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NE Films at Woodpecker International Film Festival

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Woodpecker International Film Festival will screen 12 films and documentaries on the Northeast this year. Its fourth edition will take place at Siri Fort Auditorium Delhi on September 15-18.

94 films from 7 countries and 35 cities are going to be showcased. The films will focus on various issues like environmental conservation, women empowerment, homosexuality, forest protection etc.

The films from the Northeast that will be screened at the festival –



Little Hearts

Little Hearts directed by Manas Sagra. This is the story of two friends, Apu and Manglu and their various adventures. Apu and Manglu unknowingly commit a terrible crime which becomes a source of pain for Apu. How he overcomes the guilt forms the crux of the story.



Pakke Paga – Protecting the Hornbills of Arunachal Pradesh

Pakke Paga – Protecting the Hornbills of Arunachal Pradesh by Adarsh Raju. Pakke Tiger Reserve in western Arunachal Pradesh is a haven for four species of hornbills. Since 2012, NCF(Nature Conservation Foundation), along with the help of Ghora-Aabhe Society (a local NGO formed by Nyishi village headmen for promoting conservation around Pakke) and the Arunachal Pradesh Forest Department, have been successfully running the Hornbill Nest Adoption Program.



Voices of Teesta

Voices of Teesta by Minket Lepcha. The film tries to understand the relationship between various groups and communities of Sikkim and West Bengal with River Teesta. It also tries to trace the unheard voices of local people who are affected by the various development projects.



Tez

Tez by Bhaskar Upadhyaya, Prabhat Goswami. A short film based on a father who abandons his new born girl child in the want of a boy. The father associates the birth of a girl with unending responsibilities and liabilities. However, the world turns upside down for the father when he has his moment of realization.



The Nest

The Nest by Sange Dorjee Thongdok. The film is about Yeshi and Dema, who run TashiDelek – a small eatery – at the mouth of the Sela pass, at an altitude of 14000 feet, more often than not, being the only sign of human habitation.



Oh My Soul

Oh My Soul by Kivini Shohe. The film focuses on the life of a transgender and his struggle with livelihood, identity and relationships in Naga society.



Phum Shang

Phum Shang by Haobam Paban Kumar. Loktak, the only floating lake in the world and the largest freshwater lake in North-East India, is characterized by its unique floating biomass *phumdi*. It is the primary source of livelihood today of the people living there, when it is considered a dying lake, government agencies and local conservationists are struggling to save it from serious problems due to human induced developmental activities.

Tashi and the Monk

Tashi and the Monk by Andrew Hinton, Johnny Burke. Committed to raising children with love and compassion, former Buddhist monk Lobsong Phuntsok attempts to heal his own childhood abandonment by adopting 85 unwanted children and growing them as a family at Jhamtse Ghatsal, a remote children's community in the foothills of the Himalayas. The film follows Jhamtse's newest arrival, a wild and troubled 5-year-old girl named Tashi, as she learns what love is and how it can help her heal.

Autodriver

Autodriver by Meena Longjam. Laibi is a lady auto driver based in Imphal. To support an ailing husband and educate her two sons, she takes up this profession defying the society. She has to face the discrimination of passengers who shun lady auto drivers.



Hygiene – A Tradition

Hygiene – A Tradition by Kailash Bhutani. This film is on Mawlynnong village in Meghalaya. Mawlynnong, also referred as ‘God’s own garden’ has won the acclaim of being the cleanest village in Asia.

Manas – Return of the Giants

Manas – Return of the Giants by Praveen Singh. Manas National Park was destroyed by a two-decade war, resulting in almost complete loss of wildlife. With the help of scientists and armed rangers the animals are slowly returning, but Manas needs all of the giants back if it has any chance of recovering its former glory.

Wildlife Week at Eaglenest Wildlife Sanctuary

Wildlife Week at Eaglenest Wildlife Sanctuary by Tallo Anthony. The Eaglenest Wildlife Sanctuary in West Kameng district of Arunachal Pradesh is a landscape with stunning bio-diversity. It nurtures almost 454 species of birds, 165 species of butterflies and 15 species of mammals. To spread awareness about the rich natural heritage, the Shergoan forest division with the help of Bugun Welfare Society conducts various activities.

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