

JURY FOR NATIONAL COMPETITION



GANGADHARA MUDALIAR

Chairperson

With over 50 years in journalism, Gangadhara Mudaliar served as Assistant Editor at Prajavani, one of Karnataka's most respected Kannada dailies. A pioneering film historian, critic, and author of 18 books, he is widely credited with shaping Kannada film culture. His contributions have been recognised with the Karnataka Government's TSR Lifetime Achievement Award, Rajyotsava Award, Sahitya Academy Award, and the Kempegowda Award, among others.



DR. NAYANA R

Dr. Nayana R. is a media professional and academic bringing over 17 years of experience across higher education and media production. Holding a Ph.D. in Mass Communication and Journalism, she currently serves as Creative & Content Head at ITV. Her public service credentials include serving as an empaneled Documentary Director for the Government of Kerala's IPR Department, Advisory Panel Member for the Central Board of Film Certification, and member of the Media Monitoring Cell for the Kerala State Women's Commission.

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HIMANSHU PRAJAPATI

Himanshu Prajapati is a National Award-winning writer-director and FTII graduate based in Mumbai. His short film 'Teen Don Ek' won the 69th National Film Award for Best Film on Social Issues, while his recent film 'Slow Steppers' premiered at the Kolkata International Film Festival. As a screenwriter, he co-wrote 'A Night of Knowing Nothing', winner of the Golden Eye at Cannes, and contributed to 'All We Imagine As Light', recipient of the Grand Prix at Cannes 2024.



ISAAC JOSEPH BANKS

Isaac Joseph Banks is a New York-based cinematographer and producer whose work has earned selection at some of the world's most prestigious festivals, including Venice, BFI London, Rotterdam, Tribeca, and the International Film Festival of India. A graduate of the University of North Carolina School of the Arts, his breakthrough feature 'Lingua Franca (2019)' premiered at Venice Days, and his most recent collaboration 'Moonglow (2026)' premiered at Rotterdam. His producing work includes 'Pescador (2025)', which had its world premiere at IFFI 2025.

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ANOMAA RAJAKARUNA

Anomaa Rajakaruna is a curator, programmer, photographer, and documentary filmmaker from Sri Lanka whose work spans over two decades. Through her films, she has addressed critical issues such as women in armed conflict, displacement, and violence against women. She serves as Festival Director of the Jaffna International Cinema Festival and is the Founder of the Agenda 14 Short Film Festival in Colombo. As Artistic Director of the Colombo International Women's Film Festival and curator of 10 editions of the European Film Festival in Sri Lanka, she has served as a juror at over 20 national and international film festivals. Her notable directorial works include *Our Mother*, *Grandmother*, *Prime Minister: Sirimavo* (2023) and *The Sixth Land* (2020).