

Inte'1 Folk Music Film Festival

"Music for life, Music for Survival"



Festival of Folk Music Films

24-26 November, 2015



CATALOGUE



-  Nepal
-  India
-  Bangladesh
-  Japan
-  Thailand
-  Bosnia and Herzegovina
-  Cambodia
-  Chile
-  Congo
-  Czech Republic
-  France
-  Germany
-  Mexico
-  Mississippi
-  Oman
-  Portugal
-  South Africa
-  UK
-  USA

24-26th November 2016

Co-Organiser :

Sanskritik Sansthan, Jamal, Kathmandu

Organised by :

Music Museum of Nepal Tripureshwor Mahadevbahal, Kathmandu

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Face Book : International Folk Music Film Festival Nepal

6th International Folk Music Film Festival 24th - 26th November 2016
'Music for Life, Music for Survival'

Coordinator:-

Ram Prasad Kadel Founder, Music Museum of Nepal.

Secretary:- Homenath Bhandari, Nepal

International Organising Committee

Ananda Das Baul, Musician and filmmaker, India.

Anne Houssay, "musical instrument conservator; and research historian, at Laboratoire de recherche et de restauration du musée de la musique, Cité de la musique, Paris, France.

Anne Murstad, Ethnomusicologist, singer and musician, University of Agder, Norway.

Basanta Thapa, Coordinator, Kathmandu International Mountain Film Festival, (Kimff) Nepal.

Charan Pradhan, Dance therapist and traditional Nepalese dancer, Scotland, UK.

Claudio Perucchini, Folk song researcher

Daya Ram Thapa, PABSON Nepal,

Homenath Bhandari, Music Museum of Nepal.

K. P. Pathaka, Film Director, Maker, Nepal

Krishna Kandel, Folk Singer

Mandana Cont, Architect and Poet, Iran.

Meghnath, Alternative Filmmaker; Activist and teacher of filmmaking, India.

Mohan Karki, Principal, Bright Future English School, Kathmandu

Narayan Rayamajhi, Filmmaker and Musician, Nepal.

Norma Blackstock, Music Museum of Nepal, Wales, UK.

Pete Telfer: Documentary Filmmaker; Wales, UK

Pirkko Moisala, Professor of Ethnomusicology, University of Helsinki, Finland.

Prakash Jung Karki, Director Nepal Television, Nepal

Ram Prasad Kadel, Founder; Music Museum of Nepal, Folk Music Researcher; Nepal.

Rolf Killius, South Asian music and dance curator and filmmaker; UK.

Steev Brown, Musician, Technical Adviser, Wales, UK.

Valentine Harding, Ethnomusicologist and social worker; UK.

Yoshitaka Terada, Ethnomusicologist, Professor; Department of Cultural Research, National Museum of Ethnology, Osaka, Japan.

Co-ordinators Message

6th International Folk Music Film Festival – Nepal

It is hard to believe that **International Folk Music Film Festival – Nepal** with the theme: *‘Music for Life Music for Survival’* is now in its 6th Year; the time has passed so quickly and we have made many new friendships.

The Festival, organised by **Music Museum of Nepal** and now for the second year co-organised by **Sanskritik Sansthan** has been a success from its inauguration and we believe this year will be no exception.

All are welcome to the festival venue **Rastriya Natchghar** , Jamal Kathmandu and
ENTRY is FREE.

We have lost count of the number of countries that have been represented over the years but it is now in the hundreds and all continents have been included.

This year's new development is a **Film Making Training Course** which will be held in the run up to the festival. The free training course is being provided at Music Museum of Nepal by **award winning filmmaker Karen Boswall** and the **resultant films** will be **screened at this year's festival.**

We look forward to warmly welcoming Karen, from UK, who is also one of the judges along with Pradeep Kumar Upadhyay, Nepal and Jacques Sarasin from France. We also warmly welcome ethnomusicologists, filmmakers and other visitors from several countries including India, Cambodia, England, Wales, Portugal, Spain, Bosnia and of course Nepal.

Just as in previous years we wish to offer our heartfelt thanks, first and foremost, to all musicians, associated artists and crafts persons, whose arts and skills have been captured in the films submitted for screening, because, without their input, this Film Festival could never have been a reality. We also thank all directors, producers, camerapersons etc. who have been motivated to record folk music and dance traditions on film for all to share and enjoy and especially for the benefit of future generations. Grateful thanks are due to all staff at our venue **Rastriya Natchghar** for providing such a conducive and comfortable atmosphere and especially to our International panel of judges **Karen Boswall, UK; Jacques Sarasin, France** and **Pradeep Kumar Upadhyay, Nepal** who have put in such hard work and who we expect will all be present at the festival to present the awards. Special thanks are due the headmasters of numerous Kathmandu High School's who realise the importance of exposing the younger generation to Nepal's Traditional Musical Heritage and continue to encourage their pupils to attend the screenings. Music Museum of Nepal also acknowledges it's debt to staff at the **British Library Sound Archive (BLSA)** in London, UK, for supplying high resolution digital copies of unique ethnomusological ciné film recorded in 1931 by Arnold A. Bake in Tripureshwor and Durbar Square, Kathmandu. Our greatest debt, however, is always to our **Gurudeva,**

Swami Akandananda Saraswati, who inspired and instigated the formation of Music Museum of Nepal and continues to support us. All our efforts and achievements relating to the conservation of Nepal's musical heritage in the first instance and, later on, also reaching out to many and varied traditional world music cultures and institutions, are part of our continuing sadhana.

The main aim of this folk music film festival is, as always, to encourage awareness of the, often urgent, need for conservation of numerous indigenous traditional music heritages all over the world and to facilitate cross cultural interaction. We are repeatedly reminded that every ethnic group, caste, culture, and society in the world has developed its own typical music traditions but also that all folk music cultures have common features, and, sadly, many are in decline in this modern age. Music Museum of Nepal wishes to provide a forum for sharing ideas, experiences, and possibly even resources. We have pointed out that some of the poorest nations, often lacking in modern recording facilities and expertise in conservation methods frequently have a very rich music culture. We would like to repeat our request to wealthier and technically more advanced nations to consider coming to the aid of poorer nations by supporting their conservation efforts practically and/or financially. This is because we consider folk music be a universal heritage and the loss of any part of it, however small it may seem, is a sad loss for the whole world.

We also urge educational authorities, worldwide, to give traditional music culture a significant place in the arts curriculum from nursery school through to high school. We feel it is important that children get to know their folk music culture as early as possible and do not grow up ignorant of the music of their forebears.

Music Museum of Nepal has long wished to raise the status of all folk musicians and associated artists and crafts persons and to encourage recognition of their invaluable contribution to the quality of life of all peoples. We humbly request all musically competent persons not to give up their heritage but to continue making music and transferring their arts, skills, and crafts to youngsters and thereby enriching all our lives.

The next International Folk Music Film Festival –Nepal is projected for 23rd - 25th November 2017 please make a note in your diary Please also note our new website addresses and visit our

facebook pages

<http://infin.webs.com/>

<http://nepal music museum.org>

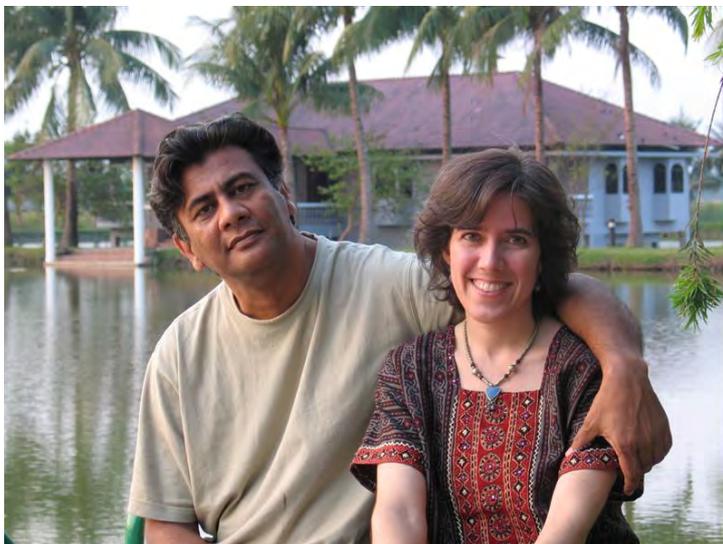
<http://www.facebook.com/infim2011?ref=ts>

<http://www.facebook.com/nfmim1?ref=ts&fref=ts>

International Folk Music Film Festival-2016 Festival Dedications

Tareque and Catherine Masud

Tareque Masud, [independent film](#) director, producer, screenwriter and lyricist was born in Nurpur village, [East Pakistan](#) in 1956 and Catherine Masud, his wife and creative partner, was born Catherine Shapere in Chicago in 1963. They met while Tareque was making his 2nd film, and married in 1988 forming a creative partnership, spanning two decades, in which they co-directed 12 films. Together they wrote scripts, and toured the



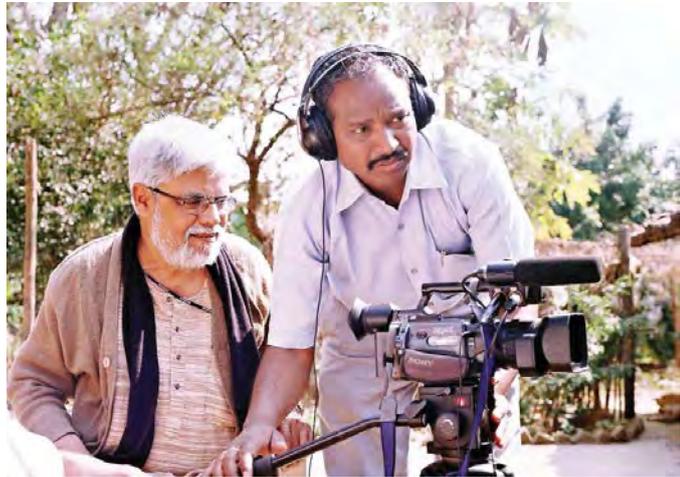
country and the world with their films. Catherine edited all of their joint work. The most famous film of their early years was the documentary *Muktir Gaan* (*The Song of Freedom*, 1995) which follows a music troupe, singing to inspire the freedom fighters, during the [Liberation War of Bangladesh](#) in 1971. *Muktir Moina*, their internationally acclaimed film, won a prize at the Cannes Film Festival in 2002. Sadly this artistic partnership came to an abrupt end in August 2011 when Tareque was killed in a road accident at the age of 54; who knows what further creativity they might have achieved, together, had Tareque lived longer.

Tareque was a founding member of [Bangladesh Short Film Forum](#), the leading platform for independent filmmakers in Bangladesh and in 1988, he organized the country's first International Short and Documentary Film Festival, which continues to this day. They were affectionately known as the "Cinema Feriwallas" for the way in which they showed their films, touring remote towns and villages throughout the country with a mobile projection unit.

Catherine was seriously injured in the accident, but has since gone on to establish the Tareque Masud Memorial Trust, dedicated to the task of archiving and memorialising Tareque's works. She has taught numerous courses and workshops on various aspects of cinema at universities and training institutes. More recently she has served as an adviser to the Bangladesh National Film Archives and the National Film and Television Institute and is a founding member of the South Asian Children's Cinema Forum. She has worked on re-releasing all of the Masud's older films on DVD and The Trust has, this year, begun uploading their film archive onto YouTube. She has curated more than 100 film screenings in 35 different venues around Bangladesh in collaboration with local community groups, student organisations and film societies in continuation of the Masud's philosophy of 'total film-making' activist engagement with audience. She has published two books on Tareque Masud, and is working on two more in collaboration with Dept. of Media Studies at The University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh. She has successfully lobbied the Bangladesh government to institute reforms to the film industry.

Biju Toppo and Meghnath

Biju Toppo is an Indian award-winning, social-issue documentary filmmaker, dedicated to bringing the stories of Indigenous people to film. He is one of the first Adivasi to have effectively used the camera to counter the misrepresentation of this community in the mainstream media. Meghnath, also known affectionately as Meghnath Da, is



an activist in the indigenous people's movement against destructive development who has been working in Jharkhand for the last 30 years. He has been with the people's struggle against destructive development and as a film-maker has tried to document the voice of those who remain unheard. Meghnath is a founder member of 'Akhra', a group, working in the field of culture and communication, to which Biju also belongs, in Jharkhanda, India. This pioneering group has been making films on indigenous people's issues since 1995. They have produced many award winning films which have taken up burning issues related to indigenous people's survival and in 2011, the duo were awarded the prestigious National Film Award. Both men also teach film studies at St. Xavier's College in Ranchi, Jharkanda, India.

On a more gentle theme, one of the best known and best loved films, co-directed by Meghnath and Biju is 'Gadi Lohardaga Mail', a documentation of people's memories about an historic passenger train that ran on the now defunct narrow-gauge tracks, for close to a century from Ranchi to Lohardaga, till January 2004. Before the train was withdrawn — the line has since been converted to broad gauge — Meghnath and Biju travelled on it with some intellectuals and singers and documented one of the last journeys of this lifeline of the community. Among the passengers, that day, were the renowned tribal ideologue, the late Ram Dayal Munda, and well-known folk artists Mukund Naik and Madu Mansuri who sang popular songs in local dialects.

The film is an emotional journey made by travellers who reminisce about the train and their fond memories associated with it.

Guddi Pant and Jaya Raj Pant



Husband and Wife Jaya Raj Pant and Guddi Pant were both academic staff members in the Nepali Department of Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu; they shared the same research interests and worked together on research projects.

Professor Dr. Jaya Raj Pant, born in 1953, held posts in Nepali language, literature and folk-literature and was an advisor to Music Museum of Nepal. Dr Guddi Pant born in 1960 was a Reader in Nepali at Padmakanya Campus of Tribuvan University. Their research interests included Nepali culture and folk-literature: collection, edition, and publication of endangered oral traditions of historic, cultural, and archaeological importance particularly Nepal's traditional music culture. Jaya Raj Pant has authored 7 published books about various Nepali music cultures, written at least 5 unpublished manuscripts and has approximately 50 published articles on Nepali language, literature, and folk literature, to his name. He also wrote, directed and produced the film 'Gori Daneko Chaitelo' a film documenting the musical tradition of dancing while singing epic poems, to the accompaniment of the Hudko, in Baitadi District of Nepal. In this case a tragic song about a girl, Gori Dana,

In April this year the couple were involved in a tragic vehicle accident in which 8 people died including Guddi Pant and Jaya Raj and 3 other close family members; an incalculable loss to Nepali folk cultural research and documentation. They are sadly missed by family, friends and colleagues.

Film Festival Screening Schedule 2016

Thursday 24th November 2016 Doors open 09.30

Dedication: Tareque and Catherine Masud

First Show 10.00 – 12.00 am

- ❖ Welcome to 6th International Folk Music Film Festival and Opening Ceremony.
- ❖ Introduction by Valentine Harding to her interview with Mahmudur Rahman Benu and the film Muktir Gaan in which he featured.
- ❖ An Interview with Mahmudur Rahman Benu. Dir, Valentine Harding
- ❖ Muktir Gaan. Dirs, Tareque Masud and Catherine Masud
- ❖ Sbaek Thomm: the large Shadow Puppet Theatre in Cambodia. Dirs, Sam-Ang Sam, Terada Yoshitaka & Fukuoka Shota

Lunch 12.00 – 1.00 pm

Second Show 1.00 – 3.00 am

- ❖ The Aconcagua Queen. Dirs, Claudio Mercado and Gerado Silva
- ❖ Born for Hardluck. Dir, Tom Davenport
- ❖ The Experience of Traditional Music in Oman. Dir, Peter Hudston
- ❖ Outlangish - Skateboarding Against Poverty. Dir, Tim Drabandt

Third Show 3.00 – 5.00

- ❖ Unison. Dirs, Tareque Masud & Catherine Masud
- ❖ Sarangi Mero-Sarangi Timro, My Sarangi-Your Sarangi. Dir, Bhokraj Gurung
- ❖ A Mexican Sound. Dir Roy Germano
- ❖ Danza de los Gigantes. Prodigio de los Sanfermines, Dance of the Giants. The Wonders of the Sanfermines Festivities. Dir, Domingo Moreno

Friday 25th November 2016 Doors open 09.30

Dedication: Biju Toppo and Meghnath

First Show 10.00 – 12.00 am

- ❖ Introduction by Jacques Sarasin to On the Rumba River
- ❖ On the Rumba River. Dir, Jaques Sarasin
- ❖ Introduction by Gopal Singh Chouan to 'The Journey Home'
- ❖ The Journey Home: Glimpses of the Rajasthan Kabir Yatra, 2012. Dir, Shabnam Virmani; Writer, Gopal Singh Chouan

Lunch 12.00 – 1.00 pm

Second Show 1.00 – 3.00 am

- ❖ Gadi Lohardaga Mail. Dirs, Meghnath & Biju Toppo

- ❖ **Introduction by Enrique Cámara De Landa** to Mridangam construction and the audiovisual project.
- ❖ Mridangam construction. Dirs, Enrique Cámara De Landa & Ignacio Corral
- ❖ **Introduction by Ana Flávia Miguel** to Kola San Jon
- ❖ Kola San Jon. Dir, Ana Flávia Miguel
- ❖ Red Ochre - The Last Guards of the Holy Fire. Dir, Tim Drabandt

Third Show 3.00 – 5.00

- ❖ The Face Behind the Mask. Dir, Nirmal Chander Dandriyal
- ❖ Bluegrass Roots. Dir, David Hoffman
- ❖ **Introduction by Vesna Marich** To The Unbearable Whiteness of Being
- ❖ The Unbearable Whiteness of Being. Dir, Vesna Marich

Saturday 26th November 2016 Doors open 09.30

Dedication: Guddi Pant and Jaya Raj Pant

First Show 10.00 – 12.00 am

- ❖ Gravel Springs Fife & Drum. Dirs, David Evans, Bill Ferris, Judy Peiser
- ❖ Banjo Romantika and Czech Imagination. Dir, Shara Lange
- ❖ **Introduction by Prem Dev Giri and Ratna Bahadur BK** to The Jewel in the Cobra's Head
- ❖ The Jewel in the Cobra's Head. Dir Prem Dev Giri
- ❖ **Introduction by Ram K. Shrestha** to Naulin Bhadrakali Jatra
- ❖ Naulin Bhadrakali Jatra. Dir Ram K. Shrestha

Lunch 12.00 – 1.00 pm

Second Show 1.00 – 3.00 am

- ❖ A Bohemian Musician Dir, Bhokraj Gurung
- ❖ **Introduction by Samrat Pant** to his late parent's work and the film, Gori Danako Chaitelo
- ❖ Gori Dhanako Chaitelo. Dir, Jaya Raj Pant
- ❖ **Introduction by D.B. Nepali** to Kami Nach
- ❖ Kami Nach, The Sword Dance of the Blacksmiths in Nepal. Dirs, D.B. Nepali
- ❖ All Day and All Night- Memories of Beale Street Musicians. Dirs, Robert Gordon & Luis Guida
- ❖ Thailand Moment, Dirs, Les Blank & Skip Gerson

Award Ceremony 15.00 – 16.00 approx
Live Music Concert 16.00 – 17.00 approx

Closing ceremony

Profiles of Judges 2016

Karen Boswall is a part-time lecturer in Visual Anthropology at the University of Sussex, U.K. and an award-winning independent documentary filmmaker with over 30 years of experience. She made films in Mozambique for 17 years before returning to the UK where she makes films for charities and local authorities and works with young people.

Karen is also a musician, a saxophonist, composer and cultural promoter.



Jacques Sarasin is an award winning film director, executive producer, screenwriter, Producer, and Sales Agent born in Geneva. After starting the production company 'Les Productions Faire Bleu' he produced a number of films before directing his own documentary feature films. Jacques currently lives in Paris and works as an independent producer and director.



Pradeep Kumar Upadhyay from Kalaiya, Bara District, Nepal, studied electronics & sound engineering at FTII, Pune, India and has worked at the Royal Nepal Film Cooperation. He currently lectures at Oscar International Film College, Kathmandu and is also self employed, providing an Acoustics & Sound Consultancy and training facility.



Short Synopses of Selected Films

Thursday 24th November 2016

Dedication: Tareque and Catherine Masud

First Show 10.00 – 12.00 am

'An Interview with Mahmudur Rahman Benu' (2016) Duration 10'



A filmed interview with musician Mahmudur Rahman Benu, (affectionately known as Benuhai) will be shown as a prelude to the film, in which he featured, 'Muktir Gaan' (The Song of Freedom).

Mahmudur Rahman was 28 years old when the original documentary footage for this film was recorded in 1971. He was co-founder of a cultural troupe named *Bangladesh Mukti Shangrami Shilpi Shangstha* (Liberation Team of Artists), which toured areas of Bangladesh and the refugee camps in West Bengal in 1971, during the Bangladesh War of Liberation. The troupe performed patriotic songs, puppet shows and stage dramas to inspire the struggle for freedom.

Benuhai, now aged 73, was interviewed and filmed by Valentine Harding on May 25th 2016 at his home in London. During the interview, he recalls events which led to his participation, as a musician, in the war of liberation and his insightful reflections, 45 years on, give an historical context to the film.

Director and Cameraperson, Valentine Harding

Original film Language: English

Filmmaker's Country: England

'Muktir Gaan (Song of Freedom)' (1995) Duration 75'



Song of Freedom tells the true story of a troupe of singers travelling through the refugee camps and zones of war during the Bangladesh liberation war in 1971. The film blends documentary and fictional genres in a musical structure to tell the legacy of the birth of a nation and the ideals of secularism and tolerance on which it was founded.

Music Culture: Bangladeshi

Directors & Writers: Tareque Masud/ & Catherine Masud

Cameraperson: Lear Levin

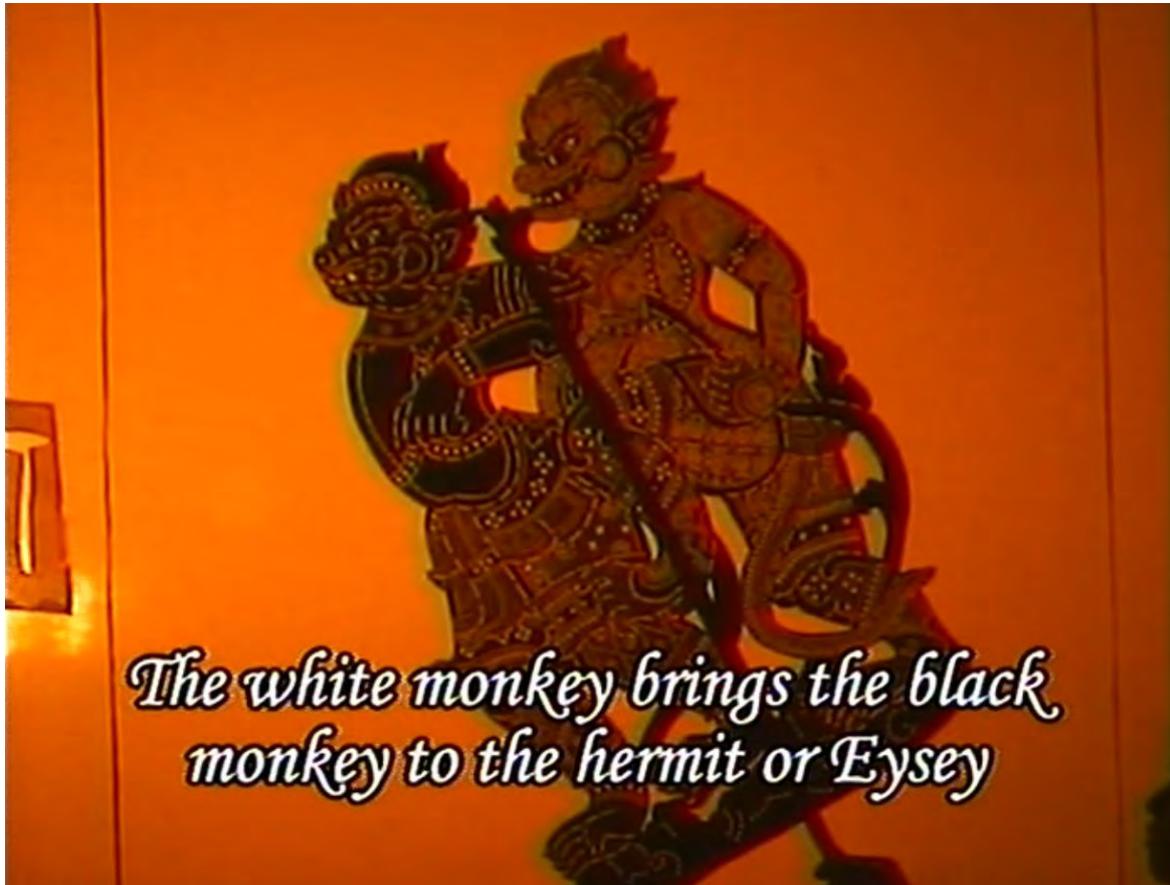
Producer: Catherine Masud

Original Film language: Bengali

Filmmaker's country: Bangladesh/USA

Competition Film

'Sbaek Thomm: The Large Shadow Puppet Theatre in Cambodia' (2009)
Duration 25'



This film is shown in memory of Inomoto Kiyokazu who sadly died earlier this year.

Sbaek Thomm tells stories from Reamker, the Cambodian version of the Indian epic Ramayana. Mythical figures magically come to life on a screen lit by burning coconut shells. The film describes the method of puppet making and the components of the *Sbaek Thomm* performance including narration, puppet manipulation and music.

Music Culture: Sbaek Thomm, Cambodia

Directors & Writers: Sam-Ang Sam, Terada Yoshitaka & Fukuoka Shd~a iil

Cameraperson: Inomoto Kiyokazu

Producer: National Museum of Ethnology, Japan

Original Film languages: Khmer and English

Filmmaker's country: Cambodia and Japan

Competition Film

Lunch 12.00 – 1.00 pm

Second Show 1.00 – 3.00 am



'The Aconcagua Queen' (2001) Duration 63'

The tradition of the “Chino” dances of the valley of Aconcagua, in the central zone of Chile, has its origins in the indigenous populations who were inhabiting the zone before the arrival of the Spanish.

Peasants and fishermen throughout central Chile celebrate their ritual calendar performing “Chino” and receiving dancers from different villages. Many dances attend to the Carmen de Petorquita celebration, among them is the Pucalan dance.

The force of the ritual and the power of the sound and of the dance interlace to the experiences of the Chinos, his motivations, his problems. The many years of friendship of the producers with the Chinos enables this documentary to portray these men very intimately. Chino is a Quechuan word meaning servant.

Music Culture: Chino dance of Chile

Director, Writers & Camera persons: Claudio Mercado, Gerardo Silva

Producer: Claudio Mercado

Original Film language: Spanish

Filmmaker's country: Chile

Competition Film

'Born for Hardluck' (1976) Duration 30'



A Portrait of Arthur 'Peg Leg Sam' Jackson black harmonica player, singer and comedian who made his living "busking" on the street and performing in patent-medicine shows touring southern towns. Footage includes excerpts from one of his last medicine shows, videotaped at a county fair in 1972, and material filmed near his home in South Carolina in 1975. The performance includes harmonica solos, songs, a parody of a chanted sermon, folktales and reminiscences, and three buck dances.

A clip from this film appeared in Jean-Piere Jeunet's popular French feature *Amelie*. *Born for Hard Luck* is available on DVD from Davenport Films.

Music Culture: USA, Medicine Show and Blues

Director, & Cameraperson: Tom Davenport

Producers: Tom Davenport, Allen Tullos & Dan Patterson

Original film Language: English with strong African American Dialect

Filmmakers' Country: USA

Invited film

'The Experience of Traditional Music in Oman' (2015) Duration 15'



This documentary film examines/explores the role that traditional music plays in contemporary Omani society. The music is placed in a larger context through ethnographic interviews, field recordings and examples shared with the author via social media. The film was the final project for a masters degree in ethnomusicology from City University, London, generously funded by The Robert Anderson Research Charitable Trust.

Music Culture: Omani traditional music

Director, Writer, Cameraperson & Producer: Peter Hudston

Original Film language: English

Filmmaker's country: England, UK.

Competition Film

'Outlangish – Skateboarding against poverty' (2014) Duration 9'



Outlangish is a South African social project that offers kids in disadvantaged areas in Cape Town an alternative to life on the streets through skateboarding. The sport of skateboarding gives them the opportunity to learn a lot about themselves and their environment. It unifies young people and keeps them in positive spirits.

Music Culture: South African, Townships

Director, Writer, Cameraperson & Cameraman: Tim Drabant

Original Film language: English

Filmmaker's country: Germany

Competition Film

Third Show 3.00 – 5.00

'Unison' (1992) Duration 4'



During the time of simmering Hindu-Muslim tensions in India that erupted after the destruction of the Babri Mosque in Ayodhya, the Masuds made this short animated film to appeal for religious unity. The Masuds spent months researching religious symbolism at the Regenstein Library of the University of Chicago, utilizing their extensive Religious Studies collection. Hundreds of photocopied images were transposed as graphic symbols and animated through metamorphosis. The entire process was done using computer animation software, which was in its infancy. The soundtrack was created with a complex layering of religious chants and prayers, all original recordings using Hindu priests, Buddhist monks, Muslim clerics, and early Christian singers living in the Chicago area.

Music Culture: Multicultural

Directors: Catherine Masud & Catherine Masud

Filmmaker's country: Bangladesh and USA

Invited film

'Sarangi Mero-Sarangi Timro, My Sarangi-Your Sarangi' (2016)
Duration 30'



This film focuses on the dynamics between caste, social position and cultural practice amongst the *music-making Gandharba* caste, a community that has historically been marginalised as *Untouchables* or *Dalits* in Nepal. With an examination of the interaction between the *Sarangi* and the *Gandharbas*, we witness a successful channelling of articulate imaginaries that emanate from an awareness of social and cultural history and economic opportunity. It further seeks to elucidate the complex and myriad ways in which individuals or societies are realised and cognised, negotiated or enforced, manifested or obscured, reproduced or altered, through the realm of objects-, which in this case is the *Sarangi* (*a violin like musical instrument*).

All footage used in this film was shot between April-June 2014 (only with the use of a *Gopro Camera*, hence the fish eye wide angle), during fieldwork in Nepal as part of my MA programme in Cultural Anthropology & Development Sociology from Leiden University, Netherlands.

Music Culture: Nepali

Director, Writer, Cameraperson & Producer: Bhokraaj Gurung

Original Film languages: Nepali

Filmmaker's country: England, UK

Competition Film

'A Mexican Sound' (2013) Duration 13'



The film explores the traditions music and dance of Son Huasteco. The beautiful Huastecan sound (*son huasteco*) has echoed from the mountains of north-east Mexico for more than a century. On Sundays, people meet in town squares to dance and stomp to the explosive violin solos and driving guitar rhythms that make this music so unique. Son huasteco continues to flourish here despite two decades of globalization and mass migration to the United States. From the award-winning director of *The Other Side of Immigration*, a documentary that explores the wonders of this vibrant musical tradition.

Music Culture: Son Huasteco

Director, Writer, Producer & Cameraperson: Roy Germano

Original Film language: Spanish

Filmmaker's country: USA

Competition Film

'Danza de los Gigantes. Prodigio de los Sanfermines/Dance of the Giants. The Wonder of the Sanfermines Festivities.' (2014) Duration 74'



“Dance of the Giants” uncovers the magic that is within the festivities. It is a testimonial and social account of the Sanfermines (the festivities celebrating Saint Fermin) of Pamplona told through a group of legendary personalities of papier-mâché, who come to life each year through dance, fantasy and collective memory.

Music Culture: Pamplona, Spain

Director, Writer & Producer: Domingo Moreno

Camerapersons: Sebastián Vanneville & Domingo Moreno

Original Film languages: Spanish and Euskera

Filmmaker's country: Spain

Competition Film

Friday 25th November 2016

Dedication: Biju Toppo and Meghnath

First Show 10.00 – 12.00 am

'On the Rumba River' (2008) Duration 82'



Along the Congo river sails a boat which never sank. A boat called Rumba. At the helm, Papa Wendo, 82 years young, continues to sing his Rumba, the irresistible music that sets alight the eyes of dancers, and conjures up soft and sad nostalgia.

At the end of 2004, and perhaps for the last time, Wendo went back into the recording studio as part of “On the Rumba River”, a film about Wendo directed by Jacques Sarasin.

Music Culture: Rumba, Democratic Republic of Congo

Director, Writer, & Producer: Jacques Sarasin

Cameraperson: Remon Fromont

Original Film language: Lingala

Filmmaker's country: France

Invited film

'The Journey Home: Glimpses of the Rajasthan Kabir Yatra, 2012'
(2015) Duration 30'



The desert is an ideal place to slip within, when the eye has almost nothing external to grasp and so some of us carried out two journeys within this one. We traversed long, lonely desert roads, but also trod a bit on the dark, frightening path within, aided by the power of song. The 'marubhumi' – 'difficult terrain' or even 'land of death' – it is an appropriate setting for a poetry that talks of dying to be born, to live, to be free.

'The Journey Home' shares glimpses of the Rajasthan Kabir Yatra, a rambunctious, melodic and feisty traveling festival of Bhakti, Sufi and Baul poetry, which toured 7 villages of the Bikaner region with 13 singers in February 2012. The Yatris and singers were warmly hosted by villages en-route – Momasar, Napasar, Jamsar, Pugal, Jageri Dhuni, Diyatara and Bikaner. The yatra was the joyful and vibrant initiative of Gopal Singh Chouan, who worked with his Lokayan teammates (www.lokayan.org), a diverse band of volunteers and Kabir Project, Bangalore to make this festival possible.

Music Culture: Jharkandi, India

Director: Shabnam Virmani

Writer: Gopal Singh Chouan

Camerapersons : Smriti Chanchani & Aparthy Parthasarathy

Producer: Kabir Project Bangalore & Lokayan, Bikaner

Original Film languages: Rajasthani and Hindi

Filmmaker's country: Rajasthan India

Competition Film

Lunch 12.00 – 1.00 pm

Second Show 1.00 – 3.00 am

'Gadi Lohardaga Mail' (2007) Duration 27'



A film with nostalgic songs, that entwines the pathos of the peoples' struggle for survival and the end of a narrow gauge train. The train made its last journey in January 2004 after plying between Ranchi and Lohardaga for almost a century and this film is the only visual document of this little wonder of the past.

A city market like Ranchi is flooded with video album of songs, sung in the regional language but which are only imitations of Bollywood and MTV rather than the traditional music of the area.

We felt a need to produce a socially relevant musical record, and this film is a result of that. All 5 songs in the documentary are the best popular hit songs of 70's and 80's and are sung by the original singer and composer. The songs conform to the traditional folk style of the region.

Music Culture: Jharkandi, India

Directors and Camerapersons: Biju Toppo & Meghnath

Cameraperson: Biju Toppo

Editor: Ajit Kumar

Producer: Meghnath

Original Film Language: Nagpuri (link language of Jharkand)

Filmmakers' country: India

Invited film

'Mridangam Construction' (2006) Duration 29'



This audio visual documentary was created for didactic purposes and contains recordings made during fieldwork. This part, dedicated to the construction and repair of the instrument, was recorded entirely in the studio of the luthier Suresh P. in Trivandrum/Thiruvananthapuram (the capital of the Indian state of Kerala)

Music Culture: Indian

Director, Writer, & Cameraperson: Enrique Cámara De Landa Producer:

University of Valladolid

Original Film language: English

Filmmaker's country: Spain

Competition Film

'Kola San Jon' (2013) Duration 15'



Kola San Jon is an ethnographic documentary about a Cape-Verdean musical practice in Portugal and the transatlantic life of its protagonists in the Portuguese neighbourhood “Kova M”. The Film was made for the application of Kola San Jon (a Cape Verdean music and dance performance) to the Portuguese Inventory of Intangible Cultural Heritage.

Music Culture: Cape Verde/Portugal

Directors, : Ana Flávia Miguel & Rui Oliveira

Writer & Producer: Ana Flávia Miguel

Camerapersons: Nuno Ricou, Rui Simões, Ana Flávia, Miguel, Teodoro Ribeiro, Celso Lopes & Rui Oliveira

Original Film language: Portuguese

Filmmaker's country: Portugal

Competition Film

'Red Ochre-the last Guards of the Holy Fire' (2016) Duration 30'



"Red Ochre - the Last Guards of the Holy Fire" is a documentary film about the rapid dying of a centuries-old culture: The Himba tribe in Northern Namibia.

Since the 16th century the nomads populated, in widespread collectives, the region around river Kunene in Northwest Namibia. Up to today, many Himba try to keep their traditional way of life, though climate change, governmental development projects and the pursuit of westernisation by the younger generations are putting their culture in great danger. At the holy fire chief Hivazako Hembinda tells of the spiritual wealth of a culture that will soon disappear.

Music Culture:

Directors, Writers, Camera persons & Producers: Tim Drabant & Fanon Kabwe

Original Film language: Herero

Filmmaker's country: Germany

Competition Film

Third Show 3.00 – 5.00

'The Face Behind the Mask' (2015) Duration 54'



Weaving between past and present, performances and daily routine, the film focuses on the life and struggle of Shashadhar Acharya, the fifth generation of a family of traditional Chhau dancers of Seraikella. Chhau derives its name from "Chavani" meaning cantonment, as it originated from the King's barracks.

Masks are an integral part of Chhau, leading the performer through a series of meditative experiences, and allowing the dancer to become one with the character.

How does Shashadhar relate to the tradition he was born into? What meaning does it have for him at this stage in his life?

Music Culture: Chhau dance, Jarkanda, India

Director: Nirmal Chander Dandriyal

Producer: Films Division of India

Camerapersons: K U Mohanan & Nirmal Chander Dandriyal

Original Film languages: Hindi and Oriya

Filmmaker's country: India

Competition Film

'Bluegrass Roots' (1965) Duration 60'



This is the 1st TV Special (1964) shot documentary style in the Mountain of North Carolina. It follows Old Man Bascom Lunsford as he casts the talent for his Asheville Mountain Music Festival (also the first such event). "Bluegrass Roots" presents a who's who of the most extraordinary singers, players and dancers the Bluegrass Mountains had to offer. Many later became famous. Songs Include: Groundhog, Johnson Boys, East Virginia Blues, Twinkle Twinkle Little Star, Blue Ridge Mountain Blues, and Heavenly Light is Shinning On Me.

Music Culture: Bluegrass, USA

Director, Writer, Cameraperson & Producer: David Hoffman

Original Film language: English

Filmmaker's country: USA

Competition Film

'The Unbearable Whiteness of Being' (2016) Duration 6'



The Joy of Sound's music workshop at the institute for people with learning disabilities in Bosnia fuses with the rhythms and sounds of old Bosnian folk songs and dances.

Music Culture: Bosnian

Director & Cameraperson: Vesna Marich

Producer: William Longden

Original Film languages: Bosnian and English

Filmmaker's country: England, UK / Bosnia and Herzegovina

Competition Film

Saturday 26th November 2016

Dedication: Guddi Pant and Jaya Raj Pant

First Show 10.00 – 12.00 am

'Gravel Springs Fife & Drum' (1971) Duration 11'

A Film by David Evans, Bill Ferris, Judy Peiser



"A compelling and award-winning portrait of Othar Turner, his music and their role in the Gravel Springs community. The film not only demonstrates how to make a cane fife, but also gets to the heart of both Turner and his fife and drum music as he's shown performing at an annual Fourth of July picnic. Quick cuts between dancing band members and the rhythmic movements of Turner's family going about their daily chores capture the mounting excitement and provide a rare, revealing glimpse of the work and play that characterise this traditional rural Mississippi society."

Music Culture: Fife and Drum Music, Memphis/Delta region, USA

Directors: Judy Peiser, Bill Ferris & David Evans

Cameraperson; Bill Ferris

Editor: Judy Peiser

Sound: David Evans

Original Film languages: English

Filmmaker's country: USA

Competition Film

'Banjo Romantika' (20) Duration 56'



Banjo Romantika introduces the musicians who play this unique bluegrass hybrid. Czechs first heard bluegrass during World war II when the armed forces network broadcast American music for soldiers. Inspired by classic American bluegrass sounds, an assortment of musicians from across the former communist Czech Republic have melded the past, the political and the present into a lively musical tradition of its own.

Music Culture: American Bluegrass Music and the Czech imagination

Director & Cameraperson: Shara Lange

Writer: Lee Bidgood

Producers: Lee Bidgood & Shara Lange

Original Film languages: Czech and English

Filmmaker's country: USA

Competition Film

'The Jewel in the Cobra's Head' (2016) Duration 28'



An ancient legend tells of a precious jewel (*ratna*) in the cobra's head. The cobra or *naga* is frequently depicted with multiple heads, 3, 5, 7, 9, or 11 and it is commonly believed that a jewel is embedded in each hood. We believe that Lord Krishna has a very special relationship with cobras because it is told that he danced on the cobra Kaliya, leaving his footprint on Kaliya's head and that it was Krishna's flute that taught all cobras to dance so well. The *naga* is also symbolic of life energy or *Kundalini* power. This film features the Baansuri (flute) player Ratna Bahadur BK and between his renditions of favourite traditional Nepali melodies we learn the brief outline of his young life and his struggles to become a musician. He is accompanied by Master Drummer Prem Dev Giri, playing *Maadal* and Bikash BK playing *Chhumchhum*.

Music Culture: Nepali

Director, Writer, & Producer: Prem Dev Giri

Cameraperson: Rajesh Khanal

Original Film language: Nepali

Filmmaker's country: Nepal

Competition Film

'Naulin Bhadrakali Jatra' (2016) Duration 17'



This documentary was filmed at the festival of The Goddess Naulin Bhadrakali in Budhanilkantha, believed to be the oldest representation of Goddess Kali in The Kathmandu Valley. The festival, which takes place in springtime, lasts for 7 days and several villages in the area take part. Each village brings their own goddess in procession, on a palanquin or chariot to the temple of Naulin Bhadrakali. Musicians, during the processions and throughout the festival, play music for the goddesses. An important part of the festival is the Pancha Bali ritual in which 5 animals, Buffalo, Sheep, Goat, Cock and duck are sacrificed. Citizens return to their own village with their goddess on the seventh day.

Music Culture: Nepali

Director, Writer & Cameraperson: Ram K. Shrestha

Producer: Mangal Das Shrestha

Original Film language: Nepali

Filmmaker's country: Nepal

Competition Film

Lunch 12.00 – 1.00 pm

Second Show 1.00 – 3.00 am

'A Bohemian Musician' (20) Duration 13'



Keshav Lal the subject of this film, has worked with legendary composers such as Laxmikant Pyarelal and filmmakers like V. Shantaram . Fate bought him to the streets of Pune where he lived with his wife and together they played music to sustain their livelihood.

The story of the film is about the power of hope and optimism; one of the biggest assets of human life. It also portrays the strong bond between husband and wife which remains unscathed even in the most adverse situation.

This film " A Bohemian Musician" is my first documentary experience ever.

Music Culture: Indian street Musician, Pune

Director & Writer: Rochak Sahu

Cameraperson: Sagar

Producer: FTII Pune

Original Film language: Hindi

Filmmaker's country: India

Competition Film

'Gori Daneko Chaitelo' (2058 BS (2001)) Duration 43'



In Chaitra month, March/April, The last month of the Nepali year, parents in Baitadi District in the Far Western Region of Nepal observe an annual tradition wherein they invite their married daughters back to the home of their birth. The daughter is feasted with special tasty foods and receives gifts from her parents and brothers to take back to her husbands home. The tradition is known as Chaitelo or Bhitauli and includes a performance of an epic poem, Gori Daneko Chaitelo, by the Damai peoples in each village. In this film, three people take part in the performance; the lead singer, Sobi Hudke, his wife who dances and his son supporting. All of these people belong to the Hudke caste. The singer relates the 11 chapters of the epic, in song, accompanying himself on the *Hudko*, and the performance may last several days. The words of the poem urge us to show love and respect to all living things in order to maintain harmony in the world but the story, contained within, is a tale of tragedy whose main characters are Gori Dana and her brother Sade Wala. Gori Dana's husband has died, leaving her a widow, so she is full of grief when invited back to her parents home, by her brother.

Music Culture: Baitadi District, Nepal

Director, Writer & Producer: the late Prof. Dr Jaya Raj Pant

Cameraperson: Unknown

Original Film Language: Doteli

Filmmakers' Country: Nepal

Invited film

'Kami Nach, The Sword Dance of the Blacksmiths in Nepal' (2015)
Duration 14'



According to Hindu beliefs the God Bishwokarma, was responsible for making weapons and tools for the gods at a time when gods and daemons were at war and his skills enabled the gods to gain victory over the daemons. Bishwokarma is still worshiped today particularly by craftsmen and artisans. All skilled metalsmiths in Nepal belong to the Kami cast and these days all have adopted the family name Bishwokarma in homage to this god. The film Kami Naach is about a traditional, sword and shield dance from Jumla which is performed in memory of a famous Kami, Purichandra Tiruwa Kami who was the Military chief of King Bali of Jumla. The King (crowned in 1461) had a great respect for his Army chief and requested that the Kami people live near his palace. The dance is performed at various important life ceremonies including those of birth and marriage but not at death.

Music Culture: Nepali

Directors & Writers: D B Nepali & J.B. Bishwokarma

Cameraperson: Bijaya Pariyar

Producers: Nepal Folk Cultural Research Foundation and Nepal Naumati-Panchaibajai Foundation

Original Film language: Nepali

Filmmaker's country: Nepal

Competition Film

'All Day & All Night: Memories of Beale Street Musicians' (1991)
Duration 30'



A film documenting Musicians: B. B. King, Rufus Thomas, and others for whom Beale Street in Memphis, Tennessee USA was a musical college where musicians of the 1940s and 1950s learned from one another about Beale Street, its music and its history. Musicians share their music, stories and what Beale Street and its music meant to them.

Blues legends B. B. King, Rufus Thomas, and many friends play jam sessions and tell stories about Beale Street's heyday; revealing the love and respect musicians had, and still have for each other. Beale Street in Memphis like Bourbon Street in New Orleans, Auburn Avenue in Atlanta, Maxwell Street in Chicago and 125th Street in New York City's Harlem were the streets in America that were places where African American music and culture was strong in a segregated South. Musicians learned from one another birthing blues and jazz. This film shared the love and learning that these musicians had for one another.

Music Culture: Blues and Jazz, Southern States of USA

Directors: Robert Gordon, Louis Guida

Cameraperson: Renee Koopman

Editor: Robert Gordon

Producer: Judy Peiser

Original Film language: English

Filmmaker's country: USA

Invited film

'Thailand Moment' (Shot in 1967, edited and released in 2015)

Duration 11'

Thailand Moment (An unfinished film by Les Blank and Skip Gerson made in 1967 in lieu of filming the B52 bombing raids of Vietnam). In 1967 Les Blank and Skip Gerson were hired to work in Thailand on a documentary about the B52 bomber and the bombing campaigns to Vietnam. The producer had difficulty getting government permission to board the plane, and weeks went by in limbo while Les & Skip were on a payroll with nothing to do so they travelled around and filmed what interested them. They made side trips to Chiang Mai, but otherwise focused in and around Bangkok. Ultimately, permission was never granted to board the bombers and the work for hire was scrapped.



In one of Les' earliest independent films, his style and 'voice' are apparent. There is no narration or interviews or sync sound. The film is simply a moment in time, to express the feeling of being there. The music which was played by a blind homeless musician, brought tears to both Les and Skipper's eyes while they recorded him. Unfortunately Les had run out of film and thus all that was captured was the audio. He had created the head title art work and left behind a rough edited work print which editor Ben Abrams and producer Harrod Blank elaborated upon. It is likely that Les had put this project on the shelf since another project became much more important, "The Blues Accordin' To Lightnin' Hopkins," Les' early film that would launch his career as a filmmaker

Music Culture: Thailand

Directors and Camerapersons: Les Blank & Skip Gerson

Editor: Ben Abrams

Producer: Harrod Blank

Filmmakers' country: USA

Invited film

Award Ceremony 15.00 – 16.00 approx
Live Music Concert 16.00 – 17.00 approx

“Films are a powerful and evocative tool for fostering understanding & tolerance in the world”

- Nelson Mandela

6th International Folk Music Film Festival - 2016
Kathmandu Nepal 24-26 November



Guddi Pant and Jaya Raj Pant