Mumbai Independent Film Festival-2025 Screening Schedule Click the link for event venue directions.

SCHOOL OF BROADCASTING & COMMUNICATION





5TH MUMBAI INDEPENDENT FILM FESTIVAL | | SCREENING SCHEDULE



Time: - 11:00 AM | 7th November 2025

Time: - 11:35 AM | | 7th November 2025

Time: - 12:10 PM || 7th November 2025

Time: - 12:50 PM | | 7th November 2025



Short Film - Naak Ke Neeche Se

Duration: - 20 minutes Language: - Hindi Directed by Jayesh Sinha

Synopsis:-

In a remote village under strict curfew, a struggling man is offered money to deliver a small package to the neighboring settlement. Tempted by the promise of quick cash, he agrees, despite the dangers of crossing guarded roads. His movements arouse the suspicion of the vigilant Hawaldar. It becomes a test of nerve and chance. The tension builds toward a single question—will he outwit the watchful Hawaldar, or will his desperate gamble end in capture?



Short Film - Because.

Duration: - 19mins 20secs Language: - English/Hindi Directed by Sunita Malpani

Synopsis:-

Neel, a young man who loves to dance, and Javed, a man with a quiet, radiant depth, find their relationship at a crossroads when Neel shares that his mother wants to meet Javed. Fear grips Javed and he wants to pull back from their intense, month-old relationship. But as they sit together at a café, Neel is struck by an idea that transforms a moment of doubt into one of hope and possibility.



Documentary Film - Anant (Endless)

Duration: - 27mins 1 secs Language: - Marathi Directed by Sanika Sule

Synopsis:-

A man born in 1926, Anant Bhaskar Gupte has quiet literally seen it all. From the Pune plague to the Covid, from Independence to current politics, from telephones to smartphones, from bullock carts to metro stations, he has been a witness to the changing landscapes and cityscapes through almost a century! Today, at 98 years of age, Anant is a free man. Free from all responsibilities and trappings of life. After being in the advertising and exhibition industry in his professional life, he now enjoys painting as a serious hobby or in his words, 'as a part of life'. He paints birds, village landscapes and even does little experiments of brush techniques and paintings on his own. Anant has also been into bonsai making in the past. A bonsai usually takes at least 10-15 years to achieve maturity. As Anant begins his 99th year on this earth, he wishes to resume this bonsai journey. This is the spirit of the man who goes by the name 'Anant' which means.. Endless.



Short Film - Kalp Fiction

Duration: - 3mins 6secs Language: - English/Hindi Directed by Siddarth Kumar

Synopsis:-

A tiny little tale in the suburbs of Mumbai city, where on a specific day, time brings nuisance to Vaibhav's post-dinner dump ritual. Kalp Fiction or 'Time Fiction' is an abstract little drama thriller, set in a world of possibilities, where coincidences can happen and times can meet. What does a person have then, faith or



INTERVAL - 1:00 PM TO 2:00 PM

VENUE : - School of Broadcasting & Communication - Andhakshi Building, 37, Gilbert Hill Rd, behind Andheri Recreation Club, near Bhavans College, Gilbert Hill, Andheri West, Mumbai, Maharashtra 400058









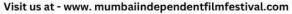












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5TH MUMBAI INDEPENDENT FILM FESTIVAL | | SCREENING SCHEDULE

DAY - 1 || 7TH NOVEMBER 2025



Documentary Film - Kabir's Path

Time: - 2:00 PM | | 7th November 2025

Time: - 3:15 PM | 7th November 2025

Duration: - 57mins 27secs Language: - Hindi/English/Bengali Directed by Indubhushan Mandal

Synopsis:

Iln "KABIR'S PATH", we delve into the world of humanist Kabir, a 15th-century Indian saint, poet, philosopher and also rebellious whose teachings and writings had a significant influence on the society .This film, directed by Indubhushan Mandal, associate professor of Calcutta University takes us on a journey through Kabir's life, work, philosophy and flagship of humanity; exploring his role as a mystic, thinker, rebel and humanist.



Short Film - Green Flag

Duration: - 9mins 48secs Language: - Hindi Directed by Vyshak K

Synopsis:-

Priya has always believed her marriage to Sanjay was built on mutual respect—and he's been careful to present himself as the "green flag" partner. But behind closed doors, Sanjay's constant undermining of Priya's ambitions and her sense of self reveals a pattern of gaslighting: every time she pushes to return to work, he blames her for the distance between them, casts every household tension as her failing, and makes her doubt her own judgment. As Priya teeters on the brink of reclaiming her career, Sanjay frames her desire for independence as the root of all their problems, manipulates her empathy, and persuades her that staying home is the only way to save their marriage. With each calming word he offers, he deepens her self-doubt, coloring genuine concern as overreaction—hiding the true red flags behind his "support." When Shalu, the family's maid, comes to Priya covered in bruises, she tells a similar story: her husband Kishore blames his drinking and anger on Shalu not giving him enough attention. As Shalu describes how he apologizes and then does it all over again, Priya finally sees how the same kind of emotional manipulation—gaslighting—traps both of them. In sharing their experiences, they realize that this quiet, "caring" control is just as harmful as open abuse, and that understanding how they've been manipulated is the first step toward finding real strength and support.



Short Film - Dongar/Pani (Land/Water)

Time: - 3:35 PM | 7th November 2025

Duration: - 24mins 53secs Language: - English/Marathi Directed by Sandhya Kamble

Synopsis:-

When Savi decides to leave behind the chaos of Bombay for a new job in Alibaug, her roommate Anu is left navigating the quiet storm of unspoken emotions. What begins as a simple farewell unfolds into a tender, introspective journey about love, and a friendship at the brink of change. It is a bittersweet coming-of-age story that explores the quiet ache of growing up, the choices we must make, and the bonds that shape us, even when they slip through our fingers.



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5TH MUMBAI INDEPENDENT FILM FESTIVAL | | SCREENING SCHEDULE

DAY - 1 || 7TH NOVEMBER 2025

Time: - 4:10 PM | | 7th November 2025

Time: - 5:00 PM | | 7th November 2025



Short Film - Tomorrow

Duration: - 43mins 50secs

Language: - Hindi

Directed by Hem Joshi & Ruturaj Jawale

Synopsis:-

Kabir, a lonely young man on the brink of ending his life, finds himself entangled in an unexpected bond with Deepak — a suicide helpline counselor bound by protocols yet burdened by his own despair. Over the course of seven days, a series of haunting phone calls turn into a lifeline, revealing two broken men mirroring each other's emptiness. As Kabir plans his death, Deepak's compassion becomes both his salvation and his undoing. Their conversations traverse guilt, lost love, addiction, and the quiet ache of urban isolation — until the line between the savior and the saved begins to blur. When they finally meet, life offers one last irony: Deepak is not just a stranger but someone whose world is unknowingly intertwined with Kabir's past.

Set against the melancholic backdrop of Mumbai, TOMORROW is a deeply human exploration of connection, mental health, and the fragile hope that even one conversation can change the will to live.



Musical Short - Nanak chinta mat karo

Duration: - 11mins 10secs

Language: - Hindi

Directed by Monaksh N. Kanirkarr

Synopsis:-

A man loses his job after his corrupt boss takes a bribe to replace him. Struggling with rejections, he stumbles upon a distant job posting, rushes to the interview, and lands the role. He never loses hope and always believes in the words of Guru Nanak Dev Ji: (Nanak, do not worry; the One is taking care of everything). Two years later, now promoted, he finds his former boss critically ill and financially broke in a hospital — and chooses compassion, paying for his surgery despite their history.

He returns boss's unfair behaviour into kindness from his action. Thus proving emotional catharsis of story's core fundamentality of Do not worry; the Lord is taking care of everything just keep taking your actions



Short Film - Impunidad

Duration: - 19mins 48secs Language: - Spanish

Directed by Manuel Borrego Barrera

Synopsis:

The story follows Lolo and his friend Froilán, after obtaining a special drug, propose to hold a séance to some girls in a nightclub. The plot unfolds in a game of deception and consequences, where karma plays a crucial role.



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Time: - 5:30 PM | | 7th November 2025









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5[™] MUMBAI INDEPENDENT FILM FESTIVAL | | SCREENING SCHEDULE

DAY - 2 | | 8TH NOVEMBER 2025

Time: - 11:00 AM | | 8th November 2025

Time: - 12:30 PM | | 8th November 2025

Time: - 2:00 PM | | 8th November 2025

Time: - 2:45 PM | | 8th November 2025



Documentary Film - Dream Factory

Duration: - 1hrs 20mins Language: - English/Hindi Directed by Aarushi Nigam

Synopsis:-

Dream Factory' is a personal essay on the power of storytelling and the magic and contradictions that is the Indian film industry. The hybrid documentary follows the precarious lives of the "below-the-line" crew of a big-budget Bollywood film, from the perspective of an Indian woman's ambivalent relationship with her culture's myth-making machinery. It is a reverie on the intensely physical, yet invisible, labor behind India's most popular art form. Borrowing Bollywood's grammar to tell the stories of its most marginalised workers, the film raises questions about the price that must be paid to manufacture dreams for a billion people – and who pays



Short Film - Echoes of Us

Duration: - 20 minutes Language: - English Directed by Joe Rajan

Synopsis:-

Echoes of Us is a short narrative fiction film that highlights the global issue of emotional neglect towards women in relationships. After the sudden loss of his wife (Iulia Vantur), a man (Deepak Tijori) wanders the remains of a life once shared. As memory rises from silence, he must face not only his grief, but the love he overlooked, and the echoes of a woman left unheard.



INTERVAL - 1:00 PM TO 2:00 PM

Short Film - Dakatshumari 2025

Duration: - 28mins 11secs Language: - Bengali Directed by Soumik Maitra

Synopsis:-

Born into a renowned lineage of dacoits, Dheno struggles to make ends meet as his once-feared trade has become obsolete in the modern world. Despite his mastery, those around him abandon him for refusing to evolve, clinging stubbornly to the age-old ways of dacoity. The story follows his quest to carve out a place for himself in an ever-changing, technology-driven world. Will he adapt and survive, or be left behind? Beneath its layer of dark comedy, this satire offers a sharp commentary on the plight of today's educated yet unemployed youth.



Short Film - Salt

Duration: - 5mins 47secs Language: - English/Hindi Directed by Athar S

Synopsis:-

In a desolate, post-apocalyptic world where even salt has become the last trace of survival, a nameless woman—broken but unbowed—endures the cruelty of a patriarchal order that mocks her hunger and humanity. When silence becomes unbearable, she transforms her suffering into fury. SALT is a visceral, symbolic short film that reclaims the female voice from the ashes of oppression—an unflinching rebellion against power, god, and fate itself. It is not just a fight for survival, but for dignity, truth, and the right to be



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5TH MUMBAI INDEPENDENT FILM FESTIVAL || SCREENING SCHEDULE

DAY - 2 | | 8TH NOVEMBER 2025

Time: - 3:00 PM | | 8th November 2025



Short Film - Nazariyaa

Duration: - 12mins 35secs Language: - Hindi

Directed by Vatsal Jain and Amaan Khan

Synopsis:-

Mihika, a 22 year old, fights with her dad yet again over going out late at night. She finds it very unreasonable of him to be so worried now that she's 22. Waiting for her cab, she overhears her building's supervisor talking on a phone call with his own daughter. She steps in and debates with him about how he shouldn't be upset about her being out late at night but understands his perspective too in the process. She then goes back home to apologise and reconcile with her dad. The supervisor also understands his daughter's situation better through this chance encounter.



Documentary Film - Ngul ge Seb: The way of the Mithun Time: - 3:25 PM | 8th November 2025

Duration: - 47mins 41secs Language: - English/Nyishi Directed by Joram Jonah

Synopsis:

Set in the misty highlands of Arunachal Pradesh, Ngul ge Seb: The Way of the Mithun traces the quiet journey of a tribal caretaker searching for his sacred Mithun — the semi-wild bovine that embodies wealth, spirit, and identity. Told through real voices and steeped in ancestral rhythm, the film becomes a meditative portrait of trust, devotion, and a vanishing way of life. As the Mithun is finally traded, silence becomes testimony — to love, loss, and the fragile bond between man, nature, and tradition.



Short Film - Daak Time : - 4:30 PM || 8th November 2025

Duration: - 13minutes Language: - Hindi Directed by Heet Kagrana

Synopsis:

Daak is a culturally enriched film representing a significant day from slice of life of a retiring post man in a suburban outskirts of a 2 tier city, it subtly carries complex emotional value underlined in simple acts of duty; where the central character finds a small arch in himself at the day end, this film gives us an opportunity to introspect & relat



Short Film - TT Time : - 5:00 PM || 8th November 2025

Duration: - 10mins 37secs Language: - Silent

Directed by Charles Leo Panadan

Synopsis:-

What if your memory was so lost that you couldn't even recognize your own face? Would you trust the reflection staring back at you? Would you recognize a twin — someone who shares your very face — or mistake him for a stranger? In a distant, dreamlike land, a man chases a butterfly to the edge of a forgotten world — and stumbles into a strange encounter with a furious stranger. As he follows him across shifting landscapes, the journey takes unexpected turns. Each step pulls him closer to a forgotten bond — and a truth too powerful to stay buried. "TT" is a haunting, magical fable about memory, identity, and the invisible ties we carry without even knowing.



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$5^{ ext{TH}}$ mumbai independent film festival | | screening schedule

DAY - 2 || 8TH NOVEMBER 2025



Panel Discussion - Beyond the Frame: The Changing Face of Performance in India

As storytelling moves freely between screens, the craft of acting has entered a thrilling new chapter. Beyond the Frameexplores how Indian performers are reinventing themselves across theatre, television, cinema, and digital platforms.

This discussion dives into the actor's evolving role — from star to storyteller, from performer to creator — in an age where authenticity, activism, and artistry often collide.

Time: - 5:30 PM | | 8th November 2025 Featuring:

· Actor: Supriya Shukla

· Actor: Kanupriya Shankar Pandit

· Moderator: Haril Shukla

Duration: 60 mins | Format: Actor Panel Discussion







Kanupriya Shankar Pandit

VENUE : -

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