

09.03.2009

Everything but Bollywood? – *sehsüchte*-Focus presents New Generation Filmmaking from the “Indian Subcontinent”

Sehsüchte.09 is devoting its “Focus” section to new generation filmmaking from India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bangladesh and Butan. A high-caliber jury from three of the countries in our “Focus” will award the prize to the winning film out of the 50 submitted.

With over a billion inhabitants, the “**Indian Subcontinent**” is the most densely populated region in the world. Close on 1,000 films are produced every year south of the Himalayas. Hindi filmmaking, better known under the heading “**Bollywood**” dominates the West’s perspective on this varied and fascinating filmscape. This year, *sehsüchte* is wanting to take a look behind the **Bollywood** sets. Outside of Hindi cinema, how is the new generation of filmmakers coming on? Do the productions from the new generation of filmmakers in India dominate the other countries in the subcontinent? Is there an up-and-coming generation of filmmakers that can profit from the Oscar-winner “**Slumdog Millionaire**”?

The films submitted have their own jury to assess them and to award the **Focus-Dialogue-Prize** sponsored by the Foreign Ministry in the amount of **1,000 Euros**. The selection committee is looking for innovative films beyond the established Hindi cinema. *sehsüchte* has succeeded in attracting three renowned experts from India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka for our jury.

The Focus Jury:

- **Partho Sen- Gupta** – Indian filmmaker, participated with his film “le cochon” in the 1995 Student Film Festival *sehsüchte*. He lives in Brighton.
- **Dr. Gloriana Selvanathan** – writer and filmmaker from Sri Lanka. She lives in Berlin.
- **Manzar Sehbai** – Pakistani actor and theatre studies scholar, acting chair of the Asian Pacific Filmfestival. He lives in Berlin.

Focus is a permanent feature of the Festival and sets a regional emphasis in the selection of films. Together with our audience, this year *sehsüchte* will set out to discover the gems of filmmaking from the “**Indian Subcontinent**” still to be sampled.

Once again in this year, students at the **Hochschule für Film und Fernsehen “Konrad Wolf” / The Film & Television Academy “Konrad Wolf”** in Potsdam-Babelsberg have total control of the festival’s concept and organisation.

For further enquiries, please contact us personally on:

Donika Deneva (Press and PR– TV/Radio)

tel: +49.177.4667930

donika.deneva@sehsuechte.de

Andy Räder (Press and PR – Print/Online)

tel: +49.162.4881083

andy.raeder@sehsuechte.de

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38. International Student Film Festival

Hochschule für Film und Fernsehen „Konrad Wolf“

Marlene-Dietrich-Allee 11

14482 Potsdam-Babelsberg

Germany

Fon: +49.331.6202780

Fax: +49.331.6202781

www.sehsuechte.de

Festival Cinema:

Thalia-Kinos

Rudolf-Breitscheid-Str. 50

14482 Potsdam-Babelsberg

Germany

www.thalia-potsdam.de

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