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Organised by  
Kerala State  
Chalachitra  
Academy

On behalf of  
Department of  
Cultural Affairs,  
Govt. of Kerala



## Withholding Peace and Survival IFFK rises as a Beacon of Hope

Amidst the rising chaos and disharmony in the world and a pandemic that tore the world health apart, International Film Festival of Kerala is set to start another edition in an attempt to unite art, culture and society. Pinarayi Vijayan, the Chief Minister of Kerala will inaugurate the fest at Nishagandhi auditorium. Minister for Cultural Affairs Saji Cherian will preside over the function. The Chief Minister will present the Spirit of Cinema Award to Kurdish filmmaker Lisa Çalan.

Anurag Kashyap will be the chief guest of the function. Minister for General Education and Labour V. Sivankutty will release the Festival Handbook to Antony Raju, Minister for Transport. Arya Rajendran, Mayor of Thiruvananthapuram Corporation will receive the first copy of the Festival Bulletin from G.R Anil, Minister for Food and Civil Supplies. Adv. V.K Prasanth MLA will release the Sameeksha Festival issue to Shaji N Karun, Chairman, KSFDC. Principal Secretary, Department of

Cultural Affairs Rani George IAS, KSCA Chairman Ranjith, KSCA Vice-Chairman Premkumar, IFFK Artistic Director Bina Paul and KSCA Secretary C. Ajoy will be also present in the function.

The function will be followed by the screening of the opening film 'Rehana' directed by Abdullah Mohammad Saad. At a time when war and chaos tries to tear us apart, let us hope that art will connect us together.







## അതിജീവനത്തിന്റെ ദൃശ്യാനുഭവങ്ങൾ

കേരളത്തിലെ സിനിമാസ്വാദകർക്ക് കാഴ്ചയുടെ പുതിയ ഭൂപടം ഒരുക്കി നൽകുക എന്ന സാംസ്കാരിക ദൗത്യമാണ് ഐ.എഫ്.എഫ്.കെ നിർവഹിച്ചു പോരുന്നത്. ലോകം ശ്രദ്ധിക്കുന്ന ഈ മേളയുടെ കഴിഞ്ഞ പതിപ്പോടെ നാം കാൽനൂറ്റാണ്ട് പൂർത്തിയാക്കി. കോവിഡ് മഹാമാരിയുടെ പശ്ചാത്തലത്തിൽ മേളയിൽ പങ്കെടുക്കുന്നവരുടെ സുരക്ഷയെക്കുറിച്ചുള്ള ആശങ്കയെ മുൻ നിറുത്തി കഴിഞ്ഞ തവണ തിരുവനന്തപുരം, എറണാകുളം, തലശ്ശേരി, പാലക്കാട് എന്നിങ്ങനെ നാലു മേഖലകളിൽ മേള നടത്താൻ ചലച്ചിത്ര

അക്കാദമിയും ഗവൺമെന്റും നിർബന്ധിതരായി. പക്ഷേ അത് ഫെസ്റ്റി വലിന്റെ ഗുണനിലവാരത്തെ ബാധിച്ചില്ല എന്നത് എടുത്തു പറയേണ്ട കാര്യമാണ്.

കോവിഡ് മഹാമാരിയുടെ വ്യാപനം കുറഞ്ഞുവരുന്ന ഈ ഘട്ടത്തിൽ 26-ാമത് ഐ.എഫ്.എഫ്.കെ അതിന്റെ സ്ഥിരം വേദിയായ തിരുവനന്തപുരത്തു വെച്ചുതന്നെ ഇപ്പോൾ നടത്തപ്പെടുകയാണ്. ആവശ്യമായ സുരക്ഷാ മാർഗങ്ങൾ ഈ മേളയിലും കൈക്കൊണ്ടിട്ടുണ്ട്. മഹാമാരിക്കാലത്തെ ഓരോ കലോത്സവങ്ങളും കലയിലൂടെയുള്ള അതിജീവനത്തിന്റെ സന്ദേശമാണ്

## Messages



Cinema is one of the most powerful instruments of cultural and artistic bonding. It often turns to be the most necessary form of social unification. During times of uncertainty and indecisions, rampage and destruction, art and cinema plays a major role in bringing together a society and often amass a nation into solidarity, peace, organisation and harmony. The 26th IFFK is set in a high time where this is not just a celebration of art but a festival of social equality and unity.

### Rani George IAS

Principal Secretary,  
Dept. of Cultural Affairs



KSCA is holding the 26th edition of the IFFK against the backdrop of receding wave of global pandemic. The festival is a declaration that art helps humanity survive in times of deep despair. The festival condemns the war mongering and military aggression whatever may be the reasons claimed. Together with the unflinching support of the State Government the Academy is hopeful of taking IFFK, the pride of Kerala, to newer heights.

### Ranjith

Chairman, Kerala State  
Chalachitra Academy



The 26th IFFK is a beacon of hope in these trying times around the world. Amidst difficult times is when art and culture should meet to unite people and pave ways to peace, harmony and unity. IFFK is a framework of cultural, social and artistic unity that is much needed today. We look forward to hosting a festival that not only caters to the love for art but also helps unite diverse nations in times of war and disharmony.

### Premkumar

Vice Chairman, Kerala State  
Chalachitra Academy



When many festivals in the global circuit decided to postpone, cancel, or choose digital route, IFFK stood out with out and out physical festival in the last leg spanning four cities. A collective of films and a colloquium of ideas, IFFK has grown as the biggest cultural event of Kerala. There will also be space for round table discussions, open forums and meetings that energise and synergize the festival ecosystem. Let us celebrate cinema together!

### C. Ajoy

Secretary, Kerala State  
Chalachitra Academy





നൽകുന്നത്. 26-ാമത് അന്താരാഷ്ട്ര ചലച്ചിത്രോത്സവത്തിൽ നിന്ന് തിരഞ്ഞെടുക്കപ്പെടുന്ന ചിത്രങ്ങൾ പ്രദർശനമായി പ്രദർശിപ്പിക്കും. ഇതിലൂടെ കൂടുതൽ പ്രേക്ഷകർക്ക് സമകാലിക ലോക സിനിമ ആസ്വദിക്കാനുള്ള വഴി തുറക്കും.

പുതിയ കാലത്തിന്റെ രാഷ്ട്രീയ ഭാഷയും ഭാവനയും തുറന്നിടുന്ന ദൃശ്യാനുഭവങ്ങളുടെ ഇടമായി ഈ ഐ.എഫ്.എഫ്.കെയും മാറട്ടെ.

#### സജി ചെറിയാൻ

സാംസ്കാരിക വകുപ്പുമന്ത്രി



IFFK stand in solidarity with all those going through these terrible times. The festival programme showcases a few films from areas that have been in conflict for many years. In its 26th year, the Festival is a young adult, vivacious and brimming with energy! We welcome you to share this youthful energy and experience a week of togetherness and sharing. The pall of war can only be overcome by the spirit of the people.

#### Bina Paul

Artistic Director, IFFK



**L**isa Çalan, who is being honoured at the 26th IFFK with the Spirit of Cinema Award, is a Kurdish filmmaker who lost both her legs in a bomb attack by ISIS against an election rally of the People's Democratic Party (HDP). The attack took place on 5 June 2015 in Diyarbakir, in south-eastern Turkey.

It was the US war against Iraq, and the war against Syria led by the US, Saudi Arabia and Turkey, which paved the way for the emergence of ISIS. Turkey, with a government led by the Islamist AKP, had agreed in 2003 to allow the US to use military bases in Turkey in the US war on Iraq. Later, the AKP government sent proxy groups of terrorists to Syria as part of the effort by Islamists and imperialism to topple the secular, Arab nationalist Syrian state. Many of the jihadis from Libya and Europe who were welcomed into Turkey as part of the war on Syria

went on to join ISIS.

With Kurdish forces playing a major role in the fight against ISIS in Syria, pro-Kurdish organisations such as the People's Democratic Party (HDP) – formed by left-leaning political organisations with pro-Kurdish views – became a target of attack for both the AKP and ISIS. The policies of the Erdogan-led AKP government – including majoritarian attacks on minority Kurds – continue to wreak havoc in Turkey.

The attack by ISIS failed to crush Lisa Çalan's spirit. After much hardship and struggles, she began to walk using prosthetic legs, and returned to filmmaking. Her 2016 film *Zimanê Çiya* (*The Tongue of the Mountains*) is scheduled to be screened at the 26th IFFK, on 19 March 2022.

Subin Dennis





## Opening Film

The 26th International Film Festival of Kerala is opening with a neighbourhood film. *Rehana* is a Bangladeshi film directed by writer and filmmaker Abdullah Mohammad Saad. Released in 2021, this film opens up a wide outlook on women's life from a powerful feminist point of view.

*Rehana* has already caught the world's film eye by becoming the first Bangladeshi film to be screened at the Cannes Film Festival. The plot of the film revolves around Rehana Mariam Noor, an assistant professor at a private medical college, who goes through the hardened and conditioned conflicts arising from her family. The film shows her struggle to balance her personal and professional life in a strictly patriarchal society. At the age of 38, Rehana has to play the roles of a teacher, doctor, sister, daughter and mother. She is a character who strictly wants to stand for justice and fair treatment, but her actions are often deterred by the prejudices and stereotypes of society. Rehana fights for justice for her six-year-old daughter and her student who are facing violent oppressions from the dominating male chauvinistic community. It puts forward the high end need for a change in the thought process and freedom for women in the 21st century.

The role of Rehana is played by notable Bangladeshi actress Azmeri Haque Badhon. Badhon, who has been into acting since 2006, is also a dentist. In an interview, director

Abdullah Mohammad Saad said that he was lucky to get the actress to play Rehana and that she portrayed the role with extraordinary dedication. Badhon won the Asia Pacific Screen Award for Best Actress in 2021 for her performance in *Rehana*.

*Rehana* is Abdullah Mohammad Saad's second film as a director. His first film was *Live from Dhaka* which was released in 2016. *Live from Dhaka* won him the Best Director Award at the 27th Singapore International Film Festival. The filmmaker believes that the secret to a better life is to move forward boldly. He comes from a family with three older sisters and so was well aware of women's conflicts in today's society. Abdullah says that's how *Rehana* came into reality.

Rajesh Chirappadu

# Rehana Mariam Noor

## A conflicting outlook on women life



## SEAT RESERVATIONS Started Off

The online seat reservation for the 26th edition of film IFFK has begun. The delegates can reserve seats for the films through the official website of IFFK, [www.iffk.in](http://www.iffk.in) or using the IFFK app, from the play store. The films should be reserved before 24 hours. The reservation will be permitted from 8 am until the seats are filled. The seats can be reserved using the delegate's registration number and the password along with the code of the film. The reservation facility is available for all the theatres, except Nishagandhi.



Volunteer Team with KSCA Chairman Ranjith, Vice-Chairman Premkumar, Secretary C. Ajoy and Volunteer Committee Chairman K.S Sunilkumar



## ഫെസ്റ്റിവലിൽ ആകർഷണമായി ഡബിൾ ഡെക്കർ

എ.എഫ്.എഫ്.കെയുടെ വരവിയിച്ച് ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട സാംസ്കാരിക വകുപ്പ് മന്ത്രി സജി ചെറിയാൻ ഫ്ലാഗ് ഓഫ് ചെയ്ത കെ.എസ്.ആർ.ടി.സി ഡബിൾ ഡെക്കർ ബസ് ഇത്തവണത്തെ ഫെസ്റ്റിവലിന്റെ മുഖ്യ ആകർഷണങ്ങളിൽ ഒന്നാണ്. മേളയുടെ വിശദാംശങ്ങളും വേദികളുടെ വിവരങ്ങളും ആലേഖനം ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ള ബസിൽ പ്രതിനിധികൾക്കും പൊതുജനങ്ങൾക്കും യാത്ര ചെയ്യാനുള്ള സൗകര്യമുണ്ട്. ഫ്ലാഗ് ഓഫ് ചടങ്ങിൽ അഡ്വ.വി.കെ പ്രശാന്ത് എം.എൽ.എ, അഡ്വ. വി. ജോയ് എം.എൽ.എ, ചലച്ചിത്ര അക്കാദമി വൈസ് ചെയർമാൻ പ്രേംകുമാർ, സെക്രട്ടറി സി.അജോയ് തുടങ്ങിയവർ പങ്കെടുത്തു. ഇതാദ്യമായാണ് ചലച്ചിത്ര മേളയുടെ സന്ദേശവുമായി കെ.എസ്.ആർ.ടി.സി ഡബിൾ ഡെക്കർ സർവീസ് നടത്തുന്നത്.



## Cinema is becoming more realistic as the Media: John Brittas M P

“The art of filmmaking is becoming more and more realistic as the media and the gap between the two is rapidly reducing”, said John Brittas MP while inaugurating the media cell of the 26th IFFK at the premises of Tagore theatre. Film festivals provide a wide array of opportunity for conversations beyond generations and promises possibilities to interlink different cultural ethos, he opined. KSCA Chairman

Ranjith presided over the function. Hospitality and Reception Committee Chairman of 26th IFFK M. Vijayakumar, Kerala Media Academy Chairman R.S Babu, KSCA Vice-Chairman Premkumar, KSCA Secretary C. Ajoy, Artistic Director of 26th IFFK Bina Paul and Abdul Rashid, Additional Director, Public Relations Department were present at the occasion.

## പ്രതിസന്ധിയുടെ കാലത്ത് പ്രതീക്ഷകൾ പങ്കുവച്ച് സിഗ്നച്ചർ ചിത്രം

കോവിഡ് മഹാമാരിയും ആഭ്യന്തര യുദ്ധങ്ങളും സാമ്പത്തിക പ്രതിസന്ധികളും നിലനിൽക്കുമ്പോൾ അതിജീവനത്തിന്റെ സന്ദേശമാണ് രാജ്യാന്തര ചലച്ചിത്ര മേളയിലെ സിഗ്നച്ചർ ചിത്രം ആവിഷ്കരിക്കുന്നത്. പ്രതിസന്ധിയുടെ കാലത്തും വെളിച്ചമായി നിലകൊണ്ട സിനിമയും അതിന്റെ പ്രതീക്ഷയുമാണ് ചിത്രം പങ്കുവയ്ക്കുന്നത്. മുജീബ് മഠത്തിൽ ഒരുക്കിയ സിഗ്നച്ചർ ചിത്രം, പ്രളയവും മഹാമാരിയും തുടർച്ചയായി വെല്ലുവിളികൾ സൃഷ്ടിച്ച കേരളത്തിൽ, രാജ്യാന്തര ചലച്ചിത്രമേള പ്രതീക്ഷയുടെയും ആഘോഷത്തിന്റെയും പുതു വെളിച്ചം വീശുകയാണെന്ന സന്ദേശം ഉയർത്തിപ്പിടിക്കുന്നു.





# ഡെലിഗേറ്റ് സെൽ ഉദ്ഘാടനം ചെയ്തു



രാജ്യാന്തര ചലച്ചിത്രമേളയുടെ ഡെലിഗേറ്റ് സെൽ ഹോസ്‌പിറ്റാലിറ്റി ആന്റ് റിസപ്ഷൻ കമ്മിറ്റി ചെയർമാൻ എം. വിജയകുമാർ ഉദ്ഘാടനം ചെയ്തു. നടൻ സൈജു കുറുപ്പ് ആദ്യ പാസും ഡെലിഗേറ്റ് കിറ്റും ഏറ്റെടുത്തി. ചലച്ചിത്ര അക്കാദമി ചെയർമാൻ രഞ്ജിത്ത്, സെക്രട്ടറി സി.അജോയ്, ഡെപ്യൂട്ടി ഡയറക്ടർ (ഫെസ്റ്റിവൽ) എച്ച്. ഷാജി, ചലച്ചിത്ര അക്കാദമി ജനറൽ കൗൺസിൽ അംഗം പ്രദീപ് ചൊക്ലി, ഫെഡറേഷൻ ഓഫ് ഫിലിം സൊസൈറ്റീസ് ഓഫ് ഇന്ത്യ നീജ്ഞൽ സെക്രട്ടറി കെ.ജി മോഹൻകുമാർ എന്നിവർ പങ്കെടുത്തു.

The International Film Festival of Kerala has always taken it to celebrate the makers of the cultural, social and political artform called cinema. The 26th edition of the festival has dedicated an entire section to the world renown Portuguese filmmaker Miguel Gomes under the category 'Sublime Fantasia'. It is a compilation of artful aesthetic films incorporated perfectly into a political and cultural amalgamation. Gomes has directed and co-written the screenplays of all these films.

Miguel Gomes was born in 1972 in Lisbon, Portugal. Gomes initially worked as a film critic and author of theoretical writings on cinema after he trained at the Escola Superior de Teatro e Cinema (Superior School of Theatre and Film, Lisbon). His film *Tabu* was a winner of the Alfred Bauer Prize for Artistic Innovation and the FIPRESCI Jury Prize at the 2012 Berlin International Film Festival. His *Arabian Nights* (2015) was screened as part of the Directors' Fortnight section at the 2015 Cannes Film Festival.

Gomes is well known for his strong political stance that he sets up in a well defined and aesthetic background of narration and storytelling. The incorporation of his powerful perspectives into his cultural works have been acknowledged and often severely condemned. He integrates art, culture and politics in a perfectly blended concoction that appeals to an audience with an eye for good films.

The list of Miguel Gomes films in the 'Sublime Fantasia' category include *Arabian Nights Volume 1: The Restless One*, *Arabian Nights Volume 2: The Desolate One*, *Arabian Nights Volume 3: The Enchanted One*, *Our Beloved Month of August*, *Tabu*, *The Face You Deserve*, and *The Tsugua Diaries*.

Sruthi A. Sreekumar



# A Tribute to the Master filmmaker Miguel Gomes



KSCA Chairman Ranjith, Vice-Chairman Premkumar, Secretary C. Ajoy, Deputy Director (Festival) H. Shaji, Deputy Director (Programmes) Dr. N.P Sajeesh attending the press conference at Hotel Horizon



# 26th INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL OF KERALA

## Screening Schedule

### 18 Mar | FRI

MARCH 18 — 25  
Thiruvananthapuram  
2022



# DAY 1

KAIRALI	<b>The Employer and the Employee</b> ( <i>El empleado y el patrón</i> ) Uruguay, Argentina, Brazil, France   2021   106' DIR: <b>Manolo Nieto</b> ● ○ ○ 10:00 AM	<b>The King of All The World</b> ( <i>El Rey de todo el mundo</i> ) Spain, Mexico   2021   95' DIR: <b>Carlos Saura</b> ● ○ ○ 12:30 PM	<b>19</b> ( <i>Nouzdah</i> ) Iran   2021   77' DIR: <b>Manijeh Hekmat</b> ● ○ ○ 03:00 PM	NO SCREENING	NO SCREENING
	<b>Whether the Weather Is Fine</b> ( <i>Kun Maupay Man It Panahon</i> ) Philippines, France, Singapore, Indonesia, Germany, Qatar   2021   105' DIR: <b>Carlo Francisco Manatad</b> ● ○ ○ 10:15 AM	<b>Life is Suffering. Death is Salvation.</b> India   2021   90' DIR: <b>Arvind Pratap</b> ● ○ ○ 12:15 PM	<b>Leave No Traces</b> ( <i>Żeby Nie Było Śladów</i> ) Poland, Czech Republic, France   2021   160' DIR: <b>Jan P. Matuszyński</b> ● ○ ○ 02:15 PM	NO SCREENING	NO SCREENING
	<b>107 Mothers</b> ( <i>Cenzorka</i> ) Slovakia, Czech Republic, Ukraine   2021   93' DIR: <b>Péter Kerekes</b> ● ○ 10:15 AM	<b>In Front of Your Face</b> ( <i>Dangsin-eolgul -apeseo</i> ) South Korea   2021   85' DIR: <b>Sang-soo Hong</b> ● ○ ○ 12:15 PM	<b>Hive</b> Kosovo, Switzerland, Albania   2021   84' DIR: <b>Blerita Basholli</b> ● ○ ○ 03:00 PM	NO SCREENING	NO SCREENING
	<b>Lamb</b> Iceland, Sweden, Poland   2021   106' DIR: <b>Valdimar Johannsson</b> ● ○ 10:00 AM	<b>Great Freedom</b> ( <i>Grosse Freiheit</i> ) Austria, Germany   2021   116' DIR: <b>Sebastian Meise</b> ● ○ 12:15 PM	<b>I'm Your Man</b> Germany   2021   105' DIR: <b>Maria Schrader</b> ● ○ ○ 02:45 PM	NO SCREENING	NO SCREENING
SREE	<h2>Opening Ceremony</h2> <p>Followed by the screening of (Opening Film)</p> <p><b>Rehana</b> (<i>Rehana Maryam Noor</i>) Bangladesh, Singapore, Qatar   2021   107' DIR: <b>Abdullah Mohammad Saad</b></p> <p>● ○ ○ 05:30 PM</p>				
KALABHAVAN					
TAGORE					
NISHAGANDHI					

## LEGEND

- ◆ Director/Curator/Guest Present
- ▶IN Indian Premiere of Restored Version
- ▶IP International Premiere
- ▶AP Asian Premiere
- ▶IN Indian Premiere

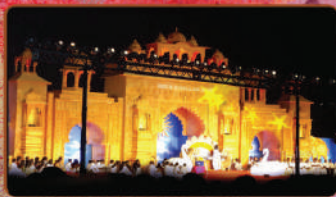
- I C** International Competition
- K S** Kaleidoscope
- I C N** Indian Cinema Now
- M S** Midnight Screening
- S S** Special Screening
- M C T** Malayalam Cinema Today
- O F** Opening Film
- J F** Jury Films
- H O M** Homage
- W C** World Cinema
- C C** Critics' Choice
- U V** Unforgettable Venuchettan
- R C** Rediscovering the Classics
- M G** Sublime Fantasia : Miguel Gomes
- C F** Framing Conflict : Afghanistan, Myanmar & Kurdistan



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