



## 6TH ANNUAL INDIE MEME FILM FESTIVAL

A Virtual Bonanza!

**When:** Over two weekends - April 16-18, 2021 and April 23-25, 2021

**Where:** Filmocracy.com

The **Indie Meme's 6th Annual Film Festival (IMFF2021)** will be held virtually again this year over the last two weekends of April.

Virtual IMFF2020 was one of the first live, online, and interactive film festivals of its kind. Our audience enjoyed being able to stream our films & still connect (virtually) with filmmakers, by participating in live Q&As post-screening - all from the comfort and safety of their own homes.

This year, Indie Meme has upped their game by partnering with a new streaming platform, **Filmocracy**, which has been tailored to suit the unique needs of the festival and the Indie Meme community.

The **Virtual IMFF2021** comes packed once again with brilliant and powerful films from the South Asian Subcontinent. And this time, the virtual experience includes opportunities for the Indie Meme-ers to mingle and interact with each other in smaller settings in addition to taking part in the live Q&As with Filmmakers.

**Ananyaa Ravi**, President, Indie Meme decided to move the festival's virtual platform to Filmocracy because of how it restores some community aspects of the theatre-going experience. *"While everyone is experiencing Zoom fatigue, at this stage, we're starved for small group interactions with acquaintances and friends - the platform allows attendees to hop from conversation to conversation (video or audio only), and interact with the virtual map to explore buildings and events."*

**20+ FILMS**      **6 SOUTH ASIAN COUNTRIES**      **12+ LANGUAGES**



The excitement of this innovative platform combined with our most diverse programming of films to date, with several premieres & special guests, is making the Festival team very upbeat about IMFF2021. **Sweta Rajesh**, Programming Director, notes that Indie Meme is thrilled about snagging *Zindagi Tamasha* for this year's festival. *"The line up of international filmmakers this year includes Sarmad Khoosrat, a name well known across the South Asian Subcontinent for his Films & Television series"*. **ZINDAGI TAMASHA** won the top prize at the Busan International Film Festival and was selected as Pakistan's contender for this year's Best International Film Oscar. *"The film is sure to be a treat for our audiences."* Sweta also chimed in on Binod Paudel's debut feature, **BULBUL**, as *"another not to be missed film."* The film was Nepal's Official Oscar Submission and revolves around a woman tempo driver in Kathmandu.

**Deepti Gupta**, with her debut feature **SHUT UP SONA**, is one of several female directors featured. The esteemed list includes Sahraa Karim, Talat Shakeel, Sushma Khadepaun, Aastha Verma. The team is still working on the filmmakers in attendance, so some additions may be in store. Arun Karthick will be present with his multi-award winning film **NASIR**, which screened to widespread acclaim at world festivals including New Directors/New Films, AFI Fest, and Mumbai Film Festival. Navid Mahmoudi from Iran also returns to the festival with his latest film **SEVEN AND A HALF**. His debut feature 'Parting' screened at the 2nd Indie Meme Film Festival.

Afghanistan's entry to the Oscars, **HAVA MARYAM AYESHA**, which comes from the experienced documentarian & filmmaker, Sahraa Karimi, is set to be another highlight. The film relates the story of three Afghani women of differing social backgrounds, each experiencing a pivotal challenge. Karimi is also known for her status as the first woman in Afghanistan with a PhD in cinema & directing. Also of note is the Marathi language coming-of-age feature, **TRIJYA**. Described as "unusually sensitive and well-made" by Hollywood Reporter, the film is the debut of 27-year old director, Akshay Indikar.

IMFF2021 will be showcasing over 21 narrative features, documentaries & shorts over 6 days in April. The shorts selection includes: **Anita, Nooreh, Mauj be-Harkat si, Tiffin, Trivedi Ji, Furniture, The Last Rights, Kalam, Dry Leaves, Sab Rab De Bande, Mangsho, Pari of Pokhara, Sunday & Laali**. Each brings a unique flavor to make the festival delightfully vibrant! The films come from 6 different countries in the South Asian Subcontinent and are in over 12 different languages.

*"In a time where we may feel disconnected, we are incredibly excited and honored to be showcasing such a wide range of stories that can connect us all."* says **Christine Chung**, Festival Coordinator, IMFF2021, who has joined the team this year. The Festival Badge is on sale for a nominal price and Indie Meme Members get discounted rates. Christine says *"for the best value, become an Indie Meme Member for 2021 and enjoy the festival for FREE at FAN level membership or for \$20 at the FAMILY level membership."* Registration to the festival on Eventbrite is required to attend and experience the diverse flavors of South Asian cinema. All details on becoming a member are at [indiememe.org](http://indiememe.org)

The IMFF team looks forward to sharing this unique experience together. Get your popcorn, sit back, and enjoy the 2021 Virtual Indie Meme Film Festival.

**IMFF 2021 is supported in part by the Cultural Arts Division of the City of Austin, Economic Development Department.**

**6th IMFF All Access Badges**  
April 16-18th + 23-25th 2021

Regular Value of the Badge - \$55 includes:

- Over 20 films (Documentary, Fiction and Short films)
- Opening Night Virtual Red Carpet with Filmmakers
- Closing Night Virtual Awards Night with Filmmakers
- Members Mixer
- Filmmakers Q&As
- 6 Days of South Asian Cinema

	EARLY BIRD PRICE	REGULAR VALUE	REGULAR PRICE
FAN Membership	\$100	FREE	FREE
FAMILY Membership	\$35	\$110	\$20

Become a Member or today! More details @ <https://www.indiememe.org/membership>