

MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW MONTHLY SERIES 'INDIA'S NEW WAVE' CELEBRATES CONTEMPORARY INDIAN CINEMA

Series opens with Anurag Kashyap's *Bombay Velvet* on October 15 and includes India's official Oscar entry, *Court*.

Astoria, Queens, New York (October 7, 2015)—India produces more films annually than any other country, and there is a wide variety of work in numerous languages, beyond Bollywood spectacles. Museum of the Moving Image will present a new monthly series, [*India's New Wave*](#), to showcase new movies by some of the most exciting voices in contemporary Indian cinema today.

The first three titles in the series are *Bombay Velvet*, on October 15, a brilliant ode to American gangster films with 1960s jazz-era Bombay as the backdrop, co-edited by Scorsese's long-time collaborator Thelma Schoonmaker, and directed by Anurag Kashyap, one of the pioneers of India's independent cinema; *The Crow's Egg*, on November 22, the debut feature from M. Manikandan, a Tamil filmmaker who presents an indelible portrait of urban life in southern India; and Chaitanya Tamhane's *Court*, on December 13, India's official entry for the Academy Awards, and a directorial debut that has been celebrated with top accolades at film festivals around the world .

"A new generation of Indian filmmakers has been featured in recent years in top film festivals around the world, including Cannes, Venice, and the Toronto International Film Festival," said Christina Marouda, the Museum's Deputy Director for Development and curator of *India's New Wave*. "This new film series is the next step in the Museum's recent presentation of Indian cinema and part of an initiative to reflect the diversity of the borough of Queens and the New York City area through expanded programming."

In the past year, the Museum has presented tributes to the director Mani Ratnam, actor Om Puri, composer and musician A.R. Rahman, and actress and filmmaker Nandita Das.

The full schedule is included below. Tickets are \$12 (\$9 for senior citizens and students / \$6 for children 6–12 / free for members at the Film Lover level and above). Order tickets online at movingimage.us.

Major support for *India's New Wave* has been provided by the Ford Foundation.

Additional support is provided by the Consulate General of India in New York and Con Edison.

SCHEDULE FOR 'INDIA'S NEW WAVE,' OCTOBER–DECEMBER 2015 (AND ONGOING)

Unless otherwise noted, screenings take place at Museum of the Moving Image, 36-01 35 Avenue in Astoria, New York. Tickets are \$12 (\$9 seniors and students / \$6 children 3–12) and free for Museum members at the Film Lover level and above. Advance tickets are available online at <http://movingimage.us>. Ticket purchase includes same-day admission to the Museum's galleries.

Bombay Velvet

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 7:00 P.M.

Dir. Anurag Kashyap. 2015. 149 min. DCP. In Hindi with English subtitles. With Ranbir Kapoor, Anushka Sharma, Karan Johar. Starring Ranbir Kapoor, grandson of Hindi screen legend Raj Kapoor, and co-edited by Thelma Schoonmaker, who has won three Academy Awards for her work with Martin Scorsese, *Bombay Velvet* is a brilliant ode to American gangster films in the form of Bollywood spectacle. Steeped in the glamour and dangers of 1960s Bombay nightlife, the story follows Johnny Balraj, a small-time boxer-turned-club owner as he becomes drawn into an underworld of organized crime and its deceptions while trying to win the heart of jazz singer Rosie.

The Crow's Egg

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 5:00 P.M.

Dir. M. Manikandan. 2014. 99 min. DCP. In Tamil with English subtitles. With Vignesh Ramesh, Iyshwarya Rajesh. Writer, director, and cinematographer M. Manikandan's breakout debut feature is an indelible portrait of urban life in southern India. When a pizza parlor opens on the site of their old playground in Chennai, carefree and spirited slum kids Big Crow's Egg and Little Crow's Egg develop a newfound obsession to taste their first pie, and embark on a money-making adventure that draws in the entire city. "[A] breath of fresh air, not because it mimics Danny Boyle—it doesn't—but because this family film at last finds a way to shift the lens to an exuberantly Indian perspective" (Cameron Bailey, Toronto International Film Festival).

Court

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 5:00 P.M.

Dir. Chaitanya Tamhane. 2014. 116 min. DCP. In Marathi, Hindi, English, and Gujarati with English subtitles. With Vira Sathidar, Vivek Gomber, Geetanjali Kulkarni. India's official entry for the Academy Awards, and winner of top accolades at the Venice and Mumbai film festivals for its inventively naturalistic style and for the brilliant performances by its largely non-professional cast, *Court* offers a scathing critique of the social injustices that result from India's caste and legal system. When a 65-year-old folk singer and activist is arrested on a trumped-up charge of inciting a sewage worker to commit suicide, his trial quickly turns into an absurd tragicomic display of institutional indifference and incompetence. "*Court* is one of the strongest debut features in years" (Alan Scherstuhl, *The Village Voice*).

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MUSEUM INFORMATION

Museum of the Moving Image (movingimage.us) advances the understanding, enjoyment, and appreciation of the art, history, technique, and technology of film, television, and digital media. In its stunning facilities—acclaimed for both its accessibility and bold design—the Museum presents exhibitions; screenings of significant works; discussion programs featuring actors, directors, craftspeople, and business leaders; and education programs which serve more than 50,000 students each year. The Museum also houses a significant collection of moving-image artifacts.

Hours: Wednesday-Thursday, 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Friday, 10:30 to 8:00 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, 11:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Film Screenings: Friday evenings, Saturdays and Sundays, and as scheduled. Unless otherwise noted, tickets for screenings are \$12 (\$9 students and seniors / free for Museum members at the Film Lover level and above) will be available for advance purchase online at movingimage.us. Screening tickets include same-day admission to the Museum's galleries.

Museum Admission: \$12.00 for adults; \$9.00 for persons over 65 and for students with ID; \$6.00 for children ages 3–12. Children under 3 and Museum members are admitted free. Admission to the galleries is free on Fridays, 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Location: 36-01 35 Avenue (at 37 Street) in Astoria.

Subway: M (weekdays only) or R to Steinway Street. Q (weekdays only) or N to 36 Avenue.

Program Information: Telephone: 718 777 6888; Website: movingimage.us

Membership: <http://movingimage.us/support/membership> or 718 777 6877

The Museum is housed in a building owned by the City of New York and located on the campus of Kaufman Astoria Studios. Its operations are made possible in part by public funds provided through the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, the New York City Economic Development Corporation, the New York State Council on the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, and the Natural Heritage Trust (administered by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation). The Museum also receives generous support from numerous corporations, foundations, and individuals. For more information, please visit movingimage.us.