the ceremonies.
- Address any last-minute adjustments or requirements.

6. Preparation and Execution of Guest Lists

Objective:

- Develop and manage guest lists and mailing lists for extending invitations.

Responsibilities:

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- Compile comprehensive guest lists, including VIPs, industry professionals, and other notable attendees.
- Maintain and update mailing lists for efficient communication.
- Ensure all guests receive their invitations and follow up on RSVPs.
- Manage the overall invitation process to ensure no important guests are missed.

7. Finalization of Seating Arrangements

Objective:

- Determine and finalize seating arrangements inside the auditorium for the opening and closing ceremonies of MIFF 2024.

Responsibilities:

- Develop seating plans that accommodate all guests.
- Ensure seating arrangements reflect the importance and relationships of guests.
- Coordinate with venue staff to implement and manage seating plans.
- Address any seating-related issues promptly during the events.

The Function Unit of MIFF 2024 plays a pivotal role in managing the intricate details that contribute to the festival's success. From distributing invitation cards and monitoring audience occupancy to managing presentations and coordinating with the decoration unit, each responsibility is crucial for the smooth execution of the event. By adhering to these detailed roles and responsibilities, the Function Unit ensures that MIFF 2024 is a well-organized, memorable, and successful festival.

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FESTIVAL PROGRAMMING - NON-COMPETITION

Summary - The 18th edition of MIFF featured 195 films in various categories of the **Non-competition** section.

Best of Fest:

The section includes 12 short films from Berlinale and 12 Oscar-nominated short films.

Mosaics:

Comprised 19 documentaries and short fiction films handpicked for the MIFF audience from around the world. These are selected from the latest films that are doing the rounds in noted film festivals.

Animation Films:

MIFF featured 47 **Animation Films** across five distinct packages: French, Slovenian, Argentinean and Greek, along with a retrospective of Georges Schwizgebel Animation Films.

Special Packages:

27 films were part of **Special Packages** highlighting Asian women filmmakers sourced from IAWRT, Mission life sourced from CMS Vatavatan, Wildlife, Cultural films sourced from C2F2, Divyangjan Films sourced from India Signing Hands and Planet Read, and Restored Classics curated by NFAI. The films “Billy and Molly” and “My Mercury” both initially were part of the wildlife films package, but later moved to special Screenings.

The Divyangjan films included accessible features such as Indian sign language (ISL), audio descriptions, and same-language subtitles, making them accessible to children with hearing and visual impairments. These children were invited for the screenings as part of the Inclusivity program.

The **Restored Classics** consisted remarkable films of Masters like Satyajit Ray & Ritwik Ghatak that were digitally remastered in 4K by NFDC-NFAI and these were the first screenings of the restored version.

"**Around India with a Movie Camera**" featured the oldest ever known footage shot in India dating back to 1899. The film featured footage from the British Film Institute Archives which were digitally restored and carefully hand painted frame by frame. The film is directed by the well renowned filmmaker Sandhya Suri and music is by the maestro Souvik Dutta.

Country Focus Packages:

The festival also showcased 18 curated films from Japan, Russia, Belarus, Iran, Italy, Vietnam, and Mali, highlighting their respective cultures, arts, and lifestyles.

Student Films:

MIFF featured 44 films from various **Indian film schools** and Babelsberg University of Germany which attracted many students and also gave a platform for students to see each other's films.

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Special Screenings:

MIFF collaborated with OTT platforms such as Amazon, Disney Hotstar, and DocuBay, showcasing their works in the festival.

The **Highlights** in the **Special Screenings** were the films “My Mercury”, “Inside Out-2”, “I Go Gaga”, “The Commandants Shadow” and “Billy and Molly” and “Shrikant”

The **Opening film** of 18th MIFF was “**Billy and Molly- an Otter Love Story**” which had its India Premiere in the festival with screenings in Mumbai, Delhi, Kolkata, Pune and Chennai on 15th June, 2024.

The **Mid-fest Film** of the 18th MIFF was “**The Commandant’s Shadow**”, directed by Daniela Volker screened on 18th June, 2024 with the Filmmakers present.

In the non-competitive section, MIFF presented 8 world premieres, 5 international premieres, 18 Asian premieres, and 21 India premiere films.

The entire list of curated films of the **Non-competition section** may be seen at:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1VQOrEeCWyNQCfh1sxyLM8QEJGirf9WAw_mEK2L-DupE/edit?usp=sharing

The Programming unit formed a committee of 5 In-house members to watch and evaluate the films for its inclusion in the Festival Programming. One member backed out after a few days and then, another committee of 4 members was formed due to shortage of time. With both the committees in place, one batch of evaluations were approved on 23rd May and the next batch of evaluations were approved on 3rd of June.

The Programming unit tried to approach the following Filmmakers for having their Retrospective packages:

Werner Herzog
Wim Wenders
John Akomfrah
Rithy Pahn
Ishu Patel
Hayao Miyazaki

These did not materialise due to various reasons. Though Mr. Ishu Patel accepted the offer, he had to cancel his program due to a Knee surgery. We sourced the films of Miyazaki but due to budget constraints, we had to drop it. Finally, an Animation Retrospective of Mr. Georges Schwizgebel, and Jury Masterclass of Audrius Stonys were lined up.

Pros:

The Non-competition programming had a good line up of films which was liked by the audiences. The audience showed a lot of interest in the curated packages and the theatres were full. My Mercury, The Commandants Shadow, I Go Gaga, Coconut Head Generation, The Cemetery of Cinema, The Rebellion

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of the Flowers, King Coal, Night of the Coyotes, Ivan Pigarev and the study of Sleep, Nomad Girl, Children's Album 1&2, Peng Yu Sai, Happy Independence Day, Around India With a Movie Camera, Bloodline, Steps of Freedom - The Story of Irish Dance, etc., have been highly appreciated. The curation featured films from all around the world showcasing global cinematic diversity.

The Social media outreach has worked wonders and has gained record breaking footfall in this edition.

The Doc Film Bazaar initiative was a success and more such events may be organised throughout the year, and not just during the MIFF.

The selection of topics for master class and Panel Discussions were very well curated and attracted overwhelming attendance.

New Features in Programming:

The 18th Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF) introduced exciting new features such as Red Carpet and Gala Screenings, aiming to add glamour and offer audiences close interactions with their favorite filmmakers and celebrities. Inspired by the success of a similar segment at the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) in 2022, these screenings were a welcome addition. However, these new features led to some scheduling conflicts that affected the competition screenings.

Way Forward:

- **Balanced Scheduling:** To ensure that both new and traditional segments receive adequate attention, future editions can carefully balance the scheduling of Red Carpet and Gala Screenings with the competition films, allowing all screenings to attract significant audiences.
- **Engagement with Core Audience:** As MIFF is primarily a festival for Documentaries, Short Fiction, and Animation, which attracts a serious audience, maintaining a focus on the core values and traditional elements of the festival is essential. Continuing the North East package and Homage Screenings in future editions will help retain the festival's unique character and appeal to its dedicated audience.

Screening Venues and Hospitality:

- This edition saw JB Hall, a key venue for non-competition films, being repurposed for Master Classes and panel discussions, limiting its availability for screenings.
- Additionally, concerns were raised about the hotel accommodations and the reduced duration of stay for filmmakers, which impacted their overall experience.

Way Forward:

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- Venue Management: Ensuring that prominent screening venues like JB Hall are available for non-competition films while scheduling Master Classes and discussions at alternative times or locations will provide a balanced program.
- Enhanced Hospitality: Reinstating the previous standard of hospitality, including the selection of quality hotels and ensuring a full 7-day stay for filmmakers, will help maintain the festival's reputation for excellent hospitality.

Technical and Logistical Improvements:

Challenges with last-minute film submissions led to technical issues during screenings. Additionally, delays in providing necessary resources and obtaining approvals caused operational inefficiencies.

Way Forward:

- Proactive Planning: Finalizing film submissions 1.5 to 2 months in advance will give the Print Checking Unit ample time to ensure all films play properly and with accurate subtitles.
- Resource Management: Streamlining the process for providing essential resources like laptops, hard disks, and internet facilities will help avoid delays. Improving coordination and understanding among various units will also enhance overall efficiency.
- Experienced EMA Hiring: Engaging an Event Management Agency (EMA) with specific experience in handling film festivals will ensure smoother operations and a more successful event.

By addressing these areas with proactive measures and maintaining open communication, MIFF-2024 can continue to evolve and provide an exceptional experience for filmmakers and audiences alike.

How to improve in the next edition:

Improving the Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF) for its next edition involves several strategic considerations to enhance its impact and appeal to participants and audiences alike. Here are some key suggestions:

Expand Outreach and Promotion:

- Increase efforts in promoting the festival globally through social media, partnerships with international film organizations, and targeted advertising campaigns.
- Enhance the festival's online presence with a user-friendly website and mobile application that provides comprehensive information about films, schedules, and events.

Diversify Film Selection:

- Aim for a diverse selection of films from various genres, regions, and cultures to appeal to a broader audience and showcase global cinematic diversity.

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- Establish thematic sections or retrospectives that highlight specific genres, directors, or socio-cultural issues.

Streamline Submission and Selection Process:

- Simplify the film submission process for filmmakers through an intuitive online platform with clear guidelines and deadlines.
- Establish a transparent selection committee with diverse expertise to ensure fair evaluation and selection of films.
- In this edition of MIFF, there were 118 films in the competition section and 195 films in the Non-competition section. Hence it is suggested that films for the Non-competition section also may be called from the Film freeway/MIFF online platform and selection committees may be formed similar to the competition section. This will ensure proper submission and streamlining of the non-competition segment.

We may start preparing in advance and finalise every aspect of the festival at least 1.5 months in advance. The entire film selection, selection of Jury, finalising of films in non-competition, catalogue, screening schedule, opening and closing ceremonies etc., have to be finalised. This gives ample time for the print checking to finalise films, and for the film makers to plan their attendance in the festival.

The Festival is generally organised during the last week of January and the first week of February which is a pleasant time in Mumbai and the best time for MIFF.

By focusing on these areas, MIFF can enhance its reputation as a premier international film festival, attract a wider audience, foster meaningful industry connections, and take the legacy of MIFF to greater heights.

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PRINT AND PUBLICATION UNIT

I started working with the MIFF Publication and Print Unit from 7th June, 2024 as per the NFDC office order NFDC/P&A/MIFF-2024/2024-25/1370 dated 6th June. The Print and Publishing Unit was tasked with the responsibility of printing and distribution of the following items:

1. MIFF 2024 Catalogue
2. MIFF 2024 Mumbai Schedule
3. MIFF 2024 Delhi Schedule
4. MIFF 2024 Kolkata Schedule
5. MIFF 2024 Chennai Schedule

The design template of the catalog and schedule was designed by NID. The template was shared with EMA team, consisting of Graphic Designers and Proof Readers. The content for the catalog and schedule were being provided by different teams namely Masterclass, Scheduling, Red Carpet, Programming among others.

The schedules of Pune, Chennai and Kolkata were ready by 9th June and sent for printing the following day.

The first draft of the catalog was ready by 9th June and reviewed by MD, NFDC the same night. All the changes were implemented, followed by a proofread of the entire catalog of 450 pages. The proofreading was done in presence of the following MIFF Officials, Mr. Shridhar, Mr. Malyaban and Ms. Ashwini, along with the EMA Team. The catalog was sent for printing on 10th June. The Schedules of Delhi and Mumbai were completed by 11th June, and sent for printing the next day.

Following is the inventory of all the printing undertaken for MIFF 2024 as part of this Unit:

Category	No. of Copies
MIFF 2024 Catalog (Offset Printing)	6000
MIFF 2024 Catalog (Digital Printing)	100
MIFF 2024 Schedule, Mumbai (Offset Printing)	3500
MIFF 2024 Schedule, Mumbai (Digital Printing)	100
MIFF 2024 Schedule, Delhi (Offset Printing)	1000
MIFF 2024 Schedule, Delhi (Digital Printing)	50
MIFF 2024 Schedule, Kolkata (Offset Printing)	1000

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MIFF 2024 Schedule, Kolkata (Digital Printing)	50
MIFF 2024 Schedule, Chennai (Offset Printing)	1000
MIFF 2024 Schedule, Chennai (Digital Printing)	50
MIFF 2024 Schedule, Pune (Offset Printing)	1000
MIFF 2024 Schedule, Pune (Digital Printing)	50

The catalogs and the respective schedules were dispatched from Mumbai to the four cities and had reached by the opening day of the film festival, 15th June. In Mumbai, the catalogs and schedules were regularly provided to the registration unit and also were handed over to various sections whenever requested. Post the completion of the festival, on 21st June, the remaining catalog and schedule boxes were moved to the storage area, 4th floor, Phase 2 building. The storage room's key is in possession of NFDC official Mr. Ritesh Taksande.

Challenges and Way ahead for future edition of MIFF or any other festivals

1. Coordination of the EMA Team: The major challenge faced was with the EMA team. The graphic designers were not adequately skilled to handle a catalog of such a large scale, with limited knowledge of the necessary software (e.g., InDesign). Additionally, the design team (NID) was not fully involved due to certain tasks being outside their scope. There was a lack of coordination within the EMA Team, and no project supervisor was provided, which was a crucial oversight. Despite these challenges, the team came together to complete the catalog and schedules, delivering them on time.

2. Recommendations for Future Editions: To address these issues in future editions, it is strongly recommended to have a single team or agency responsible for both design and content. This team should be in place at least a month before the catalog's publication. Each member should be experienced with the design software and familiar with the publishing process. Given the equal importance of design and content, the publishing unit should be led by an official with strong aesthetic sensibilities to elevate the catalog to international film festival standards.

Way Forward

- **Unified Team/Agency:** Engage a single team or agency responsible for both design and content.
- **Early Preparation:** Ensure the team is established at least a month before the catalog's publication.
- **Experienced Personnel:** Ensure all team members are proficient with design software and the publishing process.
- **Leadership with Aesthetic Expertise:** Appoint an official with strong aesthetic sensibilities to lead the publishing unit, aiming to meet international standards.

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ONLINE WEBSITE, MIFF ENTRIES, MIFF APP, MIFF DELEGATE REG. & PASSES

The Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF) recently concluded its latest edition showcasing significant advancements in digital engagement and technical infrastructure. This report provides a comprehensive overview of the MIFF Online Website, Entries process, App, Delegate Registration & Passes, and the technical equipment with WiFi support utilized during the event.

MIFF Online Website: The MIFF Online Website played a crucial role as the central hub for information dissemination and interaction throughout the event: M/s. Mirackle Solutions has provided the support for smooth functioning of the festival website and provided the onsite support during the festival.

- Provided schedules(which were changed on an everyday basis), film details, jury updates, gallery etc.
- Designed for intuitive navigation and accessibility across various devices.
- Handled high traffic volumes efficiently, ensuring minimal downtime.

MIFF Entries: The submission and management of film entries were streamlined through an integrated online platform: Film entries received through the two different platforms i.e film freeway and MIFF website. Total of 1008 films received through online.

- Secure and user-friendly interface for filmmakers to submit their films.
- Efficient process for jury members to review and score entries remotely.
- Automated notifications for submission confirmations and selection outcomes.
- Robust measures implemented to protect sensitive filmmaker information.

MIFF App: The MIFF App complemented the website, enhancing attendee engagement and mobility: The app was created by Pavel Kalenda M/s. Datakal solutions within the short period of time to support the delegates during the festival and app having different features and functionalities.

- Program schedule, real-time updates on screenings, events, and venue information, enabling attendees to navigate the festival seamlessly, programming in different cities, notifications, booking slots in each film and digitalised accreditation card for all users.
- Available on iOS and Android platforms for seamless access.
- Integrated feedback forms to capture attendee insights and booking slots facility
- Integrated ticketing services allowed users to purchase, manage, and redeem tickets directly via the app, streamlining access to screenings and events.
- Leveraged push notifications to notify users about last-minute schedule changes, special announcements, and exclusive events, enhancing engagement and attendee satisfaction.

Delegate Registration & Passes: Efficient management of delegate registrations and passes was critical for attendees: a total of 12027 registrations were done for the festival and it is the highest number of registrations in the history of MIFF.

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- Online registration with secure payment processing capabilities in both website and bookmyshow, payment was collected in initial days and then make it free for all the users.
- Different pass categories were distributed based on preferences and registration types.
 - Management, Official, Student, Onduty, Jury, Volunteer, Delegate and Media.
- Smooth integration with on-site badge printing and check-in systems.
- Dedicated helpdesk for addressing queries related to registrations and passes, IT team with volunteers worked day and night to print the passes day and night.

Support for Animation Workshop and Doc Bazaar and other all verticals MIFF's commitment to supporting animation and documentary filmmaking was evident through animation workshop and doc bazaar verticals(doc co production market, VR and WIP Labs, buyer and seller meet):

- Receiving entries to till the completion of animation workshop IT team has provided extensive support to receive entries, mail promotion and providing the technical support(getting the animation and gaming laptops).
- In MIFF Doc Bazaar entire end to end support was done by IT team with the help of Mr. Pavel Kalenda to receive entries(Doc Co Production Market, VR&WIP), setting viewing room, technical equipment.
- IT Support was provided to all the units as when required, day and night for some verticals like cataloguing unit,doc bazaar, registration unit etc.

Technical Equipment Support and WiFi Robust technical support and reliable WiFi infrastructure were essential to the smooth operation of MIFF:

- Ensured availability and functionality of technical equipment such as computers, laptops, UPS, and screening scanners, minimizing disruptions during screenings and events.
- On-site technical support teams promptly addressed any equipment-related issues, ensuring uninterrupted program delivery and participant&employee satisfaction.
- Provided reliable WiFi connectivity across festival venues, dedicated two officials for WIFI (M/s Tesscom) stationed at the onsite during the festival to help and support the participants and employees.
- A separate app was created for android phone (Venue access control) for scanning purposes and later scanners brought from ESG goa supported the event.
- An international film Go Gaga was screened online in Audi 1 using the WIFI(not havig the downloaded copy) without any disturbance.
- Internet connectivity for opening and closing ceremony in NCPA auditorium was also done through the external agency due to not having the internet facility NCPA auditorium.

Challenges and Improvements: Several challenges were encountered and areas for improvement identified:

- Scanners used for the checking the tickets are efficient but book my show tickets QR code made the people in dilemma in registration desk and as well as theaters.
- Suggestions for enhancing search functionalities on the website and app(this can be planner better manner for the next time)

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- A single form mode of receiving entries for receiving the films smooth communication to applicants as film freeway and website entries created confusion for applicants.
- A single mail box for support the film entries and delegate will be more helpful to participants for smoother communication.

Conclusion: The integration of MIFF Online Website, Entries, App, Delegate Registration & Passes, along with robust technical equipment and WiFi support, contributed to a successful event. Continuous feedback and post-event analysis will guide future enhancements to elevate attendee experience and digital engagement in future editions of MIFF.

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DELEGATE REGISTRATION

ACCREDITATION TYPE	COUNT
Delegate 2024 Mumbai	3526
Student Delegate 2024 Mumbai	1285
Guest	570
Student Delegate 2024 Delhi	413
Delegate 2024 Delhi	352
Delegate 2024 Kolkata	285
Officials 2024	265
Press 2024 Mumbai	209
Delegate 2024 Pune	190
Delegate 2024 Chennai	180
Volunteer	175
On Duty 2024	132
Management 2024	102
Student Delegate 2024 Pune	85
Jury 2024	13
Student Delegate 2024 Kolkata	2
MEDIA	1
TOTAL	7785

COUNTRY	COUNT
India	6033
(none)	1682
USA	10
United Kingdom	9
Australia	7
France	6
Bangladesh	3
Argentina	3
Albania	2
Germany	2
Nepal	2

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Czech Republic	2
Japan	2
United Arab Emirates	2
Poland	2
Afghanistan	1
Russia	1
Qatar	1

States
Andaman and Nicobar Islands
Andhra Pradesh (New)
Arunachal Pradesh
Assam
Bihar
Chhattisgarh
DELHI
Goa
Gujarat
Harayana
Jammu and Kashmir
JHARKHAND
Karnataka
Kerala
Ladakh
Madhya Pradesh
Maharahstra
Manipur
Meghalaya
Mizoram
Nagaland
Odisha
Punjab
Rajasthan
Sikkim
Tami Nadu

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TELANGANA
Tripura
Uttar Padesh
Uttarakhand
West Bangal

Total Participants (Website)	9525
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Georgia	1
Spain	1
Singapore	1
Iran	1
Iceland	1
Barbados	1
Hungary	1
Switzerland	1
Nigeria	1
Lebanon	1
Indonesia	1
South Korea	1
Antigua & Barbuda	1
Ukraine	1
Austria	1
TOTAL	7785

Accredited Break up	
Delegates	4533
Students	1785
Media	210
Guest	570
Jury	13
Official	265
Volunteers	175
Management	102
On Duty	132

Via Book My Show	
Total Entries	2502

Via MIFF
WEBSITE

Total Accredited Delegates	10287
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Total Participants	12027
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PRINT UNIT

1. **Early Submission of Screening Materials:** It is crucial that all competition films and special package screening materials reach the print checking unit at least one week before the festival begins. This early submission allows ample time for thorough error-checking and corrections, ensuring that all films are ready for flawless screenings during the festival.
2. **Preference for Physical Copies over DCP Downloads:** Instead of relying solely on downloading DCP (Digital Cinema Package) files, organizers should request hard copies such as hard disks or pen drives. This approach minimizes the risk of delays caused by varying internet speeds across different countries and unreliable server connections, which often result in corrupted or incomplete file downloads.
3. **Effective Coordination between Editing /Print Checking and other Source Units:** Seamless coordination between the editing team /the print checking and other Source unit is essential. This ensures that all films undergo meticulous review and preparation, guaranteeing high-quality screenings without technical glitches.
4. **Early Distribution of Programming Schedules:** The programming schedule should be finalized and delivered to the print checking unit well in advance of other festival units. This early distribution enables efficient organization of films and timely dispatch to relevant theaters or venues for screenings, optimizing the overall festival experience. Like if material were had reached on time then respective staff of Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai and Pune could check it before screening.

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REPORT FROM JURY SECRETARY – INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

The International Competition Jury consisted of 05 members comprising of 03 from abroad and 02 from India. They were :

1. Mr. Bharat Bala, India - Chairperson
2. Mr. Manas Choudhary, India
3. Ms Keiko Bang, Japan
4. Mr. Barthelemy Fougea, France
5. Mr. Audrius Stonys, Lithuania

The jury watched 25 films in all. Out of which 14 were documentaries, 07 Short Fiction and 04 Animation films. The total duration of these 25 films were 25 hrs, 32 mins and 36 secs.

Jury watched the short fiction and animation films online and links were sent to them before they arrived in festival venue for offline screenings. The screenings in the festival venue from 14 to 17 June, 2024. The introduction of the jury members with the Festival Director and briefing about the festival norms was done on 13th June, 2024. The jury submitted its report, after intense deliberations, to the Festival Director on 18th June, 2024 evening.

Observations / Suggestions :

Jury Experience and Engagement:

The jury, composed of eminent personalities from around the world, plays a crucial role in judging the films in competition. It is essential that their contributions are highlighted and that they are provided with an engaging and comfortable experience.

Way Forward:

- **Showcase Jury Work:** Screening the body of work of jury members during the festival will honor their contributions to cinema and provide valuable insights to attendees.
- **Interactive Sessions:** Including jury members in panel discussions and master classes will allow them to share their wisdom and experience with the current generation of film enthusiasts.

Jury Screening and Lounge:

The timing and format of jury screenings for the International competition need refinement. Additionally, the preparation of the jury lounge requires special attention to ensure a comfortable environment.

Way Forward:

- **Timely Lounge Preparation:** Ensuring the jury lounge is fully functional with all necessary amenities before screenings begin will enhance their comfort. This includes stocking the lounge with international cuisine, as well as tea, coffee, and snacks for immediate access.

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Culinary and Comfort Considerations:

It is important to cater to the diverse culinary preferences of the international jury and ensure their comfort throughout the festival.

Way Forward:

- **Diverse Cuisine:** Serving cuisine from different parts of the world will accommodate the dietary preferences of international jury members. Additionally, arranging occasional lunches at nearby restaurants can provide variety and a change of scenery.
- **Accessible Amenities:** Providing cookies and a tea/coffee machine in the jury lounge for quick breaks will prevent the need for frequent trips to other floors, especially when the lifts are crowded. Ensuring the cleanliness and functionality of restroom facilities is also essential for maintaining the festival's image.

Logistics and Communication:

Effective communication and logistical arrangements are crucial for the smooth functioning of the festival and the satisfaction of the jury.

Way Forward:

- **Dedicated Transport:** Providing a dedicated car for each jury secretary (international, national, and FIPRESCI) will ensure timely and reliable transportation for the jury. This will prevent miscommunication and logistical challenges, enhancing the overall experience for jury members.

By addressing these areas with proactive measures and maintaining open communication, MIFF can continue to improve and provide an exceptional experience for both the jury and festival attendees.

REPORT FROM JURY SECRETARY – NATIONAL COMPETITION

The National Jury for the Short Fiction & Animation, Documentary played a crucial role in selecting the best documentaries showcased at the festival. Comprising esteemed professionals from the film industry, the jury brought their expertise and passion for documentary filmmaking to the evaluation process. This report summarizes their contributions, the selection process, and the winning films.

Jury Members:

- **Ms.Adele Seelmann Eggebert**, Curator and coordinator for annual tri media festival & competition Prix Europa/Rundfunk Berlin-Brandenburg.
- **Ms.Anna Henckel- Donnersmarck**, Curator and Head of Berlinale Shorts.
- **Ms.Apoorva Bakshi**, Producer
- **Dr.Bobby Sarma Baruah**, National and international award winning Indian Filmmaker

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- **Mr.Munjal Shroff**, Co-founder of animation studio Graphiti

The jury viewed and evaluated 30 documentaries, 30 short fiction, 11 Animation film and 6 Amrit Kaal films totalling 36 Hours 58 Minutes of content. They assessed each film based on criteria such as storytelling, cinematography, editing, sound design and impact. The jury deliberated extensively, discussing the merits of each film, and ultimately selected the winners. The screening and deliberation was held from 14th June to 18th June 2024 at RR II, 6th Floor, Phase II, NFDC-FD Complex.

Winning Films:

1. **Best Short film on “India in Amrit Kaal” “Life in Loom”, Director: Edmond Ranson.** The award carries a trophy, certificate and cash prize of Rs.1.0 lakh.
2. **The IDPA Award for the Best Student film “ Chanchisoa” (Expectation), Director: Elvachisa Ch Sangma and Dipankar Das.** The award carries a trophy, certificate and cash prize of Rs.1.0 lakh.
3. **Dadasaheb Phalke Chitranagari for the Best Debut Director “And, Towards Happy Alleys” Director: Sreemoyee Singh**
4. **Best Indian Animation film “Nirjara” Director: Gaurav Pati and Producer: National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad.** The award carries a Silver conch, certificate and cash prize of Rs.3.0 lakhs
5. **Best Indian Short Fiction film “Salt” Director: Barkha Prashant Naik and Producer: Heramb Kirtany and Tanvi Ajinkya.** The award carries a Silver conch, certificate and cash prize of Rs.3.0 lakhs
6. **The Best Indian Documentary “6-A Akash Ganga” Director: Nirmal Chander Dandriyal Producer: Annapurna Devi Foundation.** The award carries a Silver conch, certificate and cash prize of Rs.5.0 lakhs
7. **Best Sound Designer “ The Golden Thread” Niraj Gera and Dhara Ka Tem (Time for milking) Abhijit Sarkar.** The award carries a Silver conch, certificate and cash prize of Rs.3.0 lakhs
8. **Best Editor jointly to Vignesh Kumulai for the film Karparaa and Irene Dhar Mallik for the film From the Shadows.** The award carries a Silver conch, certificate and cash prize of Rs.3.0 lakhs
9. **Best Cinematographer shared jointly Suraj Thakur for the film “Entangled” and Babin Dulal for the film Dhorpatan.** The award carries a Silver conch, certificate and cash prize of Rs.3.0 lakhs
10. **Special Jury mention for the film “ A Coconut Tree” Director: Joshy Benedict**

The National Jury's dedication and expertise ensured a rigorous and fair selection process. Their choices reflect the festival's commitment to showcasing exceptional documentary filmmaking. The winning films and notable mentions demonstrate the power of documentary storytelling, inspiring audiences and filmmakers alike. We extend our gratitude to the jury members for their invaluable contributions to the festival's success.

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REPORT FROM JURY SECRETARY – FIPRESCI COMPETITION

1. The Jury members were able to complete all their screening quota and provide us their verdict for best film in time, to help make all our preparations to felicitate the winner.
2. The Jury members mostly had smooth experience with hospitality, timely meals & transportation, pleasant lounge area and with the escorts helping them to roam the city.
3. Due to dinner invites every evening, the Jury members were accommodated in special screening rooms, booking which had some challenges in the background for me, but for the Jury members it was smooth.

Key Observations:

1. Jury Booklet Requirements: The FIPRESCI Jury requires additional information such as the Director's Bio and the Synopsis of the films for their verdicts and internal reports to their parent foundation. The necessity of the Jury Booklet is paramount and should be prioritized. Although it was provided on the third day of screenings, it is recommended that future preparations include the creation and availability of the booklet on the first day. Ensuring timely provision of such materials will enhance the Jury's experience and efficiency. Early team briefings and consultations with assigned Jury members regarding their specific needs will prevent delays and streamline the process.

2. Screening Schedule for National Competition Films: The Jury for National Competition: Documentary films (both short and long) watches screenings with the general public. Therefore, special attention is required in scheduling these films. It is advisable to avoid scheduling their screenings after 6 pm and to group these films with others in the same category. Given the members' evening dinner invitations, arrangements should be made to screen films they miss due to these commitments. Identifying potential scheduling conflicts in advance and having a flexible plan will minimize disruptions and improve the overall experience for the Jury.

3. Unforeseen Scheduling Changes: The need to move screenings was unforeseen and required extensive consultations with multiple stakeholders. To address similar obstacles in the future, it is suggested to identify such challenges early and establish backup plans that can be implemented swiftly with minimal stakeholder involvement. Streamlined contingency planning will reduce disruptions and ensure smoother operations.

4. Award Presentations: While the FIPRESCI Jury awards a certificate, MIFF adds a trophy and cash prize to their awards. However, this year the trophy was not given to the winner, despite initial agreements. Ensuring all elements of the awards are prepared and presented as agreed will uphold the festival's reputation and maintain consistency in award presentations.

5. Independence and Recognition of FIPRESCI Jury: The FIPRESCI Jury operates independently of MIFF's decisions and is highly respected worldwide. Their simple requests, such as reading their Jury statement for the winning film, should be fulfilled. This year, the Jury members' names were not

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mentioned in the opening and closing ceremonies, and their Jury statement was not read. Including such acknowledgments, even if brief, would reflect positively on MIFF's organizing committee and honor the federation's long-standing reputation.

6. Reviving the FIPRESCI Jury Prize: The revival of the FIPRESCI Jury prize at MIFF, after more than a decade, is a significant achievement and should continue. Although preparations may not have been fully in place this year, the experiences and learnings gained will prepare the committee well for the next edition. Continued focus on refining processes and addressing the challenges faced will enhance the festival's overall success.

Way Forward

- **Prioritize Jury Booklet Preparation:** Ensure the Jury Booklet is ready and available on the first day by consulting Jury members in advance.
- **Optimize Screening Schedules:** Avoid scheduling National Competition films after 6 pm and consider grouping them appropriately.
- **Enhance Contingency Planning:** Identify potential scheduling conflicts early and establish quick-implementation backup plans.
- **Ensure Consistent Award Presentations:** Adhere to initial agreements regarding awards to maintain consistency.
- **Acknowledge FIPRESCI Jury Contributions:** Recognize and fulfill the FIPRESCI Jury's simple requests to honor their independent stature.
- **Build on Current Learnings:** Use the experiences from this year to improve preparations and address challenges for future editions.

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Red Carpet & Special Screenings

The inaugural edition of the Red Carpet & Gala Screenings section was a resounding success, drawing full houses for each screening. The final film, *Srikanth*, received a standing ovation, showcasing the audience's appreciation. This overwhelming response contributed to the 18th edition of the Mumbai International Film Festival being hailed as a grand success, setting a high standard for future festivals.



The segment is designed to celebrate the international festival while staying true to its spirit of showcasing the best of world cinema, documentaries, animation & short fiction content. It aims to provide a platform for filmmakers and audiences to interact, fostering global cooperation and friendships. The introduction of this segment has added a new dimension to the festival, making it even more appealing to both documentary filmmakers and industry professionals alike. The Red Carpet & Gala Screenings section is being introduced at the 18th MIFF with the aim of adding more glitz and glamour to the festival

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and giving the audiences an opportunity to see their favourite filmmakers & celebrities up close. This initiative is inspired by the International Film Festival of India (IFFI), where a similar segment named 'Red Carpet & Gala Premieres' was introduced in its 53rd edition in 2022. That segment is a huge success, drawing large audiences and featuring mainstream film personalities from across the globe who graced the red carpet and attended the gala premieres of their respective films.



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The segment witnessed an array of prominent figures from the documentary filmmaking industry and other esteemed guests gracing the Red Carpet. Dignitaries included Hon'ble Dr. L. Murugan, Minister of State, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Govt. of India, and Devika Prabhu, Business Head - Kids and Infotainment, Disney Star at the Opening Film including the National Jury - Ms. Ana Henckel-Donnersmarck, Ms. Adele Seelman, Dr. Bobby Baruah, Mr. Munjal Shroff, Ms. Apoorva Bakshi, International Jury - Mr. Audrius Stonys, Mr. Barthelemy Fougues, Ms Keiko Bang (Margaret Hagihara), Mr. Manas Choudhary, Mr. Bharat Bala & FIPRESCI Jury Members Meghachandra Kongbam, Alexandra Porshneva & Axel Timo Purr graced the Red Carpet. Renowned filmmakers and industry professionals such as Richie Mehta (Director), Pankaj Jha, Joelle Chesselet (Director), Lloyd Ross (Director of Photography), Aoi Ishimaru (Director, Arts & cultural Exchange, The Japan Foundation New Delhi), Sujata Chanda (Director - Communications, Publicity and Events Lead), Karishma Pandya (Marketing and Public Relations Specialist). For the Mid-Fest film., the renowned Daniela Völker (Director), Wendy Robbins (Executive Producer), and Raj Sajan Kurup were in attendance.



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The cast and crew present for the short films curated by Saameer Mody, MD, Pocket Films, included Dr. Swanand Wagh (Director), Sankalp Zore (Music Director), Aniket Kalyankasture (Assistant Director), Divya Parte (Actor), Pratiksha Kamble (Actor), Shubham Kadam (Production Head), Rupesh Kokitkar (Director of Photography), Simmer Bhatia (Director, Writer, Producer), Sharad Malhotra (Main Protagonist), Aniket Dabas (Director), Shrikant Wattamwar (Producer), and Pratima Joshi (Director). Additionally, the event saw celebrities such as Kunal Kapoor (Actor), Savio Barnes (Choreographer), Viveck Vaswani (Filmmaker), Supriya Pathak (Actor), Sanah Kapur (Actor), Zahan Kapoor (Actor), Anupam Sharma (Director & Producer), Akash Khurana (Writer & Director), Aseem Bajaj (Producer & Cinematographer), SMM Ausaja (Film Historian), Hon'ble Paul Murphy (Consul General of Australia), and Colvyn Harris (Ex-CEO, James Walter Thompson South Asia). Further notable attendees included Varun Malik (Executive Producer, Disney + Hotstar), Aimee Baruah (Actor/Producer), Himansu Sekhar Khatua (DG – KIIT, Bhubaneswar), Nidhi Parmar (Producer), and Srikanth Bolla (Industrialist).

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At the inaugural edition of this section, featured a diverse line-up of 13 films, encompassing various genres and formats. The selection included 5 (Five) documentaries: *Billy & Molly: An Otter Love Story* (Opening Film), *My Mercury, I Go Gaga: Welcome Home Mom*, *The Commandant's Shadow* (Mid-Fest Film), and *Brand Bollywood...Downunder*. In addition, 4 (Four) short films were screened: *Kav Kav*, *Pravaah*, *Bahar Aa Chaman Prakash*, and *Chand Saanse*. The animation category was represented by 2 (Two) films: *Inside Out 2* (Animation Feature) and *Bāhubali: Crown of Blood* (Animation Series). Additionally, the series *Poacher* and the feature film *Srikanth* added further diversity to the program.

Further, the section featured 2 (Two) International Premieres, 1 (One) India Premiere, 2 (Two) Gala Screenings, and 8 (Eight) Special Screenings. Each selection was carefully curated to highlight a broad spectrum of storytelling, from compelling documentaries and engaging series to animated features and short films. This eclectic mix not only showcased the creativity and talent of filmmakers from around the world but also underscored the festival's dedication to celebrating cinematic excellence in all its forms.

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Summarizing the titles & the schedule:

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SI No	Title	Type	Premiere
1	<i>Billy & Molly: An Otter Love Story</i>	Documentary	India
2	<i>Poacher</i>	Series	Special Screening
3	<i>My Mercury</i>	Documentary	International
4	<i>I Go Gaga: Welcome Home Mom</i>	Documentary	Special Screening
5	<i>Inside Out 2</i>	Animation Feature	Gala Screening
6	<i>The Commandant's Shadow</i>	Documentary	International
7	<i>Kav Kav</i>	Short Film	Special Screening
8	<i>Pravaah</i>	Short Film	Special Screening
9	<i>Bahar Aa Chaman Prakash</i>	Short Film	Special Screening
10	<i>Chand Saanse</i>	Short Film	Special Screening
11	<i>Brand Bollywood...Downunder</i>	Documentary	Special Screening
12	<i>Bāhubali: Crown of Blood</i>	Animation Series	Special Screening
13	<i>Srikanth</i>	Feature	Gala Screening

Two documentary teams, *My Mercury* and *The Commandant's Shadow*, held Press Conferences during the event and also participated in Panel Discussions at the Master Classes Section. These interactions provided deeper insights into their work and facilitated meaningful discussions among filmmakers and audiences.



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The schedule:

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June 15		Saturday	Day 1	June 17		Monday	Day 3
NMIC Auditorium-II	BILLY & MOLLY: AN OTTER LOVE STORY CHARLIE HAMILTON-JAMES 77 mins USA 2024 English Red Carpet Screening (Opening Film)		Indian Premiere Documentary	NMIC Auditorium-I	I GO GAGA: WELCOME HOME MOM NAOKO NOBUTOMO 101 mins Japan 2022 Japanese Red Carpet Screening		Special Screening Documentary
NMIC Auditorium-II	BILLY & MOLLY: AN OTTER LOVE STORY CHARLIE HAMILTON-JAMES 77 mins USA 2024 English Screening		Indian Premiere Documentary	NMIC Auditorium-II	INSIDE OUT KELSEY MANN 96 mins USA, Japan 2024 English Red Carpet Screening		Gala Screening Animation Feature
14:00 hrs 14:30 hrs				17:30 hrs 18:00 hrs			
15:00 hrs				18:00 hrs 18:30 hrs			
June 16		Sunday	Day 2	June 18		Tuesday	Day 4
NMIC Auditorium-I	POACHER RICHE MEHTA 50 mins India 2023 Malayalam Screening Red Carpet Q&A		Special Screening Amazon Original Series	NMIC Auditorium-I	THE COMMANDANT'S SHADOW DANIELA VOLKER 103 mins UK, USA 2024 English Red Carpet Screening (Mid-Fest Film)		International Premiere Documentary
NMIC Auditorium-II	MY MERCURY JOËLLE CHESSELET & PIPPA EHRLICH 97 mins Brazil, Italy, USA 2024 English Red Carpet Screening		International Premiere Documentary	17:30 hrs 18:00 hrs			
18:00 hrs 18:30 hrs 18:50 hrs				18:00 hrs 18:30 hrs			
18:00 hrs 18:30 hrs							

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MASTER CLASSES

18th MIFF 2024 witnessed a successful 32 sessions from the department of Master Classes in numerous formats curated exclusively for MIFF. The formats which brought out success was 'In Conversation Panels', 'Masters In Conversation Classes', 'In Conversations', 'In Conversation Duo's' along with 'Master Classes', 'Panel Discussions', 'Retrospectives' and Workshops. Also Open Forums and Hands On Training Workshops were conducted at different venues. MIFF master classes were brilliantly curated between four venues under the department - JB Hall, Audi 2, In Front of Gulshan Mahal, 9th Floor phase 2 Building.

It was a proud moment to bring Mr. Santosh Sivan and felicitate him with respect to him being honored at Cannes for his excellence in cinematography, which was followed by his In Conversation Session. Master Classes also brought veterans like Shaji Karun, Sunny Joseph, Ollie Huddlestone, Olivier Caterine, Namrata Joshi, Arun Thapar, Vikyeno Zao, Rajiv Chilaka, Ketan Mehta, Golda Sellam, Isabelle Simeoni, Tisca Chopra, Mohit Soni, Jackie Bagnani, Anna Henckel Donnersmarck, Illa Tolstov, Mohammad Kheirandish and many more veterans were brought to the festival by the department of master classes.

A bird's eye view on the achievements of the department of Master Classes in 18th MIFF 2024:

- **Every Panel had an International Speaker** except two panels which was completely an Indian content and requires Indian representations only
- The country representations of International Speakers are from **France, UK, Russia, Germany, Lithuania, Switzerland, Paris, Canada, Belarus and Iran**
- The Major International and National Companies **that solely brought in by master classes is Warner Bros** (Animation Workshop), **Green Gold Animations** (Chhota Bheem) and **Phantom FX Studios** (Ayalaan)
- Brought in maximum formats of Master Classes like, **MC/IC/PD/MCIC/ ICP/ ICD/W/OF/EW/R**
- Ran **four venues** parallelly
- Entire 32 sessions **were on time** to start and end as pre conceived.
- Every topic was curated keeping **three verticals** of the festival in mind - Animation, Short Films and Documentaries along **with the recent topics**.
- **Felicitation with standing ovation for Mr. Santosh Sivan** on receiving Pierre Angenieux Excellens in Cinematography at Cannes, was organized by the department of Master Classes
- **Two Technical Master Classes - On Editing and On Cinematography**.
- **Two Workshops** - One Hands on Workshop **on Animation** by Mr. Rahul Babu which is a paid one and Another **an Acting Workshop** by Mr. Fabrice Carreywith theory and practical sessions of 90 minutes altogether.
- Master Class also brought an actor and actress celebrities exclusively for the Master Class sessions - **Mr. Jackie Bagnani and Ms. Tisca Chopra**
- Master Classes had **the eldest and the youngest Master Classes** ever in MIFF -**Mr. Alphonse Roy** (World Renowned Filmmaker and Cinematographer on Wildlife) and **Mr. Nemil Shah** (Latest National Award Winner and Official Oscar Entry)

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- Out of the limited 20 seats offered for Animation Workshop the department achieved all the 20 seats registered entry and three additional on special permissions and so **23 candidates received a certification on Animation Workshop and VFX Pipeline**
- **Officials from the Ministry and NFDC** were adorned as eminent speakers and moderators based on their profiles.
- **Maximum number North East participation** - Speakers and moderators represented North Eastern regions like Assam, Nagaland and Guwahati. Able to bring a documentary/short film Filmmaker who made it to Cannes as the first North East representation, An actress who is renowned from north east region worldwide and a Documentary voice over artist and singer who gave voice to more than 300 docu films made by Doordarshan, UNICEF, AIR etc
- Maximum number of state participation, at least one representation from each state - Maharashtra (Ketan Mehta), Gujarat (Nemil Shah), Kolkata (Farah Khatun), Orissa (Nila Madhab Panda), Delhi (Anamika Jha), Tamil Nadu (Bejoy Arputharaj), kerala (Shaji karun), karnataka (T S Nagabharana), Telangana (Rajiv Chilaka), Goa (Shrishti Lakhera), Nagaland (Vikyeno Zao), Assam (Queen Hazarika), Prerana Barbarooah Sharma (Uttar Pradesh), Tisca Chopra (Himachal Pradesh)etc
- **Outdoor** (Open Forum) and **Indoor** (Other Sessions) Venues
- **Two sessions were 45 minutes and rest all were 60 minutes and three were 90 minutes**
- **Oscar, National Award, State Award and Cannes representations only in Master Classes**

Date, Topics and Speaker's List of the 32 MC/IC/PD/R/W/OF Sessions at 18th MIFF 2024

JB HALL - MC/IC/PD/MCIC/ICP/R/W

NO.	DATE	TOPIC	SPEAKERS
1	16-Jun-24	Beyond The Lens : Funding and Monetization in Documentary Filmmaking	Jatin Kishore (AS to Governor Jammu & Kashmir) , Svetlana Naudiyal (Programming Director MUBI), Arun Thapar (President - Content & Communication Networks Network 18), Girish Dwibashyam (COO Docubay), Ilia Tolstov (Deputy CEO of the cinema park 'Moskin', Moderator - Rajni Acharya (Director, Producer who did 300 documentaries self funded. Head of IDPA)
2		Unveiling the Animation Frontier : Building Intellectual Properties Through Animation Films - Case study : Ayalaan & Chhota Bheem	Naman Ramachandran (Journalist & Critic ; Extensive Media Career) , Bejoy Arputharaj (CEO of Phantom FX Studios, VFX Director Ayalaan, a completely made in India animation film), Rajiv Chilaka (CEO Green Gold Animations, Chhota bheem) , Anamika Jha (Legal IPR), Moderator - Ashish Kulkarni (Chairman AVGC-XR Forum-FICCI)

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3		From adventure to Revenue : GoPro and Youtube Success Strategies	Yatish Suvarna (Director of Marketing and Communications for GoPro India) ; Rizza Alee (a 22 year old athlete and adventure filmmaker) ; Yash Rane (A chef turned photographer, who is renowned for his soulful photography). +. Vijay Koshy (TVS President), Sai Teja (Youtube Creator with 5 million subscribers) , Nmarata Rajkumar - Head - Movie Content Partnership, Youtube, Moderator - Vani Tripathi Tikoo
4		The Anatomy of Crime Thriller - Poacher : Richie Mehta	Richie Mehta , Moderator - Rohini Ramanathan
5	17-Jun-24	Unlocking The Force : Channeling Documentary Films to Drive Social Transformation	T S Nagabharana (Veteran Filmmaker, Documentary specialist and 7 times National award winner) , Moderator - D Ramakrishnan (GM NFDC)
6		Unveiling Herstory : Exploring Women's Narratives Through Documentary Filmmaking	Srishti Lakhera (69th National Award Winner Filmmaker), Farha Khatun (65th & 67th NFA Winner), Prerana Barbarooah (Actress,Docu Filmmaker from North East), Isabelle Simeoni (Docu Director/Producer/Author/ Member of 50-50 & CNC's Commission Image of Diversity), Moderator - Queen Hazarika (Actress & Singer from Assam, Given voice to numerous documentaries by UNICEF, All india Radio, Doordarshan etc, Moderator)
7		In the age of the Anthropocene, Is there still time to dither? - a case in point	Joelle Chesselet, Lloyd Ross, Moderator - Shankar Ramakrishnan
8		Indian Stories Becoming Globally Relevant	Daniela Volker (Filmmaker - 'The Commandant's Shadow' ; Raj kurup (Executive Producer) ; Wendy Robbins (Executive Producer, Moderator - Mayank shankar
9	18-Jun-24	Exploring the Wilderness : Indian Wildlife Documentaries and Conservation Efforts	Alphonse Roy (Internationally acclaimed Wildlife Docu Filmmaker)
10		Crafting the Magic : The Evolution of Animation Films and Their Enduring Appeal to Youth & Grown up	Ketan Mehta (Filmmaker, Director Maya Entertainments Animations), Vaibhav Kumaresh (Emmy Nominated Filmmaker - Return of the jungle), Mohammad Kheirandish (Filmmaker Animation 'Dolphin Boy', Jackie Bagnani (Animation Producer), Moderator - Munjal Shroff (Eminent Animation Producer)
11		Master Class - Georges Schwizgebel's Approach to Animation	Georges Schwizgebel, Moderator - Dhvani Desai

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12		Documentary Master Class - Motivating Stories - Originality & Ingenuity	Audrius Stonys
13		Felicitations & In Conversation with Santosh Sivan (Visual symbolism from images to narrative meaning)	Santosh Sivan , Moderator - Namrata Joshi
14	19-Jun-24	Empowering Change : Amplifying Impact Through Short Films	Nemil Shah (Director - Best Short Fiction award at 69th NFA & official entry to Oscars)
15		In conversation in Cinematography With R. V Ramani & Sunny Joseph - 'Beyond Boundaries	R V Ramani , Sunny Joseph
16		Leveraging documentary films to strengthen brands and promotes CSR initiatives	Krishna Vilasini (Director Corporate Affairs & Engagement L'Oreal), Amit Bhasin (chief Legal Officer & Group General Counsel), Prashanth Venkatesh - Marketing & Sustainability director - HUL, Prithul Kumar (JS Broadcasting) , Moderator -Chandrashekhar Mantha (Head - Media & Entertainment,Partner Deloitte India)
17	20-Jun-24	Editing Master class - Shaping Characters	Ollie Huddleston
18		Dissemination of Shorts : Limitations in Penetration, Reach and Exposure	Saameer Modi - CEO Pocket Films , Anna Henckel Donnersmarck - Head Berlinale Shorts ,Vikeyeno Zao - Filmmaker represented Nagaland this 63rd Cannes,, Mohit Soni (CEO MESC), Tisca Chopra (Short Film to Feature Films) Moderator - Pankaj Saxena (Artistic Director MIFF 2024)
19		From Script to Screen : Challenges and Triumphs of International Co-Productions	Nila Madhab Panda (World recognised documentaries and Padmashree award in 2016), Vrunda mam - JS Films, Golda Sellam (France Co production), Nilotpal Majumdar (President, Documentary Resource Initiative), Alexei Yury Marjanovich (General Director, National Film Studio Belarus) Moderator- Arfi Lamba (Actor, Producer and owner of Bombay Berlin Film Productions)
20		Retrospective of Jiri Trnka - 'From theatrical puppetry to cinematic perspective -Anew journey in European Animation	Olivier Catherin
21		The Approach of the Stanislavski system in the	Fabrice Carrey

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		Acting School	
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AUDI 2 - PANEL DISCUSSION

NO.	DATE	TOPIC	SPEAKERS
1	16-Jun-24	Inspiring Narratives : Innovation and Creativity	Dr. Sapna Poti, Hasmukha Rawal , Lokesh Puri Goswami , Kunjpreet Arora , Amit Gosh , Meghna Roy , Moderator - Aditya Kutty

INFRONT OF GULSHAN MAHAL - OPEN FORUM

NO.	DATE	TOPIC	SPEAKERS
1	16-Jun-24	Role of Social Media in Promotion of Documentaries and Short Films.	Anant Vijay, Daivata Patil , Jacob Philip , Piyush Pande , Moderator - Santoshee Gulabkali Mishra
2	17-Jun-24	AI- (Artificial Intelligence) – Bane or a Boon?	Sankar Ramakrishnan , Ujwal Nirgudkar , Sanath P.C, Sanjay Jangid , Moderator - Dr. Nimish Kapoor
3	18-Jun-24	Biographical Documentaries versus Bio-Pics.	Rahul Rawail , Robin Bhatt , B. S. Lingadevaru , Milind Lele, Moderator - A. Chandrasekhar
4	19-Jun-24	Web series / OTT Platforms – An elusive platform for Documentaries.	Shaji N Karun , Ratan Sharda , K.G Suresh , Vani Tripathi Tikko , S. Nallamuthu , Moderator - Ashok Shrivastava
5	20-Jun-24	Creating new opportunities for documentary-funding.	Sanjit Narwekar , PREMENDRA MAZUMDER , Dharam Gulati , Dr. Dev Kanya Thakur , Utpal Datta , Moderator - Maya Chandra

9TH FLOOR PHASE 2 BUILDING - ANIMATION WORKSHOP

NO.	DATE	TOPIC	SPEAKER / TRAINER
1	16 June 2024 - 20 June 2024	ANIMATION WORKSHOP AND VFX PIPELINE	Rahul Babu Kanikkara

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DOC FILM BAZAAR 2024

The Doc Film Bazaar was initiated with an aim to provide a vibrant and interactive hub, to foster collaboration between established professionals and emerging talents within the documentary and animation film industry. The first edition of Doc Film Bazaar consisted of 3 prominent verticals: **1) Co-production market 2) Work In Progress lab 3) Viewing Room and a new addition - Buyer and Seller Meet.**

Co-Production Market :

- We received 63 remarkable documentary and animation projects from 10 countries in 29 languages. Out of them, 16 projects were selected from 6 countries - India, United Kingdom, United States, Russia, Switzerland and Nepal, in 13 languages including English, Hindi, Nepali, Tibetan, Chhattisgarhi, Tamil, Russian, Rajasthani, Malayalam, Kannada, Manipuri, Garhwali and Kumaoni.
- On Day 1 of the Bazaar, the selected projects were given a chance to pitch their project to the audience, introducing and delving them into their world of documentary and animation.
- The next 2 days of the Bazaar saw a total of 73 Co- production one to one meetings, excluding the innumerable informal meetings that the filmmakers themselves initiated at this platform market. It allowed the project representatives to have a focused and clear communication with delegates including producers, distributors, festival programmers, etc.
- In order to make the participants' Co-Production journey more productive, CPM Talks were also organized during the days of the Bazaar, in which two informative sessions were put together for the participants to understand the current landscape of Documentary Co-Production, analyze market trends and emerging global opportunities.
- The CPM Talks included discussions on topics like 'Navigating the Abyss between Research & Ground Reality in Documentaries' and 'Strategies for Co-Production and Engaging Buyers in Documentaries' by **Subbiah Nallamuthu (Award winning Wildlife Documentary Maker)** and **Anjali Bhushan (Head of Creative Content & Production Viacom18 Media Pvt Ltd)** respectively.
- In addition to these, a few selected Co-Production Market projects, revolving around 5 different genres of women empowerment, environment & sustainability, healthcare, arts & culture and sports- were given a chance to present their projects to the corporates during the panel discussion on '**Leveraging Documentary Films to Strengthen Brands and promote CSR Initiatives**'.

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Work-In-Progress Lab :

- For the edition of the WIP Lab at Doc Film Bazaar, we received more than 100 films as part of the Viewing Room and Work-In-Progress Lab . Out of which, 5 projects were selected under the Work-In-Progress Lab and 6 films for the Doc Film Bazaar Recommends.
- The Work-In-Progress Lab is a closed door lab for films in a rough-cut stage where the selected project representatives get mentorship, feedback and an opportunity to interact with industry professionals. These selected films explore a myriad of themes, placing human narratives at the forefront across languages namely Bengali, Bhojpuri, English, Hindi, Marathi and Sylheti. The films touch on themes and stories dealing with old age and care, migration, longing and belonging, attachment and detachment, passion that proves that age is just a number, and about a group of people trying to save a theater space.
- The WIP Lab participants have had multiple feedback sessions online with five mentors including international and national mentors from June 07-June 10, 2024. The mentors guided them and shared creative feedbacks for their projects
- During the bazaar, the participants sat with their editing mentors in Mumbai and worked on their final edits. They were provided working systems and softwares to edit on their edits and we are pleased to share that we received positive feedback from the participants on the quality of the mentorship.
- The Open Pitch for Doc Film Bazaar Recommends which included the WIP Lab was held on June 17, 2024 and was open for all delegates. The pitch session is a forum for the filmmakers to present a small part of their film and seek financial support and get buyers, sellers and distributors on board.
- The WIP Lab concluded with the Award ceremony by Prasad Lab Films (Mumbai) Pvt Ltd.
- The winner of the Prasad Lab Post Production Award 2024 is ***Hearsay***, who will offer a free digital intermediate (DI) with a free 4K output (50 Hours) from the lab.
- Prasad Film Labs (Mumbai) Pvt Ltd Appreciation Award will offer a 50% discount for the digital intermediate (DI) with a free 4K output (50 Hours) to ***I'm Not Home, Where is My Home?*** and ***Rukhu Matir Dukhu Majhi***.

Viewing Room :

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- Viewing Room is an exclusive space that serves as a launchpad for securing distribution deals, attracting co-producers, and finding finishing funds for film festival screenings.
- In the viewing room, we have 11 films as part of the Doc Film Bazaar Recommends
- 34 films in the Documentary Feature Films category
- 35 films in the Documentary Mid-Length category
- 22 in the Documentary Shorts category
- 13 films in the Shorts (Fiction) category and 1 animation film in the shorts category
- The Viewing Room garnered around 370 views till June 21st.

Buyer and Seller Meet- 1st Edition-

- The Buyer and Seller Meet is a B2B open platform to encourage Indian Entertainment businesses by providing an efficient marketplace for Indian content holders and buyers. Content holders/sellers are invited to sell all forms and genres of content, discover co-production opportunities, and network with key decision-makers of the domestic content industry.
- It was a dedicated and exclusive platform to promote collaboration opportunities under **syndication, acquisition** and **sales** etc. Buyers were provided with a dedicated roundtable on all 3 days of the Doc Film Bazaar which is held alongside Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF) in an exclusive area to station their executives.
- As Buyers we invited both international and domestic OTT Platforms, Film Funds, Agencies, Distributors, Broadcast Companies etc. Amongst our final attendees we had- **Babel Docs (France), Viacom 18 Media Pvt. Ltd., BookMyShow-Stream, Reliance Entertainment, Civic Studios, Drishyam Films, Hungama Digital Entertainment Pvt. Ltd., Pocket Films, Pooja Entertainment, PVR Inox Pictures, School Cinema/LXL, SCJ Entertainment, Zee Entertainment, Creativeland Asia and Docubay Media Pvt. Ltd.** A total of **15 Buyer's** held meetings.
- They covered different formats and genres namely Feature Documentary, Fiction Short-films and animation short & feature.
- Across three days a total of 76 Meetings were held and filmmakers lined up in big numbers to meet the Buyers. This new vertical was highly appreciated by both the parties.

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PARTNERSHIP AND SPONSORSHIP

Booth Spaces occupied total 25

Total value in support earned through partners: 1.62 Cr INR

1. India Tourism
2. 7 Countries
3. 3 Start up goa stalls
4. 4 Animation companies
5. 2 camera partners
6. 2 states stalls
7. 1 OTT partner
8. Film Facilitation office
9. Accessibility partner – Swayam
10. YouTube Selfie booth
11. Skilling Partner: Media skill and entertainment council

Support in kind:

- 1) Maharashtra – Networking dinner 16 Lakhs
- 2) Argentina Consulate – Opening night performance @ 4 Lakhs
- 3) Mafatalal- Support with Crew T-shirts @ 5 Lakhs
- 4) Diageo- Alcohol Partner @ 25 Lakhs
- 5) Technical partners: Cube Partners, Barco, Pulse Electronics, SMPTE @61 Lakhs
- 6) Indian Documentary Producer’s Association - @ 7 Lakhs
- 7) Coke – Beverage partner @ 2 Lakhs
- 8) Swayam accessibility partner – festival audit @ 9 Lakhs
- 9) Hathway – connectivity partner @ 3 Lakhs
- 10) Networking event by CLA studios @ 51K

Partner feedback:

- 1) Festival success: All partners enjoyed the festival
- 2) What worked for the partners: They got an opportunity to showcase their products/ services
- 3) What didn’t work:
 - Footfall, the number of people reduced once the weekend was done, and this was detrimental for the partners as they did not have too many people come to their stalls.
- 4) Areas of improvement for next year:
 - Stalls need to be strategically placed in areas with more footfall
 - Request for a greater number of senior members from the ministry to attend the exhibition area.
 - Requested that the number of exhibition days be reduced with focus on weekend only.
 - Speaker slot for all exhibitors is a must, the current set up did not allow that
 - Expected more celebrities to attend the festival, hence increase the footfall

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COMMISSIONED PRODUCTION DEPARTMENT

The Commissioned Production (CP) department was assigned a job for selection of an Event management agency that could execute the work related to MIFF 2024. In order to do this, every unit head gave their requirements and a BOQ was compiled, the same was sent to the CP department.

Following the procedure, the CP department shortlisted a few agencies which were good with their experience in organizing such events. The quotes were called, QCBS system was adopted and after due diligence M/s Graphisads was selected.

While the BOQ and cost was finalized, there were still few queries coming to the CP department regarding changes in the BOQ. A team of CP dept. went to Mumbai to sort all those issues related to the frequent changes in BOQ. The discussion/ meeting went on for two days (3rd and 4th May 2024) and once again the BOQ was locked as per new requirements and needs. The unit heads then signed on the final BOQ (as per their requirements). All the sheets were then compiled in one master sheet and sent back to concerned unit heads. To which, a few unit heads responded with a few changes and a few did not reply. The point to be noted here is that the cost was raised extensively because of many new additions in the BOQ

On 8th May, MD, NFDC held a VC in which all the scope of work including the quantity, quality, size, material etc. were frozen and a new BOQ was prepared. On 17th May, the new BOQ was shared with the EMA for cost submission. A cost committee was constituted and the cost was finalized to issue the work order to EMA.

Mr Anubhav Khanduri, Head Client servicing and Mr Adil Ahmed, Client servicing supervisor visited the Mumbai office on 21st May as per the instruction on MD, NFDC to get the EMA aligned and supervise them. But they found there were still a few mismatches of requirements amongst the unit heads with respect to the BOQ shared with EMA.

On 30th and 31st May, once again, all the unit heads had a discussion with Mr Anubhav & Mr Adil and further modified/clarified the scope of work, all the concerned unit heads once again signed the revised BOQ and agreed to send these over email to CP dept but a few unit heads failed to mail the same to CP Dept.

In a VC with Shri Sanjay Jaju, Secretary MOIB, instructed to also do the screenings of the film and red carpet event in 4 different cities (Delhi, Chennai, Pune & Kolkata). Since the nature of work was the same, this work was also assigned to the existing EMA.

Achievements of the Commissioned Production in MIFF:

- The coordination was proper in spite of having many hurdles
- There were so many crisis like conditions which were handled and the event went on without any flaws
- All the responsibilities put on the team during crisis were handled successfully

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- All the major responsibilities like “Opening/Closing ceremony including, stage management, cultural programs, pre-production, rehearsal and preparation, script for anchors and sequence of the events with complete flow of program and speeches and management of seating arrangements for dignitaries” were put on the team just a few days before, the same were carried out successfully
- During the MIFF the team was also carrying out its normal day-to-day duties of the Delhi office, this included some critical work like inviting quotes, evaluation of quotes and having cost committees, online, within the stipulated time.
- The team performed even after sleep deprivation.

During the festival the following shortcomings were observed:

- Unit heads had little clarity even at the time of starting of the event, e.g. graphic designers and editors in the publication unit. There were too many last minute changes. For next time total clarity of the desired items or manpower is appreciated.
- The advance intimation of the items/manpower/arrangements needed was not there. Many such requirements were sought the previous night and few just half an hour before the event, and a few requirements charts (timetables) were not made hence manpower was called for a few extra days as well e.g. interpreters for foreign languages. The advance intimation would also help us keep a check on the quality of items/manpower.
- The office space required for the visiting teams was not allocated, pre planning for such things is a must for future events.
- The last minute changes in the guest lists/celebrity attendees should be avoided. By doing so the show flow and the final script of anchors would be more flawless and effective for smooth running of opening and closing ceremonies.
- There were changes in the schedules after printing and publishing of the schedules. Even during the MIFF screenings changes were being made.
- The catalog was not finalized in time so the EMA got very little time to print those. For last minute changes in the catalog, the cost of printing escalated.
- There are many vacant spaces in the phase II building which could have been renovated and allowed to be used for MIFF, which would have reduced the cost.
- The electricity connection was not segregated by the inhouse staff. The connection of different themes/ fabrication was connected with a single input. If any unit head had to test the electricity connection the whole campus blacked out.

The registration team was not in sync with the EMA and hardly informed the number of kits to be provided for next day as per the registrations were taking place.

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1. Gold and Silver Conches for Awards

We have repaired 4 Gold and 7 Silver Conches out of which the following are distributed and 2 gold and 2 Silver are Kept in the store room.

GOLD

1. Best Documentary - International - Gold
2. Best Documentary - National (V. Shantaram) - Gold

SILVER

1. Best International Short Fiction - Silver
2. Best International Animation - Silver
3. Best National Short Fiction - Silver
4. Best National Animation - Silver
5. Best Documentary - Silver

2. Report for MIFF 2024 (Digital Display & Flex Standee)

Total Video Made

Video in Horizontal 9:16 - 24 (Screening Schedules)

Video in Vertical 16:9 - 24 (Screening Schedules)

Video in 4:5 - 24 (Screening Schedules)

Video in 4:5 - 12 (Banners, Special Screening, Sponsors)

Video in Vertical 9:16 - 30 (Special Package, and other events)

Video in Horizontal 16:9 - 15 (Combined for all the videos)

Standee Design 42 standees

2 scrollers

All the certificates and citations for awards for national and international

All the award background screen slides for closing ceremony for national and international

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1) Scope of Work shared with the EMA

The Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF) is a prestigious event that celebrates the art of cinema on an international platform. Organized by the National Film Development Corporation, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, MIFF aims to showcase the best documentaries, short films, and animation films from around the globe.

The scope of work shared with the Event Management Agency (EMA) included:

- Event Planning and Execution: Detailed planning and execution of all aspects of the festival, including venue arrangements, technical setups, and scheduling of screenings and events.
- The EMA was tasked with ensuring the smooth operation of MIFF, adhering to budgetary constraints and timelines while maintaining the highest standards of professionalism and creativity.

2) Opening and Closing Dinner Report

The opening and closing dinners of MIFF were meticulously planned and executed, providing a platform for networking and celebration among filmmakers, industry professionals, and dignitaries.

Opening Dinner:

- Venue: The Opening Dinner took place at a prestigious NCPA in Mumbai, creating an elegant and welcoming atmosphere for guests.
- Cultural Fusion: The dinner featured a blend of culinary delights from different cultures, reflecting the international spirit of MIFF.
- Networking Opportunities: Guests had ample opportunities to network and connect with peers and potential collaborators.

Closing Dinner:

- Venue: The Closing Dinner took place at a prestigious NCPA in Mumbai, creating an elegant and welcoming atmosphere for guests.
- Entertainment: The dinner concluded with a cultural performance showcasing the rich artistic heritage of India, leaving guests with a lasting impression.

Both dinners were successful in fostering camaraderie and celebrating the art of cinema, setting a high standard for future editions of MIFF.

3) Cultural Performance in the NFDC-FD Complex for MIFF

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NMIC

As part of the Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF), cultural performances were organized at the NFDC-FD Complex to enrich the festival experience for participants and attendees.

Organized Cultural Performances:

- Date: 16th - 20th June 2024
- Venue: NFDC-FD Complex, Mumbai
- Performances: Various cultural performances were curated to showcase India's diverse cultural heritage, including traditional dances, music, and theatrical performances.
- The performances were well-received, enhancing the cultural immersion of MIFF and providing entertainment and artistic expression beyond cinema.

The NFDC-FD Complex provided a fitting backdrop for these performances, offering a cultural oasis amidst the cinematic fervor of MIFF.

4) Cultural Performances for Opening and Closing

The opening and closing ceremonies of MIFF were enriched by captivating cultural performances that underscored the festival's global reach and cultural diversity.

Engaged Groups for Performances:

Opening Ceremony -

- **Sri Lanka Cultural Performance:** A troupe from Sri Lanka presented traditional dance forms and music, highlighting the cultural ties between India and Sri Lanka.
- **V Company:** V Company, a dance group based from Vasai, Nallasopara became India's First Dancing Icon by Winning Dance Plus Season 1. Winners of many reality shows in India Like Boogie Woogie, Entertainment Ke Liye Kuch Bhi Karega and India's Got Talent Season 3. They have been Finalists of World Hip Hop Dance Championship and the Bollywood Dance Movie- ABCD 2 was based on their real life story.
- **Krazzy Kings Dance:** A comprehensive journey of Animation highlighting its beginnings, evolution and current advancements through a blend of Audio-Visual Performance and includes Character Mascots from different studios-

Closing Ceremony -

- **Argentina Cultural Performance:** Argentine artists showcased their unique Tango dance performance, adding an international flavor to the festival.

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- **Shammo Dance Company:** The dance group showcased the glorious history of Mumbai International Film Festival through this engaging shadow act. This Mumbai Based Dance Crew have participated in the reality show- Dance India d”Dance and choreographed in the movie ‘Sanghar The Massacre’ and recently choreographed for ‘Hamare Ram’ with the famous celebrity Ashutosh Rana and have also trained many celebrities.

These performances not only entertained but also celebrated the universal language of art and the transformative power of cinema, making the opening and closing ceremonies of MIFF truly memorable.

5) Prepared script for the Journey of Animation and the Journey of MIFF -

Prepared scripts for both "The Journey of Animation" and "The Journey of MIFF" were provided to their respective dance companies, who then translated these scripts into captivating dance performances.

6) Invited various consulates for the Opening and Closing Ceremony of MIFF-

The MIFF’s Opening and Closing was graced by various consulates-

1. Mr. Aliaksandr MATSUKOU (Consul General of the Republic of Belarus in Mumbai)
2. Mrs Alesia MATSUKOVA (spouse of the Consul General of the Republic of Belarus in Mumbai)
3. Mr. Premal Lokhandwala (Hon. Consulate of the Republic of Ghana)
4. Mr. Krish Lokhandwala (Hon. Consulate of the Republic of Ghana)
5. Dr. Vijay Kalantri (Honorary Consul of the Republic of Uzbekistan)
6. Mr. Kobbi Shoshani (Consulate General Of Israel In Mumbai)
7. Mrs. Yael De-Paz Shoshani. (Consulate General Of Israel In Mumbai)
8. Mr. Donnawit Poolsawat (Royal Thai Consulate-General in Mumbai)
9. Ms. Nattasuda Mettaprasert (Royal Thai Consulate-General in Mumbai)
10. Ms. Nuanprae Bunnag (Royal Thai Consulate-General in Mumbai)
11. Mr.Paresh Kirtilal Mehta (Hon.Consul of Nicaragua)
12. Mrs. Geeta Paresh Mehta (Hon.Consul of Nicaragua)
13. Mr.Daniel Quer Confalonieri (Consulate General of Argentina)
14. Mrs. Maria Silvina Costa (Spouse of the Consulate General of Argentina)
15. Ms. Maria Virginia Yapur (Deputy Consul of Argentina)
16. Spouse of Ms. Maria Virginia Yapur
17. Mr. Cüneyt Yavuzcan (Consulate General of the Republic of Türkiye)
18. Vishal Saria (Hon Consul of Uganda)
19. Nandkishor Kagliwal (Honorary Consulate of The Republic of Tunisia in Mumbai)
20. Elena Remizova (Russia)
21. Mr. Rajiv (Russia)
22. Sagnik Chowdhury (India Tourism)
23. Swati Barsode (India Tourism)
24. Ms. Jing XU (China)
25. Mr. Koji Yagi (Japan)
26. Mr. Toshihiro Kaneko (Japan)
27. Mr Jim Hennessy (Consul General of Ireland)

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28. Mr. Harjinder Kang (British Deputy High Commission)
29. Mrs. Kamaljit Kang (British Deputy High Commission)
30. Francesca Wang (Italy)
31. Christine (Italy)

7) Organized Cultural Performances at NFDC-FD Complex for MIFF-

1. Date: 16th June 2024

- Name - Sadab Sarkar
Age - 9 years
Style - Lyrical Freestyle
- Name - Diamond Roy
Age - 13 years
Style - Lyrical Freestyle
- Name - Lakshita
Age - 15 years
Style - Contemporary

2. Date: 17th June 2024

- Name - Nidhi Madkaikar
Age - 21 years
Style - Kathak
- Name - Vidula Bangar
Style - Fusion

3. Date: 18th June 2024

- Name - Sarthak Mahajan
Style - Singer
- Name - Vaibhavi Tambe
Style - Laavni
- Name - Sashrika Shetty
Style - Freestyle
- Name - Yash Jadhav
Style - Freestyle

4) Date: 19th June 2024

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- Name - Om Creation Trust
Style - Folk Dance and Freestyle

- Name - Mayur Patel
Style - Singer

- Name - Santosh Worlikar
Style - Dance

5) Date: 20th June 2024

- Name - Abhik Das & Group
Style - Theatre Play

In conclusion, the Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF) showcased an exceptional array of films and cultural performances, reinforcing its status as a premier event in the global film calendar. The contributions of all involved, from organizers to performers, have ensured the success and lasting impact of MIFF on the international film community.

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SETTING, DECORATION & EXHIBITION UNIT

The Setting, Decoration & Exhibition Unit was tasked with various responsibilities for the Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF) held from 15th June to 21st June, 2024. Our unit successfully delivered the following tasks:

1. **Designing of Poster and Logo**
2. **Designing all Promotion and Publicity Materials**
3. **Designing Catalogue and Information Booklet:** Including cover page and layout.
4. **Designing Delegate/Management, Officials, Jury, Students, Media, Duty Cards, and Lanyards**
5. **Designing Invitation Cards:** For inaugural, closing, and dinner events.
6. **Hoarding Design**
7. **Setting and Decoration at NCPA:** For the opening and closing ceremonies.
8. **Setting-up Marketing Stalls and Kiosks**
9. **Registration Kiosk**
10. **Procurement of Conches, Trophies, and Mementoes**
11. **Designing and Printing Certificates**
12. **Designing and Printing Dummy Cheques for All Award Categories**
13. **All Other Art Work Related to the Festival**
14. **Finalization of Festival Kits for Delegates and Invitees**
15. **Any Other Work Assigned by the Nodal Officer or Festival Director, MIFF**

All tasks were meticulously planned and supervised by our unit. The designs were crafted by the National Institute of Design (NID), with our unit providing essential support in content creation and ensuring functionality. All creative works were delivered on time following approval by the Festival Director, meeting the expected standards. [Link to NID creatives-

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1V4SrW5Dc0kCpbj5P89k9qcnonBLJlyO?usp=sharing>]

Challenges and Observations: While the Event Management Team effectively handled the setup of gates, kiosks, tenting, waterproofing, and lighting, some elements did not meet aesthetic expectations. Specifically, the art installations and quality of souvenirs were subpar due to insufficiently skilled labor/artists and low-quality materials.

Additional Contributions: In addition to the above-mentioned tasks, our unit also contributed to:

- Helping create the signature film for the festival.
- Assisting in scriptwriting for the opening ceremony performance on the history of Indian Animation.
- Producing animation sequences for screen fillers.
- Creating title slides for each screening program as per the schedule.
- Developing the closing function screenplay.

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Overall, our unit delivered all assigned tasks satisfactorily, ensuring a successful and well-organized festival.

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ACCREDITATION & DELEGATE REGISTRATION

Registration Unit was constituted with allocation of 7 staff members of SSE (FD). The Unit was headed by Shri Mahesh Yadav, DGM(P&A), NFDC & Head (IVP) Unit. The Unit started its work w.e.f. 14-5-2024. For the motive of bringing maximum delegates to visit the MIFF, the Unit took up the task with following measures:

- E-mails were sent to approximately 45000 prospective visitors, enthusiasts, students, filmmakers and documentarians elucidating various aspects of the MIFF, features and facilities;
- Mass Media Schools, Colleges and Institutions were contacted for giving wider publicity of the MIFF and Registration therein;
- First time an innovative idea of On-the-spot Registration was introduced in this version of the MIFF;
- Spot Registration and delivery of Delegate Cards was also arranged and successfully carried on;
- Online Registration for Students, Delegates, Media was introduced for the first time;
- Through the Registration Desk, various publicity material of the MIFF was distributed;
- A special arrangement was made for distribution of publicity material of MIFF films through the Registration Desk;
- Distribution of Invitations, Dinner Cards were arranged;
- Registration Unit worked as a Help Desk /Ask Me Desk for the MIFF apart from working as a Messenger for internal communication amongst the Delegates and Invitees;
- First time, online registration through BookMyShow was arranged and executed;
- Compilation of Invitee Data for Opening & Closing Ceremonies was done and provided to Festival Cell for further action;
- The total Delegate Registration figures was 12057. It is an all-time high till now.

Delegate Registration Process: MIFF implemented an efficient online registration system to accommodate delegates from diverse backgrounds, including filmmakers, industry professionals, media representatives, and enthusiasts:

- **Online Portal:** A user-friendly registration portal was set up on the MIFF website and bookmyshow, allowing delegates to register securely.
- **Registration Types:** Various registration types were offered, including Delegate, Student, Media passes, each with different access privileges.
- **Payment Processing:** Integrated secure payment gateways facilitated smooth transactions for registration fees of 500/- and later the same was made completely free.
- **Support Services:** Volunteers provided by the volunteer unit supported in assisting with registration queries, registration through online or offline, printing of accreditation cards and distribution of cards in a successful manner. Team has worked relentlessly day and night to print the passes and to distribute the passes on time.

Passes Distribution: The distribution of passes was managed meticulously to ensure smooth entry and seamless event experience for registered delegates:

- **Pass Types:** Different pass categories were distributed based on preferences and registration types.
- Management, Official, Student, Onduty, Jury, Volunteer, Delegate and Media.
- **Distribution Channels:** Passes were distributed electronically via email confirmation and also through app, QR code generation for easy access at event venues.

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- **On-Site Distribution:** On-site distribution points were established at event venues for delegates to collect physical badges and passes.
- **Verification Process:** A robust verification process was in place to authenticate delegate identities and pass validity at entry points.
- **Badge Design:** Badges were designed to include delegate names, QR codes, access levels for quick identification and security purposes.

Challenges and Solutions: MIFF encountered several challenges during delegate registrations and passes distribution, with corresponding solutions implemented to mitigate issues:

- **Technical Glitches:** Occasional issues with the online registration portal and QR code scanning where bookmyshow QR code kept some users confusion
- **Communication:** Clear communication channels were established to provide updates and instructions to delegates regarding registration deadlines, pass collection points and downloads.
- **Capacity Management:** Proactive capacity planning and real-time monitoring ensured that pass distribution.
- **Enhanced Communication:** Improved notifications and updates via email and SMS to keep delegates informed about schedule changes and additional programming and downloading of passes online helped many people to enter into the venue.

PROCUREMENT, HIRING, FACILITY, SECURITY & HOUSE KEEPING UNIT

Procurement of Stationery and other items: ALL the stationery required for the MIFF 2024 was purchased through the Gem Portal.

Housekeeping services: The EMA Housekeeping services were not upto the mark they used to come to office by 930 and start the work by 10am and also they EMA Housekeeping used to leave by 8pm in the night. As such the office Housekeeping did the regular work by attending duty at 8 am and work late upto 830 pm to clean the theatres before leaving for the day. The Garbage was not properly dumped as such Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation put of fine of Rs.2500/- which was paid by the EMA.

Security Services: The Services of the EMA was good.

Civil and Electrical Maintenance: The CCW civil and Electrical gave their full support during the festival. As regards Additional Electrical supply upto 600 KW it was the most difficult task to get the additional load upto 600 KW and increase the sanction load in KW to 1581 KW and increase the CD. The Divisional Engineer gave all the support by completing all the formalities within 2 to 3 days. However, it was observed that in the Phase II building 100 KW additional load was used which was not at all required in places such as the RR 1 and RR 2 and Guest House. The Air conditions fitted were of 10ton and 20 ton in each room which required only 2tons each. This could have been avoided In case the Executive Engineer electrical services would be employed in the committee.

INTERNSHIP VOLUNTEER PROGRAM UNIT

The festival commenced on 14th June with the IVP unit taking charge of distributing invitations for the opening ceremony to VIP and VVIP guests. The task demanded extraordinary dedication as volunteers worked late into the night to ensure timely delivery.

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On 16th June, the IVP unit's support was crucial during the animation workshop. Volunteers promptly responded to all requests, ensuring full attendance and contributing to the workshop's success.

The pinnacle of the IVP unit's contributions came on 17th June. Despite being on standby without prior confirmation, ten girls from the IVP unit were prepared early in the morning, dressed in sarees, ready to host at a moment's notice. This readiness highlighted their dedication and flexibility. Additionally, three dancers from the IVP unit volunteered for a performance on short notice, further showcasing their commitment to the event's success.

Concurrently, the interns played a vital role in managing delegate registration and card printing on the day of the event. They stayed late at night in shifts to complete delegate registration, volunteers left the campus as late as 4:00 am.

Throughout the MIFF event, volunteers ensured smooth operations and contributing to the festival's success. These were some of the efforts of our volunteers written from their own words and many such diligent, determine volunteers have supported departments like

- Programming
- Function
- Hospitality
- Finance
- Festival co-ordination
- Festival co-ordination cell
- RSVP
- PIB

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TRANSPORT UNIT

As advised by MD during the meetings held prior to commencement of MIFF Transport unit successfully managed all logistics for the event from 14/06/2024 to 21/06/2024 despite some challenges. In most of the cases sedan i.e. Swift Dezire or equivalent cars were used. For pickup from Airport Dezire was used for 2 and Innova for 3-5 guests if their arrival was by the same flight. The car details were shared in the WhatsApp group of travel and transport where protocol unit head was also a member. Accordingly, guests were received at the Airport.

A dedicated car to every guest at Trident plus 2 cars were kept as stand by to meet any eventuality.

Similarly, 3 to 4 pooled cars were kept at Taj President & Four season (according to Number of Check ins) for ferrying the guests from Hotel to NFDC/NCPA and back to hotel and after check out from hotel to Airport.

A NFDC 7 to 10 cars were kept in pool to facilitate the movement of staff, unit heads and officers for their visit to various Government offices distribution of cards for opening and closing ceremony and other official duties.

Luxury & Mini Buses were utilized for students of North East, guests at hotel Godwin Colaba, FTII Pune and Divyang students of Mumbai schools. These Mini Buses were also used for taking students/Volunteers from NFDC-FD complex to NCPA for attending opening and closing ceremony..

In this entire gamut of things, the role played by team deployed by EMA at hotels was deplorable. As during scope of work meeting it was assured by EMA that a highly professional team will be provided, but that was not the case. The frequent messaging by the ushers in WhatsApp group created unnecessary chaos and distraction resulting into misinformation, duplicated efforts, and delays in responding to genuine issues.

If this was not enough ushers and EMA team started directly instructing to car vendor making things worse. Further at EMA teams deployed from Trident to Taj President to four seasons, never had a handy list of number of Guests at hotel, their check in & check out date as well as their schedule for the day and those who do not have dedicated car, despite repeated requests the same was never shared.

There was the issue of change of drivers at hotel Trident on 17th & 18th June due to festivities. But the same was sorted out.

However, despite encountering setbacks and shortcomings the transport team demonstrated resilience and adaptability and with proactive approach and meticulous planning ensured seamless transportation and smooth and efficient experience to all.

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PR REPORT

Campaign duration – 10 days

Campaign done in three phases

Pre Event - Press conference in Delhi and Mumbai, and curated stories around MIFF

During MIFF – Opening Ceremony, Stories from the Sessions and Red Carpet, Closing Ceremony

Post event – Success story around MIFF

Coverage secured in **Print publications** – More than 70 articles

Coverage secured in **digital publications** – More than 200 articles

Coverage secured through **social media posts** of media and influencers – more than 45 posts

States covered through media – Maharashtra, Delhi, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Haryana, Himanchal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Tamilnadu, Goa, Nagaland, Assam, Rajasthan, Odisha and Karnataka.

Few of the **major publications** covered – The Times of India, Hindustan Times, Midday, Free Press Journal, The Telegraph, Scroll, Money Control, The Print, Dainik Jagran, Dainik Bhaskar, Amar Ujala, Punjab Kesari, Navbharat.

Covered by **ANI, PTI and IANS** all three major wire new agencies. **Variety** covered the news for **international exposure**.



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STARS ON THE STAGE



The 18th edition of the Mumbai International Film Festival – MIFF 2024 inaugurated in Mumbai on Saturday. MIFF will be screening top award-winning films from Culture Cinema Film Festival

MIFF to promote accessibility to cinema experience

CJ DESK

The 18th edition of the Mumbai International Film Festival begins today and runs until June 21, promising to be a beacon of inclusivity.

This biennial celebration showcases shorts, documentaries, and animation films, emphasizing accessibility for all attendees, including those with disabilities. Hosted at NMIC on Pochker Road, Mumbai, this year's festival venue is specially designed to accommodate differently-abled individuals.

Special screenings featuring audio-visual descriptions ensure full engagement for the visually and hearing impaired audiences.

The festival highlights four films in the Divyang Jan categories, offering viewers animations such as episodes from "Little Krishna: The Horror Cave" and "Little Krishna: Challenge of the Brute," alongside the compelling "Jay Jagannath."

Additionally, "Cross Over," a short film by Dr. Methil Devik, integrates dance and music with sign language for an immersive experience.

MIFF also celebrates the achievements of women filmmakers globally, dedicating a segment to their contributions with films directed by women. Featuring five Oscar-nominated short films and



seven animation films, the MIFF is set to enthral audiences as it commences today and extends to venues in Delhi, Pune, Chennai, and Kolkata.

18वें मुंबई अंतर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म महोत्सव में फिल्म मेकिंग की मास्टरक्लास इस समारोह को बनाएगी और भी खास

विश्व 70mm मुंबई मुंबई में होने वाले अंतर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म महोत्सव के 18 वें संस्करण का आयोजन 15 जून से 21 जून तक मुंबई के पेंडर रोड स्थित भारतीय सिनेमा के राष्ट्रीय संग्रहालय (एनएफआईएल) में अंतर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म मेकिंग का फिल्म मेकिंग हर दो वर्ष में एक बार अंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर होता है। इसमें कई फिल्म सत्र, फिल्मों, पुरस्चों और एनिमेशन सत्र शामिल हैं। इस महोत्सव में इस बार मुंबई फिल्म मेकिंग मास्टरक्लास और फिल्म पेशेवरों भी होंगे, जिससे विश्वीय फिल्म निर्माण तकनीकों और प्रक्रियाओं के बारे में विस्तृत चर्चा की जाएगी।

इस बार 18वीं एनएफआईएल में शामिल होने वाले में 28 वर्षीय अंतर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म निर्माण मेकिंग मास्टरक्लास के दिग्गज अग्रणी अनु फिल्म कलाकारों के लिए राष्ट्रीय पुरस्कार जीतें हैं। वे अन्वयित



अनुकार अन्वयित स्तर के साथ मास्टरक्लास आयोजित करने वाले हैं, जो टूटल सीनर्स सिनेमा के निर्माण का समर्थन और वे इस वर्ष अंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर अग्रणी पुरस्कार जीतें हैं। वे अन्वयित

विश्व अंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्तरों पर और फिल्म मेकिंग को भी प्रोत्साहित करने वाले हैं, जो टूटल सीनर्स सिनेमा के आयोजन, पुरस्चों फिल्म निर्माण और संघटना पर आयोजित करेंगे। इस महोत्सव में पुरस्कार विजेता फिल्म निर्माण की मेजबानी भी शामिल होगी, जो अग्रणी फिल्म को संरक्षण के बारे में बात करेगी और अग्रणी फिल्म निर्माण के बारे में बात करेगी, साथ ही अंतर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म निर्माण के बीच कनेक्शन, अंतर्राष्ट्रीय-निर्माण के बीच कनेक्शन और विस्तृत लेखक और फिल्म निर्माण मेकिंग के बारे में बात करने के लिए एनएफआईएल के विकास पर एक पैनाल चर्चा होगी।

With a record 12,000 delegates, 314 films, MIFF closes on a high

This MIFF saw record delegates at screenings, panels and masterclasses.



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MIFF CHENNAI

The festival kickstarted as per the planned schedule with the screening of the National Geographic Film “Billy & Molly” – An Otter Love Story. The Miff screenings in Chennai the first ever had taken many Chennaites by surprise. The initial response was like warm and slowly the festival picked up momentum through word of mouth. We had many documentary film connoisseurs and media students thronging the venue.

The following chief guests from various walks of life were invited for the red carpet event which was held on the 18th of June 2024.

1. **Shri Anandrao Vishnu Patil I.A.S** - Joint Secretary, Department of School Education & Literacy, he has been appointed in-situ as Additional Secretary, Department of School Education & Literacy. He is a 1998 batch IAS officer of Tamil Nadu cadre.
2. **Shri. Vijay Adhiraj** is an Indian actor who has appeared in Tamil, Telugu, Hindi, and Kannada films and serials. He was introduced in the NFDC & Doordarshan produced *Sahashraphan* in Hindi, written by late Prime Minister of India, Shri. P. V. Narasimha Rao and directed by National Award winning Kannada director, T. S. Nagabharana.
3. **Ms. Shylaja Chetlur**, **Shylaja** is an Indian television, films & theatre actress and an entrepreneur. She is the Founder & Managing Trustee of the not-for-profit Cinema Rendezvous Trust showcasing & discussing World Cinemas of substance to promote cross-cultural understanding.
4. **Ms. Sethu Lakshmi C J** who is the Managing Director of Sethu Foundation. She was the Festive Director for CISFF conducted in Fe’ 2024
5. **Shri. Ramakrishnan, Vice President of ICAF** he is one of the founding pillars of the ICAF, and has also strived hard to make it into a successful franchise.
6. **Shri. Thangaraj**, General Secretary from ICAF, he is a well-known face in the film circuit in the city. ICAF started organizing CHENNAI INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL (CIFF) from the year 2003.
7. **Shri M Annadurai IIS** who is the Additional Director General, Press Information Bureau, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Chennai. An Indian Information Service officer, Shri Annadurai had served as Director (News) Doordarshan Podhigai and Director of Regional Outreach Bureau.
8. **Shri. G. M. Sundar** an Indian actor and film producer who has acted in a number of Tamil Films. He turned producer for the film Urumatram.

Even though we had 8 chief guests in our list there were three last moment drop outs and it was eventually helmed by only following 5.

- ⇒ Shri. Vijay Adhiraj
- ⇒ Shri. Ramakrishnan
- ⇒ Shri. Thangaraj
- ⇒ Shri M Annadurai

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⇒ Shri. G. M. Sundar

We had a small Interactive session between the Chief guests and the Media / Viewers. We had received some feedback on the festival and how to make it reach even more people in the coming years.

Hi- tea was arranged for the Guests and media all taken care by the EMA including the publicity and venue decorations.

Huge Support from Doordarshan and All India Radio who were the Media partners throughout the event and they had provided ample media coverage and took sound bites from the Guests, public and students from Da Vinci Media School, MOP Vaishnav College and Avichi College Students etc., Overall we had a better- than -expected outcome.

MIFF seat occupancy details:

Date	Slot 1	Slot 2	Slot 3	Slot 4	Slot 5	Slot 6
TFC Screening	10:00 to 11:30 Am	11:45Am to 01:15 Pm	2:15 to 3:45 Pm	4:00 to 5:30 Pm	5:45 to 7:15 Pm	7:30 to 10:00 Pm
16 th June 2024	26	32	58	42	25	10
17 th June 2024	28	43	33	47	37	32
18 th June 2024	19	28	57	46	51	78 Red carpet
19 th June 2024	16	28	39	54 College Students – Di Vinci	61 Vamsi Director visited	68 Di Vinci & Vamsi's friends
20 th June 2024	16	19	37	45	38	27
21 st June 2024	65 Vaishnav College students	70 Vaishnav College students	27	25	34	38
Occupancy	100	100	100	100	100	100

The curtain fall for this entire event was on the 21st of June 2024 and we had a good gathering of film geeks for our closing film. All media has been shared with the NFDC Media Team.

18TH MUMBAI INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

MIFF KOLKATA

Kolkata Screening of Mumbai International Film Festival Screening at SRFTI was an astounding success with the help of all the media units of MIB. PIB, Doordarshan, and AIR ensured extensive coverage. CBFC was very helpful in reaching out to celebrities. SRFTI and NFDC collaborated seamlessly and ensured the success of the event. The EMA was also responsive and delivered as promised. The Social Media team of NFDC gave their fullest support in amplification. All the Heads of various verticals and Regional Heads ensured a synergy and all the necessities were handled very well.

We had a good footfall of enthusiasts of diverse backgrounds ranging from school children, college students, film enthusiasts, documentary film-makers, renown personnel etc. The Red Carpet was also well attended with popular personalities such as Ms.Nandita Roy – Director, Mr.Malay Laha – Editor, Mr.Abhijit Guha - Actor/Director gracing the occasion.

Beyond the regular online registration we had 300 walk-in registrations of delegates. All the shows were also attended by the SRFTI students who were able to view the screening using their ID cards.

Overall the event was successfully organized and executed.

18TH MUMBAI INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

MIFF PUNE

Following the decision to expand MIFF screenings to cities outside Mumbai, NFDC-NFAI, Pune was added as a venue, making MIFF films accessible to Puneans for the first time in MIFF's history of 34 years. Alongside, Mumbai, Delhi, Chennai and Kolkata, "Billy & Molly – An Otter Love Story." was the opening film for Pune and it was well received by the audiences. The initial buzz was positive, and the event slowly picked up speed as people spread the word. Plenty of documentary lovers and media students showed up to check it out. We had 550+ distinct registrations on spot over the length of the festival.

List of chief guests that were invited for the Screening of 'Billy and Molly' red carpet event (held on the 20th of June 2024):

#	CHIEF GUEST	BIO BRIEF
1	Shri Jabbar Patel	An Indian film director and playwright renowned for his contributions to Marathi theatre and cinema. Known for works like "Jait re Jait", "Saamna," "Sinhasan," etc. His achievements have earned him prestigious accolades, including the National Film Award and the Filmfare Award.
2	Shri. Pran Kishore Kaul	A distinguished Indian playwright, theatre director, and novelist, particularly noted for his contributions to Kashmiri literature and arts. He has generously donated reels of the Kashmiri film Shayar-e-Kashmir Mahjoor (1970), co-directed by him and the Bengali filmmaker Prabhat Mukherjee, to the NFDC-National Film Archive of India.
3	Smt. Sai Paranjpye	An Indian film director, screenwriter, and playwright known for her impactful work in Hindi and Marathi cinema.
4	Shri. Girish Kulkarni	An Indian actor, writer, and filmmaker known for his work primarily in Marathi cinema. He has also made a significant mark in Hindi cinema and television.
5	Mrinal Dev-Kulkarni,	Popularly known as 'son pari' is a distinguished Indian actress known for her remarkable contributions to Marathi and Hindi cinema, as well as television.
6	Shri. Shashank Deogadkar	Addl Commissioner Income tax, Pune.
7	Shri. Anil Kolap	Chief engineer of MSETCL, Pune.
8	Shri. Abhinay Kumbhar	IRS 2001- Dy. Commissioner Income Tax, Pune

Due to a downpour of torrential rains only 4 out of 8 chief guests (*Highlighted*) could make it to the screening.

The event set up was well coordinated by the EMA and the venue was well decorated for the festival (Images enclosed). If it weren't for the rain, we would have had a houseful show post the red carpet event,

18TH MUMBAI INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

but, despite the rainfall the red carpet event was very well received by the audiences, media and the chief guests alike. Support from the PIB, Doordarshan and All India radio helped us reach wider audiences.

MEDIA COVERAGE:

- [Free Press JournalPune: Billy & Molly Steal Hearts At 18th Mumbai International Film FestivalFor the first time, the Mumbai International Film Festival \(MIFF\) extended its screenings beyond the confines of the Maximum City. This initiative aimed to....3 days ago](#)
- [The Bridge ChroniclePune: Jabbar Patel, Pran Kishore Kaul attend Mumbai International Film FestivalPune witnessed its first ever MIFF red carpet at NFDC-National Film Archive of India \(NFDC-NFAI\), drawing cinephiles and dignitaries from the region..3 days ago](#)
- [Free Press JournalIn A First, Mumbai International Film Festival Comes To Pune – Heres All You Need To KnowFor the first time, the Mumbai International Film Festival \(MIFF\) has arrived in Pune. Being held from June 15 to 21 at the National Film Development....1 week ago](#)
- <https://www.punekarnews.in/pune-gears-up-for-the-18th-mumbai-international-film-festival/>
- <https://www.youtube.com/live/1uiNHtncguw?si=683u5RSPnwIrqVv6>

CONCLUSION:

The audience reaction and the bytes given by the chief guests is witness to the fact that hosting MIFF screenings in Pune was a step in the right direction. A combined effort from all teams has made MIFF 2024 a success in Pune and future editions of MIFF must follow suit, allowing more public access to selections of MIFF Documentaries, Short fictions and Animations.

ENCLOSURES:

- Images of setup
- Images from the red carpet
- Print Media Coverage
- Audi reports

18TH MUMBAI INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

IMAGES OF SETUP



18TH MUMBAI INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

IMAGES FROM THE RED CARPET



18TH MUMBAI INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

NFDC-NFAI AUDI REPORT - MIFF 2024

15th June, 2024

#	MOVIE TITLE	VENUE	START TIME	AUDIENCE	CAPACITY
1	Billy And Molly	Phase-1 Main Theatre	2:30:00 PM	30	330

16th June, 2024

#	MOVIE TITLE	VENUE	START TIME	AUDIENCE	CAPACITY
1	Against The Tide	Phase-1 Main Theatre	10:00:00 AM	40	330
2	The Golden Thread	Phase-1 Main Theatre	11:45:00 AM	60	330
3	Karparaa	Phase-1 Main Theatre	2:15:00 PM	60	330
4	Rotten Blood	Phase-1 Main Theatre	3:37:00 PM	60	330
5	Cine-guerrillas: Scenes From The Labudovic Reels	Phase-1 Main Theatre	4:00:00 PM	50	330
6	Glas	Phase-1 Main Theatre	5:45:00 PM	53	330
7	Deep Sea	Phase-1 Main Theatre	7:30:00 PM	30	330

17th June, 2024

#	MOVIE TITLE	VENUE	START TIME	AUDIENCE	CAPACITY
1	Contos Do Esquecimento	Phase-1 Main Theatre	10:00:00 AM	31	330

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2	Men In Blue	Phase-1 Main Theatre	11:05:00 AM	31	330
3	Tokyo Uber Blues	Phase-1 Main Theatre	11:45:00 AM	43	330
4	Arf	Phase-1 Main Theatre	2:15:00 PM	55	330
5	The Old Young Crow	Phase-1 Main Theatre	3:30:00 PM	55	330
6	I Am Not	Phase-1 Main Theatre	4:00:00 PM	48	330
7	Dhorpatan	Phase-1 Main Theatre	5:45:00 PM	32	330
8	My Father	Phase-1 Main Theatre	7:00:00 PM	32	330
9	Return Of The Jungle	Phase-1 Main Theatre	7:30:00 PM	96	330

18th June, 2024

#	MOVIE TITLE	VENUE	START TIME	AUDIENCE	CAPACITY
1	Bay Of Blood	Phase-1 Main Theatre	10:00:00 AM	20	330
2	The Dude And The White Rose	Phase-1 Main Theatre	11:45:00 AM	41	330
3	The Last Shift	Phase-1 Main Theatre	12:10:00 PM	41	330
4	Zima	Phase-1 Main Theatre	12:40:00 PM	41	330
5	Majaraye Sale Akhar	Phase-1 Main Theatre	2:15:00 PM	56	330
6	Shanti	Phase-1 Main Theatre	3:05:00 PM	56	330
7	Sour Milk	Phase-1 Main Theatre	3:30:00 PM	56	330

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8	Catapults to Cameras	Phase-1 Main Theatre	4:00:00 PM	45	330
9	The Caretakers	Phase-1 Main Theatre	4:40:00 PM	45	330
10	Ranga Vaibhoga	Phase-1 Main Theatre	5:00:00 PM	45	330
11	And, towards happy allyes	Phase-1 Main Theatre	5:45:00 PM	69	330
12	Dentures	Phase-1 Main Theatre	7:00:00 PM	69	330
13	Two Strangers Trying Not To Kill Each Other	Phase-1 Main Theatre	7:30:00 PM	50	330

19th June, 2024

#	MOVIE TITLE	VENUE	START TIME	AUDIENCE	CAPACITY
1	Hyphen	Phase-1 Main Theatre	10:00:00 AM	12	330
2	Birubala 'Witch To Padmashri'	Phase-1 Main Theatre	11:45:00 AM	27	330
3	The Sea And The Seven Villages	Phase-1 Main Theatre	12:15:00 PM	27	330
4	Swami Vivekanand "A Bridge Between the East And The West"	Phase-1 Main Theatre	2:15:00 PM	45	330
5	In Search Of Kasturi	Phase-1 Main Theatre	3:25:00 PM	45	330
6	Pukaar	Phase-1 Main Theatre	4:00:00 PM	43	330
7	Sibuk	Phase-1 Main Theatre	4:25:00 PM	43	330

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8	Story of a Painting	Phase-1 Main Theatre	5:45:00 PM	41	330
9	B B Lal "Doyen" Of Indian Archeology	Phase-1 Main Theatre	6:45:00 PM	41	330
10	Lovely Jackson	Phase-1 Main Theatre	7:30:00 PM	38	330
11	Main Thansu dur Nahi	Phase-1 Main Theatre	9:15:00 PM		330

20th June, 2024

#	MOVIE TITLE	VENUE	START TIME	AUDIENCE	CAPACITY
1	Gond Janjati Ki Veerangana Rani Durgawati	Phase-1 Main Theatre	10:00:00 AM	10	330
2	Dhvani- The Sound Around	Phase-1 Main Theatre	10:50:00 AM	10	330
3	From The Shadows	Phase-1 Main Theatre	11:45:00 AM	25	330
4	Reserve Women's Rights	Phase-1 Main Theatre	1:00:00 PM	25	330
5	Aathvanitlya Paaulkhuna (Memory Foot Prints)	Phase-1 Main Theatre	2:15:00 PM	45	330
6	Gandi Baat	Phase-1 Main Theatre	3:15:00 PM	45	330
7	Herd Walk	Phase-1 Main Theatre	4:00:00 PM	43	330
8	Billy And Molly	Phase-1 Main Theatre	7:00:00 PM	125	330

21st June, 2024

18TH MUMBAI INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

#	MOVIE TITLE	VENUE	START TIME	AUDIENCE	CAPACITY
1	Anduri	Phase-1 Main Theatre	10:00:00 AM	18	330
2	Fehujali A New Dawn	Phase-1 Main Theatre	11:00:00 AM	18	330
3	6-a Akash Ganga	Phase-1 Main Theatre	11:45:00 AM	35	330
4	Sahastrasurya Savarkar	Phase-1 Main Theatre	2:15:00 PM	36	330
5	Web of Life	Phase-1 Main Theatre	4:00:00 PM	37	330
6	Submerged	Phase-1 Main Theatre	4:25:00 PM	37	330
7	Challenge	Phase-1 Main Theatre	4:50:00 PM	37	330
8	Life In Loom	Phase-1 Main Theatre	5:45:00 PM	40	330
9	CLOSING FILM	Phase-1 Main Theatre	7:30:00 PM	45	330



Mumbai International Film Festival: For the first time, screenings to be held in Pune

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
PUNE, JUNE 14

AS THE 18th edition of Mumbai International Film Festival is all set to begin on Saturday, this is the first-time screenings will be held in Pune, Chennai, Kolkata and Delhi. The event is organised by NEDC and the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

Established in 1990, the festival is dedicated to introducing the best of documentary, short and animation films. In addition to

screening films from Pune-based filmmakers, the festival will also showcase a special screening of the opening film 'Bibi and Molly' - an other live story at the NEDC - National Film Archive of India in the city. The 18th MIFF will see daily screenings of a host of official selections at the NEDC-NFAI venue through the course of the festival, from June 15 to 21. Some of the official selections in the international competition section across categories being screened in Pune will include 'Against the tide' by

Saravak Kaat: 'Class my unfulfilled life' by Roper Kopper, 'Korpanca by Vignesh Kumar and 'Aan Net' by Hinner Herman among others. Additionally, three Marathi films, 'Bheed Chal' by Anil Pragas, 'Sahastrasurya Savarkar' by Shubhangi Rajan Sawant and 'Aathorekya' by Anandh by Sulekha Suresh will be screened in Pune. Celebrating the best of films, the 18th MIFF also will present films from filmmakers of Pune which get official selection at the festival. Some of these films include 'Guntata Hruday' he

(integrated) by Sainath S Haldakar and Cannes Film Festival winner Chidananda Naik's 'Sunflowers' were the first ones to know, both of which will compete in the national competition for short fiction films. Similarly, 'Kankhul' by Arindam Kishor Dutta will be screened in the national competition for animation category. 'Fool' by Prasad Ramesh Bhujgal in the national short fiction competition category and 'Mataara Dongar' by Deepthi Karganath Kanase as part of the national primary student short film fiction category.

'मिफ'मध्ये 'बिली अँड मॉली'ला दाद

एनएफडीसी-एनएफएआयमध्ये प्रथमच मिफ रेड कार्पेट

पुणे : पुढारी वृत्तसेवा

मुंबई ऑनरार्युंग विक्टर मोरिसवर्गेली (मिफ) विक्टरचे प्रदर्शन पारितोष्यांचाच मुंबईतच विविध शहरांमध्ये करण्यात आले. पुढारीची महोत्सवातील विक्टर पारितोष्यांचाच वेळ आला. यामाच एक भाग म्हणून पुढारीत रानुवि विक्टर विकास मध्यम-रानुवि विक्टर संस्थाला (एनएफडीसी-एनएफएआय) येथे उत्तमच मिफ रेड कार्पेटचे प्रेक्षकांनी अनुभव घेतला. याच विक्टर क्षेत्रातील विक्टर साह्यांनी झाले होते. मीफ विक्टरचे स. जयराय एनएआय प्राण विक्टरांतील यानी रेड कार्पेटची ओषा वाढवली. तसेच, या वेळी 'बिली अँड मॉली' अँड 'रेड कार्पेट' या ओषांनी विक्टरचे प्रेक्षकांनी झाले. विक्टरला प्रेक्षकांनी उत्तमच दाद

मिळावी.

विक्टरांचे प्रेक्षकांनी झाले. डॉ. जयराय एनएआय मीफ रेड कार्पेटचे प्रदर्शन मुंबईतच विक्टरांचाच वेळ आला. यामाच एक भाग म्हणून पुढारीत रानुवि विक्टर विकास मध्यम-रानुवि विक्टर संस्थाला (एनएफडीसी-एनएफएआय) येथे उत्तमच मिफ रेड कार्पेटचे प्रेक्षकांनी अनुभव घेतला. याच विक्टर क्षेत्रातील विक्टर साह्यांनी झाले होते. मीफ विक्टरचे स. जयराय एनएआय प्राण विक्टरांतील यानी रेड कार्पेटची ओषा वाढवली. तसेच, या वेळी 'बिली अँड मॉली' अँड 'रेड कार्पेट' या ओषांनी विक्टरचे प्रेक्षकांनी झाले. विक्टरला प्रेक्षकांनी उत्तमच दाद

एनएफएआयच्या अधिकाऱ्यांनी दिली. संपादित रे. योच 'मिफ' (१९८०), एनएफएआयमध्ये बनलेला अधिकाऱ्यांचा विक्टरांचाच वेळ आला. यामाच एक भाग म्हणून पुढारीत रानुवि विक्टर विकास मध्यम-रानुवि विक्टर संस्थाला (एनएफडीसी-एनएफएआय) येथे उत्तमच मिफ रेड कार्पेटचे प्रेक्षकांनी अनुभव घेतला. याच विक्टर क्षेत्रातील विक्टर साह्यांनी झाले होते. मीफ विक्टरचे स. जयराय एनएआय प्राण विक्टरांतील यानी रेड कार्पेटची ओषा वाढवली. तसेच, या वेळी 'बिली अँड मॉली' अँड 'रेड कार्पेट' या ओषांनी विक्टरचे प्रेक्षकांनी झाले. विक्टरला प्रेक्षकांनी उत्तमच दाद

18TH MUMBAI INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

MIFF DELHI

Opening film - “Billy & Molly – An Otter Love Story.”

“Billy & Molly – An Otter Love Story.” was also the opening film for the MIFF screenings in Siri Fort New Delhi. The film attracted a decent number of attendees, with many documentary enthusiasts and students of films and media showing great interest.

Red Carpet

List of chief guests that were invited for the Screening of ‘Billy and Molly’ red carpet event (held on the 17th of June 2024) :

#	CHIEF GUEST	BIO BRIEF
1	Shri. Ranjit Singh	Producer of the animated film “Return of the Jungle” selected in 18th MIFF
2	Smt. Vandana Boolchand	Head, Svayam. Svayam was the accessibility partner of MIFF.
3	Shri. Varun Suri	Varun Suri is a popular actor known for his versatile performances. His latest movie is "Auhaam," showcasing his talent and continuing his streak of impactful roles in the film industry.
4	Representatives from Disney team	
5	Representatives from National Geographic team	

Due to the tragic accident involving the Kanchanjunga Express, which occurred on the morning of 17/06/2024, the Red Carpet event in Delhi had to be subdued. While no casualties were reported, the severity of the incident necessitated a lowkey event in the presence of Smt. Vrunda Desai, Joint Secretary, Govt. of India. The event setup was well-coordinated by the EMA and the venue was beautifully decorated for the festival (Images enclosed). Although the red carpet event was cancelled, the screening itself was conducted.

Overall Reception

18TH MUMBAI INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

The recent screenings at the Delhi edition of the MIFF showcased a vibrant renewal of Siri Fort as a premier space for film events, drawing impressive audience turnouts, particularly for documentaries and short films. There was a commendable attendance of both guests and audiences, highlighting the event's appeal.

Challenges faced during screenings

The MIFF screenings in Delhi faced logistical challenges that impacted the overall experience. About 5 films had subtitles missing. Some of the films sent in the hard disk were wrong films. Few films which were sent for screening were different films with the same name. The film schedule delivered to Siri Fort included copies for other cities, leading to frequent last-minute changes that disrupted coordination and viewing experiences. Some films were removed from the schedule without alternate screenings, resulting in audience complaints. Incorrect images in the catalogues caused minor misinformation, and two Amazon films were replaced without explanation, placing the Delhi team in a difficult position with attendees. Audience complaints about sound quality were investigated, revealing no equipment issues. The use of mp4 film versions drew negative feedback for poor audiovisual quality. Insufficient communication with filmmakers and Mumbai team led to disruptions in the projection room added to the challenges faced.

MEDIA COVERAGE:

- 18th edition of MIFF: First time happening in Delhi

CONCLUSION:

The audience reaction and the feedback from the chief guests attest to the fact that hosting MIFF screenings in Delhi was a step in the right direction. The renewal of Siri Fort as a film screening venue and the impressive turnout, especially for documentaries and short films, underscore the event's success. Despite a few logistical challenges, the combined efforts of all teams have made MIFF 2024 in Delhi a successful event.

ENCLOSURES:

- Audi reports

NFDC-NFA AUDI REPORT - MIFF 2024				
15th June, 2024				
#	VENUE	START TIME	AUDIENCE	CAPACITY
1	Auditorium-II	2:30:00 PM	55	396

18TH MUMBAI INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

16th June, 2024				
#	VENUE	START TIME	AUDIENCE	CAPACITY
1	Auditorium-II	10:00:00 AM	08	396
2	Auditorium-III	10:00:00 AM	07	270
3	Auditorium-IV	10:00:00 AM	11	65
4	Auditorium-II	12:30:00 PM	09	396
5	Auditorium-III	12:30:00 PM	07	270
6	Auditorium-IV	12:30:00 PM	13	65
7	Auditorium-II	3:00:00 PM	05	396
8	Auditorium-III	3:00:00 PM	13	270
9	Auditorium-IV	3:00:00 PM	08	65
10	Auditorium-II	5:30:00 PM	06	396
11	Auditorium-III	5:30:00 PM	17	270
12	Auditorium-IV	5:30:00 PM	26	65
13	Auditorium-II	8:00:00 PM	11	396
14	Auditorium-III	8:00:00 PM	21	270
15	Auditorium-IV	8:00:00 PM	29	65
17th June, 2024				

18TH MUMBAI INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

#	VENUE	START TIME	AUDIENCE	CAPACITY
1	Auditorium-II	10:00:00 AM	225	396
2	Auditorium-III	10:00:00 AM	15	270
3	Auditorium-IV	10:00:00 AM	20	65
4	Auditorium-II	12:30:00 PM	295	396
5	Auditorium-III	12:30:00 PM	35	270
6	Auditorium-IV	12:30:00 PM	45	65
7	Auditorium-II	3:00:00 PM	315	396
8	Auditorium-III	3:00:00 PM	45	270
9	Auditorium-IV	3:00:00 PM	35	65
10	Auditorium-II	5:30:00 PM	245	396
11	Auditorium-III	5:30:00 PM	40	270
12	Auditorium-IV	5:30:00 PM	35	65
13	Auditorium-II	8:00:00 PM	35	396
14	Auditorium-III	8:00:00 PM	25	270
15	Auditorium-IV	8:00:00 PM	25	65
18th June, 2024				
#	VENUE	START TIME	AUDIENCE	CAPACITY

18TH MUMBAI INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

1	Auditorium-II	10:00:00 AM	-	396
2	Auditorium-III	10:00:00 AM	08	270
3	Auditorium-IV	10:00:00 AM	14	65
4	Auditorium-II	12:30:00 PM	25	396
5	Auditorium-III	12:30:00 PM	03	270
6	Auditorium-IV	12:30:00 PM	20	65
7	Auditorium-II	3:00:00 PM	40	396
8	Auditorium-III	3:00:00 PM	12	270
9	Auditorium-IV	3:00:00 PM	17	65
10	Auditorium-II	5:30:00 PM	75	396
11	Auditorium-III	5:30:00 PM	65	270
12	Auditorium-IV	5:30:00 PM	25	65
13	Auditorium-II	8:00:00 PM	55	396
14	Auditorium-III	8:00:00 PM	45	270
15	Auditorium-IV	8:00:00 PM	15	65
19th June, 2024				
#	VENUE	START TIME	AUDIENCE	CAPACITY
1	Auditorium-II	10:00:00 AM	72	396

18TH MUMBAI INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

2	Auditorium-III	10:00:00 AM	34	270
3	Auditorium-IV	10:00:00 AM	18	65
4	Auditorium-II	12:30:00 PM	64	396
5	Auditorium-III	12:30:00 PM	36	270
6	Auditorium-IV	12:30:00 PM	12	65
7	Auditorium-II	3:00:00 PM	52	396
8	Auditorium-III	3:00:00 PM	40	270
9	Auditorium-IV	3:00:00 PM	16	65
10	Auditorium-II	5:30:00 PM	68	396
11	Auditorium-III	5:30:00 PM	28	270
12	Auditorium-IV	5:30:00 PM	14	65
13	Auditorium-II	8:00:00 PM	44	396
14	Auditorium-III	8:00:00 PM	22	270
15	Auditorium-IV	8:00:00 PM	10	65
20th June, 2024				
#	VENUE	START TIME	AUDIENCE	CAPACITY
1	Auditorium-II	10:00:00 AM	35	396

18TH MUMBAI INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

2	Auditorium-III	10:00:00 AM	22	270
3	Auditorium-IV	10:00:00 AM	06	65
4	Auditorium-II	12:30:00 PM	14	396
5	Auditorium-III	12:30:00 PM	18	270
6	Auditorium-IV	12:30:00 PM	04	65
7	Auditorium-II	3:00:00 PM	20	396
8	Auditorium-III	3:00:00 PM	28	270
9	Auditorium-IV	3:00:00 PM	10	65
10	Auditorium-II	5:30:00 PM	82	396
11	Auditorium-III	5:30:00 PM	70	270
12	Auditorium-IV	5:30:00 PM	11	65
13	Auditorium-II	8:00:00 PM	65	396
14	Auditorium-III	8:00:00 PM	13	270
15	Auditorium-IV	8:00:00 PM	07	65
21st June, 2024				
#	VENUE	START TIME	AUDIENCE	CAPACITY
1	Auditorium-II	10:00:00 AM	54	396
2	Auditorium-III	10:00:00 AM	22	270

18TH MUMBAI INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

3	Auditorium-IV	10:00:00 AM	17	65
4	Auditorium-II	12:30:00 PM	41	396
5	Auditorium-III	12:30:00 PM	31	270
6	Auditorium-IV	12:30:00 PM	14	65
7	Auditorium-II	3:00:00 PM	37	396
8	Auditorium-III	3:00:00 PM	27	270
9	Auditorium-IV	3:00:00 PM	09	65
10	Auditorium-II	5:30:00 PM	18	396
11	Auditorium-III	5:30:00 PM	11	270
12	Auditorium-IV	5:30:00 PM	08	65
13	Auditorium-II	8:00:00 PM	25	396