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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**ENZIAN AND THE ASIAN CULTURAL ASSOCIATION PRESENT  
THE 26<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL SOUTH ASIAN FILM FESTIVAL**

**Orlando, FL** – (September 25, 2020) – Beyond Bollywood: The 26<sup>th</sup> Annual South Asian Film Festival, taking place online October 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, showcases diverse images of the Indian subcontinent, its culture, and heritage through acclaimed independent films from across the globe. This program is part of Enzian Theater's cultural festival circuit and is co-presented with the Asian Cultural Association.

This year's festival is completely virtual and offers two features and a program of five short films that can be enjoyed from anywhere in the state of Florida. Films can be streamed on mobile devices, tablets, computers, or on the Eventive App for Roku and Apple TV. [Click here](#) for FAQs, including system requirements and how to watch on your TV.

By request of the filmmakers, films are only available to those physically within the state of Florida. Films will become available on October 10<sup>th</sup> at 12:00am and be available to begin watching until 11:59pm on October 11<sup>th</sup>. Festival Passholders will have access to all films, once unlocked, until 11:59pm on October 11<sup>th</sup>. When access to films is purchased individually, the purchaser will have 24 hours to start watching, and another 24 hours to finish. For individual film pre-orders, the 24-hour window to begin watching starts at 12:00am October 10<sup>th</sup>.

Matthew Curtis, Enzian Programming Director, and Jasbir Mehta, Executive Director of the Asian Cultural Association, said, "In these difficult times, we are extremely proud to be able to still celebrate the 26<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this important event on the Central Florida cultural calendar. And despite this year's lineup being available for home-viewing only, it's exciting that fans of South Asian cinema statewide will now be able to participate in the festival and experience these outstanding new films."

[Click here](#) to access the virtual festival. For any technical difficulties, please visit the [Help Page](#) or [email](#) for further assistance. The Enzian Box Office is unable to help with technical difficulties.

Access to each film program can be purchased individually or [Virtual Festival Passes](#) provide discounted access to all three films for both days of the festival. For questions regarding ticketing or refund requests, [click here](#).

**WHAT:** [MADE IN BANGLADESH](#)  
Available to stream October 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>

After a successful theatrical run in France and multiple award wins worldwide, MADE IN BANGLADESH is now available for Florida audiences to see!

Shimu, 23, works in a clothing factory in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Faced with difficult conditions at work, she decides to start a union with her co-workers. Despite threats from the management and disapproval of her husband, Shimu is determined to go on. Together, the women must fight and find a way. A moving and suspenseful tale not simply of exploitation, but also of empowerment, MADE IN BANGLADESH achieves something remarkable by turning Shimu's struggle into a colorful, authentic and highly engaging drama.

Bangladesh/France/Denmark/Portugal, 2019, 95 min, Directed by Rubaiyat Hossain, In English & Bengali with English subtitles

### **JALLIKATTU**

**Available to stream October 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>**

Unfolding in a remote village in the filmmaker's home state of Kerala, JALLIKATTU begins with Kalan Varkey, a butcher whom the entire village relies on for fresh meat. A regular ritual of buffalo slaughter goes haywire when the animal breaks loose, creating havoc across the village as it runs amok destroying shops and crops before vanishing into the surrounding woods. Fingers get pointed, the police are called in, and the entire village gets sucked into catching the errant animal. Cited as "one the year's biggest discoveries" (Screen Anarchy) at last year's Toronto Int'l Film Festival, this breathtakingly original and wildly propulsive parable about man's latent capacity for lawlessness and chaos showcases a bold new voice in Malayalam cinema.

India, 2019, 91 min, Directed by Lijo Jose Pelilissery, In Malayalam with English subtitles

### **CHHOTA CINEMA: NEW INDIAN SHORTS 2020**

**Available to stream October 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>**

Stream these films and then vote for the best in new Indian cinema with this year's wonderful and diverse short film showcase. The Audience Award for Best Short Film is in your hands Florida, so help decide which of these five terrific films will capture SAFF glory!

#### **SADAK CHAAP (Street Stamped)**

USA/India, 2019, 14 min, Directed by Riddhi Talreja, In Hindi with English subtitles

On the streets of Mumbai, a young brother and sister try to raise money to buy a new soccer ball so they can play like the children they see on the other side of the fence. When they lose the money, the young boy risks everything for the ball, only to find that help comes from an unlikely hero.

#### **BINIMOY**

India/USA, 2019, 18 min, Directed by Tanvi Chowdhary, In Bengali, English, and Hindi with English subtitles

Gauri and Amal are about to celebrate their first wedding anniversary in their little home in North Calcutta. While Gauri wishes to find her husband a special gift, it isn't quite as simple as she thought it would be.

**PROOF**

USA/India, 2020, 20 min, Directed by Nishtha Jain and Deepti Gupta, In Hindi with English subtitles

Amandeep will never forget his time as a junior gynecologist in a government hospital in Delhi. He was conscientious, which rendered him unfit for the system. The 'women's ward' was a microcosm of woman's lot in society, and if he wanted to change things for the better, he would have to, perhaps, begin with himself.

**COFFEE SHOP NAMES**

USA, 2019, 8 min, Directed by Deepak Sethi, In English

Three Indian young professionals imagine their personas as their "coffee shop names," the names they give baristas because their real names are hard to pronounce.

**THE BRAT (Natkhat)**

India, 2019, 33 min, Directed by Shaan Vyas, In Hindi with English subtitles  
Sonu is seven—the age at which children learn and imitate things from their immediate environment, and in the largely patriarchal societies of India, it's also the age at which machismo starts getting celebrated. One evening over dinner, he casually mentions to his family about a ghastly act that he committed in school. Determined to correct his course, his doting mother Surekha (Vidya Balan) decides that she will not let Sonu go down the same path as the other men in the family. Through her bedtime stories and a son's love for his mom, she teaches him the true virtue of equality: that between a boy and a girl, a human and an animal, and among all creations of God. THE BRAT (Natkhat) is the powerful directorial debut from Shaan Vyas, producer of The Lunchbox.  
Total Running Time: 93 minutes

**TICKETS:** Virtual Festival Pass – [\\$25](#)  
Individual Access– \$10

**WHERE:** Virtually Online. [Click here](#) for the virtual SAFF page.

**INFO:** Enzian is Central Florida's only full-time, not-for-profit cinema for first-run independent and international film, classic revivals, documentary features, and select family entertainment. Enzian, a member-supported organization serving the community for more than 35 years, is home to the Florida Film Festival and Eden Bar. For additional information, visit [Enzian.org](http://Enzian.org) or call general information at (407) 629-1088.

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