



18<sup>th</sup> | MUMBAI  
FILM FESTIVAL



## The Jio MAMI

### 18<sup>th</sup> Mumbai Film Festival

#### with STAR

### Unveils its programming for the festival

Actor Kangana Ranaut along with the Board of Trustees – Karan Johar, Zoya Akhtar, Rohan Sippy, Anurag Kashyap, Vikramaditya Motwane, Siddharth Roy Kapur, Manish Mundra, Vishal Bhardwaj and Dibakar Banerjee joined Jio MAMI with Star Co-chairperson, Kiran Rao and Festival Director Anupama Chopra

Over 180 films from 54 countries including features, documentaries, short films to be showcased at the Festival

The Film Festival will honour director and screenwriter Sai Paranjpye and acclaimed filmmaker, Jia Zhangke with 'Excellence in Cinema' Award

**Mumbai, September 29, 2016:** The Jio MAMI Mumbai Film Festival with Star is less than a month away from offering the city a movie extravaganza unlike any other. In its 18<sup>th</sup> edition, the festival announced its stellar line-up for the year at its annual press conference held on Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> September in Mumbai. The Festival is set to kick off on 20<sup>th</sup> October. The press conference began with the announcement of the Festival's new brand identity.

**Jio MAMI with Star, Festival Co-Chairperson, Kiran Rao** said, "It's been a very exciting year for the Academy. Firstly, we are now a year-around presence. We launched the MAMI Film Club in May with a conversation between Sir Ian McKellen and Aamir. We've followed that up with India premieres of films

such as *Brahman Naman* and *India in a Day*. The Academy is committed to bringing you great film content and conversations not just in October but through the year. We've also got a new identity. Mumbai is a mosaic of islands and communities, of over 16 million people, their hopes and dreams. We wanted to find an identity that reflects this great city and the festival. If you look closely at our new logo, you will see two fish creating a geometric pattern that forms the Devnagri representation of MAMI. This identity also works well for us because we are always fishing for talent!"

**Mrs. Nita M. Ambani, Founder and Chairperson, Reliance Foundation & Co-Chair, MAMI Board of Trustees** said, "Welcome to Jio MAMI – the 18th Mumbai Film Festival. Cinema acts as a game changer, inspiring and influencing lives and making a positive contribution to the society. The advent of digital technology is taking filmmaking to a higher level, with innovative opportunities and techniques for creative expression and viewership. I have no doubt that this digital way of life will help the world of content creation in a big way. Let this edition of the much-awaited Jio MAMI festival continue to add value to the film fraternity and audiences in India."

**Uday Shankar, CEO, STAR India** said, "I have always believed that the media and entertainment industry has a very important role in shaping society and cultural consciousness. We at Star believe in the potential of stories to stimulate imagination and influence societal change moving the nation forward. MAMI brings such exemplary stories to life with world class cinema especially curated for the festival. This will be our third year of association with MAMI and together we hope to connect the city to world-class content and provide an amazing platform for young, creative talent."

The Festival, as it does every year, identifies the contribution of great minds in the world of cinema. The 'Excellence in Cinema Award' provides a great opportunity to highlight, applaud and promote works of such individuals. This year, the Indian Excellence in Cinema Award will be conferred to the noted director and screenwriter of several award winning movies like *Sparsh* and *Chashme Baddoor*, Sai Paranjpye. The Government of India awarded Sai with the Padma Bhushan title in 2006 in recognition of her artistic talents. Jia Zhangke, known as the leading figure of the "Sixth Generation" movement in Chinese Cinema and one of the most critically acclaimed filmmakers working today will be the recipient of the International Excellence in Cinema Award.

**Actor, Director Dibakar Banerjee** said, "Each year, the Jio MAMI Mumbai Film Festival with Star gives two Excellence in Cinema awards. This year, our international award goes to Chinese director Jia Zhangke. Jia Zhangke belongs to the sixth generation of Chinese filmmakers. His work has offered a unique perspective on a transitional generation. He combines this with a humane concern for the working class and poor. Jia Zhangke has directed 13 films in 21 years. His works continue to break boundaries and move the world."

**Filmmaker Vishal Bharadwaj** said, "Our Indian Excellence in Cinema award goes to filmmaker Sai Paranjpye. Sai Paranjpye's career has spanned over four decades. Her are milestones in Indian cinema. Sai's cinema is defined by certain humanity. Her films didn't have oversized heroes and villains. She told slice of life stories about common people. Her work continues to inspire generations of filmmakers."

**Director Zoya Akhtar** announced the jury for the Jio MAMI with Star's competition category, India Gold. "One of the primary functions of the festival is to serve as a gateway to the best of Indian cinema. Here's our India Gold jury. This section also carries award money of 45 lakh. Joining the jury this year is composer Mychael Danna who won both the Oscar and the Golden Globe for *Life of Pi*. Time magazine film critic Stephanie Zacharek, Taiwanese film director and photographer Yonfan and the head of the jury is Turkish film director Reha Erdem, who has been called Turkey's most philosophical and contemplative filmmaker," said Zoya Akhtar.

**Director and scriptwriter Vikramaditya Motwane** announced the jury for International Competition and said, “This section also carries award money of 45 lakhs and the jury are: Film maker Anurag Kashyap, one of Hindi cinema’s most compelling creators, Producer Christine Vachon whose films include *Carol*, *Still Alice* and *Boys Don’t Cry*, Chris McDonald, President of Hot Docs, the largest documentary film festival in North America, Writer Director and photographer Tala Hadid. Her short film *Tes Cheveux Noirs Ihsan*, won an Academy Award. And the Head of the Jury is Portuguese filmmaker Miguel Gomes. Miguel’s last film *The Arabian Nights Trilogy* had its world premiere at the Cannes Film Festival. His earlier film *Tabu* won the Fipresci prize at the Berlin Film Festival in 2012”

Introducing a new programme at the Festival that brings films from one, select country every year, **Director Anurag Kashyap** said, “This year, the Jio MAMI Mumbai Film Festival with Star will include a new programme, Country Focus. This year the country in focus is Turkey. The festival will screen 10 films from Turkey, which represent the different strains of cinema in the country. The selection will include films of the Turkish New Wave and directors like Zeki Demirkubuz and Nuri Bilge Ceylan. It will also have classics like *The Bride* from 1973.”

This year, the festival acknowledges the contribution of women in the film industry and in order to strengthen its efforts to ensure that these women get the recognition they deserve, the festival introduces new awards.

**Announcing the new award at the festival this year, Siddharth Roy Kapur, MD, Disney India** said, “This year, Oxfam India in partnership with the festival has instituted an award for 10 lakh rupees for Best Film on Gender Equality. The award category focuses on films that challenge gender based social norms, which lead to gender inequality and hence to the global pandemic of violence against women and girls. The Indian film industry is one of the most significant influencers in Indian society. Oxfam India aims to encourage and recognize professional filmmakers who make cinema, which promotes positive gender norms and inspires people for a future where violence against women and girls no longer exists. This is only open to Indian films programmed at the festival.”

**Filmmaker Karan Johar** said, “We are also thrilled to announce a special award this year called the MAMI MasterCard Best Indian Female Filmmaker 2016 award. This award for 15 lakh rupees is also for Indian films only. This award aims to strengthen the female voice in Indian cinema. Over the last five years, we’ve made some progress here but it’s much too little. The representation of both genders onscreen can only benefit with the inclusion of more female voices. This award is a step toward that.”

**Announcing the few names from the international films line-up that will be screened at the festival this year, Director and Producer, Rohan Sippy** said, “Few of the exciting titles in our International Selection are: *I, Daniel Blake* by Ken Loach, *Swiss Army Man* by Daniels, *Certain Women* by Kelly Reichardt, *Graduation* by Cristian Mungiu, *Things to Come* by Mia Hansen-Love, *Elle* by Paul Verhoeven, *Neruda* by Pablo Larrain, *Mostly Sunny - A Documentary on Sunny Leone* by Dilip Mehta and *Hema Hema: Sing Me A Song While I Wait* by Khyentse Norbu from Bhutan.”

**Present at the press conference, Film Producer, Manish Mundra** said, “Some of our Indian titles are: *A Death in the Gunj* By Konkona Sen Sharma, *Lady of the Lake* by Haobam Paban Kumar, *Loev* by Sudhanshu Saria, *Autohead* by Rohit Mittal, *The Cinema Travellers* by Shirley Abraham and Amit Madheshiya, *Lipstick Under My Burkha* by Alankrita Shrivastav.”

**Jio MAMI with Star, Festival Director, Anupama Chopra** said, “This year, the Jio MAMI 18<sup>th</sup> Mumbai Film Festival with Star will also be bigger and hopefully better. The MAMI Movie Mela will now be two days. Our section for children Half Ticket will be open to the public on certain days. Our experimental film

section is now called The New Medium. It includes some very exciting titles that offer new ways of seeing film. We also have a Word to Screen Market, which puts book publishers and content creators into the same room. And our book award now includes books on cinema in Hindi also. The festival will screen over 175 films from 54 countries. The festival is going to be a movie feast. This is an inclusive film festival so no matter what your taste is – there will be a film for you.”

**Jio MAMI with Star, Creative Director, Smriti Kiran said,** “With every passing year, we at Jio MAMI with Star strive to bring exciting programmes that will appeal to everyone; from filmgoers to aspiring filmmakers. To continue this tradition, the festival will introduce new programmes and screenings that will bring the best of cinema around the world to Mumbai. We have some of the greatest minds in the global film industry joining us in championing the festival. While the film screenings remain at the heart of the festival, the roster this year will also feature programmes that will touch upon various aspects of the entertainment industry. We are thrilled to announce Jio MAMI with Star 2016 programming line-up with you today and we look forward to putting up a spectacular show!”

Starting 19<sup>th</sup> August, when the call for entries was announced, the Jio MAMI 18<sup>th</sup> Mumbai Film Festival with Star received an unprecedented number of entries for the movies this time.

### **What’s new at Jio MAMI Film Festival with Star this year:**

- After receiving an overwhelming response last year, Jio MAMI with Star brings back Movie Mela for two days!
- A special programme curated for young audiences, Half Ticket opens to public this year
- The festival introduces The New Medium, a special category dedicated to art house cinema
- Jio MAMI’s 18<sup>th</sup> Mumbai Film Festival with Star launches a “Word to Screen” Market

### **Other Important Announcements made:**

- Opening Ceremony of the Jio MAMI 18<sup>th</sup> Mumbai Film Festival with Star to be at the Royal Opera House
- Jio MAMI with Star to Open with Konkona SenSharma’s directorial debut, *A Death in the Gunj*
- Jio MAMI with Star to screen yesteryear film directors and legends, Bimal Roy and P.K Nair’s films
- Actress Sonam Kapoor joins Jio MAMI with Star as Word to Screen Brand Ambassador
- Campaign film of Jio MAMI with Star directed by Vasana Bala

### **Competition Categories:**

- India Gold
- International Competition
- Dimensions Mumbai

### **Non-Competition Categories:**

- Country Focus (Turkey)
- Rendezvous
- World Cinema
- India Story
- Discovering India
- MAMI Tribute (International & India)

- Restored Classics

### **Jio MAMI with Star VISION 2016**

The Jio MAMI Mumbai Film Festival with Star is an inclusive movie feast. We showcase the latest cutting-edge, independent cinema - art house fare alongside genre movies from Bollywood and Hollywood and cult international movies. We offer the best of world cinema to the people of Mumbai and we offer the best of Indian cinema to the world. The festival is run by the Mumbai Academy of Moving Image popularly known as MAMI. This is a space where we revel in the sheer pleasure of cinema, the joy it gives us and how much it enhances our lives. The goal is to nurture and ignite a passion for movies. We want Jio MAMI with Star to be shorthand for excellence in cinema.

### **About Jio MAMI with Star Film Festival**

Mumbai - the financial capital of India is also the epicentre of the Indian film industry. The city plays such a major role in production and dissemination of Indian films and television programs that it is widely known by its acronym 'Bollywood'. In 1997, a group of film industry stalwarts headed by late Hrishikesh Mukherjee founded the Mumbai Academy of Moving Image (MAMI) as a not-for-profit Trust. Their main objective was to organise an annual International Film Festival which the film industry and the country could be proud of. MAMI has been organising the festival for the last 16 years and aims to foster a climate of good cinema. MAMI engages people from all walks of life across the city and country that enjoy and love good cinema. It is Mumbai's only film festival that is entirely created and run by film professionals and a group of members from corporate India. Appreciation of good cinema, stripped off all the limiting labels of art and commercial, can only come about through exposure to the best of films the world has to offer. The Festival is the first step in that direction.

In their Mission Statement in 1997, the MAMI Board of Trustees said, "We feel it is the need of the hour to disseminate and inculcate good cinema among Indian audiences. The only way to achieve this is to celebrate cinema by hosting an International Film Festival in Mumbai, India's film and entertainment capital. MAMI (Mumbai Academy of Moving Image) is committed to start Mumbai's first independent international film festival organized by practicing film makers."

**Jio MAMI with Star is glad to reach movie lovers through JioChat. Follow our official channel "Jio MAMI" on JioChat for regular updates and exclusive content.**

**For more information on Jio MAMI 18<sup>th</sup> Mumbai Film Festival with Star scheduled to be held from 20<sup>th</sup> October- 27<sup>th</sup> October 2016, do visit the official website, Twitter handle, Facebook Page, Instagram and YouTube as follows:**

**Website:** [www.mumbaifilmfestival.com/](http://www.mumbaifilmfestival.com/)

**#JioMAMIwithStar2016**

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**YouTube:** [Mumbai Film Festival](https://www.youtube.com/MumbaiFilmFestival)