

Tashi And The Monk

10 AM

(English/39 mins/2014)

Dirs. Andrew Hinton, Johnny Burke

On a remote mountaintop a brave social experiment is taking place. Buddhist Monk Lobsang was trained under the guidance of His Holiness the Dalai Lama but 8 years ago he left behind a life as a spiritual teacher in the United States to create a unique community in the foothills of the Himalayas which rescues orphaned and neglected children.

5 year-old Tashi is the newest arrival. Her mother recently passed away and she's been abandoned by her father. Wild and troubled, Tashi is struggling to find her place amongst 84 new siblings.

Lobsang has channeled his own unhappy childhood into an opportunity for other 'uninvited guests of the universe' to avoid a similar fate. But Can the community's love and compassion transform Tashi's alienation and tantrums into a capacity to make her first real friend?

Awards : Outstanding Short Documentary - Emmy, 2016

Best Children's Film, Woodpecker International Film Festival, India, 2016

Best Film Mountain Culture, Vancouver International Mountain Film Festival 2015

Best Film Mountain Culture, Banff Mountain Film Festival 2014

Moving Mountains Award, Mountain film in Telluride 2014

Official trailer : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LwuLbpCDMng>

The Superstars of Koti

10.50 AM

(Hindi/Jaunsari with English subtitles/75 mins/2014)

Directors: Farha Alam, Anuj Adlakha

Prod. Films Division

Koti, India is a mountainous village inhabited by an ancient community defined by the culture of Deity worship. The Superstars of Koti is a narrative about three adolescents connected through their unshakable faith in the Deity. Twelve-year old Devdass is part of the

Dholak (drum) playing community and his claim of being possessed by the deity is challenged by Kuldeep, studying in the city and belonging to the Khash – senior most in an age-old hierarchy crafted by the deity. Ramprakash, 14, originally from Nepal has more than a roadside restaurant to take care of. He anticipates a divine change at the hands of the deity. The boys battle through a never-ending effort of assertion and ownership of the Gods of their forefathers.

The three stories are witness to identity crises, to clashing hierarchies and to reinstating age-old ones. The film offers a keen glimpse into adolescence, exploring lost friendships, tracing the path from dishonor to redemption and describing the intricacies and anomalies of the age. The Superstars seem to shine above all of it.

Official selection - Hot Docs, 2015

Official trailer : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9l7i5O7Rfzc>

Reviews : <https://www.thehindu.com/features/magazine/the-chosen-ones-of-koti/article6796834.ece>

Aaba (Grandfather)

12.20 PM

(22 mins/2017)

Dir. Amar Kaushik

The film is set in a remote village of Arunachal Pradesh in North East India. An orphan girl staying with her grandparents comes across the news of her grandfather being in the advanced stages of lung cancer and would probably survive just a few weeks. With not much to do the grandfather spends rest of his days revisiting his personal possessions and digging his own grave. But then life has its own surprises

Awards : Winner of Special Prize, Generation Kplus, Berlin International Festival, 2017.

National Award for Best Short Fiction Film, 2017

Nominated for Best Short Film at Busan International Short Film Festival, 2017

Trailer : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Zlayvc6Fwg>

Brief Life of Insects

12.50 AM

(Ktien Nongtung with English subtitles/22 mins)

Dir. Tarun Bhartiya

What makes folk music? Is it something frozen and event friendly? Is it still made in the fields to the bump and grind of physical labour? We are in Umpohwin, a Bhoi village on

the Assam – Meghalaya Border in India. Here, Bah Hos Shadap & his friends are threshing their paddy. Threshing in the Khasi-Jaintia Hills involves free and voluntary exchange of labour and today Hos Shadap's paddy field is the recipient of that voluntary exchange. As the paddy is pounded, a rhythm emerges inviting a song. Albinus Kharkongor, Umpohwin's master of rhyme and verse, steps in and takes over. The simple rhythm belies the vast topical territory that Albinus sings. The village's existing corpus of lyrical anecdotes get taken over by his irreverent wit and improvisation. Longings are cloaked, oppressors are made fun of, dinner is slipped through clumsy fingers and edible roots makes one fart. The language swings from the local dialect to pidgin to one that is plainly imagined.

Hos Shadap and Albinus Kharkongor filter a kind of history through their songs that will remain marginal to the canon of Khasi tribal culture.

Trailer : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qh81iNcwDsI>

The Call of Kandadhar Hills

1.25 PM

(Hindi with English subtitles/27 mins/2018)

Dir. Tarun Mishra

Prod. PSBT

The primitive Paudi Bhuinyas, articulate with wisdom, the agonies and anguish of Kandadhar, Odisha.

Trailer : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=08KFW3iPy0M>

Timbaktu

2 PM

(English/30 mins/2012)

Dirs. Rintu Thomas, Sushmit Ghosh

Prod. PSBT

When a small farming community in South India decided to switch from their decades-old practice of chemical agriculture to organic farming, little did they know that they were planting the seeds of a silent revolution. By showcasing the exemplary efforts of farmers of a tiny village in Andhra Pradesh, Timbaktu explores critical issues of food security and sovereignty. At its heart, Timbaktu looks at the relationship that a farmer shares with her land, her seeds and raises critical questions about food, the very essence of human life.

Awards : 60th National Film Awards for the Best Film on Agriculture, 2013.

Trailer : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qjPQ6KM2FIY>