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**The 5th Samsung Women's International Film Festival: 14-21 July 2012**

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**MUMBAI:** Samsung India Electronics Pvt. Ltd and INKO Centre, Chennai in association with the International Women's Film Festival in Seoul (IWFFIS), the Network of Asian Women's Film Festivals (NAWFF), The National Film Development Corporation, India (NFDC), Films Division and Russian Centre of Science & Culture, will present the 5th Samsung Women's International Film Festival in Chennai (SWIFF) from 14-21 July 2012.

This film festival was inaugurated by acclaimed Actor, activist and media entrepreneur, Ms. Gautami, who while opening the film festival said, "It is a privilege to be associated with this Festival which serves as a powerful platform that inspires ties between cultures and build bonds with understanding and passion.

Speaking at the inauguration, Mr Ockki Kim, Managing Director, Samsung Chennai factory stated, "The association with INKO centre is a part of Samsung Hope Project – our corporate social responsibility initiative, that supports projects in the areas of education, culture and social welfare. For us at Samsung, the festival is a way to build bridges of culture between different nationalities using the medium of cinema and we are indeed very delighted to present the 'Samsung Women's International Film Festival'.

Our Cultural partners are the Consulate General of the United States of America, the Embassy of Finland, the Embassy of Denmark, the Goethe-Institut, The British Council, Kalakshetra Foundation, Magic Lantern Foundation, Majlis, The Public Service Broadcasting Trust (PSBT), Documentary Educational Resource (DER), Anuse Films, The Fraynye Trust, Apparao Galleries, Travelling Lens, LV Prasad Academy, Loyola College and our Associate Partners are Taj Club House (Hospitality Partner), Spice Jet (Travel Partner), Chennai Live 104.8 FM (Radio Partner), Lanomark (Retail) and Evam (Event Management).

The Samsung Women's International Film Festival (SWIFF), now into its fifth year will focus on a strong Korean and Indian section of feature films, short films and documentaries as well as a section on World Cinema in all three categories. Every effort will be made to initiate and deepen discussions with film practitioners and viewers to enhance our understanding of this debatable question of what constitutes "a woman's film".

The 5th edition of the Samsung Women's International Film Festival, from 14-21 July 2012 in Chennai, has the following in store:

- 120 powerfully engaging and diverse feature, documentary and short films from India, Korea and from 48 countries around the world with many award-winning films included.
- Contextual inputs from and discussions with our international curators from Korea, India, the UK, the Netherlands, Italy, Iran and Mexico.
- Direct interactions with national and international directors who will introduce their films and interact with the audience.
- Special screening of the films selected for the Network of Asian Film Festivals (NAWFF) Award and the NAWFF Award ceremony.
- The Empathetic Eye: a unique photographic exhibition of the works of three of the world's finest photo-journalists curated by Traveling Lens and presented in association with Apparao Galleries.
- ParallelScreen- a screening of film commenting on other art forms such as music and dance at the Kalakshetra Foundation
- SpecialScreen: a screening of renowned filmmaker Sophie Fiennes (UK) at the British Council
- A documentary filmmaking workshop by international documentary filmmaker, Eugenie Jansen (The Netherlands)
- A performance workshop by acclaimed filmmaker Tatiana Turansky (Germany) at the Goethe Institut.
- Discussions at a host of city colleges

The comprehensive screening schedule, synopses; a Festival guide with information about all the related satellite events around the city as well as complete delegate registration details are available on [www.inkocentre.org](http://www.inkocentre.org).

This year, we have 25 national and international directors visiting Chennai over the Festival period. Our national directors are Girish Kasaravali (Dweepa), Usha Sashini Nair (Akan/Paris in Bloom), Sameera Jain (Mera Apna Shehar), Manta Murthy (Fried Fish, Chicken Soup and a Premier Show), Shobini Ghosh (Tale of the Night Fairies), Sabo Dewan (The Dance), Surabhi Sharma (Jahaji Music), Deepa Dhanraj (Invoking Justice) and K.P. Suseeran (Byaan) as well as Chennai-based directors, Dayanidhi (Merupakkam) and Balaji Shaktivel (Vazhakku En 189).

The international directors visiting Chennai this year are Boo Ji-Young from Korea (My Selves: The Actress No Makeup Project and Moonwalk); Mariette Mongro from Guadeloupe (Eba); Tatjana Turansky from Germany (The Drier); courtesy the Goethe Institut; Eugenie Jansen from The Netherlands (Calmucho); Tuula Meltanen from Finland (courtesy the Embassy of Finland) and Nili Karmi from Iran (The Final Whistle)

The international curators and Festival directors who will be here during the Festival period are as follows:

- June Giovanni (UK), our international curator for the Black diaspora from USA, UK and films from the African subcontinent
- Myeoj Hwang (Korea), our international programmer for the Korean section of films in the 5th SWIFF
- Hyae-kyoung Lee, Festival Director, International Women's Film Festival in Seoul (IWFFIS), Korea
- Yoko Ohtake, Festival Director, Tokyo Women's International Film Festival (TWMFF), Japan
- Wei-Ssu, Festival Director, Women Make Waves Festival, Taiwan
- Pechi-Lo, Programmer, Women Make Waves Festival, Taiwan -Anet Sperling, Festival Director, Israel Women's Film Festival