

# SELECTION FOR SCREENWRITERS' STUDIO 2017

**NFDC**  
cinemas of india



We are pleased to announce the 8 projects selected for the first NFDC Screenwriters' Studio.

The Screenwriters' Studio is part of NFDC Labs' ongoing initiative to develop original voices and stories from India. The first edition of the Studio ran as a parallel programme to the Film Bazaar Screenwriters' Lab. The writers were mentored by Urmi Juvekar – screenwriter and script consultant, and screenwriter and playwright Asad Hussain.

The selected participants worked with mentors in an intensive 5-month programme to explore their stories in one-on-one as well as group sessions. Aimed at domestic as well as international markets, the projects will be pitched to producers and investors in a pitching session during Film Bazaar 2017.

Projects selected for Screenwriters' Studio are:

## 1. Destination Tihar - Saurav Dey

Saurav has co-written 'Inside Edge', Amazon's first original Indian series. He is a graduate of FTII and has won the prestigious IDPA (Indian Documentary Producers' Association) award for his documentary 'Chasing Angelina Jolie' while at FTII.

## 2. From Across the Corridor - Vinay Rohira

Vinay Rohira was the cinematographer, associate Director and Line Producer, in the non-fiction political-thriller 'An Insignificant Man' which won the Sundance Institute documentary fund and IDFA Bertha grant. The film premiered in Toronto International Film Festival. Vinay has also directed and produced digital marketing campaigns and assisted on the national award winning film 'Ship of Theseus'.

## 3. Gilheri - Amit Tiwari

Amit Tiwari is a Post Graduate in Acting from Film and Television Institute of India. He has co-written screenplay and dialogues for two upcoming projects. Amit has been involved in professional theatre since 2004 and has written a number of plays staged in prestigious venues in India.

#### 4. Nino - Anvita Sudarshan

Anvita started out as a model, then went on to write a book about pageantry, and then moved to writing scripts. An individual with many talents, Anvita has made a short film, and has worked as a cowriter in a found footage feature. She is looking to make her first feature with Nino.

#### 5. Pirouette - Farha Alam

Farha Alam's first feature length documentary 'The Superstars of Koti', which she directed, shot and edited, premiered at the HotDocs International Documentary Festival 2015. She recently directed and produced a 26 episode television series for a German channel. She is alumna from Jamia Millia Islamia New Delhi.

#### 6. Radha - Sandhya Daisy Sundaram

Sandhya's short creative documentary 'Love. Love. Love.' won the Jury Award at Sundance Film Festival 2014. An alumna of Film and Television Institute of India, Sandhya has directed a Manipuri short documentary on the Mother's Market of Imphal. 'Radha' was a part of the Pitching Forum at New Directors New Films Festival 2016 in Portugal, where it received the FEST Film Lab Award in the feature film category.

#### 7. Tham Ja Zindagi - Utkarsh Vaibhav

In the final year of a PG Diploma course in Mass Media, Utkarsh is young aspiring screenwriter who has written and directed short films. Tham Ja Zindagi is his first feature screenplay.

#### 8. Veda - Ashish Mehta

After ending his four year stint as legal counsel at Ernst & Young, Ashish Mehta moved to script reading for Spec Scout and Slated, analyzing both amateur and professional feature and television screenplays. Since 2016, he has been developing and pitching features and series projects. He is attached to Sisak, an award winning short film as an Additional Producer, and is a contributing writer on a web series in development at Dice Media.