

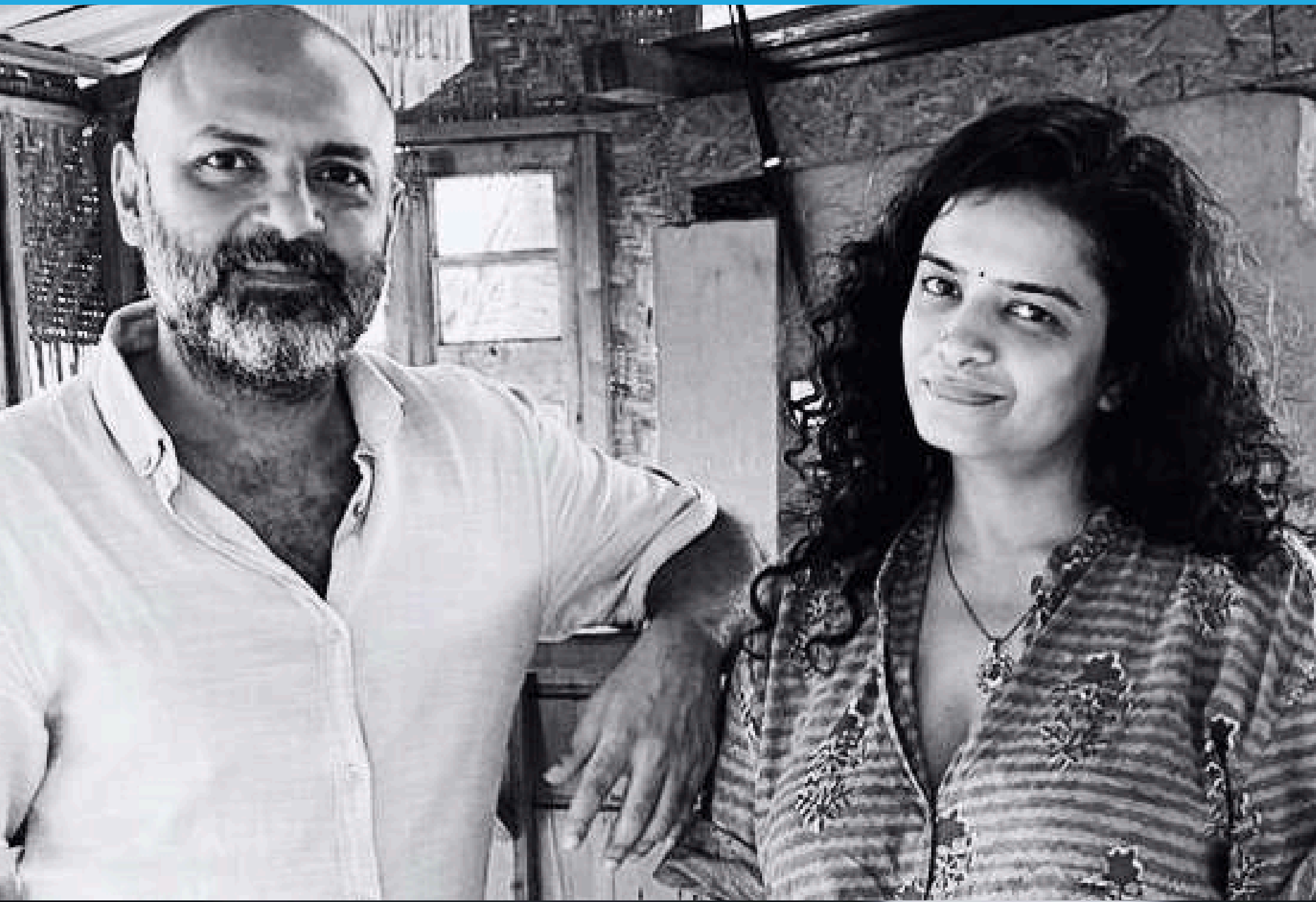
LIVE PROGRAM



FESTIVAL
2026
20-25 FEB



CURATORS



Nariyal Paani - Music Curators

Since 2015, the project has created immersive performances that celebrate sound, place, and community, presenting both Indian and international artists with care and attention.

Founded by Tanvi Gupta and Siddhanth Kapoor in Alibaug, Nariyal Paani transformed open-air, seaside spaces into platforms for discovery and shared listening. Now based in Goa and led by Tanvi Gupta and Ayudh Roy, the project continues to produce music events that prioritize atmosphere, engagement, and thoughtful curation.



Sachin Chatte - Film Curator

Sachin Chatte returns as the Film Curator for Goa Open Arts Festival 2026, continuing his long-standing association with the festival. With over three decades of film criticism behind him, Sachin has consistently guided audiences through cinema with insight, curiosity, and a deep love for the medium.

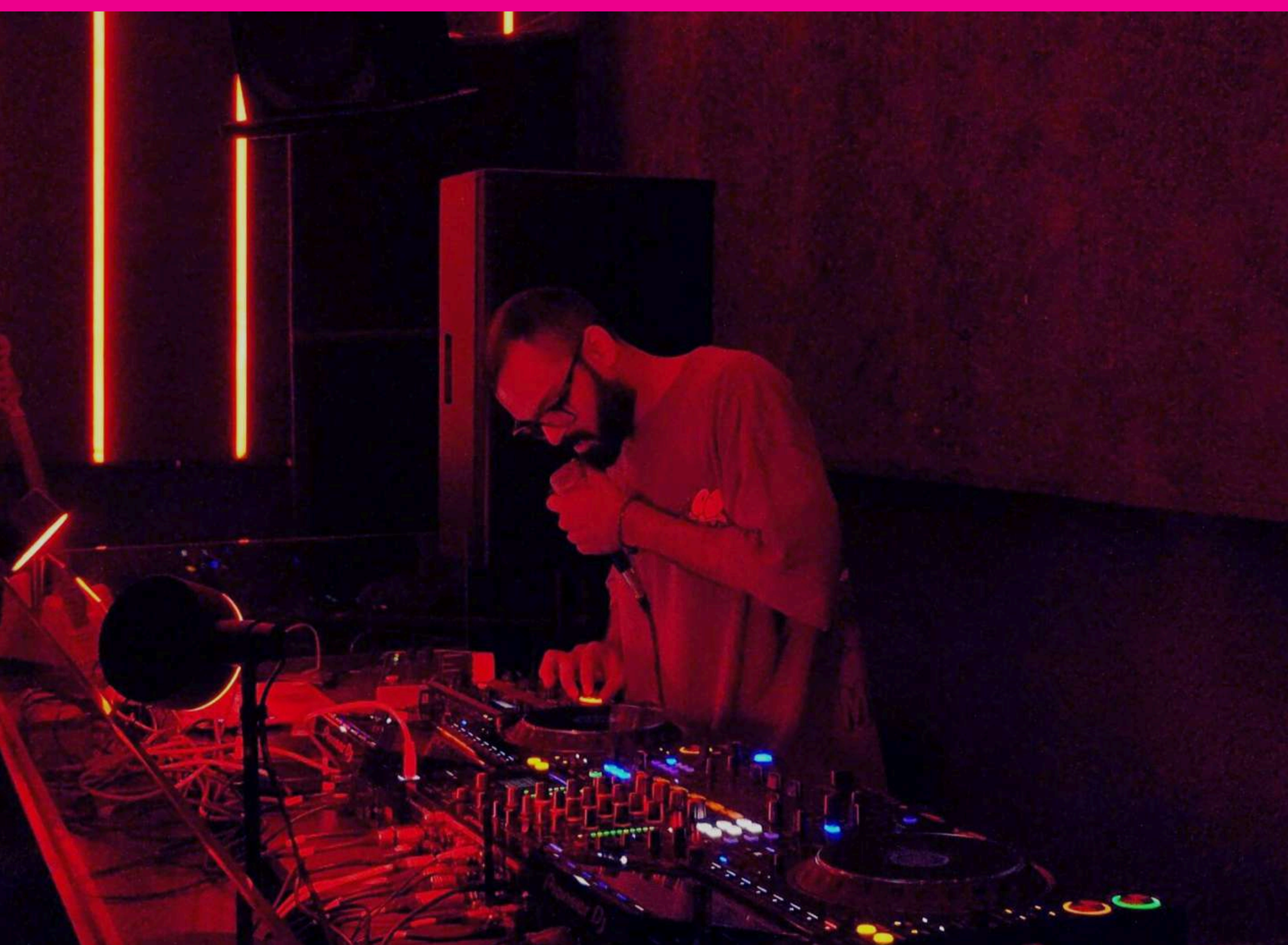
Based in Goa, Sachin has been a film critic since 1993 and a longtime contributor to The Navhind Times. A member of FIPRESCI, he has curated films for the Cinephile Film Club under the Entertainment Society of Goa and served on several film juries, bringing a deep critical lens to cinema.



Avril Stormy Unger - Queer As In... Curator

Avril Stormy Unger is a performance and live artist with a multi-sensory, experience-based approach. Her practice is informed by personal experience, using the body in and as a process of healing recurrent trauma. Working through themes of queerness, gender, sexuality, abuse, religious oppression, and patterned behaviours within the cultural contexts she navigates, she locates the language for her work.

CURATED BY NARIYAL. PAANI



20 FEB | 6.15 - 7.00 pm

Sheldon Fonseca

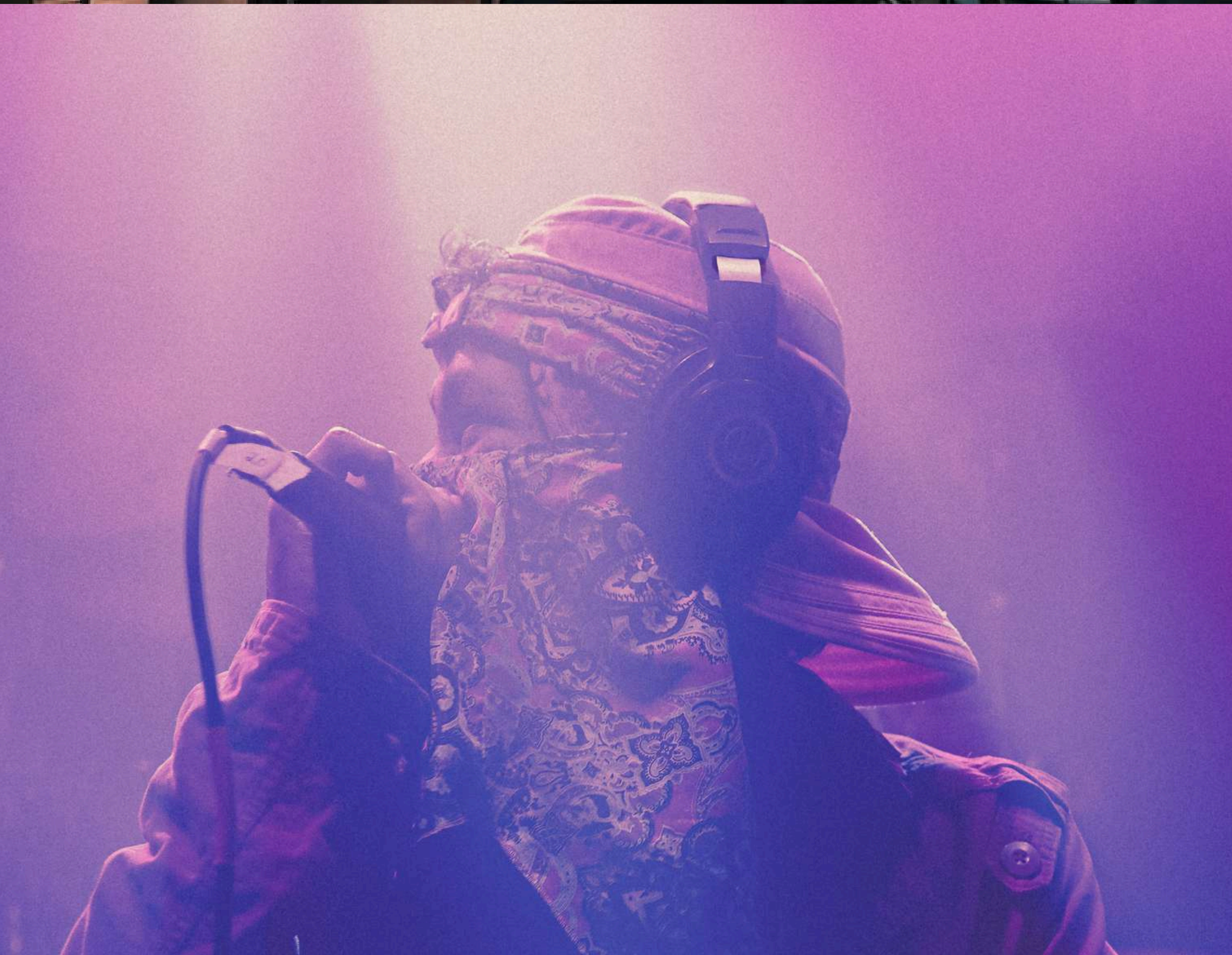
Sheldon Fonseca is a singer, songwriter, music producer, and performer whose work blends heartfelt storytelling with experimental soundscapes. Known for his evocative covers, original compositions, and impromptu live sets, Sheldon brings an element of spontaneity and raw emotion to every performance.



20 FEB | 7.15 - 8.10 pm

The Banjara Trio

Banjara Trio has been playing gypsy jazz for over 13 years. The genre originated in 1930s France, pioneered by Django Reinhardt and Stéphane Grappelli, and remains a rare and niche musical style. Banjara Trio was the first band in the country dedicated to this genre. Though based in Goa, the trio performs widely across the country.



20 FEB | 8.30 - 10.00 pm

The Lojal Experience

Formed in 2019 as a solo project, Lojal (pronounced Loyal) quickly emerged as a promising name on the Indian independent circuit. Even before releasing major music, he built momentum through extensive independent tours across India, sharing stages and collaborating with key figures in the scene. His debut album "Phase" (2020) received strong critical acclaim, including **Rolling Stone's Top 5 Indian Albums of 2020**, along with recognition from platforms like Wild City, Homegrown, and Lifted Asia.

OLD GMC, PANJIM
FREE ENTRY!

MUSIC

CURATED BY NARIYAL. PAANI



21 FEB | 6.15 - 7.15 pm

Anika Bharwani

Anika Bharwani doesn't play by the rules. Leaving music college to carve her own path, she spent the next two years writing songs rooted in courage & vulnerability. Raised in Bombay and now based in Goa, her music reflects quiet introspection and raw honesty, exploring pain, healing, and the thoughts left unsaid. Inspired by artists like Lizzy McAlpine, Bon Iver, and Adrianne Lenker, her sound is intimate yet bold, driven by an unapologetic pursuit of truth. Bharwani is joined by her band—Kelvin Mathew (guitar), Risa Rodrigues (bass), Samarth Chawla (keys), and Leander Mascarenhas (drums).



21 FEB | 7.40 - 8.40 pm

Jazzmatazz

Hailing from the coastal haven (Goa), Jazzmatazz is a young band that kindles a profound passion for both classic jazz, funk and traditional Goan musical heritage. Melding these influences with a flair for improvisation, they have developed an unmistakably unique sound that is contemporary yet rooted. Their repertoire ranges from timeless Jazz and Bossa Nova to the groove of Funk-Jazz and nostalgic Konkani hits.



21 FEB | 9.00 - 10.00 pm

Mannequin Disorder

Mannequin Disorder is a Bangalore based Live Electronica duo, whose sound is often described as a combination of Synthwave Disco, Funk and Electro Rock.

Robotic vocal patches, analog synthesizer sounds, funk guitars and quirky synth bass lines have made the duo's music replete with the character of Synthwave Disco and the cheerful dissonance of Psychedelia.

**OLD GMC, PANJIM
FREE ENTRY!**

MUSIC

CURATED BY NARIYAL. PAANI



22 FEB | 6.00 - 7.00 pm

GJA Collective

GJA Collective: The Goa Jazz Academy Collective brings together faculty and students in a shared performance that reflects how music is learned and practiced at GJA. Drawing from jazz and contemporary traditions from around the world, the repertoire is shaped by musicians from across India, representing diverse backgrounds and musical voices. These performances emphasise ensemble playing, listening, and collaboration, offering a snapshot of the academy's belief that learning and live performance are deeply connected.



22 FEB | 7.20 - 8.10 pm

Bongisio ft Goanbyblood

Bongisio is an independent Konkani hip-hop artist who uses music as a tool for awareness, addressing social issues and real-life experiences with complete honesty and lived truth. Rooted in his own journey, his lyrics reflect the realities of community life and personal struggle.

Alongside his collective, GoanByBlood, Bongisio also drives initiatives such as food drives while promoting youth and women empowerment.



22 FEB | 8.30 - 10.00 pm

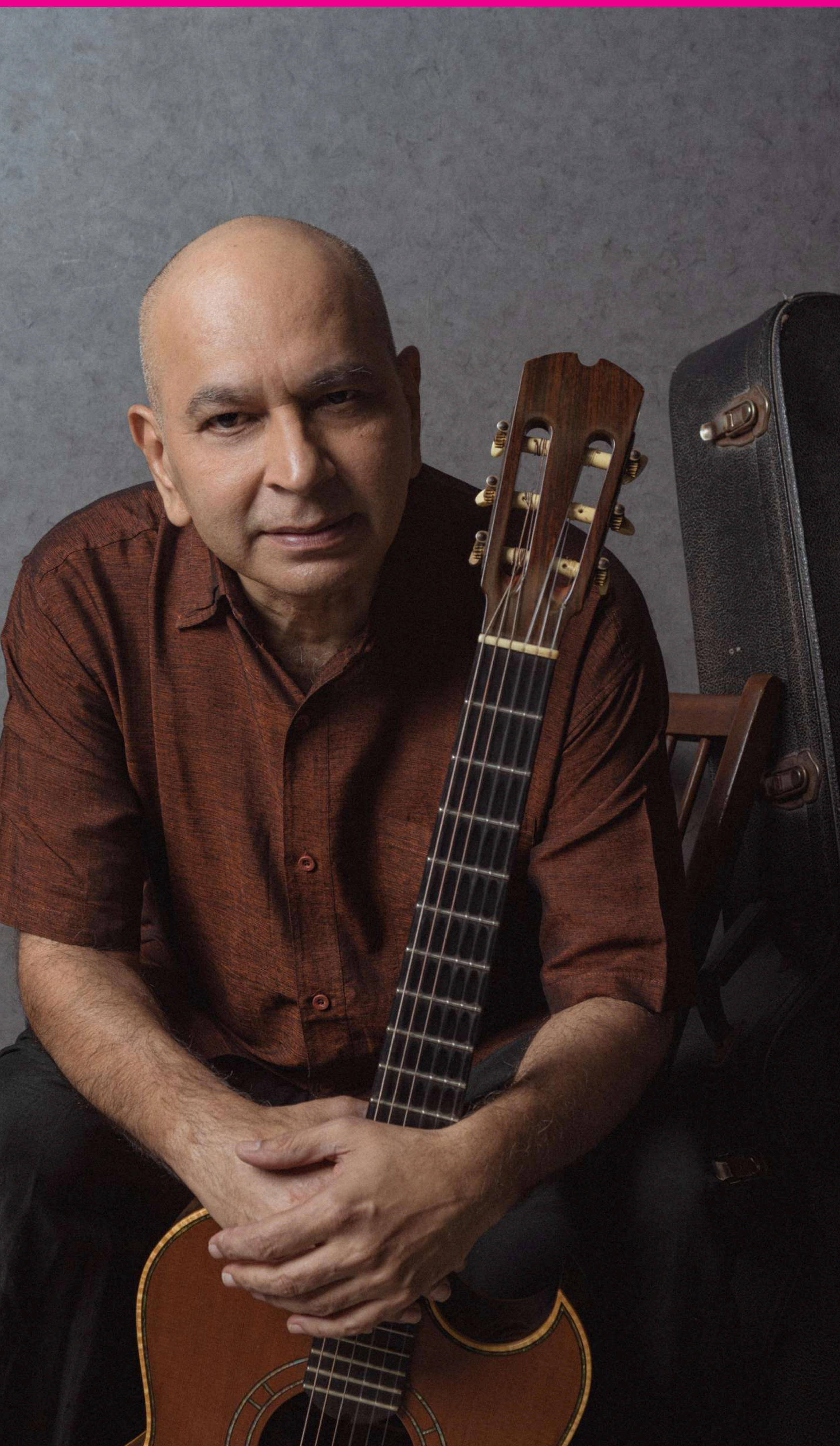
Shivam and the Gypsies

Shivam & The Gypsies is a high-energy Gypsy Balkan band that brings the soulful rhythms and melodies of the Balkans to life.

Comprising musicians from diverse backgrounds united by a shared passion for Balkan music, their sound fuses Gypsy folk, Balkan brass, contemporary styles, and Indian classical influences.



OLD GMC, PANJIM
FREE ENTRY!



22 FEB | 6.00 - 7.00 pm

Sanjay Divecha

Sanjay Divecha is one of the most revered guitar players in India. A unique and compelling voice as a player and composer, he is part of the hugely successful supergroup CROSS CURRENTS led by Zakir Hussain and featuring stalwarts such as Dave Holland, Vinnie Colaiuta, Chris Potter, Eddie Daniels, Shankar Mahadevan and Louiz Banks. Through a luminous 35 year long career, Sanjay has worked with artists such as Angelique Kidjo, Carlos Santana, Michael McDonald, Fred Raulston, Dave Weckl, Louis Johnson, Dumazz and Sambaguru among others. He also collaborated with A.R. Rahman on the Danny Boyle movie "127 Hours" that won 'Best Original Score', the OST for the movie "Woman on Top" with Argentinean composer Luis Bacalov, Sanjay also did the score for the movie 'Leela' by Somnath Sen which won a Special Jury Award at Toronto Reel World Film Festival. An alumnus (1989) from Musician's Institute (M.I) in Los Angeles, Sanjay continues to mentor and develop musicians all over the country. His students are not only guitar players, but musicians and singers of all disciplines. Sanjay teaches private lessons and holds workshops to develop musicality and a well rounded aesthetic sensibility in musicians.





20 FEB | 6.00 pm

Mai (16 mins)

Directed by Saujas Shetye
Konkani, Documentary, 2023

As the world quietly shifts around her, an ageing grandmother moves through memory and solitude, in a deeply personal portrait of love, loss, and the invisible threads that tie us home. The filmmaker poignantly captures his grandmother's daily life in her home in Goa, while offering a heartfelt exploration of themes such as ageing, belonging, community, intergenerational dynamics and loneliness.



20 FEB | 6.20 pm

Bread (11 mins)

Directed by Shruti Ranavade
English, Hindi, Konkani | Experimental, 2025

An idle young woman decides to go out on a breezy bicycle ride to buy dinner from a roadside diner. She has vital epiphanies while cycling on the quiet narrow roads of Goa, as she yearns for some connection with a mysterious neighbour. This intimate experimental short film attempts to push the boundaries of what can be considered cinema.



20 FEB | 6.30 pm

Straight Ahead (9 mins)

Directed by Sobita Kudtarkar
Konkani, Drama, 2025

Hidden beneath the weight of societal taboos lies the story of a couple, quietly navigating their path forward. What begins as a deep, beautiful bond gradually frays, not for lack of love, but because society becomes a convenient excuse. A battle against the world can be fought when two hearts are united. But what happens when one of them, hesitantly and fearfully, sides with the very world they wish to stand against?



Producer **Shubham Kudtarkar**
Story, Screenplay & Direction **Sobita Shaba Kudtarkar**
Dialogues **Shravan Fondekar** Cinematography **Amey Simepurushkar**
Sound Design **Saheel Shakeel** Background Music **Brandon Mendes**
Editing **Venkatesh P Lagji** Colorist **Geetesh Gawas**
Cast **Sobita Shaba Kudtarkar** **Vedika Walke** **Mandar Jog**

CURATED BY SACHIN CHATTE



20 FEB | 6.50 pm

Manu and the Goldfish (12 mins)

Directed by Studio Button

English, Student Fiction, 2025

In a time shrouded in mystery, a man named Manu discovers a small golden fish on the seashore. He decides to save her and take her home. The fish rapidly grows to enormous proportions, but Manu diligently cares for her. One day, the fish speaks in a human voice and warns her saviour of an impending disaster, providing him with survival instructions. Eventually, Manu and his team survive a terrible flood, but it seems no one truly understands why it all happened, how to prevent it from happening again, or what would have happened if the fish had not spoken in a human voice.



20 FEB | 7.30 pm

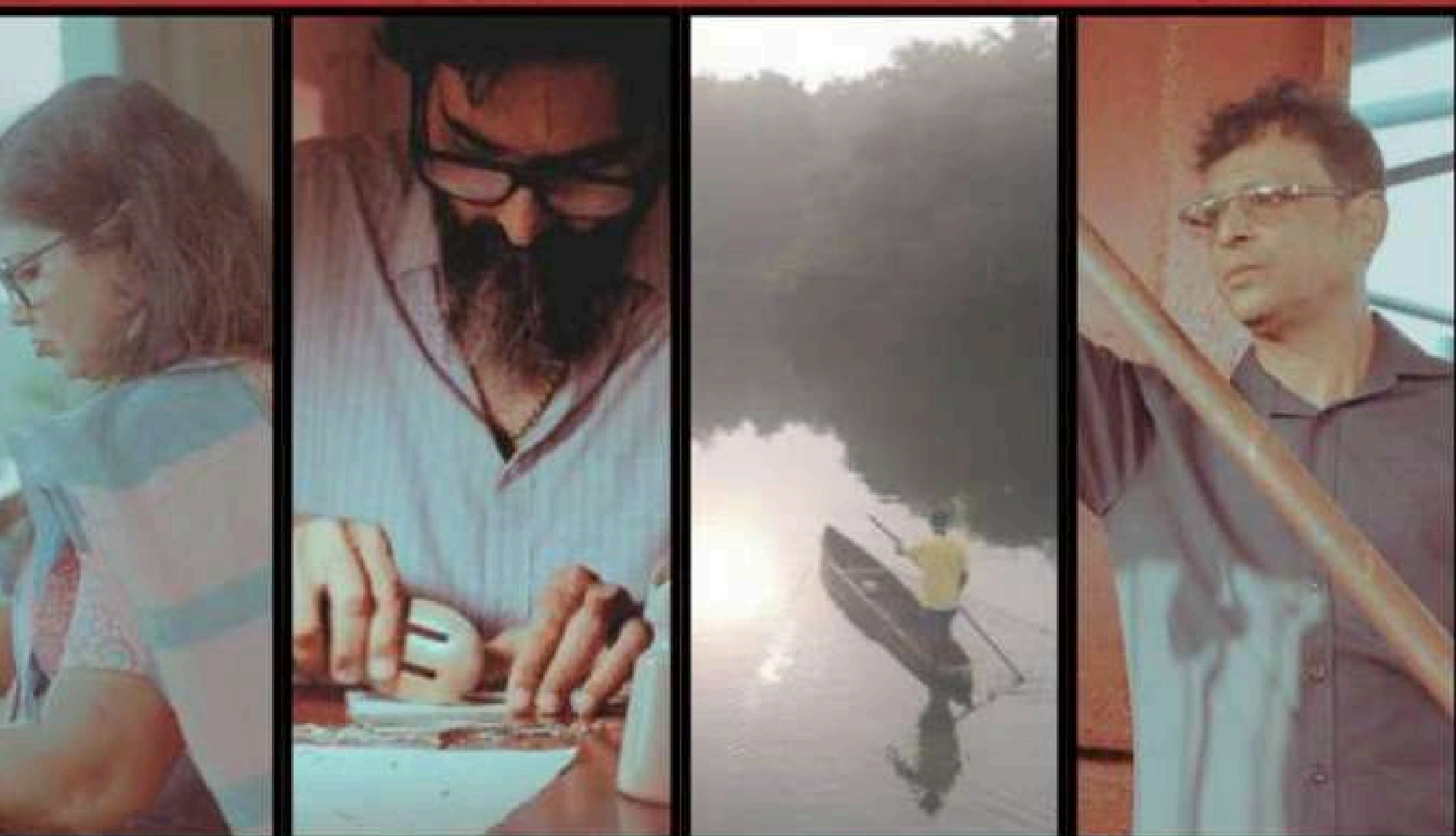
Turtle Walker (75 mins)

Directed by Taira Malaney

English,Hindi | Documentary, 2024

In the late 1970s, Satish Bhaskar embarked on an epic journey along India's coastline and the spectacular Andaman and Nicobar Islands, where he uncovered the vital nesting beaches of sea turtles. During his death-defying quest, he unravels mysteries surrounding these enigmatic ocean creatures – and sets out to save them from extinction. After a devastating tsunami strikes in 2004, Bhaskar grapples with a pressing question: What happens to sea turtles when their nesting beaches disappear?

MAQUINEZ PALACE, PANJIM
FREE ENTRY!



लाइटहाउस
LIGHTHOUSE

21 FEB | 10.30 am

People Like Us, in a place like this (20mins)

Directed by Lighthouse Academy

English, Hindi | Student Documentary, 2025

An anthology of short documentary films that turns its gaze toward the individuals who quietly shape the social, cultural, and emotional landscape of Goa. Through intimate portraits, the films explore how everyday lives become acts of resilience, creativity, and care. The stories move from the sea to the classroom, from riverbanks to print studios. Created by young filmmakers, it is both a love letter and a listening exercise.



FFK
WINNER
Alpavira
International Youth
Film Festival 2024
KASHI
WINNER
First Documentary Short
KASHI
OFFICIAL SELECTION
Dharambela
International Film
Festival 2024
OFFICIAL SELECTION
Kolkata People's
Film Festival
2024
THE QUEER
FILM
FESTIVAL
LONDON
HOFF 2023
DIRECTED BY LEO PAAPAM
PRODUCED BY SHRIDHAR SUDHIR
EDITOR SAKSHI | CAMERA LEO PAAPAM | MUSIC A BHASKAR RAO | ANIMATION ILLESHA

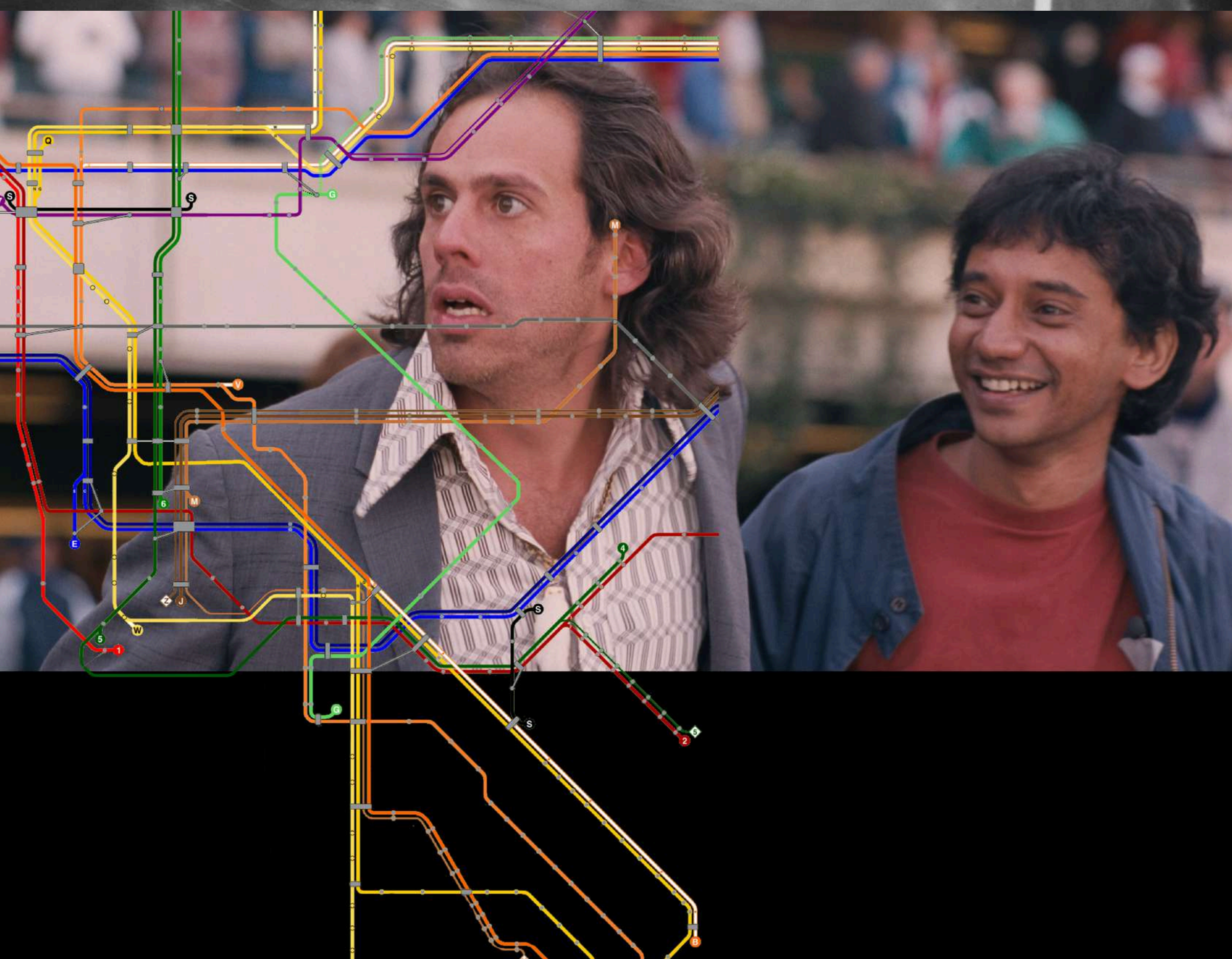
21 FEB | 11.15 am

Dear Sahitya (30mins)

Directed by Leo Paapam

English, Hindi, and Tamizh | Documentary, 2024

A tender filmic letter chronicling the transformative journey of Sahitya, a trans non-binary individual embracing their true self. The documentary intimately captures Sahitya's double incision mastectomy, a milestone in their quest for self-acceptance.



21 FEB | 12.00 pm

Karma Local (84 mins)

Directed by Darshan Bhagat

English, Comic Thriller, 1999

Bali is a young man working for his uncle at a NYC subway newsstand. While his uncle believes in honest work, Bali dreams of a more exciting life. As Bali agrees to do a favour for a regular customer, so begins his relationship with Charlie, a petty crook and a schemer, who takes Bali on a wild journey unravelling the mysteries of karma, where fortune is never what it seems.



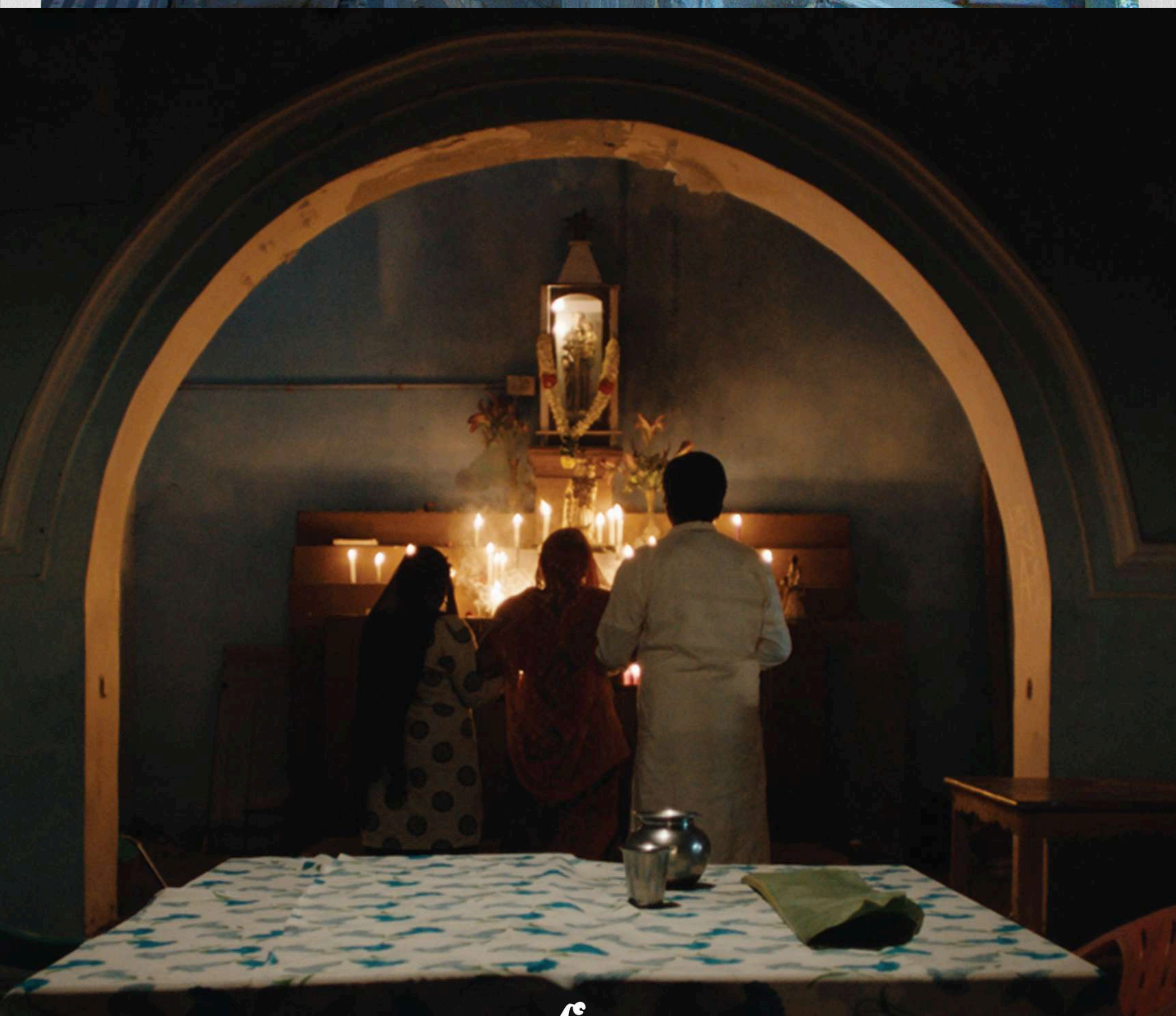
21 FEB | 5.00 pm

Letters from Wolf Street (100mins)

Directed by Arjun Talwar

Polish, English | Documentary, 2025

A street in downtown Warsaw transforms into a kaleidoscopic portrait of Polish society. Behind the viewfinder is an Indian immigrant, who seeks to overcome the boundaries between himself and an anxiety-ridden country.



21 FEB | 6.30 pm

Virundhu (25mins)

Directed by Rishi Chandana

Tamil, Drama, 2024

The film, inspired by the Pulicat Lake fisherwomen's October 2021 protest against the threats to the local biodiversity, tells the story of a prawn picker Mary who is distraught by the expanding ambitions of a factory where her daughter Josie works. It spews untreated effluents into the nourishing waters of her beloved lake. Caught between the risk of Josie losing her job and the prospect of losing the lake, Mary makes her choice with a desperate plan to convince fellow villager turned politician Thomas to stop the factory.



21 FEB | 7.30 pm

Manorama Six Feet Under (137mins)

Directed by Navdeep Singh

Hindi, Thriller/Crime, 2007

Manorama, the wife of an irrigation minister, tasks a junior engineer and part-time novelist, Satyaveer Randhawa, to find out if her husband is cheating. As Satyaveer starts investigating, he finds himself trapped in a web of lies and deception. In the desert, nothing is as it seems.

CURATED BY SACHIN CHATTE



22 FEB | 10.30 am

Ancessao (30mins)

Directed by Mangurish Bandodkar
Konkani, Drama, 2025

The film depicts the peculiar frame of mind of an old Goan lady living a lonely life in her village home. Her loneliness and the resulting anguish drive her to find solace by gossip mongering. She finds pleasure in meddling in the affairs of others but at times, she displays feelings of guilt too.



22 FEB | 11.15 am

Ful Ani Sauli (8mins)

Directed by Glen Cardozo
Konkani, Drama, 2025

In a quiet village, a young artist and a solitary woman form an unlikely bond over tea, sketches, and silence. As their connection deepens, strange echoes of familiarity emerge, blurring timelines and memory - revealing that some friendships may bloom across more than just distance or age.



22 FEB | 11.45 am

Taangh (Longing) (76mins)

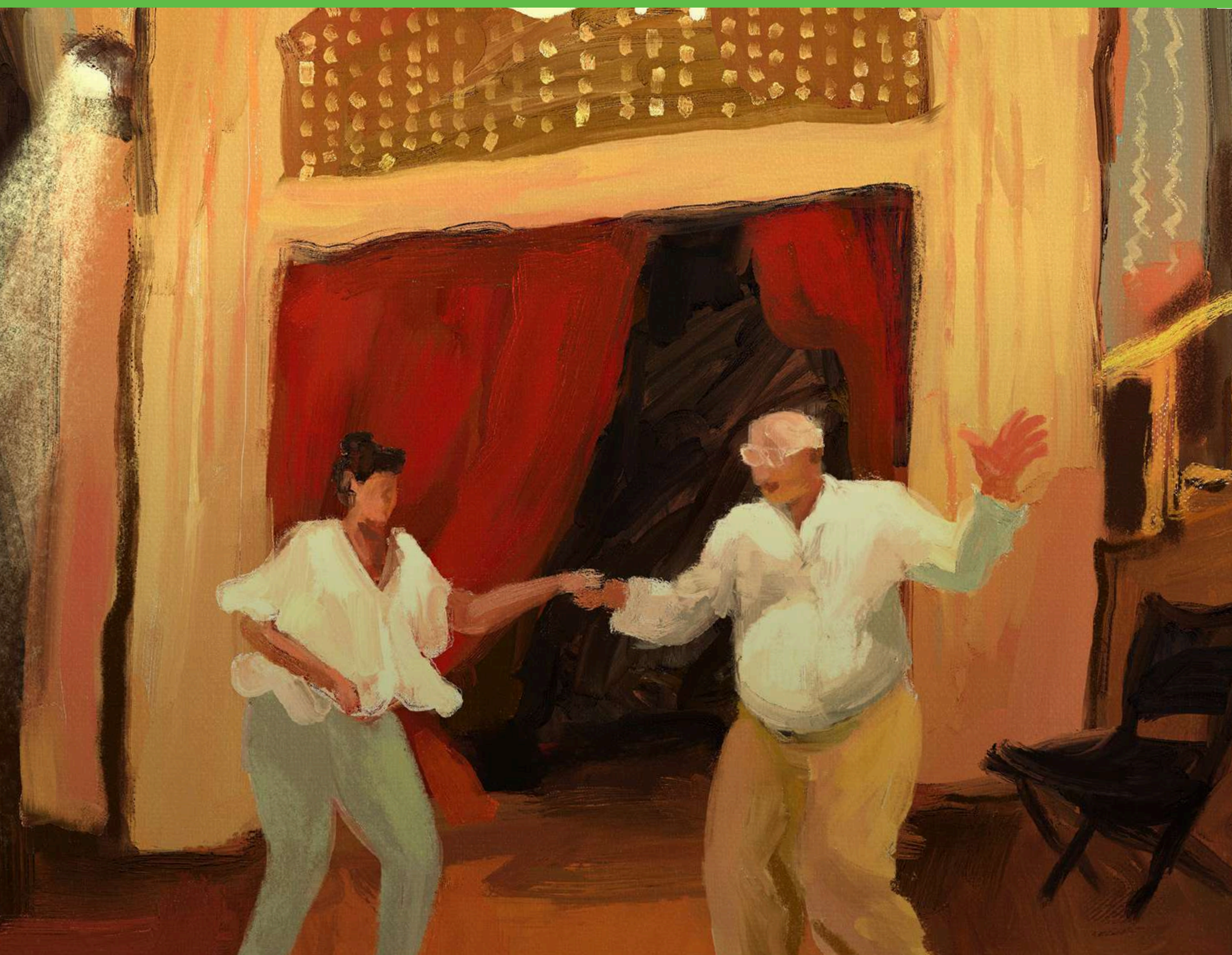
Directed by Bani Singh
English, Hindi, Punjabi | Documentary, 2022

A tale of triumph, loss and longing, Taangh takes us on intertwined journeys through the hockey pitch and across borders. It invites us to relive newly-independent India's triumph at the 1948 Olympics through the fading recollections of 2 hockey legends, before setting out on a search for their old friend and teammate whom they lost to Partition. Inspired by her ailing father (Nandy) and his indomitable spirit, Bani offers a compelling account, enriched by interviews, rare archival footage & snapshots of her own quest to piece together broken fragments.

MAQUINEZ PALACE, PANJIM
FREE ENTRY!

FILMS

CURATED BY SACHIN CHATTE



22 FEB | 5.00 pm

The Show Must Go On (60mins)

Directed by Divya Cowasji, Jall Cowasji

English, Hindi, Gujarati | Documentary, 2022

The ageing icons of Parsi Theatre are returning to the stage, putting aside their walking sticks for one final curtain call. Plunging into rehearsals, this documentary chronicles the resilience of a singular cast of characters and the bonds shared between the veteran stars and the youngsters, along with a distinct flavour of their sensibilities. The film debunks and celebrates old age.

22 FEB | 6.30 pm

Konso (15mins)

Directed by Sainath S.Uskaikar

Konkani & Hindi, Drama, 2023

Deepa, a devoted housewife, lives next door to Sunaina, whose kitchen is always filled with the irresistible aroma of her signature mutton curry. A vegetarian since birth, Deepa is drawn to this forbidden fragrance. As Sunaina prepares to leave the city, Deepa is faced with a quiet but profound choice to finally taste what she has only ever inhaled.



22 FEB | 6.50 pm

My Dad Invented The Vadapav (8mins)

Directed by Sainath S.Uskaikar

English, Documentary Comedy, 2025

Vada Pav, Mumbai's iconic street food, is more than just a snack—it's a symbol of the city's energy, unity, and resilience. The snack, which was created by Ashok Vaidya in the 1960s, perfectly matched Mumbai's fast pace and diverse spirit. Vada Pav became a unifier, enjoyed by everyone from labourers to professionals.



MAQUINEZ PALACE, PANJIM
FREE ENTRY!

CURATED BY SACHIN CHATTE



22 FEB | 7.00 pm

Scarecrow (Bujgavne) (15mins)

Directed by Akhil Lotlikar
Konkani, Drama, 2023

In a remote village in Goa, a caretaker of a farm struggles to deal with daily life after realising that the farm is going to be sold soon.



22 FEB | 7.30 pm

Jugnuma (120mins)

Directed by Raam Reddy
Hindi & English, Drama, 2024

Set in the late 1980s in the Himalayas, Jugnuma tells the story of Dev, a man whose life is turned upside down by a series of mysterious fires destroying his fruit orchards. As he struggles to stop the outbreaks, the escalating mystery forces him to confront not only the truth behind the blazes but also the long-hidden secrets of his family and his own past.

prspctvs MAXMEDIA

MAQUINEZ PALACE, PANJIM
FREE ENTRY!

PERFORMANCE

QUEER AS IN...CURATED BY
AVRIL STORMY UNGER



20 FEB | 4 - 8 PM

Fursat FM

Fursat FM has been releasing music quietly since 2018, beginning with a series of experimental Bandcamp releases. What started as a low-key, exploratory outlet has grown into a deeper practice rooted in slowness and sustained listening. Creating sonic landscapes that emerge through layers of field recordings, ambient music, noise, and improvisations on the clarinet, the project invites listeners to pause and reflect.



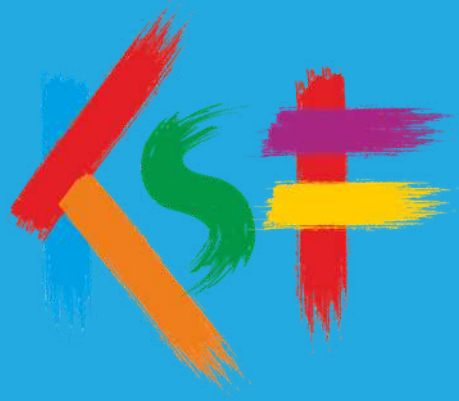
Axar N

Axar N. (they/them) is a poet, writer, and education consultant based currently in Goa, India. Their work has appeared in The Penguin Book Of Indian Poets, Witness: The Red River Book of the Poetry of Dissent, Poetry at Sangam, and Monsterring Mag, among others. Their first collection of poems, Beyond Survival, was published in 2015 by Condensed Matter Bindery and Press. Currently, they are working on their experimental prose novella, Hereinafter, which traces the story of Boy as she finds herself at the beginning of the world at the end of the world. They also sporadically run a newsletter called FEELED NOTES. They are interested in questions and answers of time, illness, madness, disability, outsideness, insideness, and love.



oysh

oysh is an transdisciplinary writer, performer, and media-maker whose work moves at the intersections of theatre, text, visual arts, and tech-based media. their practice is shaped by a queer feminist lens and often begins with lived experience, embodied archives, or documentary narratives. their works are process-led and research-driven, anchored in fieldwork, community dialogue, and deep attentiveness to material and embodied knowledge.

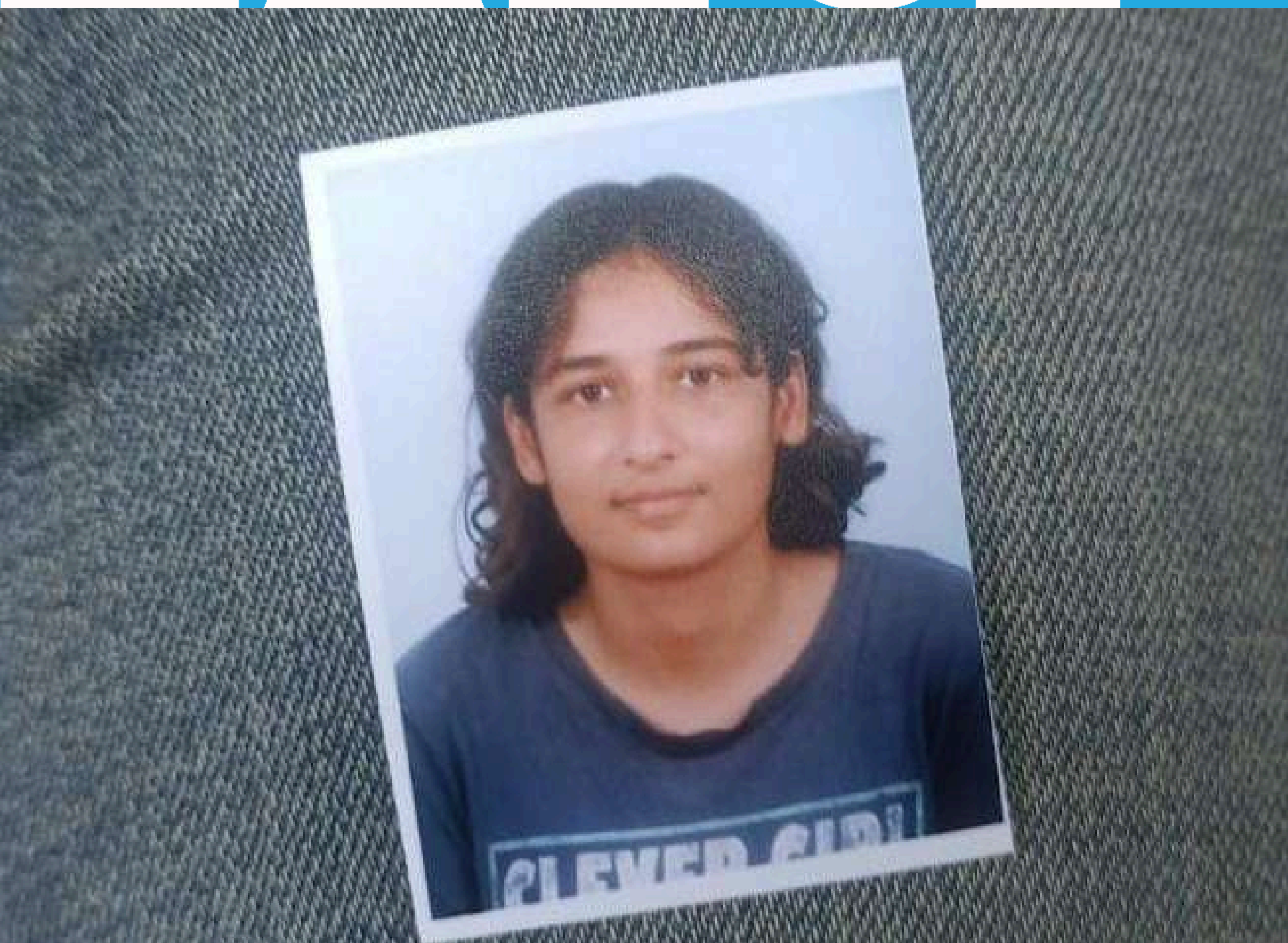


Programme Support:
Keshav Suri Foundation

OLD GMC, PANJIM
FREE ENTRY!

PERFORMANCE

QUEER AS IN...CURATED BY
AVRIL STORMY UNGER



20 FEB | 4 - 8 PM

Slackertendency

Slackertendency is a multidisciplinary designer and visual artist working at the intersection of motion, interaction, and playful experimentation. Her practice blends graphic design, animation, live coding, and spatial storytelling to create work that feels curious and tactile.



Sachi

Sachi's sound sits between jazz and restraint — softened with R&B and faint folk undercurrents. Moody, blues-leaning, and unhurried, his songwriting is a meditative, personal process. He doesn't decide what emerges; the music does, revealing intimate fragments of the self.



Brahma

Brahma is an artist and cultural practitioner working through movement practice and pedagogy. Their work is grounded in contemporary dance and extends into ritual-based and sonic enquiry, with a sustained interest in how memory and power are negotiated through the body.

As a gender non-binary artist, Brahma approaches artistic creation as a process of negotiating safety in lived and shared experience. Safety is understood not as a fixed condition but as an evolving practice of care and attention. This understanding shapes how their work is made and shared.

PERFORMANCE

QUEER AS IN...CURATED BY
AVRIL STORMY UNGER



Sumedh

Sumedh is a filmmaker, writer and comic. He spends his time working around food and comedy. His debut short Vinchu, played at MAMI and DIFF. The film was about a closeted gay man working in the propaganda division of a right wing political party called the Vinchu Sena.



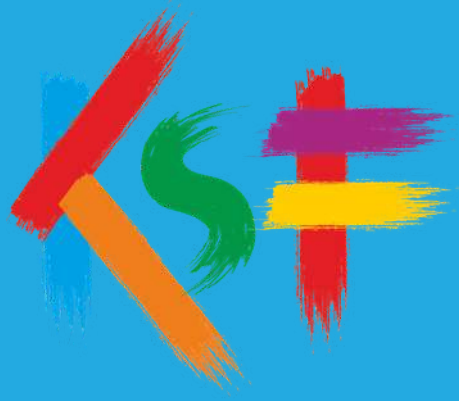
Asher

Asher is interested in exploring the idea of being understood, in relation to his neurodivergence, queerness, the people around him, and in the sense of existing without needing to perform. Often, Asher feels like his truest resistance is through his existence itself; raw, unchallengeable, and unmoving. He feels that growing up in Panjim moulded his queer identity while also suppressing it. Asher attempts to reclaim his authentic, raw expression in all areas of his creative life, from his architecture to his music. Indie and alternative music were the constants of Asher's adolescence, and he draws inspiration from the ideas of alt he grew up with while also challenging them with his indie alt-rock band, Hous.



AleXela

In her performances, AleXela (b.2001) presents a viewing of herself. Some acquired, some self-imposed and often overlapping, she enjoys the shift between these viewings. Raised catholic, with a degree in design, her staged pieces examine the interplay between stripping away layers and thereby acquiring new ones. Alex lives and works in Goa.



Programme Support:
Keshav Suri Foundation

**OLD GMC, PANJIM
FREE ENTRY!**

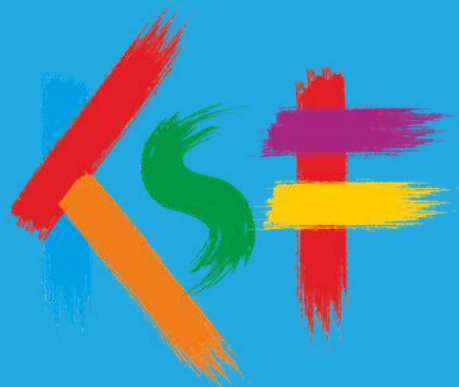
PERFORMANCE

QUEER AS IN...CURATED BY
AVRIL STORMY UNGER



Jay Kshirsagar

Jay Kshirsagar is nothing. Is no one. I am tired of the cult of the self. It doesn't matter who Jay Kshirsagar is. It is the one writing this text, if one were to trace a sort of locus or some sort of address wherein resides the buzzing collection of life-force particles that goes in the registers by this phoneme, this made up sound - accidentally stumbling into everything on its way to love.



Programme Support:
Keshav Suri Foundation

OLD GMC, PANJIM
FREE ENTRY!

PERFORMANCE



21 FEB | 12.00 pm - 1.00 pm

Katha Rang by Dhaee Aakhar

कथा रंग (Katha Rang) is a dramatized short-story reading of Goan stories that aims to create awareness about the Goan literature. It will present a slice of Goan subaltern life through the stories of Sahitya Akademi awardees—Dr. Jayanti Naik and Dr. Prakash Parienkar.

Dhaee Aakhar Goa is a group of individuals sharing common love and passion for art, culture, literature, and ecology. It began its journey in 2018. This seven-year-old group conducts various events like story-reading, play presentations, and also online talks and presentations on topics related to art, culture, and ecology based on stories of renowned writers like Saadat Hasan Manto, Premchand, Kashinath Singh, Girish Karnad, Damodar Mauzo, Manohar Rai SarDessai, Jayanti, Naik to name a few. The name of the group is Inspired by Kabir's couplet, "Pothi padi padi jag mua pandit bhaya na koi, dhai akhar prem ka padhe so pandit hoi." The main aim of the group is to spread love.



21 FEB | 3.00 pm - 4.00 pm

BORED KIDS DESTROYED THE WORLD: THE UNVERIFIED MUSICAL by LA FAUST

La Faust is a drag artist from Goa. His name comes from a literary figure called Faustus who sold his soul to the devil for infinite knowledge only for his life to begin to spiral and then get dragged to hell. From the story he created my persona where he hyperfixates on a certain theme or idea and creates 7 posts and then dies a horrible and gruesome death on the last post. So far in his death posts he has had my head chopped off, castrated, split in half and burned at the stake. He takes heavy inspiration from Christian art and imagery. Growing up Catholic comes with its deep seated traumas and guilt and he plays into that when he creates my looks. He likes to showcase trauma and darkness through the medium of drag as much as possible. He gravitates towards a lot of gore and special effects for the same reason. There is something very fascinating about turning something horrifying into something beautiful.

PERFORMANCE



22 FEB | 4.30 pm - 5.30 pm

Unwritten by Runal Kolkankar

Unwritten is a physical theatre performance that examines the absurdity of modern human existence - a loop of inherited roles, societal expectations, and unquestioned routines. It poses a raw question: Were we born to live freely, or merely to follow?

Runal Kolkankar is a theatre artist, performer, mime artist, and director from Goa with over 10 years of experience in the field. Runal has worked extensively in acting, directing, choreography, light design, and makeup across stage productions, music videos, and ad films. He has received multiple awards, including Best Actor, and has performed at prestigious festivals such as Bharat Rang Mahotsav, Abhivyakti city arts project, Serendipity art festival, National mime festival etc



21 FEB | 6.00 pm - 7.30 pm

YOU SAID WHAT?

by AASHURACHNA School of Improv

Aashurachana School of Improv is a multi-city improvisation institute and creative research space dedicated to exploring, teaching, and showcasing the art and methodology of improvisation. Founded by Gavin Methalaka in Mumbai in October 2024, Aashurachana has rapidly evolved into a distinctive hub where theatre, communication, creativity, and human connection meet. Aashurachana believes improvisation is not only a performance technique but a transformative tool for expression, collaboration, and personal growth.

At Goa Open Arts Festival 2026, Aashurachana brings its spirit of presence, generosity, and collaborative storytelling—offering workshops, open jams, and immersive experiences that celebrate improvisation as both artistic expression and community-building practice.

PERFORMANCE



22 FEB | 4.00 pm - 5.00 pm

VAMONA NAVELCAR : AT THE EDGE OF THE VOLCANO

by Dnyanesh Moghe

This project is an original English play based on the life and artistic journey of renowned Goan artist Vamona Sinai Navelcar, whose career spanned Asia, Europe, and Africa. The play explores his personal struggles, creative resilience, and the socio-cultural contexts that shaped his practice. Originally conceptualised by acclaimed playwright Dr. Isabel de Santa Rita Vas and later developed by Dnyanesh Moghe, the work combines archival research and creative storytelling to document both the historical and emotional landscapes of art-making in Goa.

Dnyanesh Moghe is a theatre and film director whose practice spans across English, Marathi, Hindi, and Konkani language. With over 25 productions and multiple awards to his name, Dnyanesh's work moves through myth, memory, and contemporary social realities with equal force.



23 FEB | 6.30 pm - 7.30 pm

EGGSISTENTIAL CRACKSIS by Asavari Gurav

Eggsistential Cracksis - a sidesplitting, poignant, and utterly fascinating play that cracks open the complexities of self-discovery, queer love, and identity in a world obsessed with labels and markets. Set in a kitchen (or is it a studio), this solo performance follows the journey of an artist performed by Asavari Gurav as she whips up recipes of Self, navigating the tender spots of her past, her desires, and her roots.

Asavari Gurav is an artist, poet and performer. Her practice is multidisciplinary, involving various media such as painting, printmaking, text, sculpture, theatre, and performance art.

PERFORMANCE



23 FEB | 8.00 pm - 8.45 pm

NIKHIL, IF IT'S NOT TOO LATE by Debi K

Ryle Souto (he/they) aka La Faust is a Goan drag and visual artist whose work embraces trauma, guilt and gore as central themes; Kalai (they/he) is a trans-disciplinary artist, educator and mental health practitioner based in Goa who works through the lens of neurodivergence, transness and queering time; and Debi K (they/them) is a Goa-based queer storyteller, writer and anti-caste activist whose artistic work centers gender justice. Together they are co-creating a new queer-trans play, Nikhil, if it's not too late.

