



NCPA Presents Marathi Film Festival – Nave Valan (A New Turn)

Press Release

For Immediate Release

Mumbai, November 5, 2009: The National Centre for Performing Arts, India's premier art and culture institution, presents **"Nave Valan" (A New Turn)—A festival of Marathi films** at the NCPA. The NCPA has collaborated with the Directorate of Cultural Affairs, Government of Maharashtra, and Akhil Bhartiya Marathi Chitrapat Mahamandal to make this festival possible for larger viewing. The festival **aims to showcase the changing face of Marathi cinema and create a wider platform for reaching out to a varied spectrum of audiences.** This is the first time that the NCPA is organising a Marathi film festival and it is scheduled to take place from November 16 to 20, 2009 at Dance Academy Godrej, NCPA.

Nave Valan reflects the *new turn* in Marathi Cinema as the cinema of the new generation, where films are creating as much a buzz for their quality as for their content. "These films speak in a new Marathi voice," says Mrs. Vijaya Mehta, Executive Director, NCPA. "The Marathi film festival scheduled this year will focus on the new creative wave, reflected in the choice of subjects and their treatment by young filmmakers who have a very exciting and modern perspective on the medium of cinema," adds Mrs Mehta.

The five-day festival has been designed to draw working audiences and students alike, with five critically acclaimed Marathi films. The festival, which is curated by renowned filmmaker Ajay Sarpotdar, includes ***Harishchandrachi Factor — India's official entry to the Oscars — Gandh (The Smell), Gho Mala Asla Hava (I want a husband like this), Jogva (The Awakening) and Gabhricha Paus (The Damned Rain)***. Almost all films are now doing the rounds of international film festival circuits and have already received rave reviews.

Also, taking immense pride in showcasing some of the great work of this younger breed of the Marathi filmmakers, Mr. Khushroo Suntook, Chairman, NCPA says, "We are indeed very happy that the the Marathi Film Festival 'Nave Valan' is finding its rightful place in the NCPA. We have been constantly endeavouring to encourage our Marathi artists both for theatre and other performing arts, and we will continue to encourage them on a regular basis."

Mrs Mehta adds, “The idea behind conducting the Marathi Film festival is to attract the non-Maharashtrian audiences, including youngsters, to watch these quality films regularly”. In order to reach out to a wider audience, the films will be subtitled in English and entry is reserved on a first-come-first-served basis.

Apart from screening of the selected films, another unique feature of this festival will be the NCPA CHAURAH session, to be held after every screening. Here the filmmakers and the artists along with other key members of the crew will interact with the audience. The CHAURAH session—an NCPA initiative—is essentially, an informal interactive arts forum where artists across the creative borders, exchange their work and dialogue with an intimate group of viewers. It is focused on exploring a creative process rather than presenting a finished product. Artists include the who's who of Marathi cinema like Paresh Mokashi, Sachin Kundalkar, Milind Soman, Sonali Kulkarni and Vinay Apte.

Film Fest Entry Details:

Admission for NCPA members against valid membership card. Admission for public on entry passes. For details contact 32104205 from November 9th- 13th between 11 am- 5 pm. A valid entry pass with serial number will entitle you to the screenings on a first come first serve basis.

Nave Valan – A New Turn Schedule:

‘Nave Valan’ (New Turn)

Marathi Film Festival with English Subtitles

Dance Theatre Godrej

Monday, 16th to Friday, 20th - 6.30 pm

Harishchandrachi Factory

(Col. – 95 mins)

Monday, 16th - 6.30 pm

Dadasaheb Phalke, the erstwhile owner of a well-established printing business, quits after a quarrel with his business partner. Unemployed and with a family to support, he stumbles upon a tent theatre where a silent motion picture is being screened – and is awestruck. He becomes the maker of India’s first feature film – *Raja Harishchandra* – with a team of crazy, lovable people who believe in him. This film documents the life of this pioneer of Indian cinema, who set the foundation for the world’s largest film industry. It has won several awards already, including Best Director at the Pune International Film Festival 2009, the 18th Aravindan Puraskaram 2009 from the Chalachitra Film Society, Pune and the Balasaheb Sarpotdar Award 2009 for Best Film. Will it stir up the Oscars for India?

Directed by **Paresh Mokashi**

Cast: **Nandu Madhav, Vibhavari Deshpande, Mohit Gokhale, Atharva Karve, Dilip Joglekar** and others

Gandh

(Col. - 96 mins)

Tuesday, 17th - 6.30 pm

Gandh is an ensemble of three independent films, bound together by characters who are going through experiences involving the sense of smell. The stories explore the complexity of relationships through this metaphor. The film got the Sant Tukaram, State Government award, for Best Screenplay at the Pune International Film Festival (PIFF) 2009.

Directed by **Sachin Kundalkar**

Cast: **Milind Soman, Sonali Kulkarni, Neena Kulkarni, Amruta Subhas, Girish Kulkarni** and others

***Gho Mala Asla Hava* (I want a husband like this)**

(Col. - 120 mins)

Wednesday, 18th - 6.30 pm

The film, a musical, takes a humorous look at marriage. Savitri, a village belle, rebels against the age-old custom of arranged marriage and the entire village gets involved in fulfilling her wishes.

Directed by **Sumitra Bhave** and **Sunil Sukthankar**

Cast: **Radhika Apte, Omkar Goverdhan, Nikhil Ratnaparakhi** and others

Jogva

(Col. - 115 mins)

Thursday, 19th - 6.30 pm

Jogva tells the tale of one woman's journey to break out of sexual oppression and blind superstition. Putla, at 16, leads a carefree life. When she develops knots (*jat*) in her hair, society decides she has to be dedicated to the Goddess Yellamma, a *jogtin*. Finally, abjuring social sanction, she joins Raghu's troupe, which sings praises to the Goddess for a living. Her relationships with Tayappa, a *jogtini* who stands by her, and her attraction to Annu, a musician, are explored. Who will she find lasting happiness with? And will the village allow it?

Directed by **Rajeev Patil**

Cast: **Mukta Barve, Upendra Limaye, Vinay Apte, Sakhya Patil, Mhartya Jadhav, Thorla Jadhav** and others

Gabhricha Paus

(Col. - 100 mins)

Friday, 20th - 6.30 pm

Winner of the Best Marathi Film award at the Pune International Film Festival (2009) besides others, *Gabhricha Paus* is a story of simple aspirations. It alludes to the terrible odds stacked against those who depend on the earth for their livelihood, with farmer suicides becoming brutally common. Kisna's toil is of no use in the face of truant nature and his family is concerned about his welfare. His wife, convinced that he is contemplating ending his life, ropes in their six-year-old son, to keep an eye on the

innocent Kisna, who's on an endless cycle of fruitless effort.

Directed by **Satish Manwar**

Cast: **Girish Kulkarni, Sonali Kulkarni, Jyoti Subash, Aman Attar, Veena Jamkar**
and others

For further information please log on to www.ncpamumbai.com

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