

SNOOKER CLUB FILMS and A LITTLE ANARKY FILMS in co-production with LES FILMS DE L'ŒIL SAUVAGE

present

AGAINST THE TIDE

DIRECTED BY SARVNIK KAUR

97 min. | India | 2023

WORLD PREMIERE

Sundance Film Festival 2023 World Cinema Documentary Competition

LOGLINE

Two friends, both indigenous Koli Fishermen in Bombay, are driven to desperation by a dying sea. Their friendship begins to fracture as they take very different paths to provide for their struggling families.

SHORT SYNOPSIS

Bombay fishermen Rakesh and Ganesh are inheritors of the great Koli knowledge system—a way to harvest the sea by following the moon and the tides. Rakesh has kept faith in the traditional fishing methods while Ganesh has strayed away from them, embracing technology. Against the Tide is a tale of deep friendship and rising resentment between the two men, as close as brothers, against the backdrop of an adoring sea, which is increasingly turning hostile because of climate change.

FILM TEAM

DIRECTOR & PRODUCER - SARVNIK KAUR

Sarvnik Kaur is a documentary filmmaker whose work takes a skeptical stance towards the 'grand narratives' of modernism and 'Scientific Certainties'. Made of moments that hide anxiety and conflict just beneath the surface of the normal and the mundane, her films speak of the predicament of being human in our times. Her latest feature documentary 'Against the Tide' premiered at Sundance 2023 where she bagged the Special Jury Award for Verite Filmmaking. The film since then has received several awards including the Grand Jury at the Seattle International, the Best Documentary Award at IceDocs, the UN Perception Change Award at Visions-du-Reel, the Sustainability Award at Sydney International, The Warsaw Peace Award and also the Paznun City Freedom Award at Millenium Docs Against Gravity.

Her first film 'Soz - A Ballad of Maladies' was awarded the President of India's 64th National Award for best debut direction besides bagging the best film at IDSFFK 2017 and the Ram Bahadur Trophy for Best Film at the Film South Asia 2018. Her films have been part of several PHD thesis of film scholars at New York University, Harvard University, JawaharLal University, Tata Institute of Social Sciences etc. She is a HotDocs Accelerator Lab, Chicken & Eggs Eggcelerator lab and IDFA Academy fellow. Her films have been supported by Catapult Film Fund, Sundance Documentary Fund, San Francisco Film Fund, IDFA Bertha Fund etc. Made of moments that hide anxiety and conflict just beneath the surface of the normal and the mundane, her work speaks of the predicament of being human in our times

PRODUCER - KOVAL BHATIA

Koval Bhatia is a Filmmaker and producer based in India. She has been heading A Little Anarky Films for 12 years, during which time she has directed and produced commercials, impact Films and TV shows. She began her journey as an international producer with Against The Tide, which she has pitched at multiple markets and forums across the world. She is currently a Getting Real Fellow at the International Documentary Association (IDA). Koval is a graduate from Eurodoc and a recipient of the Emerging Producer's Bursary from the World Congress for Science and Factual Producers, and her feature documentaries as a producer have been awarded grants by Sundance Documentary Fund, Hot Docs, Catapult Film Fund, Docs By The Sea, SFFILM, Al Jazeera, and DOKLeipzig. She is a member of EWA and BGDM.

CO-PRODUCER - QUENTIN LAURENT

Quentin Laurent founded Les Films de l'Oeil Sauvage with Frédéric Féraud in 2015. Based in Paris and Marseille, the company mainly produces art-house documentaries and Quentin is particularly interested in non-Western narratives and viewpoints, in approaches that reveal spaces that have remained invisible or try to reconsider the perception of familiar places. He has recently produced or co-produced, Kinshasa Makambo by Dieudo Hamadi (Berlinale 2018), Overseas by Soa Yoon (Locarno 2019), Aswang by Alyx Arumpac (IDFA awarded 2019), Downstream to Kinshasa (Cannes 2020), Dreaming Walls by Amélie van Elmbt and Maya Duverdier (Berlinale 2022), Things I Could Never Tell My Mother by Humaira Bilkis (Visions du Réel 2022), and Kristos the Last Child by Giulia Amati (Venise 2022).

CINEMATOGRAPHY - ASHOK MEENA

Ashok Meena is an independent cinematographer from Rajasthan, India. He did his post-graduate degree in cinematography from the Film and Television Institute of India, working towards building an independent visual language at work. Known for his experimental Films and videos, his independent work has been traveling to festivals and art galleries across the

world. Ashok has shot several documentary films including Kamal Swaroop's Pushkar Puran, which had its European Premier at 60th Dok Leipzig.

EDITING - ATANAS GEORGIEV

Atanas Georgiev is one of the owners of Trice Films and Film Trick from Macedonia, subsidiaries of FX3X. His directorial and producing debut, Cash & Marry, has won many international awards and recognition. It was followed by Avec l'Amour, a festival favorite in 2017 premiering at Hot Docs, and soon after with Honeyland in 2019, a triple winner at Sundance Film Festival and nominated for two Academy Awards: Best Documentary and Best International Feature for 2020.

EDITING - BLAGOJA NEDELKOVSKI

Blagoja Nedelkovski is a film editor and musician based in Skopje, Macedonia. He graduated from the Faculty of Dramatic Arts in Film &TV editing in Skopje in 2000. For almost two decades he has actively working on feature Zilms, documentaries, TV series and music videos in Macedonia and the Balkans. He has also spent some time in Vienna, Austria, where he freelanced as an editor and an artist so that he could pay for his music studies at the Music Konservatorium Franz Schubert. Some of the more notable projects as an editor are the films Punk's Not Dead, State of Shock, To the Hilt, The Year of the Monkey, and Honeyland.

SOUND DESIGN - MOINAK BOSE

Moinak Bose is a sound designer based out of Bombay, India. He is a graduate of the Film and Television Institute of India, Pune, with a specialisation in Sound Recording and Sound Design. Moinak's work includes the internationally acclaimed Zilms A Night of Knowing Nothing in 2021 (sound design) and All That Breathes in 2022 (sound recording), both of which won L'Œil d'Or (The Golden Eye) for best documentary at Cannes. The Zilms have been screened at many festivals and won top prizes at TIFF and Sundance Film Festival respectively. Against The Tide is his latest work as a sound designer.

FILM INFORMATION

Title: AGAINST THE TIDE

Genre: Documentary

Country: India

Language: Koli, Marathi, Hindi Year: 2023

Duration: 97 min.

Picture: Color

Aspect Ratio: 16:9

Sound: 5.1

Available Format: 4K and HD

CREW

Director: Sarvnik Kaur

Producers: Koval Bhatia, Sarvnik Kaur

Cinematography: Ashok Meena

Editing: Atanas Georgiev, Blagoja Nedelkovski

Sound Design: Moinak Bose

Music: Igor Vasilev Novogradska

Production Company: Snooker Club Films and A Little Anarky Films in co-production with Les Films de l'Œil Sauvage

Co-producer: Quentin Laurent

Executive Producers: Russell Long, Megan Gelstein, Megha Agrawal Sood, Shanida Scotland

Festivals / Awards

Sundance 2023 (World Cinema Documentary Special Jury Award: Vérité Filmmaking)

San Francisco IFF 2023

Visions du Réel 2023 (UN Perception Change Award)

Hot Docs 2023

DOK.fest Munich 2023

Seattle IFF 2023 (Grand Jury Prize in the Documentary Competition)

Millennium Docs Against Gravity 2023 (Green Warsaw Award, Freedom Award sponsored by the City of Poznań)

Docs Barcelona 2023

Berkshire IFF 2023

FIDADOC 2023

Sydney IFF 2023 (Sustainable Future Award)

Sheffield Doc/Fest 2023

IceDocs 2023 (Best Feature Award)

Lemesos IDF 2023

Indian Film Festival of Melbourne 2023

MakeDOX 2023

Atlantic International Film Festival 2023

Lunenburg Doc Fest 2023

Planet On 2023

Busan IFF 2023

With the support of:

International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam (IDFA), Doc Society Climate Story Fund, Hot Docs Canadian International Documentary Festival, Catapult Film Fund, Chicken & Egg Pictures, the Sundance Institute, SFFILM, AlterCine Foundation, Région Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur in collaboration with the CNC, Procirep Angoa.

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