

# India International Film Festival Of Boston Releases Schedule

By A Staff Writer

**T**he India International Film Festival of Boston (IIFFB) released its 2021 schedule with a host of films to be screened over a weekend on September 24, 25, 26, 2021. The organization called earlier on film fans to sign on to get an early bird discount, but also indicates it is open for getting film submissions.

This will be IIFFB's 4th festival. According to its website, the organization aims to "engage in cultural conversations by finding commonality through the film to build lasting relationships and reflect the growing Indian American community in Boston."

Its roster includes independent films, panels and events that reflect the diversity of India and its diaspora.

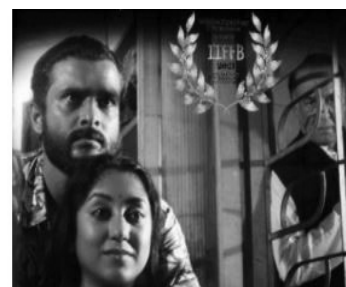
This year Aruna Irani, a Bollywood actress, will receive the Lifetime Achievement Award 2021. The categories of films at IIFFB 2021 include feature films, shorts, comedy, documentary or VR/AR/MR project, urging filmmakers to take advantage of the opportunity to get work in front of the press, the film industry, and audiences.

"We're bringing together creative people from so many different industries, making the IIFFB Film Festival an unparalleled experience at the forefront of discover, creativity, and innovation," organizers declare. Films need to be submitted through FilmFreeway (<https://filmfreeway.com/IndianInternational-FilmFestivalofBoston>) but the IIFFB curators' committee also accepts "high-quality" films directly from producers, directors and distributors, etc., they say.

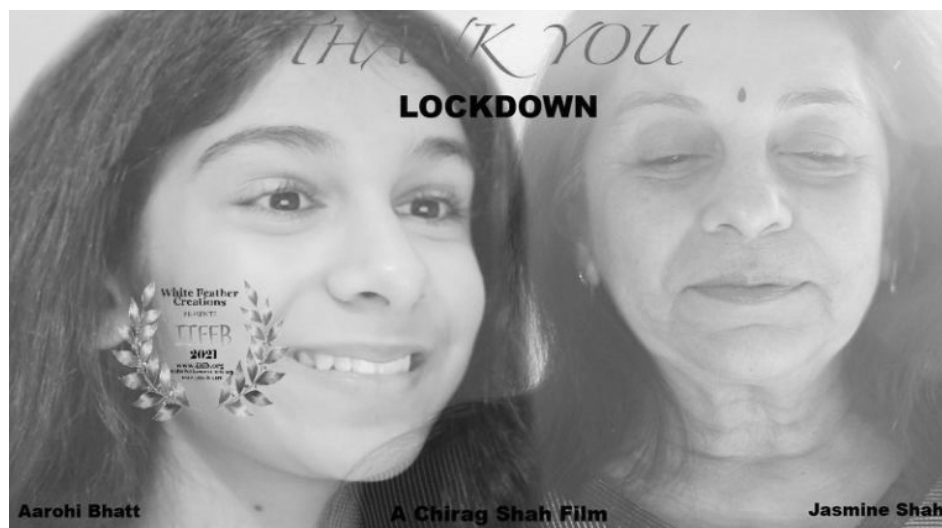
Over the years, the festival has featured early Independent films like "Shakespeare Walla" (1964), "The Guru" (1965), to "Room with a View" (1985), and "Howards End" (1992).

"In recent years we have seen the crossover phenomena but while most of us see "Bollywood" as the dominant Indian film genre one must not forget that throughout the history of Indian Cinema some of the greatest directors and actors have crossed these cultural bridges "One Reel at a Time"," notes IIFFB on its website.

Among the subject-matter covered by IIFFB, or what it calls 'Festival Tracks'



Poster of short films: The WEAPON, Sheer Qorma, After Amal, The War Within



Poster of short film, Thank you lockdown.

– are films that cover – American Born Confused Desi (ABCD), Feature Length films, LGBTQ films, Documentaries, Social Justice, Desi Born Confused Abroad (DBCA), Women's Empowerment, Youth

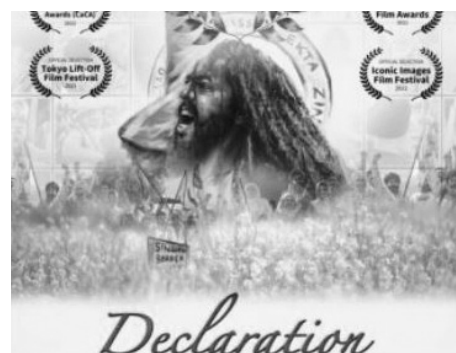
films, and Shorts.

Among the nominations in various categories are - short films so far chosen for this year's festival – 'The WEAPON' about Turkey; 'The War Within' by Javid Farah-

ani about a paralyzed man who has lost his legs due to a car accident and is now staying home, buying and selling dollars; 'After Amal' by Tanni Chaudhuri that goes into lineage and anthropology; 'Sheer Qorma' by Faraz Arif Ansari; 'Thank you lockdown' about how the Covid lockdown actually brings unexpected happiness in the life of a lonely woman; 'Declaration of a Revolution' – "A story of the largest sustained peaceful protest in history" involving Indian farmers; and 'Runn!' – an observation of "an intricate network of people, plants and animals, challenging our notion..."

A documentary, 'Kashmir's Troubled Waters' by Iqbal Chand Malhotra, is also on the roster for IIFFB 2021.

Feature films listed in nominations include – 'NOI' by Reema Borah, about a middle-aged fisherman in a fishing village across the Brahmaputra; 'Firasty' about a village boy having big dreams; 'Am I Next' by Rahat Kazmi; 'Destination Zindagi ... kabhi rukti nahin' – the journey as a wife, mother, widow keeping her family together despite the hardships, and several others.



Poster of documentaries: Kashmir's Troubled Water, Declaration of a Revolution, Runn.

## Makers Confirm Theatrical Release Of 'Gangubai Kathiawadi', 'RRR', 'Attack'

**M**ovie buffs, the wait to hop back to theatres to watch your favourite stars on big screens while enjoying popcorns is finally over!

Jayantilal Gada's Pen India Limited, the banner which has produced the upcoming magnum opus films 'Gangubai Kathiawadi', 'RRR' and 'Attack', has on Wednesday confirmed the theatrical release of these movies. This news has also clarified the social media rumours that suggested the movies could have an OTT release.

The official Twitter handle of Pen India Limited posted a statement that read, "We would like to clarify that 'Gangubai Kathiawadi', 'RRR' & 'Attack' will release in

Cinemas. There have been several rumors doing rounds about these films releasing on OTT platforms before cinemas which are untrue. These magnum opus films are made for the big screen experience and would be releasing in theatres- Dr. Jayantilal Gada Chairman and MD Pen Studios."

Cinephiles have been excited about the magnum opus films ever since their captivating teasers have dropped.

Starring Alia Bhatt in the lead role, acclaimed director Sanjay Leela Bhansali's directorial 'Gangubai Kathiawadi' is on the list of one of the most awaited films made this year. The film features Alia portraying an eponymous character in the flick.

The film that marks Bhansali's first col-

laboration with Alia is based on the book 'Mafia Queens of Mumbai' written by S Hussain Zaidi. This project will also see Bhansali Productions collaborating with Jayantilal Gada's Pen India Limited and the reunion between superstar Ajay Devgn and Bhansali after the 1999 iconic film 'Hum Dil De Chuke Sanam'.

Speaking about SS Rajamouli's magnum opus 'RRR', the film features megastars Jr NTR, Ram Charan, Ajay Devgn, Alia Bhatt, Olivia Morris, Ray Stevenson, and Alison Doody.

Produced by DVV Danayya under the DVV Entertainments banner, the much-awaited Pan-India film is a fictional tale of the younger days of freedom fighters

Komaram Bheem and Alluri Seetharamaraju and will release on October 13 this year. PEN Studios bagged the theatrical distribution rights of the film across North India and also bought its worldwide electronic rights for all languages. Pen Marudhar will be distributing the film in the North Territory.

On the other hand, 'Attack' is an action-thriller film starring John Abraham, Jacqueline Fernandez, and Rakul Preet Singh in lead roles. The film is the Hindi remake of the Malayalam action thriller 'Ayyappanum Koshiyum' that originally featured actors Prithviraj Sukumaran and Biju Menon in lead roles.

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