

WIP K Invitation

निम्तो

(Invitation)



SCREENPLAY & DIRECTION SAURAV RAI
CINEMATOGRAPHY APPU PRABHAKAR
SOUND RECORDING & DESIGN ANKITA PURKAYASTHA
EDITING JISHNU SEN
RE-RECORDING/ MIXING SUDEEPTA SADHUKHAN
MUSIC LOKESH KANITHI
PUBLICITY DESIGNS INDRAJITH

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: India

GENRE | FORMAT | LANGUAGE | RUNNING TIME: Drama | Digital Format | Nepali | 85 mins

DIRECTOR:

Saurav RAI

PRODUCER:

Ankita PURKAYASTHA

Saurav RAI

Sanjay GULATI

HAF GOALS:

Funds, Sales agents, Pre-sales, Festival Screening

BUDGET:

US\$ \$120,000

SECURED BUDGET:

US\$ 60,000

DIRECTOR'S FILMOGRAPHY

First Feature Director

ONE-SENTENCE SYNOPSIS

Little Tashi and his grandma are tenants guarding a cardamom orchard for a family. An approaching wedding at their patron's house excites Tashi. Will he be invited?

SYNOPSIS

Ten-year-old Tashi and his old grandmother are the caretakers of a cardamom orchard belonging to a landlord. The little boy shares a close relationship with the landlady, to an extent of sneaking into their secret hideout in the orchard for her to smoke cigarettes. However, he is scared of her husband because of his coldness towards Tashi.

The news of the marriage of the landlord's son's makes Tashi excited and restless despite his grandmother's consistent discouragement about getting an invitation. On the contrary, he soon is entrusted with the task of distributing the wedding invitation across the village. Yet, the landlord is at loggerheads with his son over his sudden decision to get married. As the wedding day approaches, Tashi is finally invited but gets entangled in an incident to which he may or may not be related.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

I have always considered the power of compassion and empathy to be the greatest virtues of human life. And through cinema I have always tried to bring forward those feelings or events, which have had profound impact on my conscience. *The Invitation (Nimtoh)* emerged from such real life experiences surrounding a particular village and its people. Lives in villages are often perceived to be simple, where the people are far more innocent and peaceful. Yet like the river, which might appear silent from the above while hiding its internal current; village life, too, is always brewing with its own internal problems and conflicts. The age-old feudal structure and the rift between the 'haves' and the 'have nots' still run deep in these villages, at least in India. The film essentially serves as a window into the villagers' lives.

DIRECTOR

Saurav RAI

Saurav Rai is a direction and screenplay-writing alumnus from the Satyajit Ray Film and TV Institute, India. A Nepali-language film, *Monsoon Rain*, was his first short film on celluloid; it had its world premiere at the 34th Munich International Film Festival (2014), Germany. *Gudh (Nest)*, another short, was in the Cinéfondation competition at Cannes 2016. *The Invitation (Nimtoh)* is his debut feature film, shot and produced in his native Village Mangmaya, Darjeeling.

PRODUCER

Ankita PURKAYASTHA & Saurav RAI

Ankita Purkayastha and Saurav Rai form a director - sound designer duo. Together they have produced numerous short documentaries and have also collaborated on short films. *The Invitation* is their maiden venture into feature film.

Sanjay GULATI

Sanjay Gulati is the founder of Crawling Angel Films. Scientist and business graduate, he successfully runs a biotechnology company, Biogentek. His pursuit of creativity and cinema meant producing Pushpendra Singh's *Lajwanti* in 2014, which premiered at the Forum Section of the Berlin Film Festival. After that, Sanjay went on to produce many more films including *Hola Venky*, *Ashwatthama* and *Once Again*.

PRODUCTION COMPANY

Tree Chirps

Tree Chirps aims at promoting unheard stories and events from the Himalayan belt of Darjeeling, India: contents that narrate the diverse culture as well as folktales and mythologies of the mountain villages.

CO-PRODUCTION COMPANY

Crawling Angel Films

Crawling Angel Films is a film production company based in India that aims to tell the world unique stories through films, which have the quality to capture human emotions through their strong narratives. Crawling Angel Films is set to dissolve the boundaries between the various nations of the globe by getting them well versed with one universal language – the language of Cinema.