

FIPRESCI-INDIA NEWSLETTER-44

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Monthly Bulletin of the India Chapter of International Federation of Film Critics

Website: <https://fipresci-india.org>

70TH NATIONAL FILM AWARDS DECLARED



The 70th National Film Awards were declared by Ashwini Vaishnaw, Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting (I & B) to honor the best Indian films of 2022. L. Murugan, Minister of State for I & B; Sanjay Jaju, Secretary, Ministry of I & B; Vrunda Desai, Joint Secretary (Films); Rahul Rawail, Chairperson of the Feature Film Jury; Nila Madhab Panda, Chairperson of the Non-Feature Film Jury; Gangadhar Mudalair, Chairperson of the Best Writing on Cinema Jury; and the respective jury members were present in the occasion organized by the National Film Development Corporation of India on 16 August 2024 in New Delhi (Pic. above). Malayalam feature film *Aattam* directed by Anand Ekarshi, winner of the FIPRESCI-India Grand-Prix, won the Awards for Best Feature Film, Best Screenplay, and Best Editing. Ashok Rane, a member of FIPRESCI, won the Best Award in the Biographical/Historical Reconstruction/Compilation category for his Marathi documentary *Yet Another Mohenjo Daro*. Best Non-Feature Film Award was given to *Ayena* directed by Siddhant Sarin. Award for Best Book on Cinema has been given to *Kishore Kumar: The Ultimate Biography* authored by Aniruddha Bhattacharjee and Parthiv Dhar. Kannada movie *Kantara* won the Award for Best Popular Film Providing Wholesome Entertainment. Rishab Shetty has been awarded the Best Actor in Leading Role for his performance in the film *Kantara* whereas Nithya Menen bagged the award for Best Actress in a Leading Role for *Thiruchitrambalam*. Pavan Raj Malhotra won the Award for Best Supporting Actor while Neena Gupta won the Best Supporting Actress Award.

FIPRESCI-INDIA FILM FESTIVAL HELD AT NANDAN

2nd Indian Film Festival by FIPRESCI-India was organized at Nandan – the film center in Kolkata on 21 and 22 August 2024 in collaboration with the Eastern Region of the Federation of Film Societies of India showcasing the films: *The Portraits* (Malayalam, 2021, 87 mins) by Bijukumar Damodaran, *Nine Hills One Valley* (Meitei-Tangkhul, 2022, 76 mins) by Haobam Paban Kumar, *Chicken Curry* (Kannada, 2023, 87 mins) by Champa Shetty, *In Search of Ajantrik* (Hindi, 2023, 46 mins) by Meghnath, *NOI* (Assamese, 2021, 92 mins) by Reema Borah, and *Biryani* (Malayalam, 2021, 94 mins) by Sajin Baabu. The festival was attended by a large number of audiences who appreciated the films shown.





POOR THINGS BY YORGOS LANTHIMOS WON FIPRESCI GRAND PRIX 2024

Poor Things, directed by the Greek director Yorgos Lanthimos, won the FIPRESCI Grand Prix after having been chosen as the best film of 2024 by the members of FIPRESCI. The vote had the participation of 791 film critics all over the world who have chosen this British production from among all of the films premiered after 1 July 2023. The other four finalists were *Do Not Expect Too Much from The End of the World* by Radu

Jude, *Evil Does Not Exist* by Ryusuke Hamaguchi, *All of Us Strangers* by Andrew Haigh and *The Seed of the Sacred Fig* by Mohamad Rasoulof. *Poor Things* had its premiere in 2023 at the Venice Festival where it carried off the Golden Lion for the best film. The award marked the start of a brilliant international career that has seen it harvest laurels including two Golden Globes and five BAFTAs, in addition to eleven nominations and four awards at the Oscars, amongst which was the Best Actress in a leading role going to Emma Stone. The FIPRESCI Grand Prix will be presented on 20 September at the opening gala of the 72nd San Sebastian Festival. Since its creation in 1999, the FIPRESCI Grand Prix has gone to outstanding directors like Maren Ade, Pedro Almodóvar, Paul Thomas Anderson, Alfonso Cuarón, Jean-Luc Godard, Ryusuke Hamaguchi, Michael Haneke, Aki Kaurismäki, Richard Linklater, Terrence Malick, George Miller, Cristian Mungiu and Chloé Zhao.

LOCARNO FILM FESTIVAL

FIPRESCI Prize in the 77th Locarno Film Festival (Switzerland, 7 – 17 August 2024) awarded to the film *Youth (Hard Times)* by Wang Bing (France, Luxembourg, Netherlands, 2024, 227 min). The jury composed of Mariola Wiktor (Poland), Johannes Hagman (Sweden), Antonis Lagarias (France), and Silvia Posavec (Switzerland) in their



motivation said: “Amidst piles of cloths and cotton, the film takes us into the social fabric of migrant textile workers from all over China. Through a four-hour-long observation of their daily lives, intimate moments, and collective struggle for fair wages, the film makes visible the hopes and fears of a contemporary global working class. Wang’s ever-moving handheld camera penetrates the surface to create a raw and intense physical experience”.



KASTELLORIZO DOC FESTIVAL

FIPRESCI Prize in the 9th Beyond Borders International Documentary Film Festival, Kastellorizo (Greece, August 25 - September 1, 2024) awarded to the film *Bangarang* by Giulio Mastromauro (Italy, 2023, 75 min). The jury composed of Marina Kostova (North Macedonia), Peter Kremiski (Germany), and Georgios Papadimitriou (Greece) in their motivation said: “The awarded film was recognized for creating an exceptional visual

essay on innocence and carefree moments amidst an unfolding ecological disaster, hidden from common view. The jury praised its masterful depiction of a decaying urban landscape and the sense of a harsh fairy tale featuring the “lost children” of Taranto, free from simplistic judgments or unnecessary explanations.” The award includes a €1,000 prize, sponsored by ERT, for the best film chosen by the International Federation of Film Critics.

5TH CHIDANANDA DASGUPTA MEMORIAL COMPETITION FOR BEST FILM CRITICISM

FIPRESCI-India calls for entries for 5th Chidananda Dasgupta Memorial Competition for Best Film Criticism 2024. Following are the rules & regulations:

🕒 Best Award= Rs.6,000/- 2nd Best= Rs.5,000/-

🏆 Besides the award-winning entries, 'Certificate of Merit' will be given to the outstanding entries.

🏆 Entries winning the Award and Certificate of Merit will be published in 'E-Cine India' (ISSN: 2582-2500)

🕒 Deadline for Submission: 15 October 2024.

🕒 Announcement of Result: 20 November 2024.

🏆 Eligibility: Any Citizen of India below 40 Years (Except members of FIPRESCI and their relatives).

🏆 One Contestant can submit only One Entry.

🏆 Deliverable: Critical analysis of any contemporary Indian feature film made in any language in the last three years. 🏆 Entry Fee: NIL

🏆 Language: English. 🏆 Word Limit: Max 2000. 🏆 Content: Only Text, in PDF Format.

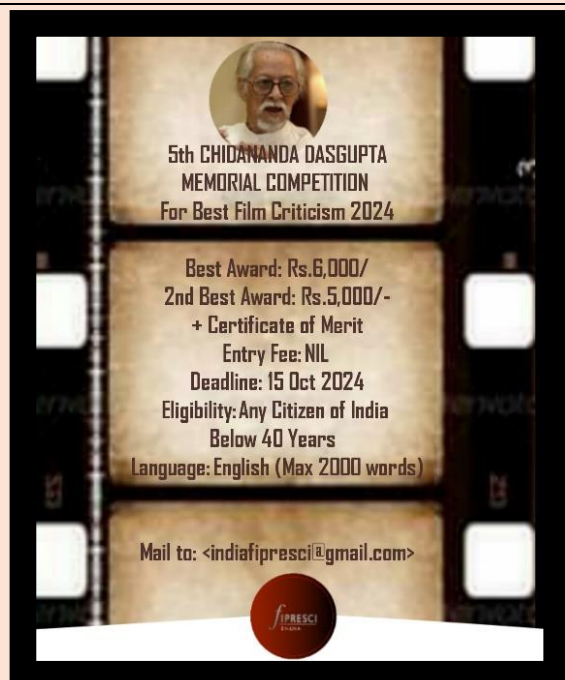
🏆 Self-Declaration: At the bottom of the write up there must be a self-declaration confirming the article is written by the Contestant herself/himself, it is an original one, free from plagiarism, and never published anywhere before.

🏆 Note: Below the self-declaration, Full Name, Gender, Age, Address, Brief Introduction (max.20 words), E-Mail ID, and Mobile/Wap No. of the Contestant should be written.

🏆 Legal: Contestants will be liable for any legal responsibility like plagiarism or others.

🏆 Judgment: FIPRESCI-India will set up a Jury and their evaluation/ decision will be final.

🏆 How to Submit: Soft Copy of the write up in a PDF file with all information and declaration mentioned above should be mailed to <indiafipresci@gmail.com> under the subject "5th CDG Memorial Competition 2024" before 15 October 2024.



FIPRESCI MONSOON FAC IN MANGALORE

FIPRESCI-India organized a comprehensive Monsoon Film Appreciation Course (FAC) in association with the Manipal Institute of Communication (MIC), Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE) from 12 to 18 Aug 2024 at their Mangalore campus. Prof Padma Rani, Director MIC and N Vidyashankar, Coordinator of the Academic Council of FIPRESCI-India inaugurated the FAC. Sessions were conducted by the resource persons like Prof Manu N Chakravarthy, N Vidyashankar, and M K Raghavendra from FIPRESCI; Dr Milind Damle and Prof Sandip Chatterjee from FTII. Eminent cinematographer Dharam Gulati took a masterclass. The course was designed to meet the necessities of the students, teachers, scholars, and film enthusiasts from different disciplines of the Manipal University and outside institutions as well. Emphasis was given on the topics like language of film and notion of film appreciation, film genres and national cinemas, contemporary cinema, elements of filmmaking, semiotic in cinema, and others. About 30 participants took part in the FAC. (In Pic. Prof Padma Rani, Director MIC addressing the participants).

4TH FIPRESCI-INDIA ONLINE FILM APPRECIATION COURSE

FIPRESCI-India will organize the 4th Online Film Appreciation Course for eight days from 22 to 29 September 2024 with 14 sessions. The FAC is designed to meet the necessities of the students, teachers, scholars, film enthusiasts, media practitioners, film society activists, professionals, public and private sector employees in studying cinema as a text, and understanding filmmaking and other related activities. More than 50 participants already registered for the FAC. Details of the course will be published soon.



MIB CALLS FOR 71ST NATIONAL FILM AWARDS

Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Government of India Announced Call for Entries for the 71st National Film Awards 2023. Deadline for submission: 18 Sept 2024. Rules & Regulations can be obtained and online submissions can be made on the I & Ministry's website <http://mib.gov.in/> OR directly on the National Film Award URL <https://nfaindia.org/>



UPCOMING IMPORTANT FESTIVALS WORLDWIDE

Venice, Italy, International Film Festival, August 28 – September 7, 2024. **Drama**, Greece, International Short Film Festival, September 2–8, 2024. **Toronto**, Canada, September 5–15, 2024. **Miskolc**, Hungary, Cinefest – International Film Festival Miskolc, September 6–14, 2024. **San Sebastian**, Spain, September 20–28, 2024. **Chemnitz**, Germany, September 25 – October 3, 2024. **DMZ Docs**, September 26 to October 2, 2024. **Busan**, South Korea, October 2–11, 2024. **Montreal**, Canada, Festival du Nouveau Cinéma, October 9–20, 2024. **Warsaw**, Poland, Warsaw International Film Festival, October 11–20, 2024. **Viennale** – Vienna International Film Festival, Austria, October 17 – 29, 2024. **Valladolid**, Spain, October 18 – 26, 2024, “Semana Internacional de Cine de Valladolid”. **El Gouna**, Egypt, El Gouna Film Festival, October 24 – November 1, 2024. **Leipzig**, Germany, International Leipzig Festival for Documentary and Animated Film, October 28 – November 3, 2024. **Thessaloniki**, Greece, Thessaloniki International Film Festival, October 31 – November 10, 2024. **Cottbus**, Festival of East European Cinema, Germany, November 5 – 10, 2024. **Stockholm**, Sweden, November 6 – 17, 2024. **Mannheim-Heidelberg**, Germany, November 7–17, 2024. **Taipei**, Taiwan, Golden Horse Film Festival. The festival date is November 7 – 24, 2024. **Sevilla**, Spain, November 8–16, 2024. **Rabat**, Morocco, Rabat International Author Film Festival, November 8–16, 2024. **Tallinn**, Estonia, November 8–24, 2024. **Lecce**, Italy, Festival of European Cinema, November 9 – 16, 2024. **Cairo**, Egypt, Cairo International Film Festival, November 13 – 22, 2024. **Ljubljana**, Slovenia, November 13 – 24, 2024), LIFFE – Ljubljana International Film Festival. **Amsterdam**, The Netherlands, IDFA – International Documentary Film Festival, November 14 – 24, 2024. **Gijón**, Spain, November 15 – 23, 2024, date not confirmed). **Coimbra**, Portugal, “Caminhos do Cinema Português”, November 16 – 23, 2024. **Torun**, Poland, EnergaCAMERIMAGE, International Film Festival of the Art of Cinematography, November 16 – 23, 2024. **Athens**, Greece, Panorama of European Cinema, November 21 – December 1, 2024. **Mar del Plata**, Argentina, Mar del Plata International Film Festival, November 21 – December 1, 2024). **Torino**, Italy, November 22 – 30, 2024. **Singapore** (November 28 – December 8, 2024). **Havana**, Cuba, December 5 – 15, 2024. **Kerala**, India, December 13 – 20, 2024. **Duhok**, International Film Festival, December 9 – 16, 2024. **Tunis**, Carthage Film Festival, Tunisia, December 14 – 21, 2024.

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