

City Express

Bringing The City To Your Home

As the First Women's Film Festival kicks off in Chennai today, Sharadha Narayanan talks to four directors in the city whose movies are among the 82 films to be screened in the international festival and finds that not all of them are arty types or feminists



Shringaram



Kanna Margada



Puri Meendum

“ Nobody wants to fund a woman director's film

It's unfair to think women directors will only have women protagonists ”

FILMS BY CHENNAI DIRECTORS

SHRINGARAM BY SHARADHA RAMANATHAN

Plot: A period movie. Shringaram shows a devadasi's life, relationships and emotions. Madhu Ambat, Lalaji Jayaraman, Sanjivan, Thottabharani. The movie will be coming together of many sections. Will be screened on March 2 at 1.30 p.m. at Studio 5

Women's Film Festival



March 1 to 8

Inko Centre, 51, RA Puram

Celebrating the essence of womanhood, Inko center is hosting a 'Women's film festival'. Over 82 films have been scheduled for screening across three screens, two at Sathyam Cinemas and one at the South India Film Chamber. Actor Nandita Das will inaugurate the festival on March 1 and Chitra Palekar will be present to talk about her film.

This festival will open with *Chitra Palekar's 'Maati Maay'*. The grand finale on March 8 will coincide with the International Women's Day. On the same day,



a seminar titled 'Looking through the lens: a woman's point of view' has been organised to examine the often debated question of what constitutes 'a woman's film', in terms of practice, critique, teaching and development.

The festival will screen a good number of films by women directors from Korea and India. There is also a special category called 'World Cinema' that will feature works of women directors from Hungary, Czech Republic, Germany, Italy, Mexico, Iran, Canada, USA, Austria, Norway and Burkina Faso. The festival will close with *Ritwik Ghatak's* much acclaimed *Meghe Dhaka Tara*.

Passes will be available at the InKo Centre between 9:30 am to 5:30 pm (Monday to Friday). The tickets are priced at Rs.200 for general public, Rs.150 for the film society members and Rs.100 for students.

Contact: 044 2436 1224