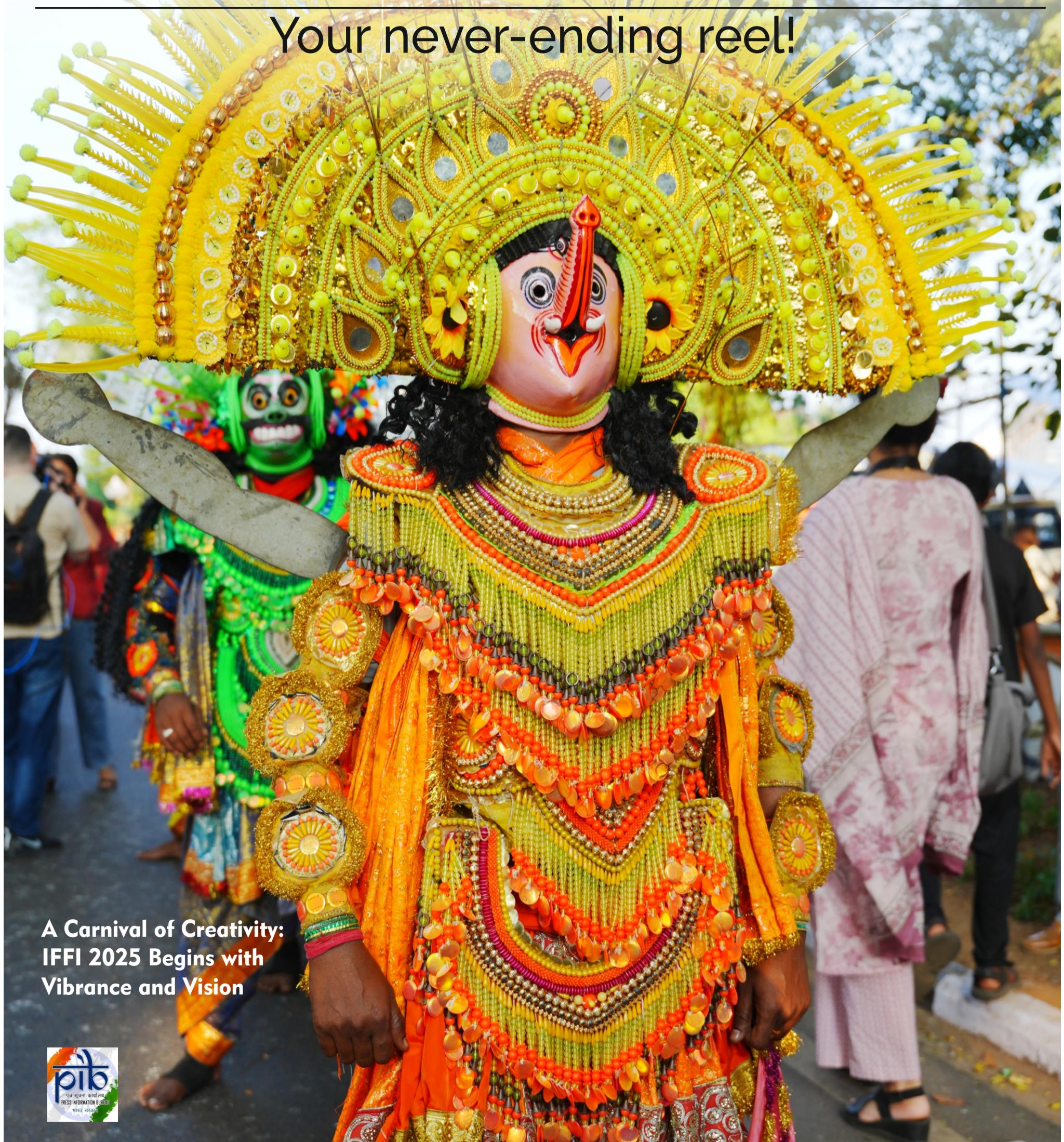


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Your never-ending reel!



A Carnival of Creativity:
IFFI 2025 Begins with
Vibrance and Vision



IFFI *Frames*



The Blue Trail (O Último Azul)

The Blue Trail, the Opening Film of IFFI 2025, is a Brazil-Mexico-Chile-Netherlands co-production set against the backdrop of a dystopian Brazil where the government seeks to boost the economy by relocating senior citizens to state-run colonies. At the centre of this poignant narrative is Teresa, a spirited 77-year-old woman who suddenly finds herself facing forced relocation. Rather than submit to this impersonal system, Teresa chooses to reclaim her agency and pursue a lifelong dream—flying for the first time.

Determined and quietly rebellious, she embarks on an audacious journey through the Amazon. Barred from commercial travel, Teresa secretly travels by boat, encountering a spectrum of colourful characters, unexpected trials, and moments of gentle magic along the way. The lush yet treacherous Amazonian landscape becomes both a physical and emotional terrain through which

through which Teresa's resilience and spirit shine. Her quest evolves into a celebration of autonomy, dignity, and the unyielding pursuit of joy, even in the twilight years of life.

Directed by acclaimed filmmaker and visual artist **Gabriel Mascaro**, *The Blue Trail* carries forward his reputation for visually arresting, emotionally resonant storytelling. The film features a talented ensemble cast including **Denise Weinberg**, **Rodrigo Santoro**, **Miriam Socarrás**, and **Adanilo**, supported by a strong creative team.

A festival favourite, the film has already earned significant recognition, including the **Silver Bear – Grand Jury Prize** and the **Prize of the Ecumenical Jury** at the Berlin International Film Festival 2025.



With its India Premiere at IFFI, *The Blue Trail* opens the festival with a moving, imaginative exploration of aging, freedom, and the quiet courage of refusing to be defined by societal constraints.

ff56I
International Film Festival of India

a film by GABRIEL MASCARO

THE BLUE TRAIL

DENISE WEINBERG

RODRIGO SANTORO

MIRIAM SOCARRÁS

ADANIL

A FILM BY GABRIEL MASCARO PRODUCED BY RACHEL DAISY ELLIS & SANDRINI SARAVIA VIEIRA WITH DENISE WEINBERG, RODRIGO SANTORO, MIRIAM SOCARRÁS AND ADANIL IN CO-PRODUCTION WITH VIKING FILM. QUILOTE CINE CO-PRODUCED BY GIANCARLO INASI AND MARILEEN SLOOT IN ASSOCIATION WITH NICOLÉ BARRETO-BILEY, ERICK CHAVES, GABRIEL GUERRERO, GUILHERMO GARCIA AND RODRIGO SEBASTIÁN SEPULVEDA & OMAR GUZMÁN EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS PAULO SERRA, RACHEL DAISY ELLIS & MURILÓ HAUÉFER ART DIRECTOR DAYSE BARRETO COSTUME CAMPBELL MARRA PRODUCTION MANAGER SYDNEY MEDINA & ROBSON MEDINA EDITING COACH CLÉUSIA SOUZA MUSIC VINCENT SANCERETTI SOUND DESIGN MARÍA ALÉJANDRA ROLAS & JAVIER SALAZAR RÍO ORIGINAL MUSIC MÉMO GUERRA SCREENPLAY GABRIEL MASCARO & TIBERIO AZUL DIRECTED BY GABRIEL MASCARO

Japan-country focus

Characteristics:

Japanese cinema quality is widely recognized for its artistic depth, with a strong emphasis on visual storytelling, emotional nuance, and atmospheric detail over fast-paced plots. Key qualities include its unique aesthetic, which uses shots and mise-en-scène to convey meaning, and its masterful portrayal of complex human experiences and relationships. The erosion of traditional studio system has also given independent directors a vehicle to explore different genres, styles and themes.



Key features of Japanese cinema include.

Emotional depth and humanism: Many films delve into the complexities of human relationships, morality, and the struggles of everyday life, creating a strong emotional connection with the audience.

Focus on character and mood: Japanese cinema often prioritizes a film's emotional atmosphere and characters over a fast-paced plot.

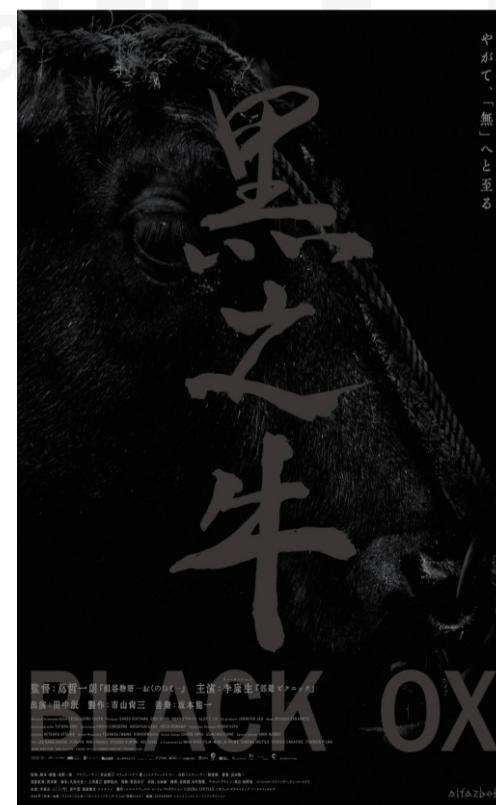
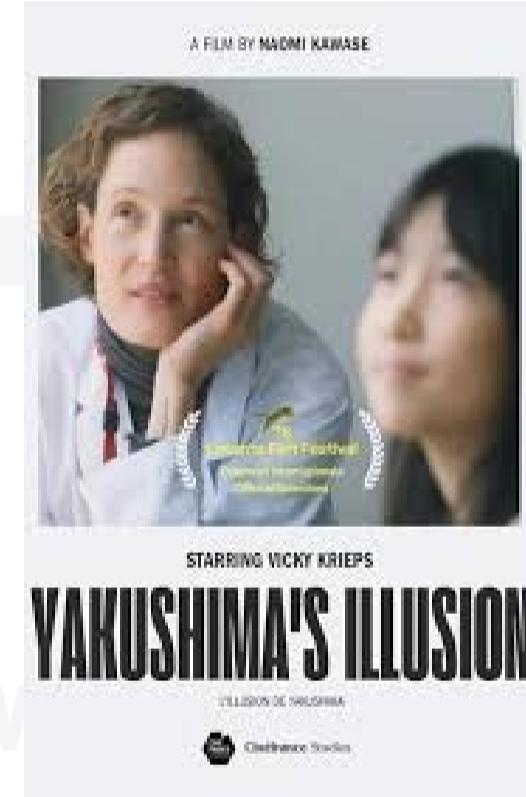
Dynamic action: In contrast to slow-paced scenes, some Japanese films are also known for their dynamic action sequences.

Use of landscape and atmosphere: The natural and urban landscape plays a significant role in shaping the mood and story of the films.



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Partner country : Spain

Spanish cinema is highly regarded for its artistic quality, with a rich tradition spanning from the Golden Age to contemporary works that are both commercially successful and critically acclaimed. Its reputation is built on diverse genres, realistic portrayals, and a focus on exploring complex themes like national identity.



Characteristics:

Artistic and critical acclaim: Spanish cinema has a long history of critical success, from the Golden Age (late 1930s-early 1970s) to modern works.

Thematic richness: Many Spanish films delve into realism, identity, and social issues, providing a powerful basis for compelling dramas and narratives.

Genre diversity: Beyond dramas, Spanish cinema includes acclaimed horror, surrealist, and art films that are recognized globally.

Spotlight : Australia

Australian cinema is known for its high-quality technical production and a unique storytelling style that blends an art-house sensibility with commercial genres, often exploring themes of national identity, the landscape, and a dry sense of humor. The quality of Australian films varies, with a history of both critically acclaimed and commercially successful films.

Characteristics

High Production Standards: Australia boasts world-class crews, technical facilities, and Oscar-winning post-production, digital, and visual effects companies, making it a popular filming location for large international productions.

Innovation: The industry is known for supporting independent and experimental filmmakers and has historically shown innovation, such as the "Australian New Wave" movement that brought directors like Peter Weir and George Miller to international fame.

Themes: Recurring themes often explore the relationship between contemporary Australia and its colonial past, individual and national identity, family, survival in harsh environments, and social issues faced by marginalized communities.

Setting and Landscape: The unique and often formidable Australian landscape, particularly the outback or "the bush," frequently serves as a prominent character or backdrop, sometimes depicted as hostile or unforgiving.

A Spectacular Start to IFFI 2025

The Opening Parade of the 56th International Film Festival of India brought colour, music and energy to the streets of Panaji on 20 November. Leading the parade were the state tableaus of Andhra Pradesh, Haryana and Goa, each showcasing the cultural identity of the region. Joining them were grand cinematic tableaus from several major film production houses along with a special NFDC 50 Years tableau, celebrating five decades of supporting filmmakers across the country.

The highlight of the parade was Bharat Ek Soor, presented by the Central Bureau of Communication. More than one hundred folk artists from sixteen states performed traditional dances that came



WAVES Film Bazaar 2025: Igniting the Future of Global Cinema



Overview

The WAVES Film Bazaar 2025 yesterday opened in Goa with colour, creativity, and global participation. Organised alongside IFFI 2025, the event brought together filmmakers, producers, innovators, and delegates from more than seven countries.

With over 300 projects showcased, the Bazaar which runs from 20th to 24th November will serve as a vibrant platform for collaboration, fresh ideas, and meaningful cultural exchange.

Celebrities & Dignitaries

Minister of State, Dr. L. Murugan officially inaugurated the event. The inaugural ceremony featured Secretary, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting Shri Sanjay Jaju and Guest of Honour Ms. Jaewon Kim from the Republic of Korea.

Celebrated filmmaker Shekhar Kapur, the Festival Director actors Nandamuri Balakrishna and Anupam Kher, advisor Jerome Paillard, Australian director Garth Davis, and NFDC Managing Director Shri Prakash Magdum also graced the occasion.

AI Innovation Zone

A major attraction this year is India's first-ever AI Film Festival. The festival will introduce creators to emerging tools that support scriptwriting, visualisation, editing, and production. The CinemAI Hackathon will encourage young innovators to build new solutions for storytelling, anti-piracy systems, and certification processes.

Collaboration & Opportunities

The Viewing Room, Screenwriters' Lab, and Co-Production Market will continue to shine as strong pillars of the event. Creators will find opportunities to pitch stories, discuss projects with investors, and build international collaborations.

Technology & Learning

The Tech Pavilion has added another layer of excitement, featuring interactive demonstrations in VFX, CGI, virtual production, and digital filmmaking. The pavilion will help to bridge the gap between traditional storytelling and modern innovation by offering hands-on learning experiences.

Today's Attractions...

09:00AM

Inauguration of Creative Minds of Tomorrow

10:30AM

Inauguration of Masterclass

11:30AM

Inauguration of Indian Panorama Red Carpet & Screening

@Kala Academy

@Kala Academy

@Inox 1 Panjim

For Screenings, Scan the Code...



Sessions @ Kala Academy

11:30AM TO

1:00PM

Cinema and Culture :
Reflections from Two Eras
Speaker : Muzafar Ali
Moderator : Shaad Ali

2:30PM TO
4:00PM

The Luminary Icons: Creative Bonds and Fierce Performances -An In Conversational Workshop on Acting
Speakers : Kushboo Sundar
Suhasini Maniratnam

4:30PM TO
6:00PM

Reel Green : Sustainability and Storytelling Across Four Cinemas
Speakers : Nila Madhab Panda, Mina Moteki, Garth Davis, Anna Saura
Moderator : Naman Ramachandran