

Press Release

***Dabba (The Lunchbox)* wins Special Jury Mention at CineMart (IFFR)**

Ritesh Batra's script *Dabba (Lunchbox)* was a selected project at the recently concluded Film Bazaar Screenwriters' Lab 2011 in partnership with Binger Filmlab (Netherlands) for Indian writers with original screenplays. Batra's *Lunchbox* was then selected to be a part of the CineMart Co-Production Market earlier this year. The project has now won the **Special Mention Award** on the conclusion of the International Film Festival Rotterdam, on *February 1, 2012*.

The Jury members for the 2012 ARTE France Cinéma and Eurimages Awards were *Claire Launay* (ARTE France Cinéma), *Petri Kempainen* (Finnish Film Foundation) and *Winnie Lau* (Fortissimo Films). The Jury shared their thoughts on the selection of *Dabba* for the Award, *"A special mention to a project that shows us that if you by chance get the wrong mail delivered it may change your life. This project shows that nothing is for granted. A mistake can also be a chance if you're willing to take it."*

Dabba is an Indian-American project to be co-produced by *Anurag Kashyap Productions Pvt Ltd* (India) and *Cine Mosaic* (USA). The project was much talked about at the market, and sealed the deal with Paris-based *Cedomir Kolar* of *A.S.A.P Films* as another co-producer.

Producer Guneet Monga of Anurag Kashyap Productions involved since the early stages of the project shares, *"It all started at Film Bazaar last year where we met Ritesh Batra for **The Story of Ram** for the first time and since then we have produced 2 short films directed by Ritesh and now have **The Lunchbox** script ready as this year's production. We were then selected for the Producers Lab at Rotterdam and this year at Cinemart. It would not have been possible without the platform of Film Bazaar."*

The project has also been selected as the *Talent Project* at the *Berlinale Co-Production Market*, which is a special section for upcoming producers and directors participating in the *Berlinale Talent Campus*. The Berlinale Co-Production Market is a two-and-a-half-day long program held during the Berlin Film Festival from February 9-19, 2012.

Batra previously participated in Film Bazaar in 2010 when his project *The Story of Ram* was selected in the Co-Production Market. It was at Film Bazaar 2010 that Batra connected with Anurag Kashyap Productions Pvt. Ltd. This association, established at the Film Bazaar has led to selection at Rotterdam and consequently Berlin, the team is currently preparing to participate at the Berlinale (Talent Campus) and engage a German Producer for this project.

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About CineMART

The CineMart Co-Production Market selected 36 film projects (from 465 entries), which were presented to approximately 850 potential co-financiers. The 29th CineMart concluded on February 1, 2012 in Rotterdam. Each year, the International Film Festival Rotterdam celebrates a number of outstanding films with a variety of awards. Many of these prizes are awarded by (international) juries, and the IFFR audiences confer several of them upon the winners. For more info- www.filmfestivalrotterdam.com/en/cinemart/

About Berlinale- Talent Campus

Every year, the Berlin International Film Festival hosts the two-and-a-half day-long *Berlinale Co-Production Market*. Five hundred experienced international producers, film financiers and film distributors as well as representatives from funding bodies; sales agents and TV channels come together to initiate international co-productions. The event takes place in the Berlin House of Representatives, directly opposite the Martin-Gropius-Bau, the venue for the *European Film Market*, which takes place at the same time. For more info on Berlinale - www.berlinale.de/

About Film Bazaar

Film Bazaar is a production & distribution platform open to all faculties of filmmaking. FB expanded to South Asia in 2010 and presented 27 projects with South Asian stories at the FB 2011 Co-Production Market. The objective is to bring industry professionals together to encourage networking, facilitate collaborations and forging of business deals for their projects with international partners. FB is organised by the National Film Development Corporation of India. For more on FB – www.filmbazaarindia.com