

# TESTIMONIALS

**NFDC**  
cinemas of india



“The Film Lab is a humbling experience. You think it’s your film and no one knows better. You think you’ve tried everything there was to try and done everything there was to do. Then you meet the mentors and for a second you’re shaken. It’s up to you now - you can stick to your ego and put up your defences or you can let go. And the film WILL be richer for that. The mentors don’t mince words, they tell you the good things about your work but you’ve heard those before it’s the little changes that are tough to take. But you try them and the film is seemingly the same and yet it’s not. Something has shifted something BIG without changing too much. I owe Film Bazaar WIP Lab mentors especially Soren Ebb, big time.”

– **Deb Medhekar**  
*The Bioscopewala* (WIP Lab, 2016)



“It would not be an overstatement to say my debut feature *Bombay Rose*, a 2D animated film is today in production thanks to NFDC Film Bazaar. Having been a part of the Screenwriters Lab and the Co-Production Market in previous year, *Bombay Rose* went through the VR and WIP Lab in 2016. What was amazing was that since *Bombay Rose* is an animated film, we edit the film before beginning animation and yet the WIP Lab very generously expanded on their regulation to accommodate it in the Lab. Needless to say, I had a very fruitful feedback and critique on the film as well as a very needed exposure in the sales and distribution sector through the open pitch. What is special about NFDC is that when they support you, they do it through all the processes an independent film maker seeks.”

– **Gitanjali Rao**  
*Bombay Rose* (WIP Lab, 2016)



“Thanks for the very engaged work. Attending WIP Lab at Film Bazaar had great synergies for the project, for my work - and I also made few friends!”

– **Kanwal Sethi**  
*Once Again* (WIP Lab, 2016)



“The Film Bazaar is one of the best platforms a filmmaker could hope for. Titli went through the Screenwriters’ Lab, the Co-Production Market and the WIP Lab. Each step added immeasurably to the film, giving me key insights and helping get closer to the final film. The Mentors at every Lab are collaborators for life.”

– **Kanu Bahl**  
*Titli* (WIP Lab, 2013)



“The WIP Lab is a space which is committed to creating powerful conversations and to cause breakthroughs. We invented a whole new way to look at our narrative structure. However, I would recommend longer sessions, especially when we are editing, and also to have all WIP participants interact with each other and be introduced to support each other. I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to attend the lab. It was priceless.”

– **Shanker Raman**  
*Gurgaon* (WIP Lab, 2015)



“Film Bazaar is the one and only platform for Indie Cinema in India.”

– **Haobam Paban Kumar**  
*Loktak Lairembee* (Lady of the Lake) (WIP Lab, 2015)



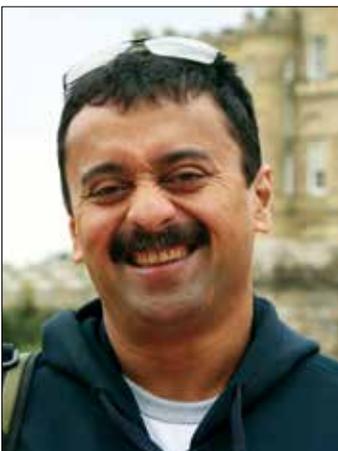
“Believe me, it is going to make your film stand out in the crowd.”

– **Amit Rai**  
*‘I’ Paed* (WIP Lab, 2015)



“It was only because of Film Bazaar where we met Olivia Stewart and Jacques Comets who came on board as Creative directors, Jacques himself took charge of the edit and they together as Creative Directors got us a French Co-producer, Cine-Sud and a Dutch Co-producer, Kepler Films, which invited Films Boutique as the sales agent. Now Juze is waiting for the festival rounds to happen and we are seeing a world wide release somewhere in February-March, hopefully!”

– **Miransha Naik**  
*Juze* (WIP Lab, 2015)



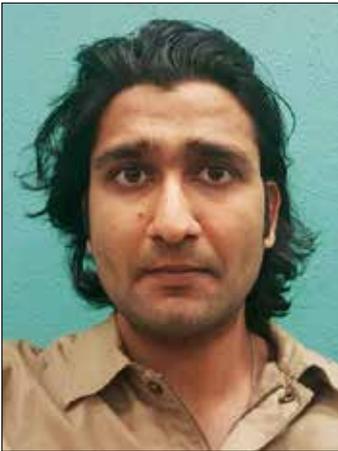
“To all independent film makers I would just like to say Film Bazaar ACTUALLY works!! So forget your cynicism and just dive in!”

– **Milind Dahimade**  
*Tu Hai Mera Sunday* (WIP Lab, 2015)



"My experience at the WIP Lab was immensely valuable in strengthening the structure of the story. The mentors were extremely precise and concrete in identifying the areas that needed clarification. The process not only helped me arrive at solutions that worked for the story, it also helped me reinforce my own intuition, that will guide me for other projects in the future."

– **Alka Raghuram**  
*Burqa Boxers* (WIP Lab, 2015)



"The process of making independent films can be a very long and isolating one. Beginning filmmakers usually don't have an idea of how the market works, the only beacon of light is one's own aesthetic judgement. After spending months alone in an editing room, I chanced upon Film Bazaar from an ad placed on jamuura.com. I was very happy to be selected. The complete organizational team at the Film Bazaar are committed to helping you as much as anyone possibly can. Participating at the Film Bazaar Work-in-Progress Lab and Viewing room got my film *Machines* considerable amount of attention that I am sincerely thankful to NFDC for. The people responsible for critiquing the films are genuinely interested in your film and provide recommendations to the best of their abilities, which amount from a significant experience in the film world. Film Bazaar is attended by a diverse group of cinephiles and industry insiders that can take your film very far."

– **Rahul Jain**  
*Machines* (WIP Lab, 2015)



"NFDC's Works-in-Progress Lab was a monumental leap forward for our film. After years of editing in a bubble, it was an incredible opportunity to have our film workshopped by mentors who were able to provide keen insights, and move the project forward. Our editing mentor, Menno Borema, gave us feedback on structure and story that not only elevated our film to a whole new level, but helped my co-director and I deepen our partnership and vision for the film. Overall, the atmosphere of the Lab, meeting other filmmakers, and all the events and mixers was a fantastic opportunity to be part of an exciting and vital film community in India. As US-based filmmakers who produced and directed our film in India, getting into the Works-in-Progress Lab was the best seal of approval. I would highly recommend the lab to all filmmakers."

– **Sarita Khurana**  
*A Suitable Girl* (WIP Lab, 2015)



“The WIP Lab is a privilege and a blessing to any film. The mentors are immensely knowledgeable and helpful. The WIP process was instrumental in not only shaping my debut, but also my outlook towards the creative process of finishing a film. Having gone through it, I feel I am now a better filmmaker.”

– **Raam Reddy**  
*Thithi* (WIP Lab, 2014)



"Film Bazaar was a great experience for our project *Miss Lovely*, which was submitted to the work-in-progress lab. Although we were still editing the film, we found our sales agent Fortissimo Films at Film Bazaar, and that helped our World Sales when we were later accepted to the Cannes Film Festival. For films that are special or unique, I think there is no other opportunity better than Film Bazaar in India."

– **Ashim Ahluwalia**  
*Miss Lovely* (WIP Lab, 2011)



Film Bazaar is a lifeline for Independent film-makers to make it to the International film circuit. From being unknown to be friends with top festival directors/curators. Work in Progress lab has a brilliant legacy which includes *Tithi*, *Miss Lovely*, *Ship of Theseus*, *Titli*, *Killa* among many others.

– **Manjeet Singh**  
*Mumbai Cha Raja* (WIP Lab, 2011)