

FIPRESI-INDIA

International Federation of Film Critics – India Chapter

Registration No-TVM/TC/7/2021

Fédération Internationale de la Presse Cinématographique

Web: <http://www.fipresci-india.online>



REPORT OF ACTIVITIES: 2021

1 Jan – 30 Nov 2021

ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Registration

The long-pending issue of registration of our organization finally resolved and the India Chapter of FIPRESI got registered on 4 Jan 2021 (Regn. No. TVM/TC/7/2021) under the Travancore Cochin Literary Scientific and Charitable Societies Registration Act XII of 1955.

PAN Card

We got our PAN Card (No. AAAAF9315N) on 20 Feb 2021. As per directives of the Govt. of India, PAN is mandatory for an organization to operate the bank accounts.

NITI Aayog

In compliance with the guidelines of Govt. of India, we have successfully registered us with 'NITI Aayog' (KL/2021/0281047) which is also mandatory for all VOs/NGOs operating in India. We are now eligible to apply for several grants from Govt. of India on different projects. We are working on the process.

Bank Account

After a long disruption due to various legal formalities operation of our bank a/c with Canara Bank in Trivandrum finally restored in Mar 2021 and we also opened a new bank a/c with State Bank of India to make our financial transactions much easier. Now we do not have any operational problem with any of our bank a/cs.

Subscription Receivable

We do not have any dues outstanding from our members on a/c of subscription and jury fees receivable for the year 2021. Most of the members have also paid their subscriptions for 2022 (payable before 31 Dec 2021).

Subscription Payable

We have cleared our dues on subscription, donation, and jury fees to our HO within the stipulated time. There is no due outstanding as on date.

Recognition

HO recognized us by publishing some of our reports in their website. Klaus Eder, General Secretary of FIPRESI admired our activities on publishing the books & journals and organizing the seminars & workshops for propagation of film culture.

Critics Week

On the line of the International Critics' Week in Cannes founded in 1962, organized by the 'French Syndicate of Cinema Critics' under FIPRESCI, we succeeded to negotiate with the Kerala, Bangalore and Guwahati International Film Festivals for installation of 'FIPRESCI-India Critics Week' from their upcoming editions.

Benevolent Fund

For an expensive medical treatment of our former President Sudhir Nandgaonkar, we made an emergency appeal for voluntary donation on 9 Nov 2021. Most of our members donated benevolently within a week and on 16 Nov 2021 we remitted the total collection of Rs. 150,000/- to Sri Nandgaonkar's bank a/c.

Tribute to Ray

To commemorate the Birth Centenary of Satyajit Ray, we have printed an exclusive desk-top calendar for 2022 especially designed for FIPRESCI-India and sent it to our members as a gift along with a complimentary copy of the CINE-INDIA (Vol-II, Nov. 2021).

ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

Seminar at IFFK

After a long break of one year due to pandemic, we organized a seminar physically on 13 Feb 2021 at Tagore Theater, Trivandrum under the premises of 25th International Film Festival of Kerala (10-14 Feb 2021). Riwita Dutta, Namrata Joshi, Lalit Rao and Suparna Sharma were in the panel on the topic 'Politics of the Govt – Intervention in OTT Platforms' moderated by Bina Paul – Artistic Director of IFFK.

Film Appreciation Course

We organized an online Film Appreciation Course from 5 June to 31 July 2021. Total duration of the course was about 42 hours in 18 sessions conducted by 17 eminent faculty members from all over the country. 70 pre-registered participants from India, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka attended the course. Participants praised the course highly in their feedback submitted after every session. The Academic Council composed of N. Vidyashankar, Manu N. Chakravarthy, Meghachandra Kongbam and Minakshi Dutta supervised the course.

MOU with Assam Women's University

We have successfully negotiated with the Assam Women's University, Jorhat for signing a Memorandum of Understanding for conducting Seminars and Workshops on various aspects of Cinema. We are expecting the MOU will be signed soon.

Satyajit Ray Memorial Award

To commemorate the Birth Centenary of Satyajit Ray (B. 2 May 1921) we installed 'Satyajit Ray Memorial Award for Outstanding Contribution to Writing on Cinema'. Veteran author Aruna Vasudev was declared as the first recipient of this coveted Award.

Chidananda Dasgupta Memorial Award

We have organized the Competition for the Chidananda Dasgupta Memorial Awards for Best Film Criticism 2021 successfully. The Jury composed of Manu N. Chakravarthy, Minakshi Dutta and Narendra Bandabe evaluated 51 submissions and declared the Best Award (Rs.6000/-), 2nd Best Award (Rs.4000/-) and seven Certificates of Merit.

Chidananda Dasgupta Memorial Lecture

The 2nd Chidananda Dasgupta Memorial Lecture was delivered by M K Raghavendra on 20 Nov 2021. Topic of his lecture was 'Film Criticism and Academic Film Study'.

Chidananda Dasgupta Birth Centenary

Chidananda Dasgupta Birth Centenary was celebrated (online) on 20 Nov 2021. Klaus Eder, General Secretary, FIPRESCI delivered the inaugural speech. Aparna Sen addressed the celebration. More than 80 pre-registered participants attended the program.

Grand-Prix-2020

Our members voted the Tamil feature film 'NASIR' directed by Arun Karthick as the winner of the 'FIPRESCI-India Grand Prix 2020' out of the 'TOP-10 films of the Year' evaluated by them through two rounds of secret voting.

DIGITAL NETWORK

Website

Our Website with a wide varieties of Menus like Home, Call, Press Release, Grand Prix, News, Gallery, Newsletter, Organization, Contact et al is already an important digital source for various information. The Website is maintained and updated regularly with necessary inputs. It's free to access at: <http://www.fipresci-india.online/>

IMDB

FIPRESCI-India's IMDB account opened in Feb 2021 is already popular. Two lists: (1) Top-20 Indian Feature Films of 2019 and (2) Top-10 Indian Feature Films of 2020 are presently available on this account at: <https://www.imdb.com/user/ur129345257/>

YouTube

YouTube Channel of FIPRESCI-India has about 25 hours of content in 17 Videos accessed by more than 3000 viewers and 270+ subscribers. We do not monetize from this channel. Advertisements coming up there are by YouTube as per their new policy. The Channel is available at: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9XupGMxwUrX2Vhj0IL2p3g>

FaceBook

Our FaceBook Page is also growing popular with about 678 Likes and 735 Followers. The page is accessible at: <https://www.facebook.com/fipresciindia>

PUBLICATIONS

Newsletter

We are publishing a very informative monthly Newsletter since Jan 2021 covering various activities of FIPRESCI in home & abroad. Copies of the Newsletter are being sent to all of our members regularly along with other concerned individuals and institutions all over the world. This is also available online at: <http://www.fipresci-india.online/newsletter/>

E-CineIndia

During the year, all issues of our quarterly online film journal 'E-CineIndia' (ISSN: 2582-2500) were published regularly without any break. More than a hundred authors from all over the world contributed to 'E-CineIndia'. This is now considered as one of the most important film journals published from India. All copies of 'E-CineIndia' since Jan 2019 are available online at: <http://www.fipresci-india.online/> .

CINE-INDIA

2nd Volume of our annual print-journal CINE-INDIA got published on 20 Nov 2021. The 96 pages journal contains 20+ articles and critiques contributed only by our members.

Books on Cinema

We received a corpus fund of Rs.200,000/- from FFSI-Keralam in Mar 2021 for publication of three books in a row on different aspects of cinema by 2021-22. The first book of this project titled 'Critics on Indian Cinema' (HB, 295 Pages, ISBN: 978-81-7926-256-6) edited by M K Raghavendra and V K Joseph with Aruna Vasudev, N Vidyashankar, Manoj Barpujari and Rwita Dutta in the Editorial Board is now ready for release. The book will soon be available on Flipkart and Amazon.

JURY ASSIGNMENTS

National Critics Jury

Like previous year, this year also FIPRESCI-India National Critics Jury was installed in the International Film Festival of Thrissur held physically from 20 to 25 Mar 2021. The Jury composed of VK Joseph, Meena Karnik and Meghachandra Kongbam evaluated (online) the Indian films in competition made by the debutant directors.

International Critics Jury

Pandemic disaster severely affected the International Film Festival Circuit causing a very minimum jury assignment worldwide. Most of the festivals where we have FIPRESCI International Critics Jury were either cancelled or got deferred. Despite the fact, our following members successfully served in the International Critics Jury this year:

- Shubhra Gupta (IFFK-Kerala, 12-19 Feb 2021/ Hybrid)
- S Viswanath (Hong Kong, 1-12 Apr 2021/ Online)
- Nirmal Dhar (Mannheim-Heidelberg, 11-21 Nov 2021/Online)

Jury in IFFI-Goa

We succeeded to re-open negotiation at the highest level to re-install our Jury in the International Film Festival of India. The matter was discussed in the meeting of the Steering Committee chaired by the Minister of I&B, GOI. We submitted the official proposal to DFF. Still the matter could not be materialized in this edition of IFFI (20-28 Nov 2021). We are continuing our efforts for the next edition.

Jury in MIFF-Mumbai

We also have re-opened negotiation for re-installation of our Jury in the Mumbai International Film Festival for Short, Documentary and Animation Films popularly known as MIFF. The matter is still under consideration of the authorities and we are trying our best to make it possible from its coming edition.

ACHIVEMENTS BY MEMEBRS

National Award for the Best Book on Cinema

Our EC Member Ashok Rane received the National Award from the Vice President of India on 25 Oct 2021 in New Delhi for his Marathi book 'Cinema Pahanara Manus' (A Man Who Watches Movies). This is the third National Award Ashok Rane received for his writings on cinema. Earlier this book also received the 'Laxmibai Tilak Puraskar' – the Highest State Award for Literature given by the Maharashtra Government which includes a citation and a cash amount of One Lakh Rupees.

Jury for the East-West Golden Arch Awards 2021

Our Members M. K. Raghavendra and N. Vidyashankar were invited to be a part of the International Jury of 25 critics from across the globe evaluating the contemporary multinational Russian cinemas, authentic cinematic traditions of Eastern Europe and Western Asia for The East-West Golden Arch Awards 2021. They had also been invited to be present in Moscow for the Awards function in October 2021.

Prepared and submitted by: Premendra Mazumder, General Secretary
Approved by the General Body in the AGM on 5th Dec. 2021

