



NFDC LABS



## NFDC SCREENWRITERS' LAB 2022

NFDC is pleased to announce the selected projects for the 15th edition of NFDC Screenwriters' Lab.

NFDC Screenwriters' Lab is part of NFDC Labs' ongoing initiative to develop original voices and stories from India. Selected participants work closely with noted mentors in an intensive 3-5 month program to fine-tune existing screenplays through personalized interactions and group sessions. The Lab mentors for this year are - Marten Rabarts and Ketki Pandit.

The 6 selected projects for NFDC Screenwriters' Lab 2022 are -

### 1. ***A Late Autumn Dream* by Pramati Anand (Bengali, Khasi, English)**

Pramati's creative journey revolves around exploring stories, people and places through travel and audio-visual media. Her film, *Rushnai (Ink)*/Short Fiction/2017 and *Akashvani (Voice From The Sky)*/Short Documentary/2018 made as a part of her course at NID, went around various film festivals in India and some International Film Festivals in South Asia. Her latest film *An Early Spring* which is a short fiction was the official selection at the 51st International Film Festival of India (IFFI), held in Goa 2021 and has been doing the rounds in many esteemed national and international film festivals.

### 2. ***Average Girl* by Anjali Patil (Hindi, Marathi, English, Tamil, French)**

The Producer and Founder of Anahat Films, Anjali Patil, is lauded for her acting performances in multinational and multicultural projects. Anjali has received the National Award for her Telugu film, *Naa Bangaaru Thalli* and the Presidential Award of Sri Lanka for best actress for the Sri Lankan film, *With You Without You*. Anjali's first feature-length project as a Director and Producer under Anahat Films is *Neither a Girl Nor a Woman*. This documentary explored the social and cultural conditions around the genders in contemporary times.

### 3. ***Dil Gali (Lover's Lane)* by Mohd. Faheem Khan (Hindi, Urdu)**

Fahim Irshad, originally from Azamgarh (Uttar Pradesh), is a graduate in Mass Communication from AJK MCRC Jamia Milia Islamia. He has written and directed his debut independent film named, *Aani Maani*, which is currently streaming on MUBI and has also won the Best Debut Feature Film and Best NETPAC Award at IFFK in India. He is currently working as a co-writer on a couple of web shows, and working to make his second film *Dil Gali*.

### 4. ***Due* by Vinoo Choliparambil (Malayalam)**

Vinoo Choliparambil is a filmmaker based out of Mumbai. His first short film *Vitthal* won the National Award for Best Debut Director in 2010. *Vitthal* also won awards at Mumbai, Dubai, Singapore International film festivals. Apart from directing short films and corporate films, Vinoo



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has also worked as an editor for 15 years and has edited feature films, documentaries, film trailers etc. In 2012, Vinoo's feature length script, *Madam Regge* was selected at Indo-German script lab, Berlin.

#### 5. *Maujj* by *Teena Kaur (Hindi)*

Teena Kaur Pasricha is a National award-winning filmmaker. She won a fellowship in screenplay writing from Time Warner Foundation, Asia Society, New York for her debut feature film script *The Red Autumn*. She is known for her popular film *1984, When the Sun didn't Rise*, which won the National Film Award in the Best Investigative Film category. *1984, When the Sun didn't Rise* has been screened in Universities in the UK, Canada, and the US and won the National film award for the Best investigative film in 2018 from the President of India.

#### 6. *Sakura* by *Sukhansaar Singh (Punjabi,Japanese)*

Sukhansaar Singh's first short narrative film *Aab* (2017) on the anti-Sikh riots of 1984 was screened at Dalhousie Film Meet 2017. His short film *Bhagavati* (2018) screened at Kolkata International Film Festival 2018 and Kinoproba International Festival-Workshop of Film Schools 2018. His short film *Mintgumri* (2021) screened at Dharamshala International Film Festival 2022, New York Indian Film Festival 2022 and won special mention at Toto Award for Short Film 2022. He recently assisted on the Zee5 show *The Broken News* (2022) and finished shooting his first independent Punjabi feature fiction *Razza* which is in the early stage of post-production.

## MENTORS

### 1. Marten Rabarts

With more than 30 years experience in the film industry Rabarts most recent position was Festival Director of the New Zealand International Film Festival a role he took up in 2019 following almost 5 years heading EYE International at the EYE – the national film museum of the Netherlands.

Prior to this, Marten was Head of Development & Training of the NFDC India, in Mumbai setting up NFDC LABS which helped deliver *The Lunchbox* & *Titli* among many others. Previously Rabarts was Artistic Director of Binger Filmlab in Amsterdam for 12 years which saw such successes as Michael Roskam's *Bullhead*, cult hit *The Babadook* by Jennifer Kent, Cannes winning *Salvo* by Fabio Grassadonia & Antonio Piazza and Adina Pintilie's 2018 Golden Bear award winner *Touch Me Not*.

Furthermore, Marten was a founding member of the advisory board of Torino Film Lab, is a voting member of the European Film Academy, served on the board of European Film Promotion and regularly serves on festival juries including the Berlinale (Short Film Jury, Generation 14plus, Teddy Awards) Skip City Tokyo, Adelaide Film Festival and Guanajuato Film Festival among others.



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## 2. Ketki Pandit

Ketki Pandit is a writer, filmmaker and educator. She has been teaching screenwriting at FTII since 2009, and currently, she is the Honorary HOD and Course Mentor at FTII's Screenplay Writing Department. An alumnus of New York University's Tisch School of The Arts, and Film and TV Institute of India's Screenplay writing Department, Ketki has made six short films and worked on over forty film sets in various capacities. Director and Co-Founder at Byqa.ink, Ketki is passionate about intimate, poetic storytelling that brings nuanced experiences across the gender spectrum alive on page, stage, and screen.

*We are pleased to announce script selections for the 15th NFDC Screenwriters' Lab. We received more than 100 applications this year, out of which, we selected the best 6 scripts for this Lab. The writers of the selected scripts will go through an intensive 3-5 month process with the mentors and under their able guidance, the writers will come out with a better version of their script.*

- MD, NFDC