



# CINE CENTRAL CALCUTTA FILM BULLETIN

1965-2017



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## TO ALL OUR MEMBERS AND WELL-WISHERS

We hope you and all your family members are well and hearty. We are now passing through an unprecedented situation which any of us have never imagine. Corona pandemic have changed the world which was existing before March, 2020. We do not know when things will be normal. Cinema halls are still close and we do not know when film lovers will be able to watch films in the company of family and friends. Digital online film shows are now available in your drawing room through online platform like Netflix, Amazon, Hotstar etc. But there is no substitute of watching a movie in the big screen with other film lovers around you. We are hoping that this dark days will be soon over and we will be able to organise film shows for you.

Dear Friends,

You are aware that we have opened our office so that normal activities can be undertaken. During the prolong lockdown time we have to pay wages to our staff members and incurred incidental expenses for the society. We would request you to kindly help us with renewal of your Membership Card. Your renewal of membership will help us to organise future event. We do hope that you will come forward to help us to make the society marching ahead. We appeal to all our members and well-wishers to please extend your helping hand and generous support to Cine Central, Calcutta, the largest film society in India. This is your own society so help us to help you.

## Homage to Bharat Ratna Pranab Mukherjee



We deeply mourn the unfortunate demise of former President of India, 'Bharat Ratna' Pranab Mukherjee. He was undoubtedly a great statesman of our time. In five decades of political life he efficiently discharged his duties as Cabinet Minister of Finance, External Affairs, Defence, Commerce, Industry etc.

We proudly recall that Pranab Mukherjee was kind enough to inaugurate the 10th Anniversary Film Festival in 1975 at Academy of Fine Arts Auditorium. We pray and offer our respectful homage.

## Great loss for our Society



With a heavy heart we inform the sudden demise of **Ranjit Bhattacharya**, our dear colleague in film society movement. He was 75 years old. He was suffering from heart and chest ailments for months. Ranjit

Bhattacharya was in the Executive Committee for around forty years. He also held the post of Vice President. He gave dedicated service in show management. Cine Central, Calcutta deeply mourns the death of Ranjit Bhattacharya. We convey our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family members and friends.



With a heavy heart we inform the sudden demise of **Saibal Ganguly**, our long time co-worker. He expired in massive heart attack. He was

just 61 and left behind wife and college-going daughter.

Saibal was actively associated with our society for over 25 years and was a member of the Executive Committee till 2018.

## H O M A G E



**Max von Sydow** (1929-2020), was born Carl Adolf von Sydow on April 10, 1929 in Lund, Skåne, Sweden, to a middle-class family.

When he was in high school, he and a few fellow students, including Yvonne Lombard, started a theatre club which encouraged his interest in acting. His first role was as

Nils the crofter in Alf Sjöberg's "Only a Mother" (1949).

His work in the movies by Ingmar Bergman (especially "The Seventh Sea" (1957), including the iconic scenes in which he plays chess with death made him well-known internationally, and he started to get offers from abroad. His career began with playing Jesus in "The Greatest Story Ever Told" (1965); "Hawaii" (1966) and "The Quiller Memorandum" (1966). Since then, his career includes very different kind of characters, like Karl Oskar Nilsson in "The Emigrants" (1971); Father Lankester Merrin in "The Exorcist" (1973); Joubert the assassin in "Three Days of the Condor" (1975), Emperor Ming in "Flash Gordon" (1980); the villain Ernst Stavro Blofeld in "Never Say Never Again" (1983); Liet-Kynes in "Dune" (1984) the artist Frederick in "Hannah and Her Sisters" (1986); Lassefar in "Pelle the Conqueror" (1987), for which he received his first Academy Award nomination; Dr. Peter Ingham in "Awakenings" (1990); Lamar Burgess in "Minority Report" (2002) and the renter in "Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close" (2011), which earned him his second Academy Award nomination.

He became one of Sweden's most admired and professional actors and is the only male Swedish actor to receive an Oscar nomination. He was nominated twice, for "Pelle the Conqueror" (1987) in 1988 and for "Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close" (2011) in 2012. He received the Guldbagge Award for Best Director in his directing debut, the drama film "Katinka" (1988). In 2016, he joined the sixth season of the HBO series "Game of Thrones" (2011) as the three-eyed raven, which earned him Primetime Emmy Award nomination.

Max von Sydow died on March 8, 2020, in Provence, France. He was 90.



*Jiri Menzel receiving the Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award at International Forum of New Cinema at Metro Cinema in 2003.*

### Jiri Menzel (1938-2020)

One of the powerful film directors of Czechoslovak New Wave Cinema, Jiri Menzel passed away on 5th September 2020 in Prague. He was 82. We pay our respectful homage to the great filmmaker, who was very close to us.

In November 2003 Jiri Menzel came to Kolkata to inaugurate his Retrospective and to receive Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award. The programme was organised as a part of our International Forum of New Cinema.

Jiri was a product of theatre, who later joined Film and TV School of Prague. His first feature film "Crime at the Girls School" (1965) was screened in our first Czechoslovak Film Festival in 1966.

He came to limelight with "Closely Guarded Trains" (1967), which won Academy Award for best foreign film.

In five decades of filmmaking, Jiri Menzel made over forty films. In his films the second world war was looked from human perspective. He filmed well-known Czech novels, often facing criticism from rulers. He was deeply rooted in the ethos and culture of his country. In 2017 he made a Slovak film, which was their official entry for Oscar.

## CENTENARY TRIBUTE TO BHANU BANDYOPADHYAY



The moment his name is uttered, a smile comes out. He is Bhanu Bandyopadhyay, the uncrowned comedy king of Bengali cinema. On his Birth Centenary we pay tribute to this unforgettable actor. Bhanu, alias Samyamoy Bandyopadhyay, was born on 26 August, 1920 in Munsigung, Dhaka. He graduated from Jagannath College. From school days he was involved in freedom movement with Anushilan Samity. He was house arrested during Quit India movement. Later Bhanu joined Revolutionary Socialist Party (RSP). Bhanu Bandyopadhyay started show as standup comedian during college days. In 1943 his comic record 'Dhaker Garowan' was immensely popular. Later on his comedy record was released during Durga Puja along with noted singers of the day.

After partition, his family moved to Kolkata. The unique voice and Dhaka dialect gave him entry to Bengali cinema. In 1947 his first film was released. He then acted in small roles in a number of films. He got important role in Notun Yehudi (1951) and Bosu Paribar (1952). Big breakthrough came with Sare Chuattor, where he was the main character, not Uttam

Kumar.

Bhanu Bandyopadhyay acted over 300 films. In many films he played lead roles like Jomaloye Jibanto Manush, Personal Assistant, Asiteo Asiona, Miss Priyongboda, Bhanu Pelo Lottery, Bhanu Goenda Jahar Assistant etc. His last film Sorgol was released after his death.

He married Nilima Mukhopadhyay, noted playback singer. His daughter Basabi also acted in films. He had two sons. Bhanu Bandyopadhyay died from heart ailments on 4 March 1983.

## FILM SCHOLAR GONE FOREVER



Fr. Gaston Roberge (27 May 1935 – August 26, 2020) was a Canadian Jesuit priest, film theorist, pioneer of the film appreciation movement in India. He was the founder of Chitrabani, the oldest media training institute of Eastern India and the Media Research Centre (EMRC) of St. Xavier's College, Kolkata. He made India his home. He was born in Montreal, Quebec. Graduated from the University of Montreal. He joined the Society of Jesus (Jesuit Fathers) in 1956 and was sent to India on his request. He was the Executive Secretary for Social Communication, Headquarters of the Society of Jesus, Rome, till 1999.

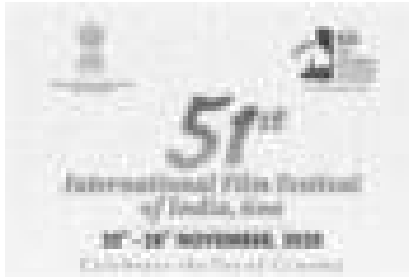
Roberge's love affair with Indian cinema began when he chanced upon Ray's 'Apu Trilogy' in 1961. So mesmerised was he with the first of the three films *Pather Panchali* that he watched the entire trilogy in one sitting. "The Apu Trilogy was, in fact, my first portal to West Bengal and its people," he had told *Frontline* in 2006, when his seminal book on Ray, *Satyajit Ray, Essays: 1970-2005*, was published. Interestingly, it took him nine years after arriving in Kolkata and

joining St. Xavier's College, to finally meet Ray in person. Their meeting in 1970 was the beginning of a close friendship that would last till Ray's death in April 1992.

With his trademark clear-headedness, Fr. Roberge defined his position: "Every effort should be made to salvage from total oblivion the report of the Working Group on National Film Policy (1980) for a new Indian Cinema. The report has ideological limitations but argues well for 'another' Indian cinema. This cinema would take on the social tasks which critics of the so-called commercial cinema want the latter to perform. In our socio-economic system, commercial cinema functions best when it is spared the irritant of false expectations, and when the social value of the commodity it produces entertainment is recognised."

Displaying admirable epistemic fluency, patience, discernment and prescience, the way Verrier Elwin responded to the tribal question, Fr. Roberge did on the question of communication, and for him, the modality of cinema became a point of entry into that communication human communication. All his life, Fr. Roberge argued and endeavoured to define the social contract of image making in India, which unfortunately is under duress once again.

Throughout his life one of Roberge's main interests lay in exploring the cultural roots of Indian cinema, which he presented through his writings. For this reason he never confined himself to studying only serious or alternative cinema, but gave equal importance to understanding mainstream movies as well. He was a prolific writer and authored around 25 books including *The Subject of Cinema*, *To View Movies the Indian Way*, *Another Cinema for Another Society*, *Chitra Bani: A Book on Film Appreciation*, and *Communication, Cinema, Development: From Morosity to Hope*.



Since 1952, India has hosted 50th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) in 2019, both competitive and non-competitive. The festival became

an annual event from 1975 onwards. The 51st edition of the festival which includes a competition for feature films by Directors from all Continents will be held in Goa.

The Festival is being organized by the Directorate of Film Festivals (DFF), Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India in collaboration with the State Government of Goa and the Indian Film Industry. The Festival is recognized by the International Federation of Film Producers' Associations (FIAPF). 51st IFFI, 2020, being a hybrid film festival due to COVID-19, would screen the films on its official digital platform along with the theatrical screenings during the festival in Goa, subject to the prevailing conditions.

**Office will remain open from Monday to Friday from 2.30 p.m. To 6.30p.m. Office will be closed on Saturday and Holidays.**



## 26th Kolkata International Film Festival

In view of Covid-19 pandemic, the 26th edition of Kolkata International Film Festival has been designed in a smarter frame giving due importance to the social distancing. This edition is proposed primarily in online mode for the cine lovers, critics, actors and others so that they continue to feel the pulse of the gala international film festival in the cultural capital of India. The date of this festival has been fixed from 5th Nov. To 12<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2020.

নবীকরণের জন্য আমাদের কার্যালয়ে সোমবার থেকে শুক্রবার, প্রত্যহ বিকেল ২.৩০ থেকে সন্ধ্যা ৬.৩০ টার মধ্যে যোগাযোগ করুন। এবারে **Ordinary Membership**-এর বার্ষিক চাঁদা ৫৫০ টাকা এবং **Couple Membership**-এর বার্ষিক চাঁদা ৭৫০ টাকা করা হয়েছে। অনুষ্ঠান সম্পর্কে বিশদ জানতে আমাদের সোসাইটির ফেসবুকে লাইক করুন এবং আমাদের কার্যালয়ে যোগাযোগ করুন।

## RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP

All our Members are requested to kindly renew their Membership for the year 2020-21. The annual subscription for Ordinary Member is Rs.550/- and Couple Member is Rs.750/-. Office hours for renewal is 2.30 p.m. To 6.30 p.m. For programme updates like us on FACEBOOK or contact Society Office.

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