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Tasveer Announces 12th Annual Tasveer South Asian Film Festival With A Special Focus On Nepal, October 6-15, 2017

TSAFF is the largest South Asian Film Festival in the United States.

Seattle, WASH. (August 3, 2017) – Tasveer today unveiled the 12th annual Tasveer South Asian Film Festival (TSAFF) artwork, a stunning reflection of the cultural beauty and diversity of Nepal, the 2017 Festival focus. This 10-day Festival offers over 45 thought-provoking and meaningful films as well as forums on South Asia and its diaspora, aimed at engaging viewers in open dialogue on issues of human rights and social, political, and economic injustice. The Festival will run throughout greater Seattle from October 6-15, 2017, and tickets will go on sale September 6, 2017.

Founded as a grassroots art organization, Tasveer provides a platform for South Asian voices through films, workshops, monologues, talks, and panel discussions. The Festival aims to initiate a dialogue that bridges ideas, individuals, and communities by creating a deeper understanding of self in relation to the society. The organization employs films as a powerful tool to highlight marginalized communities, clarify misconceptions, and broaden perspectives, thereby leading to happier and healthier communities.

Last year Tasveer celebrated Bangladesh throughout the Festival; this year, the focus is on Bangladesh's neighbor to the northwest, Nepal. "It has been a couple of years since the tragic earthquake in Nepal; in that time, much change has occurred there. The country has gotten back on its feet, with tourism growing and new art flourishing, so the timing feels right for Tasveer to play a role in bringing an update to our Seattle community by telling those stories through the work of the filmmakers who will be part of this Festival," Rita Meher, co-founder and executive director of Tasveer explains. "The Nepali community is proud and delighted to play such a significant role in this year's TSAFF. We are inspired by the prospect of sharing our country and its unique qualities with the broader Pacific Northwest community," His Excellency Dr. Arjun Kumar Karki comments.

Over 45 films are slated to be experienced this year, and roughly 10 of those films will be devoted to Nepal, including the Opening Night Red Carpet Gala and screening. Additional programming will also feature Nepal, including the symposium at the University of Washington's South Asia Center, panel discussions, and workshops around greater Seattle. TSAFF features the work of South Asian filmmakers from countries including: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Tibet, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. The full Festival schedule and filmmaker appearances will be announced in early September at Tasveer.org.

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FOR CALENDAR EDITORS

WHAT:

Tasveer South Asian Film Festival

The 12th annual Tasveer South Asian Film Festival (TSAFF) is 10 days of thought-provoking and meaningful films and forums on South Asia and its diaspora, aimed at engaging viewers in open dialogue on issues of human rights and social, political, and economic injustice. This year's Festival will focus on Nepal and its art, culture, and stories. Festival goers will have access to more than 45 films that will screen in five cities throughout greater Seattle, making TSAFF the largest South Asian film festival in the United States.

WHEN:

October 6-15, 2017

WHERE:

Seattle Art Museum
Bellevue Arts Museum
Northwest Film Forum
University of Washington - Seattle
University of Washington - Bothell
Carco Theatre, Renton
Redmond City Hall

TICKETS:

ON SALE SEPTEMBER 6, 2017

PHOTOS:

For available images or artwork, please inquire.

SOCIAL:

Tasveer.org

Facebook - /Tasveer
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#WeBelong

About Tasveer

Farah Nousheen and Rita Meher founded Tasveer in March 2002 in Seattle, soon after 9/11/2001. Troubled by the stereotyped and highly prejudicial images of South Asians depicted in the mainstream media at that time, they sought to dispel those mischaracterizations by giving South Asians a chance to speak for themselves. They selected storytelling—specifically, through art and film—accompanied by community dialogue, as their method. Tasveer means picture in Hindi/Urdu.

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Tasveer's first screening was held at The Elliot Bay Book Company during Gay Pride Month 2002, and since then, Tasveer has become an arts and culture fixture in the Seattle and Eastside area. Each year it produces three major festivals—the South Asian Film Festival; the South Asian International Documentary Film Festival; and Aaina, a festival celebrating South Asian women. Tasveer also organizes and sponsors numerous other programs related to South Asia and its diaspora. Since 2002, Tasveer has shown over 800 films, has welcomed over 15,000 audience members to its events, and has empowered over 100 women to share their life experiences onstage in Yoni Ki Baat. Tasveer was incorporated as a nonprofit organization in March 2004 and is fully federally recognized 501c3 organization.

The 12th annual Tasveer South Asian Film Festival is supported in part by Zee Cinema HD, City of Renton, City of Redmond, 4Culture, ArtsWA, University of Washington South Asia Center, National Endowment for Arts, People Media Factory, The Seattle Globalist, Desi 1250AM, The Stranger, KBCS, and the Seattle Pipeline.

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