

**Gitanjali Rao's *Bombay Rose* among six Finalists of NFDC India
Screenwriters' Lab Film Bazaar 2015**

**Screenwriters' Lab is going to be held in collaboration with the Sarajevo
Film Festival this year**

Mumbai July 27, 2015: National Film Development Corporation, India announces its selection of six projects for the Screenwriters' Lab 2015 from close to 280 applications.

Previously hosted in Toronto, Locarno and Venice film festivals, Screenwriters' Lab is going to be held in collaboration with the Sarajevo Film Festival this year.

Selected projects will travel to Sarajevo in August for the first part of the lab and then to Goa in November for the second, before being presented at Film Bazaar, the annual international film market, held alongside the International Film Festival of India (IFFI).

The selection this year includes projects spanning across varied stories, styles and genres.

Bombay Rose - Gitanjali Rao
City of Light - Shubhashish Bhutiani
Dastaan E Awaargi - Ankit Kothari
Mango's Tale - Sidharth Gupt
The Return - Asad Hussain
The Sun Goes Round the Earth - Arijit Biswas

Gitanjali Rao is an animator and filmmaker whose latest project, *True Love Story*, premiered at Cannes Critics' Week, 2014 in competition. Her other animation short, *Printed Rainbow*, received several awards including the Kodak Short Film Award, and the Young Critics Award at Cannes Critics' Week, 2006.

Shubhashish Bhutiani forayed into filmmaking with his short film *Kush* which won the Orizzonti Prize for Best Short Film at Venice

International Film Festival. He has previously worked as an assistant director in commercials and feature films.

Ankit Kothari is an emerging writer who graduated with a BFA in Applied Arts from MSU, Baroda. Kothari worked as an art director in the advertising industry before venturing into filmmaking.

Sidharth Gupt is a filmmaker who wrote and directed one of the segments in *Shorts*, a compilation of five short films, produced by Anurag Kashyap. As an assistant director, Gupt has worked in *Dasvidaniya*, *Gangs of Wasseypur* and *Khoobsurat*.

Asad Hussain's journey as a screenplay writer led him to co-write *Children of War*, a film based on the war for Bangladesh's liberation. He has written the additional screenplay for *Bajrangi Bhaijan*. Apart from these, Hussain has also worked for educational content in Afghanistan.

Arijit Biswas is the co-writer of *Agent Vinod* and *Badlapur*. He has also written extensively for Hindi and Bengali television.

In the previous years, films that were part of The Screenwriters' Lab include *The Good Road*, *Lunchbox*, *Titli*, *Chauranga*, *Dum Lagake Haisha* and *Island City*.