

TESTIMONIALS

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“We arrived at Film Bazaar with just a rough cut and zero experience of how to proceed with the film. And not only during the Bazaar but also after that, at each and every juncture, its professional and caring consultants were always available for advice, help and comments. Thanks to its brilliant team, we have been able to showcase our film to different programmers and festival agents, some of whom have become a part of our team. Film Bazaar is precious not just in terms of personal gain but also as a platform that consciously encourages the whole gamut of films from different regions. Its ability to present the diversity of films from various regions of India is highly commendable. If not for Film Bazaar, many films made by independent filmmakers would be struggling to find their audience at the world stage.”

– **Kislay**

Aise He (Just Like That) (WIP Lab, 2018)

World Premiere at Busan International Film Festival, 2019



“Film Bazaar was an amazing platform for me to get a sense of direction on my first cut. The mentors really helped me to think outside the box.”

– **Geetu Mohandas**

Moothon (WIP Lab, 2017)

World Premiere at Toronto International Film Festival, 2019



“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)

World Premiere at Venice International Film Critics’ Week 2019



“The WIP Lab is a great opportunity to take in all the comments and criticisms from the experts for it comes from global perspectives, and do what is right for your film. That is what I would tell every participant. I thank the Lab as it cleared my head and made me complete *Run Kalyani* with an even stronger sense of commitment.”

Geetha J

Run Kalyani (WIP Lab, 2018)

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“I would like to thank NFDC Film Bazaar for providing such a huge platform to budding filmmakers, such as myself, to associate with esteemed cinema professionals. As a debut director, I was very hesitant and nervous to join the WIP Lab, but due to the well-coordinated efforts of the film bazaar team, I felt very comfortable. No words will be enough to express my gratitude towards the team for introducing me to the acclaimed and experienced, Uma da Cunha, who very generously offered to co-produce my film. Being awarded The Prasad Post Production Award and The Moviebuff Appreciation Award by the respected jury and mentors was a matter of great honour. I am extremely grateful to the Film Bazaar team for pursuing my film and I wish them all the success for the future.”

– **Jadab Mahanta**

Rukuni Koina (WIP Lab, 2018)

Winner of The Prasad Post Production Award and
The Moviebuff Appreciation Award at Film Bazaar 2018



“The Work-in-Progress Lab at NFDC Film Bazaar provided us a platform to present our film to a larger audience of festival programmers, sales agents as well as fellow filmmakers. The lab presented us with an opportunity to interact with mentors and also led to us being picked up by another editing residency in Paris. Looking back now, the WIP Lab has proved to be one of the most important junctures for the journey of our film. I hope the lab continues to support independent filmmakers in the future as well.”

– **Prateek Vats**

Eeb Allay Ooo! (WIP Lab, 2018)

Winner of Facebook Award at Film Bazaar, 2018



“NFDC Film Bazaar WIP Lab turned out to be a platform which nurtured our film through critical mentoring of the coaches involved. Additionally we could finish our film through the DI and DCP Awards as well as found our Co-Producer along the process. I don't think all of these would have been possible without the NFDC Film Bazaar WIP Lab.”

– **Saurav Rai**

Nimtoh (WIP Lab, 2018)

Winner of The Prasad Post Production Award and
The Moviebuff Appreciation Award at Film Bazaar 2018

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“Film Bazaar’s reputation is only surpassed by the generosity and care they show towards the films they painstakingly select, and it is this commitment and integrity that attracts delegates from all over the world every year to see what the Bazaar has to offer. I regard ‘Work in Progress Lab’ as that precious incubator that ensured that my baby got the nurturing it needed, until it was strong enough to interact with the world.”

– **Ivan Ayr**

Soni (WIP Lab, 2017)

World Premiere at Venice International Film Festival 2018



“NFDC Film Bazaar is one of the best things that happened in India for a film maker like me. The very fact of being able to show it to some of the most important film festival programmers itself is big achievement...the process of mentoring really helped me to see my film from a new perspective and it improved the film a lot. Film Bazaar is a platform where some of the best festival programmers, sales agents, distributors and mentors gather. My film *Ma’ama* would have been incomplete or taken a longer time to complete without the support of NFDC Film Bazaar. I am grateful to Film Bazaar for supporting me to grade the film in Prasad Lab. I look forward to be in Film Bazaar again.”

– **Dominic Sangma**

Ma’ama (WIP Lab, 2017)

Winner of Asian New Talent Award - Best Cinematographer
Shanghai International Film Festival 2019



“Work-in-Progress Lab was a great platform for us to discover the true essence of our movie. We went very early into our editing process. The sharp and acute feedback of the mentors, who brought a fresh perspective, helped us discover the strengths/weakness of the footage and our story. We made many bold decisions at the narrative/structural level based on the mentors’ notes. I do feel there should be more one-one sessions with mentors for story-level discussions. Looking back, WIP Lab proved to be a great turning point for our movie. I would definitely love to come back with my next project.”

– **Dipesh Jain**

Gali Guleiyan (WIP Lab, 2016)

World Premiere at Busan International Film Festival, 2017

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“Being a self-taught filmmaker, my craft as well as my stories have always relied heavily on what I could imbibe from what is immediately around me. The WIP Lab in this regard gave me new tools to think out of the box, and gave me a nudge to look at my film from different perspectives – and understand my very local story in a global context. The discussions with the mentors gave me a lot to take forward, and I am deeply indebted to the interest they took in my work as well as their genuine support. I thank Film Bazaar for this fabulous opportunity.”

– **Ere Gowda**

Balekempa (WIP Lab, 2017)

World Premiere at the International Film Festival Rotterdam, 2018



“Thank you so much for providing me and my team this wonderful opportunity. With this I got connected to the young film makers across India, got to know that there is someone who is thinking about the independentness of Indian cinema and someone is seriously looking forward to such cinema has been relieving and hopeful for my future aspirations in film making. The feedback of each and every mentor was contributing genuinely to make our cinema better. Especially the editing session with Jacques Comet was precious. This will give “Aranya” a potential shape. All the five days with NFDC Film Bazaar gave me the feeling that selection of “Aranya” in Work-in-Progress Lab was the best thing that happened to it and at its right stage of post production process... I was happy to know that along with cinematic aesthetics, its economy and distribution is also being considered as an important part of cinema [by NFDC]. Hope the journey with NFDC will make me travel the path which [every] film maker dream. Hope to have an unending relation with you in this journey.”

– **Akshay Indikar**

Aranya, WIP Lab 2017



“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)

World Premiere at the Tokyo International Film Festival, 2017

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“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)
World Premiere in ‘Un Certain Regard’ section, Cannes Film Festival, 2014



“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)
World Premiere at the 1st International Film Festival and Awards Macau, 2016

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“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)
World Premiere at the Busan International Film Festival, 2016



“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)

World Premiere at the Hong Kong International Film Festival, 2017



“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)

World Premiere at the BFI Longdon Film Festival, 2016

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"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)
Winner of Sundance Jury Award for Excellence in Cinematography,
Sundance Film Festival, 2016



"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)
World Premiere at Tribeca Film Festival, 2017

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"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)

Winner of Golden Lion and Swatch Award at
Locarno Film Festival, 2015



"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)

World Premiere in 'Un Certain Regard' section, Cannes Film Festival, 2012



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)

World Premiere at the Toronto International Film Festival, 2012