



# PARTNERS



# SPONSORS



# FRIENDS OF ANIMELA





# ABOUT ANIMELA

---

**AniMela** is India's first international Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming, Comics and XR (AVGC-XR) Festival. Launched in early 2023 in partnership with the prestigious **Anney International Animation Film Festival** and **Government of India**. The festival is an initiative by **Aniverse & Visual Arts Foundation (AVAF)**, a non - profit organisation with a mission to promote Art & Technology in India.

The Festival's primary objective is to empower Indian emerging artists, developers, animators, storytellers, producers and filmmakers by providing a platform with mentorship, education, film screenings, experiential zones, networking and access to world markets. Over the years, AniMela hopes to create the same impact for the Indian AVGC XR Industry that Anney Festival has done for France.

In its first edition, AniMela's programme has been meticulously curated to reflect its identity of diversity and inclusivity. We are screening 100+ films, 40% of which have been helmed by women directors sourced from 20+ countries. Besides this, 25 knowledge sessions are being conducted by leading names. In tandem, the AniMela-IMC Pitch Workshop is the first Anney's MIFA Campus in India. It is the first step in providing Indian artists a potential pathway to the world stage.

With many firsts in 2024, we are confident to get better in the years to come.

# MEET THE TEAM



KIREET KHURANA



ARCHANA TRASY



ANNE DOSHI



ANITA KARNIK



NEHA JAIN



TEHZEEB KHURANA

## DIRECTORS' MESSAGE

It started serendipitously some 18 months ago. We call it serendipitous because this tireless attempt to fill the gaping void and build India's first International Animation, VFX, Gaming, Comics and XR Festival – AniMela – would have not been possible had one of the six founding members with their uncannily complimentary skills been absent. Thus, the idea to build a global narrative around our AVGC-XR industry with 'Create In India' was born.

Our vision of what AniMela can achieve for India's emerging talent in the years to come is huge. Our objective is to get Indian animators, game developers, artists and creators to tell their stories to the world.

To all the key industry stakeholders, leaders, studios and artists who have endorsed us and rallied around us, we remain utterly grateful to you for your support. We could not have envisioned this and made it happen without you. And we hope that your presence at the first edition of AniMela Festival bears witness to that.

To all the attendees of AniMela 2024, come and enjoy the best of what India's burgeoning AVGC-XR industry has to offer, and we hope to see you again next year!

# FESTIVAL TEAM

---

**Kireet Khurana** - Festival Director

**Archana Trasy** - Event Director

**Neha Jain** - Executive Director

**Anne Doshi** - Artistic Director

**Anita Karnik** - Corporate Alliances

**Tehzeeb Khurana** - Education Director

**Aakanksha Jadhav** - Program Manager

**Pranita Balar** - Project Manager

**Pratush Lala** - Project Manager & IT Head

**Navya Narayanan** - Production Assistant

**Soham Dey** - Program Assistant

**Saili Shirwalkar** - Design Assistant

# BOARD OF ADVISORS

---

## **Mickaël Marin**

Director, Annecy Animation Film Festival and MIFA  
France

## **Nina Sabnani**

Filmmaker - Educator Srishti, IADT, IIT & UPES  
India

## **Milind Shinde**

Founder & CEO - 88 Pictures  
India

## **Shilpa Ranade**

Educator, Filmmaker & Writer  
India

## **Upamanyu Bhattacharyya**

Film Director, Illustrator  
India

## **Nishith Takia**

Author / Filmmaker  
India

## **Saraswati Vani Balgam**

President, ASIFA (India)  
India

## **Ashish Kulkarni**

Chairman, FICCI for AVGC  
India

## **Mohit Soni**

CEO, Media & Entertainment Skills Council  
India

## **Aneta Ozorek**

Artistic Director, Kaboom Animation Festival, film  
curator & education expert  
Netherlands

## **Akash Menon**

Head of Sports and Gaming, Tulsea  
India

## **Neeraj Roy**

Founder & CEO, Hungama Digital Media  
India

## **Arjun Madhavan**

CEO, Assemblage Entertainment, Producer  
India

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

1

## DETAILS

Venue Map	7
Day Schedule	8

2

## FEATURE FILMS

The Concierge	11
White Plastic Sky	12
Aurora's Sunrise	13
Adam Change Lentement	14
Nayola	15
Blind Willow, Sleeping Woman	16
Slide	17
The Crossing	18

3

## SHORT FILM COLLECTION

Dutch Collection	19
Best of AGIF	22
Queer Collection	27

4

## SESSIONS

Unraveling Heirloom: The Journey So Far	29
Reality Remix: A Kaleidoscope of Extended Reality	30
Chhota Bheem: Reimagined for Live Action	31
Designing games	31
Freeze, Frame, Fun: The Art of Pixilation	

<b>Lighting Up Imaginations: A Light Animation Workshop</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Distribution Decoded: Navigating the Animation Film Market</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Indie Visions: Making Feature Animation and VFX</b>	<b>34</b>

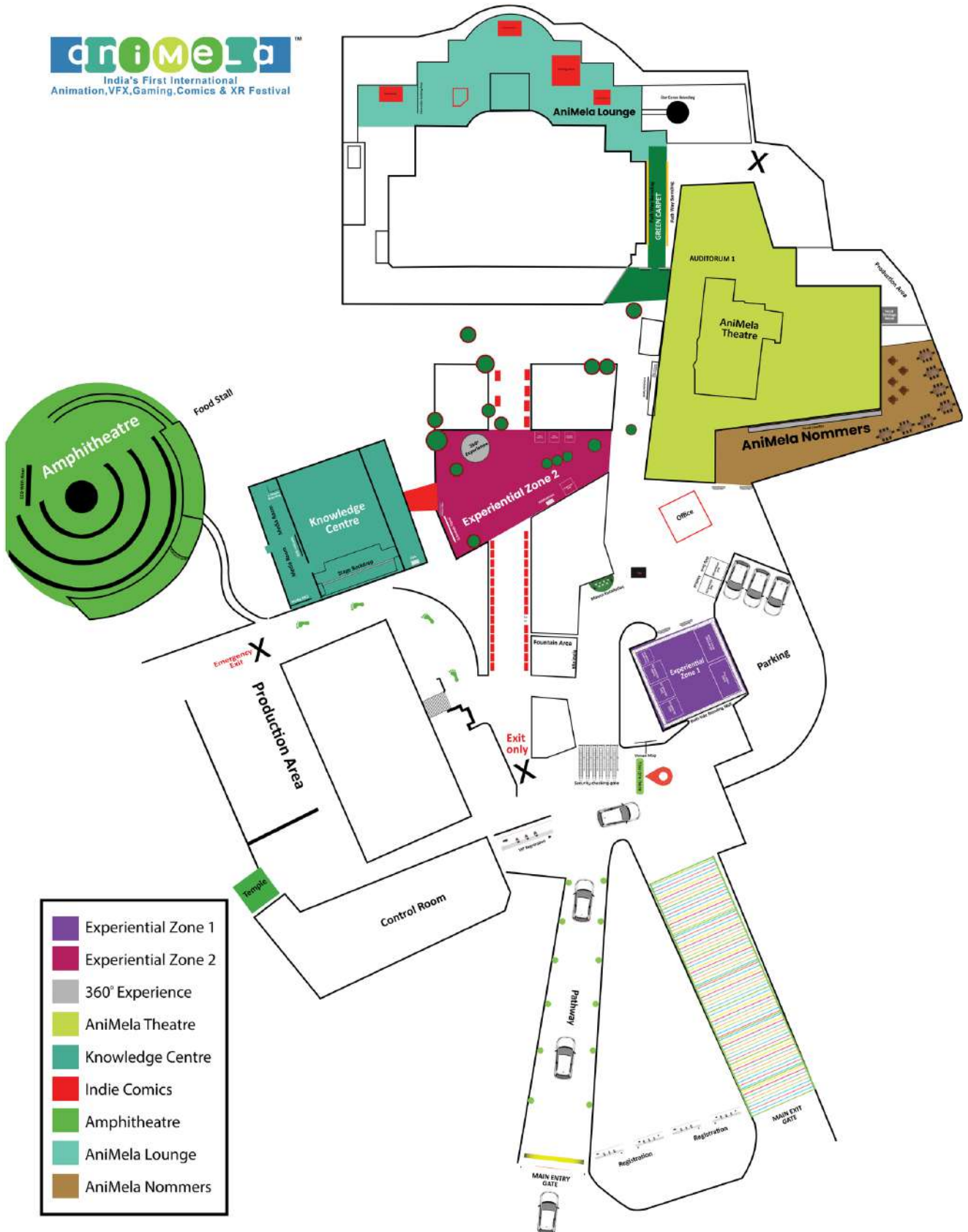
## 5

## EXPERIENTIAL ZONE

<b>360° Dome Theatre</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>Indie Comic Fest x Animela</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>PlayStation Booth</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>VR Aircraft Simulator</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>Tidal Tactics Mixed Reality Game</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>Journey of Visual Images: Exhibit by Whistling Woods International</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>AR Experience by Parallax Labs</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>Education Institutes Booths</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>There is music in my head, 24x7: VR Experience</b>	<b>43</b>

# VENUE

NFDC FILMS DIVISION, PEDDER ROAD, MUMBAI





# DAY SCHEDULE

KEY:	Film	Filmmaker will be present	Knowledge Session
------	------	---------------------------	-------------------

**DAY 2**  
20TH JAN 2024

**VENUE:  
ANIMELA  
THEATRE**

Time	Event
10:30 am - 11:45 pm	<b>The Concierge</b> Dir: Yoshimi Itazu (family film)
12:00 pm - 2:00 pm	<b>White Plastic Sky</b> Dir: Tibor Bánóczki, Sarolta Szabó
2:15 pm - 4:00 pm	<b>Aurora's Sunrise</b> Dir: Inna Sahakyan
4:15 pm - 6:00 pm	<b>Adam Changes Lentement</b> Dir: Joël Vaudreuil
6:15 pm - 7:45 pm	<b>Nayola</b> Dir: José Miguel Ribeiro
8:00 pm - 9:45 pm	<b>Blind Willow, Sleeping Woman</b> Dir: Pierre Földes
10:00 pm - 11:30 pm	<b>Slide</b> Dir: Bill Plympton

# DAY SCHEDULE

KEY:	Film	Filmmaker will be present	Knowledge Session
------	------	---------------------------	-------------------

**DAY 2**  
20TH JAN 2024

**VENUE:  
KNOWLEDGE  
CENTRE**

Time	Event
10:30 am - 12:00 pm	<b>Unraveling <i>Heirloom</i>: The Journey So Far with Upamanyu Bhattacharyya, Reza Riahi, Veronique Encrenaz and Mickaël Marin</b>
12:30 pm - 2.00 pm	<b>Reality Remix: A Kaleidoscope of Extended Reality Speakers: Neeraj Roy, Chaitanya Chinchlikar Ashwin D Silva, Rahat Kulshreshtha Moderator: Anand Gurnani</b>
2:30 pm - 3:30 pm	<b>Chhota Bheem: Reimagined for Live Action with Rajiv Chilaka &amp; Junaid Ullah</b>
3:45 pm - 5.15 pm	<b>Distribution Decoded: Navigating the Animation Film Market with Luce Grosjean</b>
5.30pm - 6:45 pm	<b>Diversity &amp; Identity: Dutch Shorts Programme</b>
7:00 pm - 8:30 pm	<b>Indie Visions: Making Feature Animation and VFX Films in India Speakers: Gitanjali Rao, Shilpa Ranade, Anamika Haksar   Moderator: Soumitra Ranade</b>
8:45 pm - 10.15 pm	<b>AGIF Collection: Shorts Programme (in the presence of AGIF Team)</b>
10:30 pm - 11:50 pm	<b>Queer Collection: Shorts Programme (in the presence of distributors)</b>

# DAY SCHEDULE

KEY:	Film	Filmmaker will be present	Knowledge Session
------	------	---------------------------	-------------------

**DAY 2**  
20TH JAN 2024

**VENUE:  
AMPHITHEATRE**

Time	Event
10.30 am - 12:00 pm	Rhythmic Revolutions: A Phontrope Workshop with Studio Eeksaurus's Nilima Eriyat
1:00 pm - 1:45 pm	Live Kanjira Performance
2:30 pm - 5:30 pm	Freeze, Frame, Fun: The Art of Pixilation with Vaibhav Studios
6:00 pm - 8:30 pm	Lighting Up Imaginations: A Light Animation Workshop with Vaibhav Studios
8.45pm - 10:15 pm	The Crossing Dir: Florence Mialhe (family film)



20th Jan, 10:30am - 11:45am,  
AniMela Theatre

## **THE CONCIERGE** *by Yoshimi Itazu*

***HOKKYOKU HYAKKATEN NO CONCIERGE-SAN | Japan | 2023 | 70 mins  
Japanese***

### **Festival Appearances/ Awards**

*Golden Horse Film Festival 2023*

*Tokyo International Film Festival 2023*

*Fantasia Film Festival 2023 - Audience Award for Best Animated Feature  
(runner up)*

The story is set in a mysterious department store where all customers who come are animals. Our heroine is Akino (a human girl) who works as a new concierge. Each time in front of her an animal customer of an "extinct species" appears.



*Born in 1980, Itazu started working in the anime industry at the age of 18. Having previously worked as an animator for KochiKame: Tokyo Beat Cops, Paprika (2006), and Wind Rises (2013), he made his TV series directorial debut with Welcome to the Ballroom (MBS/2017). The Concierge is his anime film directorial debut.*

20th Jan, 12:00pm - 2:00pm,  
AniMela Theatre



## **WHITE PLASTIC SKY** by Tibor Bánóczy, Sarolta Szabó

**Hungary, France | 2023 | 111 mins |Hungarian, French**

### **Festival Appearances/ Awards**

*Anecy International Animated Film Festival 2023 - Contrechamp Award for Best Film (nominee)*

*Zagreb World Festival of Animated Films 2023 - Special Mention Grand Competition Feature Film (winner)*

*Berlin International Film Festival 2023 - Encounters Award (Nominee)*

In the near future, there are no more animals or plants on Earth and the remaining humans live under a plastic dome. The price for their continuing survival? At the age of 50, they are implanted with a special seed, turning them into a tree that will provide oxygen and food for the community. A young man, Stefan, accepts this system – until the day his wife Nóra decides to give up her life and undergo voluntary implantation.



**Sarolta Szabó and Tibor Bánóczy** are a Hungarian filmmaker duo. After graduating at Moholy-Nagy University of Art and Design in Budapest Sarolta continued her studies at Royal College of Art and Tibor at the National Film and Television School in the UK. Here she met Tibor and began their artistic partnership, focusing on animated film projects. In 2010 they moved to France where they completed two animated short films *Les Conquérants* and *Leftover*, which were selected in numerous festivals such as Sundance and Clermont-Ferrand. Both films were also shortlisted for the César Award. Currently they live and work in Hungary. *White Plastic Sky* is their first animated feature film.

20th Jan, 2:15pm - 4:00pm,  
AniMela Theatre



## **AURORA'S SUNRISE** *by Inna Sahakyan*

**Armenia, Germany, Lithuania | 2022 | 96 mins | Armenian, English, Turkish, Kurdish, German**

### **Festival Appearances/ Awards**

*Annecy International Animated Film Festival 2022 - Contrechamp Award for Best Film (nominee)*

*Asia Pacific Screen Awards 2022 - Best Animated Feature Film (winner)*

*Buffalo International Film Festival 2023 - Best Documentary Feature (winner)*

*Animation Is Film 2022 - Audience Award (winner)*

In the aftermath of World War I, Aurora Mardiganian survives the Armenian genocide in the Ottoman Empire. She flees to Hollywood, where she becomes a figurehead of the fight for justice. The film blends animation with archive footage to tell a tragic story from contemporary history.



**Inna Sahakyan** has over fifteen years of experience directing and producing feature-length documentaries, documentary series, and shorts. Her feature debut was the award-winning 'Armenia's Last Tightrope Dancer' (2010) which she followed with the international co-productions 'Mel' and 'Aurora's Sunrise' (2022). Sahakyan is also actively involved in mentoring the next generation of filmmakers in her native Armenia.



## **ADAM CHANGE LENTEMENT** by Joël Vaudreuil

**Canada | 2023 | 96 mins. | French**

### **Festival Appearances/ Awards**

*Vancouver International Film Festival 2023*

*Festival du Nouveau Cinéma 2023*

*Anncy International Animation Festival 2023*

Adam is a 15-year-old teenager who has a special quirk - his body changes in reaction to mockery and negative comments he receives from those around him. The accumulation of his physical changes only adds an extra layer of complexity to those already present in his life.



**Joël Vaudreuil** is a multidisciplinary artist living and working in Montreal, Canada. Before directing *Adam Changes Slowly*, he created many animated music videos and shorts, including 'La vie Magnificient Sous l'eau' (2015) and 'Le Courant Weak de la Rivière' (Jutra Prize, 2013). An illustrator with unique wit, Joël is also a musician and a member of multiple bands.

20th Jan, 6:15pm - 7:45pm ,  
AniMela Theatre



## **NAYOLA** *by José Miguel Ribeiro*

**Portugal, Netherlands, Belgium, France | 2022 | 83 mins | Portuguese**

### **Festival Appearances/ Awards**

*Anecy International Animated Film Festival 2022 - Cristal Award for Best Feature (nominee) Guadalajara International Film Festival 2022 - Best Animated Feature (winner)*

*São Paulo International Film Festival 2022 - Best International Fiction Feature (winner)*

*Ottawa International Animation Festival - 2023 Best Animated Feature (nominee)*

Three generations of women plagued by the civil war, Lelena (the grandmother), Nayola (the daughter) and Yara (the granddaughter). The past and present interweave. Nayola goes in search of her husband who disappeared during the war. Decades later, the country is finally at peace, but Nayola hasn't returned. Yara has become a rebellious teenager and subversive rap singer.



**Jose Miguel Ribeiro** graduated in Visual Arts from the Lisbon Art School and later studied drawing and puppet animation. Beginning his career as a draftsman in 1980, he would go on to direct *A Suspeita* (2000), which won the 2000 Cartoon D'Or. *Nayola* is the first ever Portuguese full-length animation film.



20th Jan, 8:00pm - 9:45pm,  
AniMela Theatre



## **BLIND WILLOW, SLEEPING WOMAN** *by Pierre Földes*

**SAULES AVEUGLES, FEMME ENDORMIE | France, Canada, Netherlands, Luxembourg | 2022 | 100 mins | French**

### **Festival Appearances/ Awards**

*Anncy International Animated Film Festival 2022 - Jury Distinction Best Feature Film (Winner)*

*São Paulo International Film Festival 2022 - New Director's Competition (nominee) Lumiere Awards 2024 -Best Animated Film (nominee)*

*Cairo International Film Festival 2022 - Golden Pyramid Award (nominee)*

A giant talking frog and an elusive cat help a listless bank employee, his traumatized wife, and a lonely accountant seek meaning in their lives and possibly save Tokyo from catastrophe. Based on stories by acclaimed Japanese author Haruki Murakami, this feature debut by composer Pierre Földes won the Jury Special Mention award at the renowned Anncy Animation Film Festival and the Grand Prize at the Anima Festival in Brussels.



**Pierre FÖLDES** (USA) is a composer, painter, and filmmaker. Born to Hungarian-British parents and raised in Paris, he studied piano and composition at the *École Normale de Musique de Paris* and the Sorbonne. He has composed for video games, commercials, TV series, and films. 'Blind Willow, Sleeping Woman' is his first feature as animator, director and screenwriter.

20th Jan, 10:00 pm - 11:30pm,  
AniMela Theatre



**SLIDE** by Bill Plympton

**USA | 2023 | 79 mins | English**

#### **Festival Appearances/ Awards**

*Anecy International Animated Film Festival 2023 - Contrechamp Award for Best Film (nominee)*

*Warsaw International Film Festival 2023 - Free Spirit Award (nominee)*

*Animayo International Film Festival of Animation 2023*

A mythical cowboy appears in a corrupt 1940's logging town and, with the help of his slide guitar and a giant Hellbug, battles the evil Mayor and his equally evil twin to clean up the town of Sourdough Creek. Hand-drawn completely by Plympton alone in his signature sketchy style, 'Slide' is a vibrant, outrageous, and endlessly entertaining musical/comedy/western; an ode to Plympton's Oregon upbringing and subsequent obsession with all things country western.



Considered the King of Indie Animation, **Bill Plympton** began his career creating cartoons for publications such as *New York Times*, and *National Lampoon*. His most notable works include the Oscar nominated shorts *Your Face* and *Guard Dog* and the Cannes winner *Push Comes to Shove*. *Slide* is his 9th animated feature.

20th Jan, 8:45pm - 10:15pm ,  
Amphitheatre



## THE CROSSING *by Florence Mialhe*

**LA TRAVERSEE | French, English | 2020 | 84 mins | French, Germany, Czech Republic**

### **Festival Appearances/ Awards**

*San Sebastián International Film Festival 2021*

*BFI London Film Festival 2021*

*César Awards 2022*

*Nominee: Best Animated Film Festival du Nouveau Cinéma 2021*

*2 wins including: Daniel Langlois Innovation Award*

When a small village is plundered, a family is forced to flee. The two oldest children, Kyona and Adriel, are quickly separated from their parents facing the road of exile alone. They embark on a heroic journey which takes them from childhood to adolescence in search of shelter and peace.



Having graduated from the *École nationale des Arts Décoratifs coratifs* with a specialization in engraving, **Florence Mialhe** has used her training in painting to develop a unique animation style. Mialhe creates her animations using pastel or sand directly under the camera, techniques known as *animated painting* and *sand animation*. Before directing her first short film 'Hamam', she worked as a graphic designer.

# Dutch Collection

Diversity is key to the future! In this Dutch animation collection of shorts, you'll see diverse characters such as a queer football hooligan, a Surinamese transgender, immigrant bears, a bird-girl longing to be a real woman, a young gay Egyptian and a woman who finds out masculinity is power.

**20th Jan, 5:30pm- 6:45pm, Knowledge Centre**



## I Love Hooligans

*Jan-Dirk Bouw | The Netherlands | 2013 | 12 mins | Dutch*

A football hooligan feels unconditional love for his club. However, being gay, he has to hide his identity in order to survive in this world that is so precious to him. A tale of love for the game and the loneliness of the soul.

## Double Life

*Job, Joris & Marieke | The Netherlands | 2018 | 3 mins | Dutch*

What happens when your wife discovers that it's much better to be a guy? A short that starts out funny but quickly turns to the reality of gender conformity. A deliciously dark comedy.



## Hot Tea

*Marcel Tigchelaar | The Netherlands | 2017 | 11 mins | Dutch*

Some beverages are refreshing in more ways than one. A cup of tea never tasted as good as in this sensual short.

## Blindly

*Joanne van der Weg | The Netherlands | 2017 | 2 mins | Dutch*

What does a blind person see that I don't see? This animation is about a little trip a blind person makes to get somewhere.



# Dutch Collection

20th Jan, 5:30pm- 6:45pm, Knowledge Centre



## Bear With Me

*Daphna Awadish | The Netherlands | 2018 | 5 mins | Dutch*

A short, metaphorically told documentary on immigrants who left their home and crossed borders for love. Bear With Me is directed by Daphna Awadish, an Israeli filmmaker and illustrator living in Amsterdam.

## Cruise Patrol

*Bobby de Groot / Arjan van Meerten | The Netherlands | 2013 | 7 mins | Dutch*

Seven years in the making, Cruise Patrol is about a routine cruise patrol that spirals out of control on a long and dusty road.



## Break

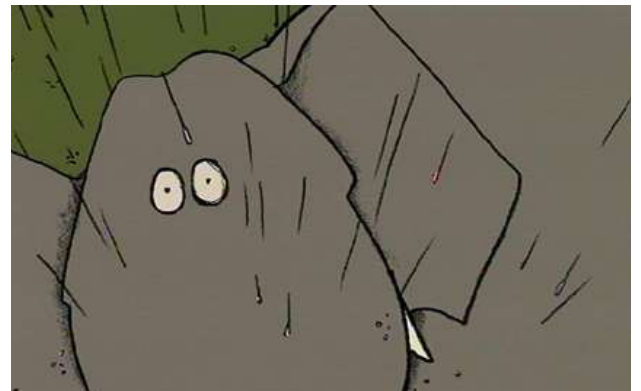
*Lucette Braune | The Netherlands | 2004 | 13 mins | Dutch*

Despite being born with wings instead of arms and with a beak where a mouth should be, a small girl embraces fantasy to escape the reality of her circus-bound world. A hand-drawn animated film about growing up as an outcast.

## The Elephant and the Snail

*Christa Moesker | The Netherlands | 2002 | 6 mins Dutch*

An elephant and snail meet each other in the woods just as it begins to rain. The snail invites the elephant to come inside while the storm passes and the elephant gladly accepts. But the snail's 'house' is definitely a little on the cramped side...



# Dutch Collection

20th Jan, 5:30pm- 6:45pm, Knowledge Centre



## Half a Life

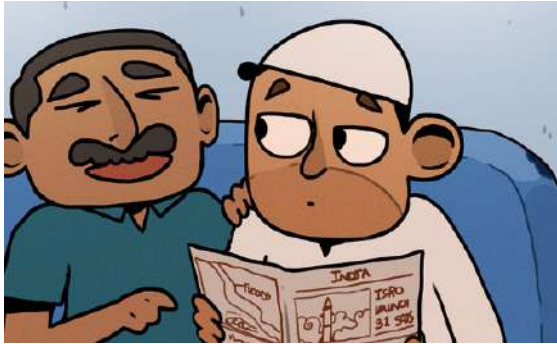
*Tamara Shogaolu | Egypt, USA, The Netherlands | 2016*  
*12 mins | Dutch*

The film is a timely narrative of activism and hope in Egypt's oppressive climate. After a traumatic encounter, a young gay Egyptian joins the LGBTQ rights movement. Faced with jeopardized safety, he grapples with the choice to stay or seek asylum.

# Best of AGIF

In partnership with the Animation Guild of India, these 22 student films are an insight into the works of the next generation - their thoughts, style and stories. Inspired by animation from around the world and their own backyard, these films include tales from all four corners of the country. And what a sight they are to behold!

20th Jan, 8:45pm - 10:15pm, Knowledge Centre



## Railgari

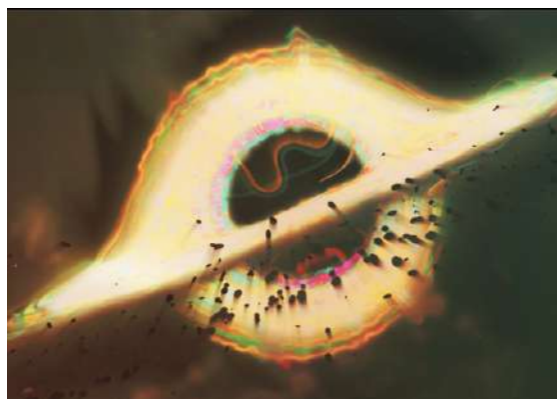
*Angshuman Dhar | India | 2023 | 6 mins*

Railgari is an animated memoir trying to capture the essence of train travel in India.

## Akanksha on the Planet Blarg

*Apoorva Rege | India | 2023 | 5 mins*

'Akanksha on the Planet Blarg' follows a young Indian girl's struggles with cultural identity and alienation during a regular school day, as she writes and illustrates a story of her own to cope



## Record. Play. Stop.

*Neeraj Bhattacharjee | India | 2023 | 7 mins*

A lone probe collects music amongst infinite fields of sounds. Being eons old, it has probably outlived its makers but still tries to send back songs of the aging universe around it. Leaving a trail of waves behind wherever it goes, it is unaware that something looms on the horizon.

## Loading...

*Siddharth Deven Modi | India | 2023 | 3 mins*

'Loading' is a 2D & mixed media, non-narrative experimental film of subjective interpretation about what goes inside a creative person's mind. Making use of various animation and illustration styles, it's trying to efficiently fuse them together to help unfold the story behind the art.



# Best of AGIF

20th Jan, 8:45pm - 10:15pm, Knowledge Centre



## That Doesn't Fit

*Ackshaj Anand | India | 2023 | 3 mins*

'That Doesn't Fit' is a 2D animated slapstick miscellany depicting various uncomfortable scenarios where people fit in too much, rife with satire and social commentary.

## To Ankur

*Nitya Sathian | India | 2023 | 4 mins*

Madhu, a young teenage girl, tries to deliver a love letter to her crush, but faces many obstacles on the way. The film depicts intrusive thoughts in a lighthearted manner while still providing the feeling of being trapped in a loop of imaginative thoughts.



## Eshti Pravaas (S.T. Bus Journey)

*Dhananjay Mahesh Barangule | India | 2023 | 6 mins*

The short film is based on the director's experience of traveling through a rural Maharashtra State S.T. Bus as a kid. It tries to capture the exact feeling one goes through during motion sickness by including elements that best represent it in a metaphorical way.

## Bhanyaat

*Bhanu Fulara, Vibhu Kapil | India | 2023 | 3 mins*

'Bhanyaat' is a Kumaoni term with no direct English translation, expressing the notion of impending doom. Set in Uttarakhand, a grandfather and his grandson face the merciless landslides. As the villagers suffer from climate change, they must be resilient in adversity.





# Best of AGIF

20th Jan, 8:45pm - 10:15pm, Knowledge Centre



## The Last Fisherman

*Gunjan Prashant Phale | India | 2023 | 4 mins*

Based in Mumbai, the film follows the story of an old Koli fisherman who is struggling to make ends meet due to the plastic crisis in the ocean.

## Changala (Chain)

*Karuna Pious P, Ann Treasa Francis | India | 2023 | 2 mins*

Through an abstract portrayal of an elephant's perspective, "Changala" evokes the captured animal's emotions, taking the audience along in its emotional journey. The film paints a vivid picture of an elephant's once joyful and free life in the wild, juxtaposed with its heart-wrenching transition into captivity.



## D-Day

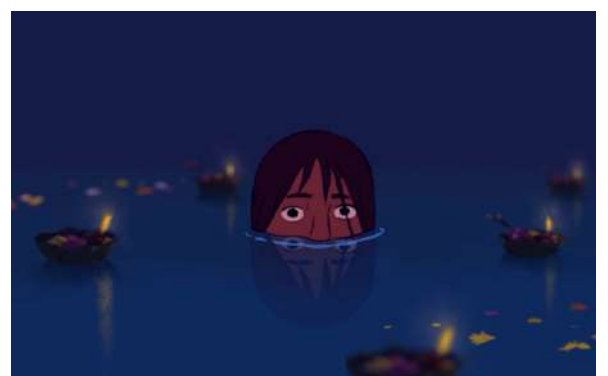
*Akshara CV | India | 2023 | 3 mins*

A young woman wakes up to go to work in the morning, however, on that day, her city is attacked by aliens.

## NIRJARA

*Gaurav Pati | India | 2023 | 7 mins*

This film explores the hierarchy in religious practices and the Indian family structure through the eyes of two brothers who are at a ghat in Varanasi to perform the last rites of their deceased mother.



# Best of AGIF

20th Jan, 8:45pm - 10:15pm, Knowledge Centre



## Chautti Chautti

*Nicole Elsa Daniel | India | 2023 | 5 mins*

Evoking sights, smells, and tastes across Kerala, 'Chautti Chautti' is a rich, nostalgic travelogue that captures nuanced family dynamics and extraordinary situations, recounted by a daughter listening to her father's memories. Look out for its paper cut out puppets, stop motion and hand made drawings!

## Exotica

*Riya Paria, Sugam Thakur | India | 2023 | 3 mins*

We all use exotic animal products in our daily routine without knowing how they are made. And frankly, we don't even think or care about it in our daily routine. But what if the roles between humans and animals were reversed?



## Kurumba

*Elias George Ponodathu | India | 2023 | 3 mins.*

In Kerala, a Pulaya woman faces caste brutality and is buried alive under a bridge. Her loyal dog, Kayel, symbolizes love amidst the darkness. Grayscale animation and evocative music amplify the emotional trauma, prompting reflection on discrimination and inspiring hope for a more empathetic future.

## Tasveer

*Saniya Paliwal, Vatsal Bucha | India | 2023 | 5 mins*

Legacies live forever. Or do they? A 12 yr old embarks on a pictorial journey to answer this question and understand her grandmother's way of life.



# Best of AGIF

---

20th Jan, 8:45pm - 10:15pm, Knowledge Centre



## Everyday

*Smita Minda | India | 2023 | 7 mins*

Eco-anxiety keeps Judith from being able to have fun at a birthday lunch with her friends. Having seen too many videos and read too many articles full of bad news, she cannot help but see the darkness in everything around her.

# Queer Collection

Sourced from around the world, our Queer Collection tells some of the most beautiful stories of our time. Whether it is about loving someone else or yourself, these films are a reminder that love always wins.

20th Jan, 10:30pm - 11:50pm, Knowledge Centre



## Aikane

*Daniel Sousa, Dean Hamer, Joe Wilson | USA | 2023 | 14 mins*

A mysterious youth uses his shapeshifting powers to rescue a valiant warrior wounded in battle against foreign invaders. The real adventure begins when they fall in love.

## GIGI

*Cynthia Calvi | France | 2023 | 14 mins*

From the tormented little mermaid to the fulfilled woman she is today, Gigi tells us about her gender transition with humour and sensitivity.



## Pour Exister

*Fabien Lecorre, Kelsi Phung | France | 2023 | 2 mins*

The quintessential summer picnic on Callot Island. But this year, Paul, his family and their friends find themselves trapped by the tide. Paul, upset, stuck between the world of adults and that of children, becomes aware of his individuality.

## Christopher at Sea

*Tom C J Brown | Hong Kong | 2023 | 14 mins*

Christopher embarks on a transatlantic voyage as a passenger on a cargo ship. His hopes of finding out what lures so many men to sea sets him on a journey into solitude, fantasy and obsession.



# Queer Collection

20th Jan, 10:30pm - 11:50pm, Knowledge Centre



## Les Lèvres Gercées

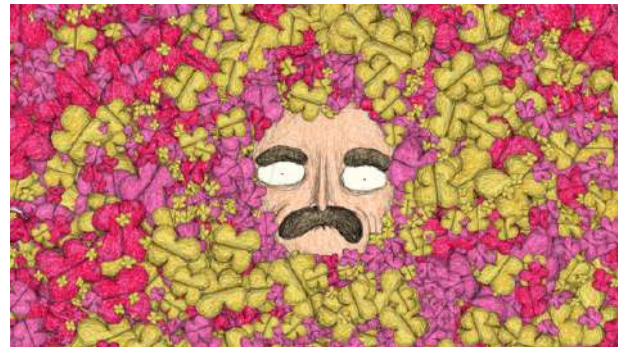
*Fabien Lecorre, Kelsi Phung | France | 2018 | 5 mins*

In a kitchen, a mother and a child struggle to establish dialogue.

## Pentola

*Leo Černić | Italy | 2022 | 7 mins*

“It’s not so easy to be a hero. But you, Pentola, you are my superhero.”



## 27

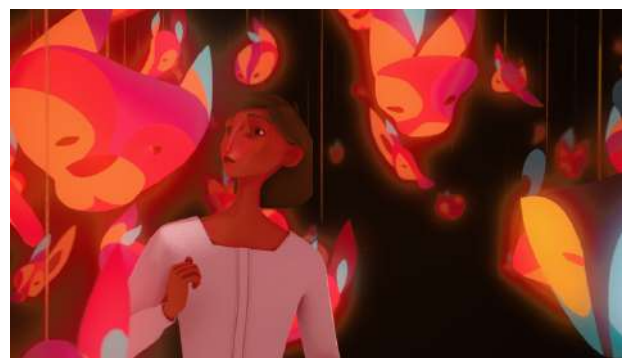
*Flóra Anna Buda | France, Hungary | 2023 | 11 mins*

Alice is 27 years old today. Although she feels oppressed because she still lives with her parents, she spends her time daydreaming to escape her dreary everyday life.

## Bacchus

*Rikke Alma Krogshave Planeta | Denmark | 2018 | 5 mins*

Alex, a young woman bored with modern life, is lured by Bacchus into a colorful and mysterious world to explore her deepest desires.



## Unraveling *Heirloom*: The Journey So Far

Upamanyu Bhattacharyya, Reza Riahi, Veronique Encrenaz and Mickaël Marin

Tracing the journey of Upamanyu Bhattacharyya's debut feature 'Heirloom', from his time at the Annecy Residency, where he was mentored by Reza Riahi to now; this session will be a deep dive into what it took to make this film. From the art, character designs and animatics to the challenges they faced along the way, they will place a special emphasis on the logistics and production aspects involved in mounting a project of this nature

**20th Jan, 10:30 am - 12:00 pm, Knowledge Centre**



*Upamanyu Bhattacharyya*

Upamanyu is an animator and illustrator based in Kolkata. He co-directed the animated short film, 'Wade', and is now directing his first animated feature film, 'Heirloom'. He is a current partner at Otter Studios.

**EXPERT**

**EXPERT**

*Reza Riahi*

Born in Tehran, Iran, Reza is an animation filmmaker and art director. He is known for his work on award-winning animated shorts, including 'Entre Chien et Loup' and 'The Breadwinner'. His own 2020 short film "The Musician" achieved global recognition and was shortlisted for the Oscars in 2022.



*Veronique Encrenaz*

Véronique Encrenaz earned her Master's in Applied Foreign Languages in 1987 in Madrid. She worked at Acteurs Auteurs Associé and later joined CITIA in Annecy. From 2011 to 2018, she led Mifa's Projects. Since July 2018, she has been the Head of Mifa under CEO Mickael Marin.

**EXPERT**

**EXPERT**

*Mickaël Marin*

Mickaël Marin is the CEO of the Annecy International Animation Film Festival. He launched his career at the International Centre for Animation Film in 2001. Rising through the ranks, he assumed leadership of the Annecy International Animation Film Market in 2009, fostering its continuous growth.



---

# Reality Remix: A Kaleidoscope of Extended Reality

---

**Anand Gurnani in conversation with Ashwin D' Silva, Neeraj Roy, Rahat Kulshreshtha, and Chaitanya Chinchlikar**

From generative AI, to XR, from web3 to metaverse. From real time engines, to accelerated content generation workflows. The spectrum of emerging technologies and its impact on content is unprecedented, bringing us to not just new milestones, but new paradigms of creation, distribution and consumption. This panel maps the most important technological developments, tries to measure the impact and weigh the challenges and opportunities it provides to content creators.

**20th Jan, 12:30pm - 2:00pm, Knowledge Centre**



**Rahat Kulshreshtha**

**PANELIST**

Rahat Kulshreshtha is an innovative filmmaker and entrepreneur, renowned for revolutionising the sports technology landscape. During the Young India Fellowship at Ashoka University, he met his co-founder and started Quidich Innovation Labs in 2014.

**PANELIST**

**Chaitanya Chinchlikar**

With a 20 year, multi-faceted career in the Film, Media & Entertainment industry, CC is currently the VP & Business Head at Whistling Woods International, Mumbai. He also serves as the CTO for the institute and heads its Emerging Media initiatives.



**Ashwin D'silva**

**PANELIST**

Ashwin D'Silva is the MD for Accenture's Marketing and Communications organization and is responsible for driving its Future of Media practice. He is also responsible for enabling Metaverse in the organisation. His prior experience includes 20 years in the Indian Television industry.

**PANELIST**

**Neeraj Roy**

Since founding Hungama, India's largest digital media company in 1999, Neeraj is playing a pivotal role in shaping the country's digital entertainment landscape. Under his leadership, Hungama greatly diversified its services across music, video, gaming and more.



**Anand Gurnani**

**MODERATOR**

Anand's 29 year career as a serial entrepreneur has been the intersection of art, technology and storytelling. His current venture VAMRR is focused on accelerating digital transformation. He co-founded animationxpress.com and served as India & S East Asia rep for Annecty & Mifa from 2011 to 2020.

---

# Chhota Bheem: Reimagined for Live Action

---

**Rajiv Chilaka and Junaid Ullah**

Creating a beloved animated character that has become synonymous with Indian animation is no easy feat. But Rajiv Chilaka and Junaid Siddiqui have done it. Now they are taking it a step further by bringing Chhota Bheem into the live action realm! An exciting session that promises the exclusive BTS visuals, never-before-heard stories on the origin of *Chhota Bheem and the Curse of Damyaan* and insights into what a technical shift to live action looks like. This session is a must for enthusiasts and experts!

**20th Jan, 2:30pm - 3:30pm, Knowledge Centre**



**EXPERT**

## Rajiv Chilaka

As the creator of Chhota Bheem, India's most beloved and iconic animated character and the founder of the Green Gold Group, Rajiv Chilaka has produced over 12 shows, 1,000 episodes, 100+ TV Movies, and 6 feature films over the past decade with a team of over 1,400 stalwart artists.

**EXPERT**

## Junaid Ullah

Junaid Ullah is the VFX Supervisor for Chhota Bheem and the Founder of Haika Studios. Rooted in theatre, he has always pursued a dream of storytelling and his decade-long career spans iconic films like 'Baahubali', 'Robot' and 'Bhaag Milka Bhaag' and more recently, 'Dasara'.





---

# Rhythmic Revolutions: Phonotrope Workshop

---

**Nilima Eriyat**

Come, see your lines and shapes come alive in minutes in an interactive workshop to understand Jim Le Fevre's concept of a Phonotrope, led by the founder of one of India's best animation studios! Make a moving image, upload your animation and tag Animela!

**20th Jan, 10.30 am - 12.30pm, Amphitheatre**

## EXPERT

*Nilima Eriyat*

Nilima has been producing ad films and artistic films since 2007, first at Famous House of Animation and then at Studio Eeksaurus. She has won several awards and global recognition for her work. She started learning pottery in Japan in 2018 and after returning to India, launched her brand, 'I got fired!'.



---

# Freeze, Frame, Fun: The Art of Pixilation

---

**Tapas Jana, Ajit Aher, Abhijit Ghodake**

Pixilation is a distinctive form of stop-motion animation where people become characters! In one of the only sessions where you will get to be on stage, the team behind Vaibhav Studios will do a live demo of the art of pixilation with you! Using volunteers from the audience and playback of previously shot footage, they will demonstrate the technique and how you can do it yourself. For those of you looking for new styles and forms of art, don't miss this interactive session!

**20th Jan, 2:30 pm - 5:30pm, Amphitheatre**

Supported by:



---

# Lighting Up Imaginations: A Light Animation Workshop with Vaibhav Studios

---

Tapas Jana, Ajit Aher, Abhijit Ghodake

Embark on a luminous journey at the Light Animation Workshop led by Vaibhav Studios! Spark your creativity by using torch lights as brushes in this session where by using long shutter speeds, participants draw and sculpt with light, contributing to a collaborative masterpiece. Be a part of the audience, where every participant will add their unique touch to the vibrant tapestry of light, bringing a collective piece of art to life.

*20th Jan, 6:00 pm - 8:30pm, Amphitheatre*

## EXPERT

*Tapas Jana*

With a Fine Arts degree from CAVA (Mysore) Tapas specialises in modelling digital 3D characters and layouts. As a passionate stop-motion filmmaker, Tapas manages the scene setup, layout, armature & set construction on Vaibhav Studios' stop motion projects.



*Ajit Aher*

A 3D Character animator, Ajit holds a BFA from Sir JJ School of Art, Mumbai. Over the past 17 years, he has worked on feature films, TV series, ads and promos and is currently lead animator on Vaibhav Studios' debut feature 'Return of the Jungle'. He has also conducted several stop motion workshops with children and adults and is a visiting faculty for animation in various schools across India.

## EXPERT

## EXPERT

*Abhijit Ghodake*

A highly experienced and versatile artist, Abhijit specialises in 3D design, rigging and animation and is expanding his technical skills in managing the production pipeline. Abhijit is passionate about supporting the animation team by providing them with highly flexible options and controls on digital assets.



---

# Distribution Decoded: Navigating the Animation Film Market

---

Luce Grosjean



**20th Jan, 3:45pm - 5:15pm, Knowledge Centre**

*In a world where people say short films and animated films have a limited market, the inimitable Luce will speak about her experience of distributing such films and how her company Miyu Distribution, has changed the game. Four films from their catalog have been nominated for Academy Awards and they received the award for 'Best Short Film Distribution Company' from UniFrance in 2020. **This session is a must-attend for young artists and filmmakers who want to understand how global film distribution works and learn how to sell their films!***

*In 2014 Luce Grosjean founded Sève Films, a distribution company mandated to promote student films in animation festivals and also young talent directors. In 2017, she associated with Miyu Productions to create Miyu Distribution, specialized in distribution in festivals and international sales for animation. Four of the films that she distributed have been nominated at the Oscars, one to the César and her films are known international successes.*

*Her company received the award of the 'Best Short Film Distribution Company' in 2020 by UniFrance and La Fête du Court Métrage. In 2021, she signed her first feature films, Archipel by the Canadian Felix Dufour-Laperrière and Dozens of Norths directed by the Japanese Koji Yamamura. She curated a short film program released in the theaters in France, erotico-trash, named 'Plan cul la praline'.*

---

# Indie Visions: Making Feature Animation and VFX Films in India

---

## Soumitra Ranade in conversation with Gitanjali Rao, Shilpa Ranade and Anamika Haksar

Three celebrated animation filmmakers recount their creative journeys while making their path-breaking films - *Bombay Rose*, *Goopi Gawaiya Bagha Bajaiya* and *Ghode Ko Jalebi Khilane Re Ja Riya Hoon*. The moderator - Soumitra has been involved in various creative capacities on all three films. This panel will shed light on making independent animated features in India!

**20th Jan, 7:00pm - 8:30pm, Knowledge Centre**



**Gitanjali Rao**

**PANELIST**

She is known for her independently produced animated short films and critically acclaimed feature *Bombay Rose*. Her hand painted work seamlessly transitions between harsh urban reality and dreamscapes. Her documentary-style urban depictions contrast with intricate dream worlds inspired by India's diverse folk art.

**PANELIST**

**Shilpa Ranade**

Shilpa is an Animation Filmmaker and Illustrator. She is a Professor at IDC School Of Design, IIT Bombay, where she teaches Animation and Image making. She has also illustrated numerous books for leading publishers. Her shorts and feature films have won accolades at prestigious film festivals across the world.



**Anamika Haksar**

**PANELIST**

Anamika Haksar is an eminent theatre director in contemporary Indian theatre. Having trained at NSD, she was one of the few Indians to train at the State Institute of Theatre Arts, Moscow. These influences led to a formal experimental style that has earned her a prominent place in the Indian Theatre Lexicon. She is also known for directing *Ghode Ko Jalebi Khilane Re Ja Riya Hoon*.

**MODERATOR**

**Soumitra Ranade**

Soumitra has written, directed and produced a range of animation and live-action projects. His works include feature film 'Goopi Gawaiyaa Bagha Bajaiyaa' as writer, 'Bombay Rose' as Animation Producer and 'Ghode Ko Jalebi Khilane Le Jaa Riya Hoon' as VFX supervisor.





## **360° Dome Theatre**

Experience the 360° Dome where you will be able to watch a film in 360 degrees, travel on a spaceship into the vast expanses of space, cross all the planes of the universe and visit fantastic underwater worlds! Made for the whole family, Fulldome 360 cinema technology is a content presentation and viewing format that transforms stories and ideas into an immersive 360-degree virtual reality for a truly engaging and collaborative social experience.

*19-21 Jan. All Day, Experiential Zone*

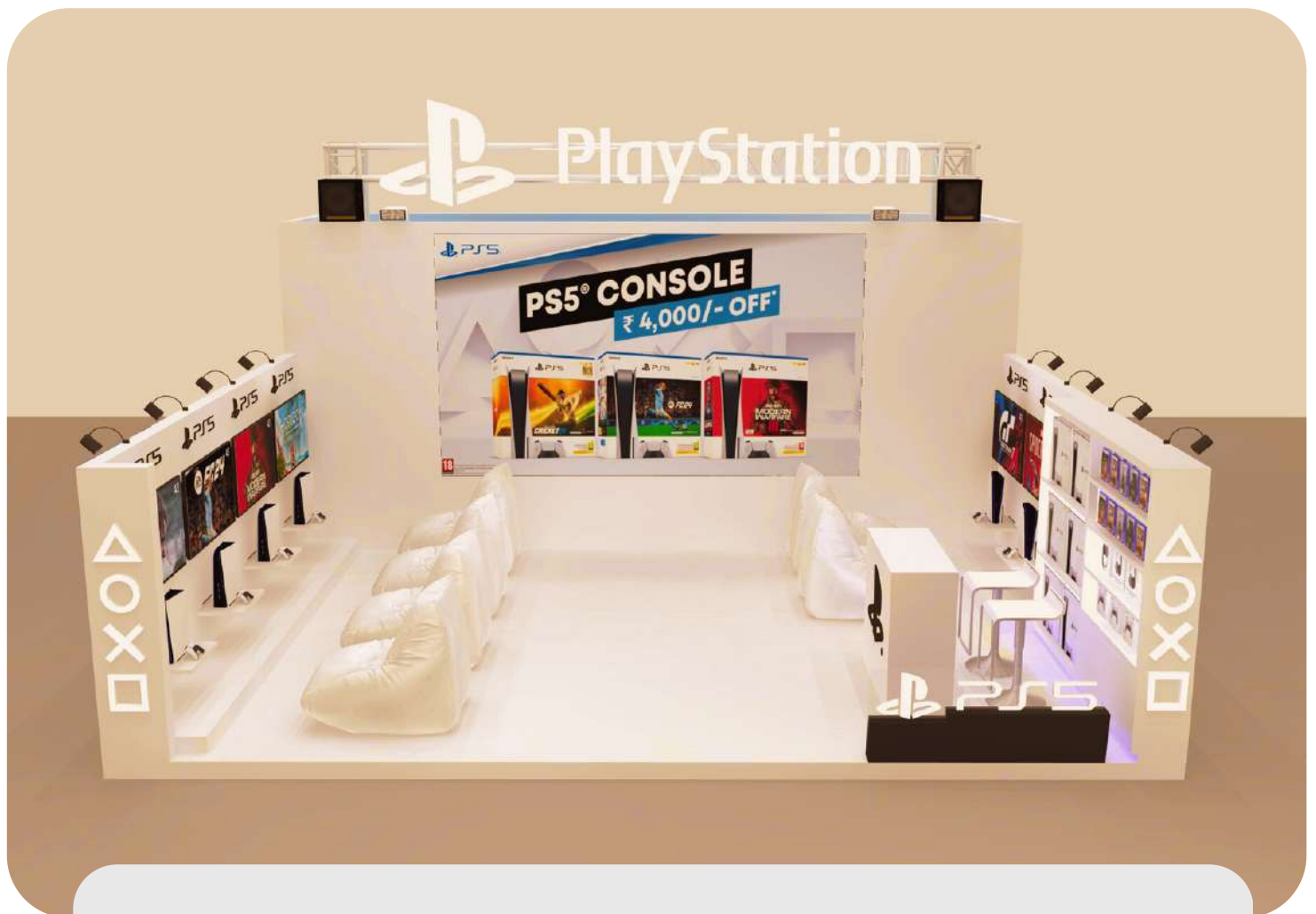


Indie  
Comix  
Fest

## Indie Comix Fest x AniMela

A showcase of Indian Indie comics, along with interactions with their creators who will be present at AniMela. Meet the talented artists, buy truly indie, often self-published comics, and engage in conversations that may become future collaborations! This section is curated by Indie Comix Fest, who have also put together workshops conducted by the artists. Do not miss the chance to meet India's next Comic superstars!

*19-21 Jan. All Day, Experiential Zone*



## PlayStation Booth

### By PlayStation

Feel like taking a break from the workshops and films? Want to play some video games? Head over to the PlayStation Booth, where you can experience the best of PlayStation titles and games! To take it a step further and take a piece of AniMela back home, grab exclusive discounts on the PS5 Console, accessories & games!

*19th Jan, All Day, Experiential Zone*



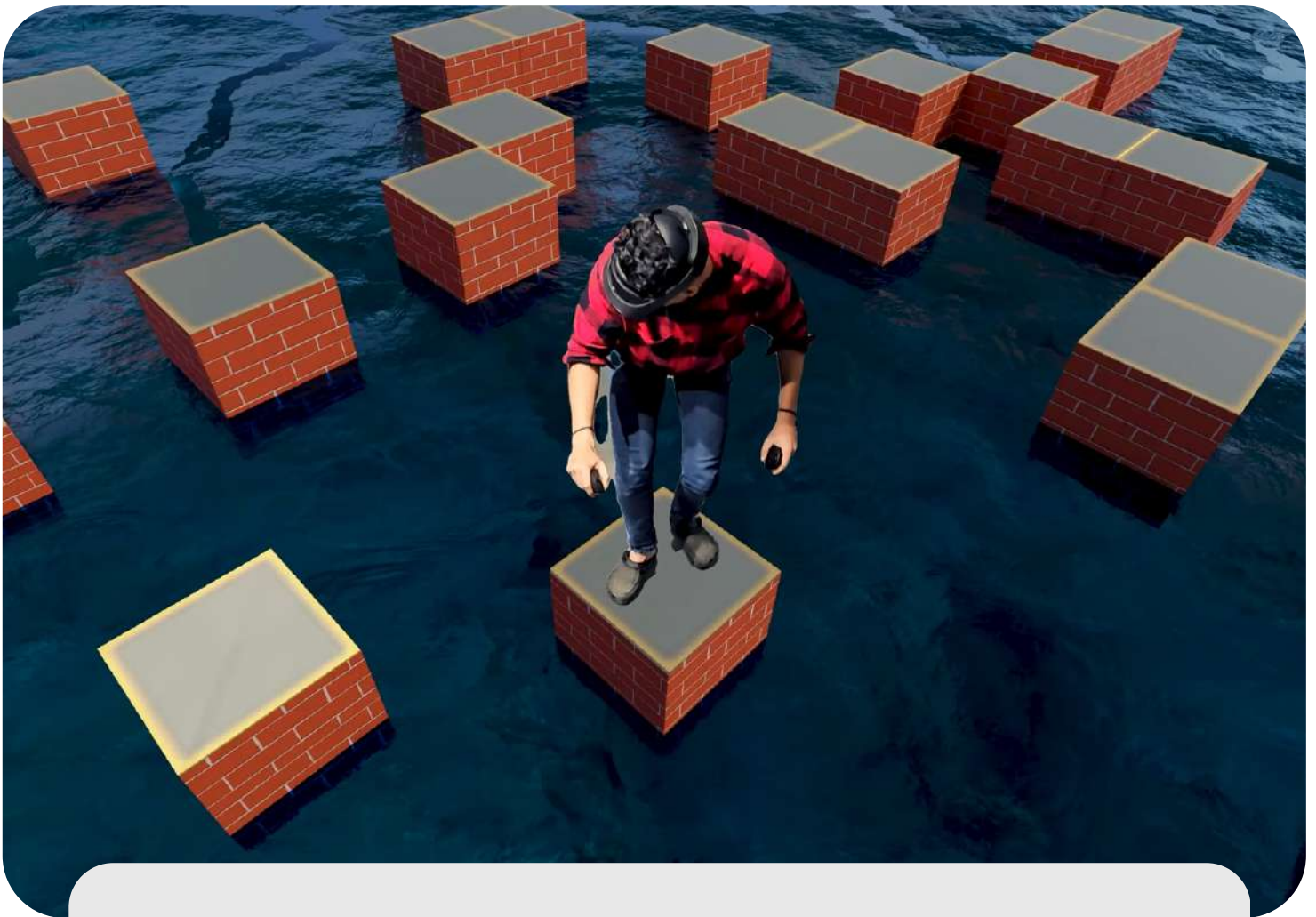
## **VR Aircraft Simulator**

**By Parallax Labs**

Did you ever want to be a fighter pilot? This is your Top Gun moment! Experience this immersive aircraft simulator that delivers the most realistic flight experience, with customizable weather conditions, terrains, and time of day. It also accurately replicates aerodynamics and flight control mechanisms, so you can get a feel of the real deal. The product is currently developed for, but not limited to HAL Cheetah, Chetak, ALH MK III, and Boeing CH-47 Chinook and is used by the Civil Aviation Training Center in Nashik!

*19-21 Jan. All Day, Experiential Zone*



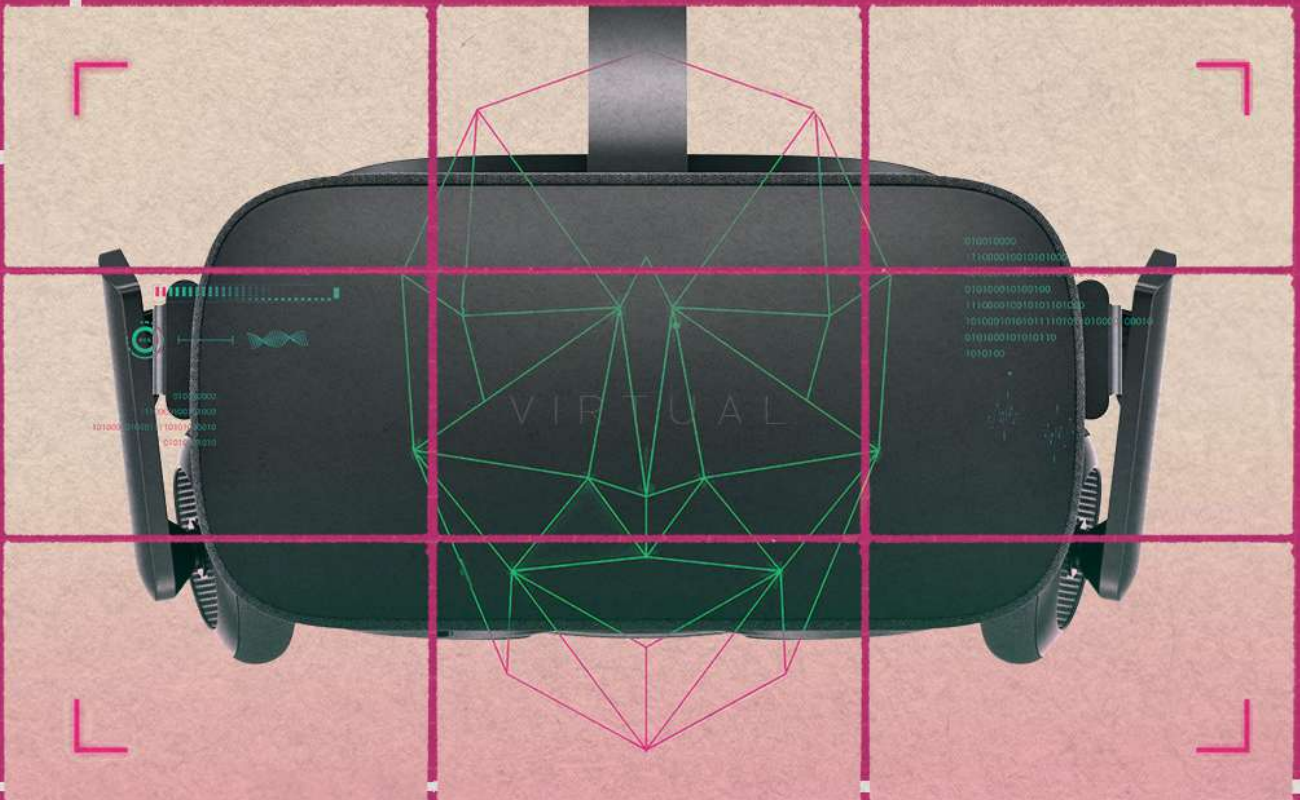


## **Tidal Tactics-Mixed Reality Game**

**By Parallax Labs**

Get ready to embark on an adrenaline-fueled journey into the heart of naval warfare! In this immersive and action-packed game, you'll experience the thrill of commanding your own fleet, strategically positioning your ships, and unleashing devastating firepower upon your enemies!

*19-21 Jan. All Day, Experiential Zone*



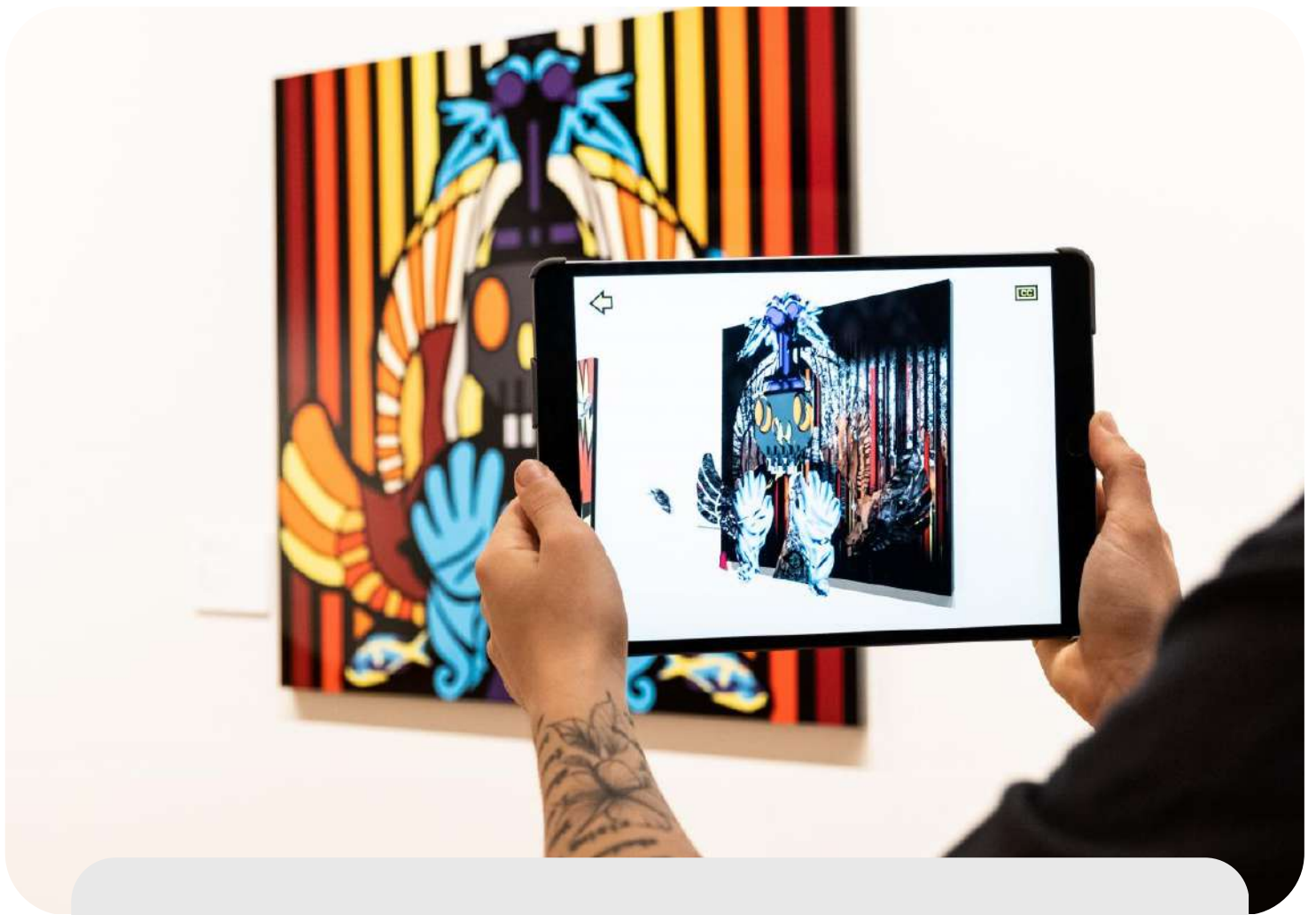
## **Journey of Visual Images Exhibit**

---

**By Whistling Woods International**

Whistling Woods International (WWI) is India's premier Film, Communication & Creative Arts Institute. Since its inception in 2006, WWI has successfully delivered world-class education in all creative and technical aspects of filmmaking. Located inside Mumbai's Filmcity Complex, students receive hands-on instructions in the discipline they want to pursue. Journey of Visual Images is a student designed showcase of visual media through VR.

*19-21 Jan. All Day, Experiential Zone*



## AR Experience

**By Parallax Labs**

An immersive AR experience crafted specifically for Animela. You can delve into captivating video showcases from top Indian studios and witness their contributions. Explore the evolution of the AVGC-XR Industry over the years, from innovative animations to cutting-edge extended reality experiences. This experience is a dynamic tribute to our industry's growth, providing an engaging and educational journey for you to discover the exceptional works by Indian studios that have shaped India's AVGC-XR landscape.

*19-21 Jan. All Day, Experiential Zone*



## Education Institute Booths

**By Frameboxx, Whistling Woods, MESC, Datsi, School of Visual Arts and more**

Are you considering a career in animation or game design? Drop by the Education Institute booths where you can speak to representatives from top schools around the world and get the information you need! Some of the names you can expect to see are: Frameboxx, Whistling Woods, MESC (Media and Entertainment Skill council), Datsi School of Storytellers, and The School of Visual Arts New York City!

*19th Jan, All Day, Experiential Zone*

All you're gonna need-

-are your eyes,



Your Mouse,

Your Mind.

## 'There is Music in my Head, 24x7: An Immersive VR Experience'

By Anshuman Uchil

'There is Music in my Head, 24x7' is an interactive short story that tells the story of a character that has music in their head 24x7. Spawning out of research into VR/XR, it actually attempts to stray away from screens while retaining the immersive aspects of these technologies. Tmh24x7 is played on a PC using a player's mouse clicks, and their eye blinks (tracked with the webcam) to create a unique form of immersion that is not only on screen, but also inside the player's head! Anshuman is an artist and storyteller from New York, Mumbai and Dubai.

19th Jan, All Day, Experiential Zone

# SEE YOU THERE!

 [info@animela.in](mailto:info@animela.in)

 [www.animela.in](http://www.animela.in)

 [@animelaindia](https://www.instagram.com/animelaindia)

 [animelaindia](https://www.linkedin.com/company/animelaindia)

Catalogue design:  
Simran Tapadia  
Shardul Agre  
Yamini Moondra  
*Whistling Woods International*

