



CHENU India

Category : Fiction
Shooting format : HD
Length : 90'
Location : India
Shooting dates : Nov-Dec 2013
Stage of production : Development stage

Budget : 459 577 €
Financing in place : 0 €
Current situation : Seeking for European coproducer, international sale agent



© Cinemanjeet creations

Reena MAHE – PRODUCER (Cinemanjeet Creations)



Reena Mahe is a computer engineer by qualification. She writes poetry and enjoys travelling. "Mumbai Cha Raja" ("Mumbai King") is her maiden attempt at producing a feature film. She has been associated with Cinemanjeet Creations for six years and helped develop scripts/projects for the company including "Chenu".

Manjeet SINGH – DIRECTOR



A qualified engineer, Manjeet Singh left his career in the USA and moved back to his hometown Mumbai to make films in 2006. Since then he has traveled throughout India, researching for scripts; made short films; wrote Cinema blogs and worked with the so called 'the new wave' Indian filmmakers. His other passions include painting and playing Tabla. Manjeet curated a film festival in Mumbai titled 'Emerging voices of Indian Cinema'. He was one of selected film-makers to be promoted at Cannes by NFDC and selected for Toronto International Film Festival's (TIFF) Talent Lab. "Mumbai Cha Raja" ("Mumbai King"), his debut feature film, premiered at Toronto International Film festival 2012 and is in competition at the Abu Dhabi and Mumbai Film Festivals.

SYNOPSIS

Chenu is a low caste dalit boy in the Ganges belt, who is drawn into the war between the extreme violent leftist forces (Naxals) and fascist military of the landlords, when his younger sister Chano's fingers are chopped by a landlord Teer Singh for plucking mustard leaves from his farm.

When Chenu's family is denied justice, the Naxals come to their rescue. They chase the landlord Teer Singh, who flees to his cousin, Ex-Member of Parliament Dinanath Rai for protection. The Naxals sympathize and support Chenu and his family. Chenu is used in their operations. He comes to know where the weapons are hidden ; to fire a Gun and learns guerilla warfare tactics...

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT (extract)

"Why does the society still takes it for granted that the marginalized class will live in its excreta; would have to struggle for the basic human values? Why is feudalism part of our subconscious mind?"

"Hum Bhumihaar hain Dalityon ko martein hai (We are the landlords and we kill the low caste Dalits)", a proud statement by a close friend shocked me.

The brutal killings as a result of upper caste army of landlords and lands less Dalits, supported by Naxals, baffled me and the images were stuck in conscious for ever. Magadh happens to be a the birth place of Gautam Bhudha, Guru Gobind Singh and Mahavir Jain, founders of three religions, which inspired people to rise above the social caste divisions. Still it is very much present in every aspect of life.

'Chenu' is an attempt to understand the psyche of the people involved in this conflict using the real incidents, and cinematic liberty to construct a narrative structure with an independent form. It is also an untold story of a huge part of India in a conflict, which is tried to be hidden by the corporate sponsored media. It exposes the double standards; disparity; mental backwardness of the society, which never accepts its true form."

CONTACT:

Company office : + 91 9969727576
Reena Mahe : mahereena@yahoo.com
Manjeet Singh : cinemanjeet@gmail.com