



PRODUIRE AU SUD
FESTIVAL DES 3 CONTINENTS
nantes

NUCLEAR HEARTS

India

PAS Nantes 2015

Category : Drama

Length : 100'

Language : English & Bengali

Shooting format : HD

Shooting location : India

Shooting dates : February 2017

Expected date of completion : October 2017

Stage of production : Development stage

Budget : 450 000 €

Financing in place : 50 000 €

Workshops and platforms attended : Film Bazaar (Goa, 2013), Mumbai Mantra Sundance Screenwriter's Lab (India, 2014)

Coproducers involved : OddJoint (India), Dolce Vita Films (France)

Current situation : Financing, Seeking for international sales agent



Tanaji DASGUPTA – PRODUCER



Tanaji Dasgupta is a producer, filmmaker and actor based in Calcutta, India. From 2011 to 2014, he was the Executive Producer of Overdose Art Pvt. Ltd., a fiercely independent film production company headed by Q, the acclaimed director of *Gandu* (*Asshole*). Tanaji is the executive producer of *Ludo* (dir: Q, Nikon), *Kajarya* (dir: Madhureeta Anand/2013) and *Tasher Desh* (dir: Q/2012). He has worked as the line producer on *Sold* (directed by Oscar winner Jeffrey D Brown/2014) and as the assistant director on *Chittagong* (dir: Bedabrata Pain/2012), *The Waiting City* (dir: Claire McCarthy/2009) and *The Japanese Wife* (dir: Aparna Sen/2010).

Bornila CHATTERJEE – DIRECTOR



Bornila Chatterjee's debut feature film *Let's Be Out, The Sun Is Shining* premiered at the 2012 New York Indian Film Festival, where it won the Audience Award. From 2010 to 2013, Bornila was the Managing Director of Stonestreet Studios, a screen acting school and advanced conservatory in the Department of Drama at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts. Bornila was one of eight writers selected for the 2011 JT3 Foundation For Young People in the Arts/Writers Guild of America East Foundation Mentorship Program held in New York. Bornila is a 2014 fellow of the Sundance Institute/ Mumbai Mantra Screenwriters Lab and holds a BFA in Film and Television from Tisch. She is currently based in Calcutta.

SYNOPSIS

An old mansion on the brink of collapse in Calcutta, India. Inside, a wealthy party girl collects people like toys, a teenage boy discovers his sexuality through music and girls' dresses and a foreign gigolo yearns for home. For a while, the lives, loves and longings of these three young rebels become totally intertwined within the dilapidated walls of their crumbling Neverland. Their carefree little bubble bursts however, when an unexpected pregnancy forces them to confront realities they have been rejecting, and the world they have been escaping.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT (extracts)

«Home. That yearning to establish a home is the force that unifies the three main characters in *Nuclear Hearts*. Jules seeks it in Calcutta, the childhood city of her mother who long abandoned those memories, Alex valiantly holds onto the comfort of home in his best friend Jules, and Leo/Bourbon Rose, while running away from the one s/he's known his whole life, discovers an intimate haven in the arms and beds of these two strangers. Of course, jealousy and heartbreak take hold too, as the three outsiders seek warmth in each other's bodies, truth in each other's fantasies and solace in each other's differences.

Urban India is a perplexing purgatory in which to love and be loved. It is a place where freedom of speech loses daily to the censorship of film, television and literature, where homosexuality is first decriminalized, then recriminalized and where rape is rampant and often horrifically overlooked. Under such circumstances, I feel that a real, anthropological attention to intimacy is all the more necessary, a lyrical voyeurism that is as aloof as it is empathetic. [...]

With expressionist visuals, potent subject matter and a strong, jazz-based soundtrack that recalls the city's heydays as the jazz capital of the subcontinent, I believe this is a film that can broaden the scope of independent Indian films. »

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