

MINI-INPUT 2018

Kolkata

Presented jointly by

INPUT

Satyajit Ray Film & Television Institute
Goethe-Institut / Max Mueller Bhavan Kolkata
Forum for Film Studies and Allied Arts

5:30 pm on 23rd & 24th Aug

4 pm on 25th Aug

Satyajit Ray Film & Television Institute
E M Bypass Road, Panchasayar, Kolkata 700094

SCHEDULE

Thursday, 23 August 2018

Horrible Histories - Revolting Russian Revolutions

United Kingdom / 29 min

Direction: Steve Connolly, Ian Curtis

On the 100th Anniversary of the world-shattering Russian Revolution, Horrible Histories explores Russia's Revolting past in this bumper special episode. From Czar Nicholas II, Rasputin, and Karl Marx; to Lenin, Stalin, and the collapse of the Berlin Wall 1989 - they are all covered in Horrible Histories' irreverent style. All with your host Rattus Rattusiovich to guide the way! This children's comedy series started out tackling the funny bits of history, and bringing them to the audience full of facts, gory details and lots of laughs. As the series has developed and found its dedicated fans we have taken on more and more challenging bits of history, which it feels like our young audience should be exposed to. This year was the 100th anniversary of the Russian Revolution. We took on the challenge through our unique combination of sketches, songs and quizzes, to bring the story of Russia to an international audience. It took considerable skill from our team to get the tone right. But we are very proud that within the parameters of a comedy for children we were able to explore some huge and important themes and bring them some of the most important and challenging events of the 20th century.

MINI-INPUT 2018

Kolkata

Tokyo Black Hole: Year Zero in Post-WWII Japan

Japan / 50 min

Direction: Kensuke Kishi, SadaoMoriuchi

Tokyo is known as one of the most orderly cities in the world. But 72 years ago, when World War 2 had just ended, it was a lawless place where people were driven by necessity and greed. To shed light on Tokyo in year zero - the 12 months that followed the end of the war - NHK analyzed more than 100,000 pages of declassified CIA documents and studied dozens of hours of newly discovered footage shot by the American occupation forces and private individuals. Those pictures show Tokyo like a black hole that swallowed people, materials, and money. In this film a young Japanese man, Takeshi from the 21st century, travels back in time to Tokyo in 1945. Cutting-edge videocompositing techniques place the actor within the images in old film footage, giving viewers an immersive, vicarious experience. Takeshi first experiences the black market that had sprung up in the ruined city. People dive into illicit businesses in order to survive. Many women can only feed their families by working as prostitutes. Street urchins, who work for Yakuza gangs, are rounded up by officials. A hundred people starve to death each month. Meanwhile, the families of the occupation forces live in luxury. And a cache of gold bars is pulled from Tokyo Bay... The film reveals how the desperate people of a ruined city laid the foundations of the Japanese capital of today.

Grotesco: The Refugee Crisis – A Musical

Sweden / 30 min

Direction: Micke Lindgren

Europe saw an enormous influx of refugees in 2015, as a result of the war in Syria and other conflicts. Refugees primarily came from Turkey to Greece by boat, proceeding on foot, by roads and trains to the northwest - towards the wealthier and more open countries on the continent. The great influx of refugees created a lot of tension in European societies strengthening nationalist populist opinion, but also mobilizing civil society in solidarity movements of help and support. The Swedish comedy group Grotesco have created a short musical about this period, from the perspective of Swedish politics and public opinion. Grotesco was chosen as the best political humor program produced in Sweden

MINI-INPUT 2018

Kolkata

in 2017. The program addresses the issue of the mass flight from Syria in 2015 and how Sweden and the other European countries handled it. A very serious topic turned to perfect humor in the form of a musical. This is the first in a series of eight parts, dealing with various subjects connected to Swedish society.

Friday, 24 August 2018

Human Smuggler

Denmark / 59 min

Direction: Poul-Eric Heilbuth, Georg Larsen

For the first-time human smugglers, will reveal - on camera and unmasked - the secrets of their trade. Does that sound too good to be true? We offer a real picture of the industry that has brought millions of migrants to Europe. When European politicians promise to put an end to the uncontrolled and illegal influx, this is the force they are up against. The film offers an astonishing insight to how one of the largest travel agencies in the World – human smugglers - operate. Offering tailor-made travel arrangements to individuals and groups according to their financial potential or producing false documents, working together, competing, networking and mingling as in other industries, only here under the pressure of being illegal. We also witness the relentless fight to get smugglers behind bars personated by an Italian prosecutor who believes the smugglers are all the same. He - and authorities around Europe - has waged a war against the human smugglers, but what are their chances of success? We offer a unique dive into the business of human smuggling presented by the men that run it. It gives us the chance to open doors that have been closed for years and see the whole debate from a quite new angle.

Neruda, the Mystery of his Death

Chile / 63 min

Direction: Claudio Marchant

On September 23rd 1973 Pablo Neruda the Nobel prize winner for Literature died in the Santa María Hospital just 12 days after the coup d'état. His death represents the loss of one the most important political and cultural figures in Chilean history. This documentary series delves into the judicial investigation that has been underway in Chile since 2011 to determine the true cause of Pablo Neruda's death. The poet's final days in September 1973 are reconstructed through testimonies and accounts from surviving closest

MINI-INPUT 2018

Kolkata

friends, relatives and the professionals in charge of his care while he was hospitalized. Moreover, unknown details are revealed. Over two years of research, with exclusive access to the judicial process and scientific expertise carried out by world-renowned laboratories, the series gives an account of one of the most important international forensic investigations involved in judicial proceedings today. This series was broadcast in the week when the panel of scientists delivered the final results from a two-year research paper that established the conclusion: Cancer did not kill Pablo Neruda. A week later the Chilean Court declared that former President Frei had been murdered in 1982 in the same hospital where Neruda had died, on the same floor and with the same medical team.

Saturday, 25 August 2018

Zarah – Wild Times: Titles and Tits

Germany / 43 min

Direction: Richard Huber

This drama series depicts a period of German emancipation history.

The revolts of the 1960s had brought society to a boil and people were setting out into uncharted waters when it came to fashion, pop culture and sex. The series is set in the Federal Republic of Germany during the early 1970s when West Germany is funky, wild and sexy, but the positions of power are still held almost exclusively by men. Zarah Wolf, a committed journalist in her early 30s, has got a new job as deputy editor at a large glossy magazine. As an outspoken feminist activist, she is fighting outdated role models and everyday macho attitudes at her new work place. She questions authority and tries to maneuver herself into the executive seat by organizing a coup. Her methods are clever, devious, and at times ruthless. Yet as she turns the great wheel of societal change, her life and emotions spin into turbulences.

The Snake Charmer

Greece / 57 min

Direction: Nina Maria Paschalidou

Aamir Khan is one of the leading Bollywood actors in India today. He became a star of Hindi cinema in the 1980s, and his films have been the highest grossing Bollywood films of all time. Until recently, Khan was used to portraying macho men on a quest for vengeance and belonged to an industry accused of encouraging sexual violence against women. Yet in 2012, Khan's

MINI-INPUT 2018

Kolkata

career took an unexpected turn, when he created 'Satyamev Jayate', the first prime-time TV show in India to expose the country's most critical social issues. Khan became the first Bollywood star to openly talk about rape, female feticide, dowry payments and domestic violence. The film follows Khan, as he attempts to change the way Indians perceive and treat women. Interviews with leading Bollywood directors, producers and fellow actors, help to explore further the role of cinema and TV in shaping values and mentalities in Indian society during the last thirty years. We also meet women who have taken part in Khan's show, and discover how their lives have been affected by speaking out in public. In parallel, we explore the controversy that Khan has created, listening to critical voices that are questioning his motives and protesting against his work. Khan's quest ultimately opens a window into a country in crisis and to the changes it is undergoing.

Each programme will be preceded by a brief introduction and followed by a discussion, wherever possible with the director on Skype and/or with competent resource persons

Schedule subject to change

[We are planning one Mini INPUT program every fortnight at the SRFTI]