



MONALISA MUKHERJI PRESENTS
A LITTLE LAMB FILMS PRODUCTION

The Violin Player

A FILM BY BAUDDHAYAN MUKHERJI

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THE VIOLIN PLAYER @TWOTHEP.M THE VIOLIN PLAYER

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THE VIOLIN PLAYER

Directed by Bauddhayan Mukherji

SYNOPSIS

The Violin Player is the story of one day in the life of a failed Bollywood session violinist whose life revolves around remarkable nothingness. Life, that day, throws a carrot at him and he ends up finding expression in an unlikely place. The day unfolds to reveal startling truths about music, art, life and survival.

One day, one stranger, one request, one life changing moment that makes everything pale into insignificance – this is what The Violin Player is all about.

India - 2015 - 72 min - HD - 1:2.35 - 5.1 - Hindi

FEATURING RITWICK CHAKRABORTY ADIL HUSSAIN NAYANI DIXIT SONAM STOBGAIS
STORY & SCREENPLAY BAUDDHAYAN MUKHERJI DIALOGUES MONALISA MUKHERJI BAUDDHAYAN MUKHERJI CINEMATOGRAPHER AVIK MUKHOPADHYAY
EDITOR ARGHYAKAMAL MITRA PRODUCTION DESIGNER MONALISA MUKHERJI
ART DIRECTOR SACHIN BHILARE COSTUME DESIGNER MONALISA MUKHERJI
CHIEF AD HARSH GADAPPA ADS SIDDHARTH NIMA SUSHANT TAMBE ABHINANDAN BANERJEE CASTING DIRECTOR SAMBHAV DAFU MAKE UP ABHIJEET
AAMANE SOUND DESIGNER ABHIJIT ROY MUSIC DIRECTORS BHASKAR DUTTA ARNAB CHAKRABORTY PRODUCTION MANAGER LAXMAN SHARMA EXECU-
TIVE PRODUCER KEDHAR BARRVE WORLD SALES ALPHA VIOLET
PRODUCTION HOUSE LITTLE LAMB FILMS PRODUCER MONALISA MUKHERJI



THE VIOLIN PLAYER

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CAST

The Violin Player:	RITWICK CHAKRABORTY
The Stranger:	ADIL HUSSAIN
The Wife:	NAYANI DIXIT
The Actor:	SONAM STOBGAIS
The Newspaper man:	JAYANT GADEKAR

CREW

Story Screenplay & Direction	Bauddhayan Mukherji
Producer	Monalisa Mukherji
DOP Assistants	Avik Mukhopadhyay Anup Singh Sanjay Kumar Keshari
Production Design Costume Design & Dialogues	Monalisa Mukherji
Assistant Stylist	Payel Pal Geeta Dhodia
Art Director	Sachin Bhilare
Make up	Abhijeet Aamane
Casting	Sambhav Daffu
Executive Producer	Kedhhar Barrve
Production Manager	Laxman Sharma
Associate Director & Editor	Arghyakamal Mitra
Chief AD Assistant Directors	Harish Gadappa Siddharth Nima Sushant Tambe Abhinandan Banerjee
DI Sound Design & Re Recording	Prakash Joseph Abhijit (Tenny) Roy
Music Director	Arnab Chakraborty Bhaskar Datta
Poster Design Opening Credits & VFX	Seek Red F9 Post

THE VIOLIN PLAYER

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The Routine



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DIRECTOR'S BIO & FILMO

At the early age of 11, when Bauddhayan first picked Satyajit Ray's, 'Ekei Boley Shooting' (All About Shooting)", he knew filmmaking to be his calling.

Fast forward to three decades, he has scaled the heights of the advertising Industry directing over 300 television commercials and has received numerous honours including the prestigious Silver Lion at Cannes, back to back Spikes Asia Golds at Singapore, back to back One Show Merits and many more at the Goafests, Iffies, London International, Midas, RAPA, IDPA at al.

Today Bauddhayan runs his own production house which he co-founded with his wife Monalisa in 2007, called the Little Lamb Films and under this banner, 'Teenkahon' (Three Obsessions), his first feature film was made.

'Teenkahon' gathered much critical acclaim and is considered to be a game changer as far as the Bengali film industry in concerned and consequently has been screened in a number of international and national film festivals.

This year, Bauddhayan was awarded The Aravindan Puraskaram for the best Debutante Director of 2014 which was presented by the great Adoor Gopalakrishnan.

The list of awards and accolades has been grand and growing, which includes The Audience Choice Award – Best Narrative Feature (9th Seattle South Asian Film Festival 2014), Special Mention of Student Jury (3rd Festival du Film d'Asie du Sud Transgressif, Paris 2015), Nomination – Best Foreign Language Film and Best Director of Foreign Language Feature (Madrid International Film Festival, Madrid 2015), Nominee – Best World Showcase (6th Soho International Film Festival 2015) and Best Screenplay (Bridge Film Festival, Mirovica, Kosovo 2014) to name a few.

However, underneath all the dazzling recognitions, in the heart of it all, this Bengali Feature film was a tribute his mother tongue and an expression of gratitude to his idol wrapped in the elements of complex, poetic story-telling. Constantly growing and exploring, Bauddhayan openly declares that he consciously shifts away from developing a specific style of directing, and it is this nature that made him bring 'The Violin Player', a 70-minute featurette into life despite countless hurdles.

In November 2014, 'Teenkahon' was screened at the IFFI (International Film Festival Of India), here, Bauddhayan met Mohsen Makhmalbaf, that year's special guest to the festival, a long discussion between the two filmmakers led to the inception of The Violin Player in Bauddhayan's mind.

'The Violin Player' is not only about pushing the boundaries of a narrative; it is also a part of Baudhhayan's journey of constantly looking for answers and enquires about the art and the artist.

For Baudhhayan, It's always been about staying true to the story and building an environment which would include the viewer, this sincerity and a certain amount of stubborn fearlessness manifests into his filmmaking both in 'Teenkahon' and now in 'The Violin Player'.

THE VIOLIN PLAYER

Directed by Bauddhayan Mukherji

The Stranger



THE VIOLIN PLAYER

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DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Year 2014. November. My first year at the IFFI (International Film Festival of India), Goa. Teenkahon (Three Obsessions) our debut feature was part of the Indian Panorama. We were excited, nervous and completely over the moon.

And that's when I met him. Mohsen Makhmalbaf. That year's special guest to the festival and his film The President was the inaugural film. And as luck would have it we were put up at the same hotel. Next day at the breakfast I met him. And we spoke albeit briefly. In the initial years Makhmalbaf had made longer films. Gradually as he grew older the length of his films generally came down to anything between 70 to 75 minutes. I had asked him the reason. His answer was simple. Give the story the time it needs.

And in one stroke, The Violin Player the feature film was born. The story was initially thought to be fit for a short film. That's how I had envisioned it initially. But I was not too convinced. It was turning out to be neither a short nor a full length feature. And since a length midways was not really an option in this country, I was in two minds. Do I look at TVP as a short film or a featurette? I had gone to Goa with a bag full of questions. We were supposed to come back from IFFI and start pre production of TVP as a short.

That's when I met him...



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And things changed overnight. I still remember breaking the news to Mona and she wore this stunned silence for hours. But by then the idea of The Violin Player the feature film was already born.

In India we do not believe in films which are 70 minutes long. "You won't be able to release the film," I was categorically told by people from the fraternity. I had decided to ignore them. The Violin Player would arrive at its own length, I had told myself. Let's go ahead and make the film and not worry about the length, the release and the business.

Art and artists have intrigued me from the moment I learnt to differentiate between the two. But are the two really different? Is it really possible to take art out of an artist? Won't a true artist find ways to express himself? And the more the world tries to beat the art out of him, won't he find ways to give birth to it? Won't he look for some squalid corner that is least expected to nurture beauty and then bring his art to life?

I wanted to find answers to these. And The Violin Player was soon becoming my means to arrive at the answers I was looking for. In my search for answers there were red herrings all over... very Hitchcockian... misleading... distracting... not letting me get to the bottom of it... but that's where the fun was. The unending stream of red herrings would make my discovery sweeter and worth every penny. There's another thing that I was trying to do. I was trying to involve the viewers in an experience which for them would not be a passive one. Nope this is not an 'interactive' film but I consciously wanted the viewers to be aware of what's happening around them and not be engrossed in the film and only the film. I wanted them to experience the film while experiencing their own self. Only time will tell whether this experiment of mine was of any worth or not!

Bauddhayan Mukherji, 2015

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The Offer



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