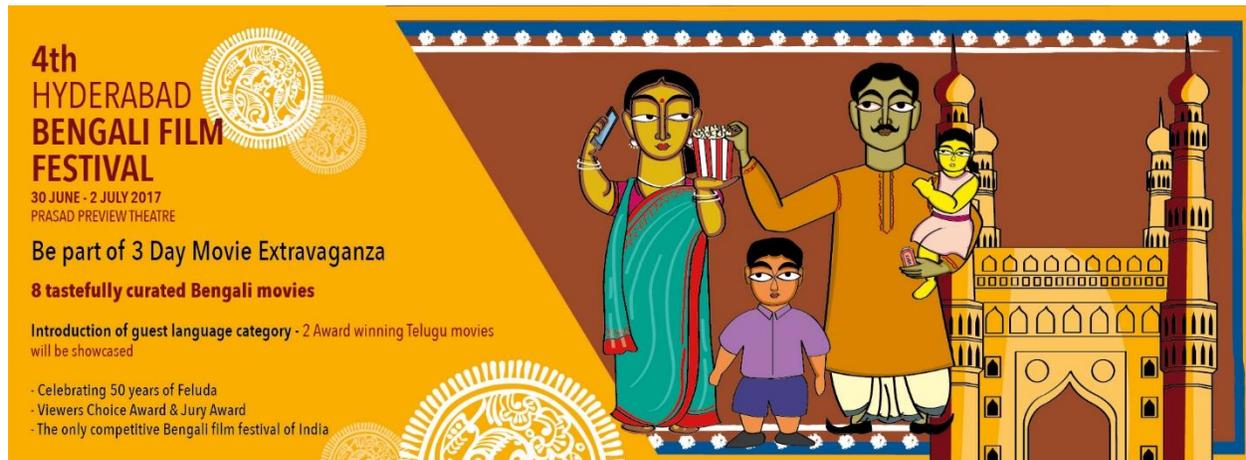


Fourth Hyderabad Bengali Film Festival to commence on June 30-Strengthening Telugu-Bengali Cultural Bond

Hyderabad, May 16, 2017: The 4th edition of the Hyderabad Bengali Film Festival (HBFF) is going to be inaugurated on June 30, 2017, at Prasad Preview Theatre at Road # 2, Banjara Hills. The 3-day celebration of Bengali films is scheduled to conclude on July 2, 2017, with an award ceremony.



The festival is organized by Bengalis in Hyderabad, a not for profit cultural organization based in Hyderabad. The journey of HBFF started in 2014 and it's been running successfully ever since. The Government of Telangana and Federation of Film Societies in India (FFSI) have partnered with HBFF in its 4th edition to make it the perfect occasion for cultural exchange. This year, HBFF is all set to introduce Telugu as the guest language. The festival is preparing to pay homage to 'Feluda' (aka Pradosh Mitra), the iconic detective created by Satyajit Ray who is turning 50 years young. Apart from these, there will be a competitive section with 6 carefully curated Bengali movies for which, the viewers will hold the voting pad and judge the best along with members of the jury. In a nut shell, the weekend between, June 30 to July 2, is going to be quite happening with Bengali films, Telugu films and Feluda films. The festival will be star-studded with the presence of directors, actors, crew members, film scholars and super-enthusiastic 'mana Hyderabad film buffs.'

Partha Pratim Mallik, the Director of HBFF, says: "The 4th edition of HBFF will surely be a great platform for everyone – film lovers and enthusiasts of diversified culture. The films have been curated to portray a kaleidoscope of society and cinema. Featuring films of varied genres and tastes, there is something for everyone."

However, Mr. Mallik wanted the followers of HBFF to hold their breath for a little while when asked about the lineup this year. "The lineup is very interesting this year which will be revealed soon. But more importantly, don't miss the Q&A and filmy-adda sessions in the presence of stars. The screenings and

events will surely amaze everyone, especially the Bengali diaspora of Hyderabad,” he kept the mystery alive.

Hyderabad Bengali Film Festival (HBFF) is the first and only curated and competitive Bengali film festival in India and the 3rd of its kind in the world after Singapore and Dubai. But within this short span of time HBFF has been well accepted among the film fraternity as well as the people in Hyderabad - Secunderabad. Every year we screen 8 unique and critically acclaimed films and host the actors and directors, arrange for seminar, meet the director sessions to introduce the audience with the flavors of film making. This year we are going to introduce **Telugu as the guest language and will screen Telugu films apart from Bengali**. Every year we invite film makers from different industries, including Telugu film industries. But this year we want to create a more prepared **platform for cultural exchange between Telugu and Bengali**.

The last but not the least the festival is being organized by a not for profit organization **Bengalis in Hyderabad**, a registered cultural organization registered under AP Society Act. The organizing team of HBFF is full of young Bengali minds, majorly from IT, ITES and other technology industries in Hyderabad and the belonging to an age group of late 20s and mid 30s.