

FEATURING RAVINDRA SAHU, LOKESH JAIN, K GOPALAN, RAGHUBIR YADAV, PRASANJEET SCREENPLAY AND DIRECTION ANAMIKA HAKSAR
DIALOGUES LOKESH JAIN D.O.P. SAUMYANANDA SAHI EDITOR PARESH KAMDAR SOUND DESIGN GAUTAM NAIR GAFFER TANUSHREE DAS COLORIST SIDHARTH MEER
PRODUCTION DESIGN ARCHANA SHASTRI EXECUTIVE PRODUCER GURUDAS PAI COSTUME DESIGN SNEHA KUMAR VFX SOUMITRA RANADE, PAPERBOAT DESIGN STUDIOS
BACKGROUND SCORE AND MUSIC TYRAX VENTURA RABAB COMPOSITION USTAD DAUD KHAN SADOZAI LYRIGS FOR RAP PIYUSH MISHRA ART DIRECTION MANISH KANSARA

## **ABOUT THE FILM**

The film is a result of seven years of documentation of the lives of the street people of old Delhi - beggars, pickpockets, loaders, small scale factory workers, street singers, street vendors etc.

The film does not move in a linear fashion. It moves like homeless and migrant communities from minute to minute changing its space and structure with every ongoing event. There is no one story but several stories. Dreams and stories mix together to form an exciting magical realism.

We do not have the comfortable structure of saturated and complacent lives but have tried to tread with people who don't know what's happening next.

The film uses both trained actors and real people. The Zen of small events is the source of celebration rather than big events. Since we have a very versatile team coming from different backgrounds: Theatre, Painting, Animation, Cinema and Special effects along with a very gifted cinematographer and audiographer, our film will move from real landscapes to photographs to theatrical moments to painted landscapes to absolute cinema, a journey exciting for all of us. Music composed by Tyrax Ventura, a young rock musician, will have 'Industrial sounds'. The music of the film will also move from contemporary Indian music to traditional Indian music. In the film we will move from neo realism to Indian folk and even to expressionism when it comes to the dreams.

The actors of our team are steeped in deep understanding of theatrical traditions both folk and contemporary. In terms of genre the film moves light irony to black humour.

## SYNOPSIS OF THE FILM

Ghodeko follows four main characters: a pickpocket, a vendor of sweet and savoury snacks, a labourer-activist and a conductor of heritage walks'. We see Old Delhi through their eyes - their lives, hopes, aspirations, dreams - and hear it through their various languages and dialects. Patru, the pickpocket, decides to take people on alternative walks, showing them the underbelly of the city they think they know, but this lands him in trouble with local merchants and the police. That's where he finally decides to conduct one last 'Dream Walk'

It is here that we enter the subterranean consciousness of the city's migrant population. Together, these walks create a visual and aural history of Old Delhi from different point of views. And when Lali, the labourer-activist, too joins the fray, giving a speech urging workers to unite, he lands them all in jail...

Fusing documentary-realism with magic-realism and true and fictionalised stories with poetry and dreams, Ghodeko... is a love-letter to the syncretic culture of Old Delhi, to its history which is slowly losing itself amidst concrete and smog.

# **ABOUT THE DIRECTOR**



This film is the brainchild of Anamika Haksar, an eminent theatre director in contemporary Indian theatre. Having trained first under Badal Sarcar and then B.V. Karanth at NSD, she was one of the few Indians to train at the State Institute Of Theatre Arts, Moscow. These influences have led her down an uncompromising path of formal experimentation in theatre that has earned her a prominent place in the Indian theatre lexicon. She has been awarded the Sanskruti award in the year 1995 for developing a new theatre language in India. She is one

of the few theatre practitioners who was invited to the Kochi Biennle in 2016 to exhibit a theatre installation which was highly acclaimed. Now, having evolved a script of her love for the life and history of Shahjahanabad, Anamika seeks to bring her unique, tried and tested sensibility into the cinematic medium with a complex narrative about the old city.

## **CAST IN FILM**

RAVINDRA SAHU
Patru the pickpocket

K. GOPALAN
Lalbihari the loader

RAGHUBIR YADAV
Chhadami the vendor

LOKESH JAIN

The guide

350 street people have also acted in this film

## THE FILM CREW

SAUMYANANDA SAHI Cinematographer SOUMITRA RANADE

Special Effects & Animation

GURUDAS PAI Executive Producer

GAUTAM NAIR Audiographer SNEHA KUMAR Costume Design

SID MEER Colourist

PARESH KAMDAR Editor TYRAX VENTURA

Music Composition

LOKESH JAIN
Research & Dialogue Writer

ARCHANA SHASTRI Production Designer TANUSHREE TAPAS DAS Lighting

### THE FILM HAS TRAVELLED TO SEVERAL FESTIVALS



## PRAISE FOR THE FILM

- **Cinestaan.com:** "This film is a bold experiment and one necessary in times of manufactured Instagram films."
- The Hindu, Murtaza Khan: "Most Daring Indian Film"
- The Hindu, Vikram Phuken: "Powerful and compelling human document."
- NDTV.com: "Never been a better cinematic ode to Old Delhi"
- **Film Companion:** "The film follows an interesting structure that totally defies the conventional acts and arc of screenplay writing."
- Upperstall.com: "Striking directorial debut."
- **NDTV:** "Ghode Ko Jalebi among five Indie films that pushed Indie cinema boundaries...."

#### CONTACT

#### **ANAMIKA HAKSAR**

(Director/Writer/Producer)
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# AND IT CONTINUES TO TRAVEL AROUND THE WORLD...



One Of The Best Films Of The Decade... Anuj Malhotra

That cascading onslaught of imagery may leave some viewers feeling washed out and exhausted, but others will find in this a thrilling, endlessly mutable tribute to one of the oldest, most vibrant parts of one of the world's great cities.... HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

Leslie Felperin

Fusing documentary realism with magic realism, true events with fictionalized stories — the film is a eulogy to the syncretic culture of old Delhi and the cultural milieu that India represents by promoting tolerance and inclusiveness. A true masterpiece of contemporary Indian cinema. One of the very best from 2019... KINOSCOPE

Raju Roychowdhury

TRADE QUERIES

Movie Saints

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