

# ANGRY INDIAN GODDESSES

DIRECTED BY PAN NALIN

ANGELS. LOVERS. VICTIMS. KILLERS. BUDDIES... WOMEN.

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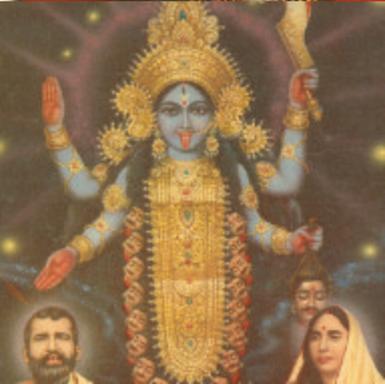
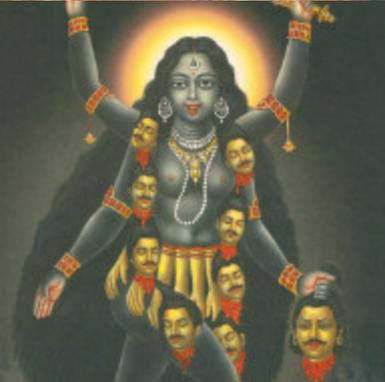
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**VANAF 25 AUGUSTUS IN DE BIOSCOOP!**

# SYNOPSIS

Bekroonde regisseur Pan Nalin (*Samsara*, 2001) maakte met *Angry Indian Goddesses* India's eerste vrouwelijke buddy film: een fris, realistisch portret van vrouwen in het moderne India. Mode-fotografe Frieda brengt haar beste vriendinnen vanuit heel India samen in haar ouderlijke huis in het schilderachtige Goa waar ze aankondigt te gaan trouwen. Een spontaan vrijgezellenfeest ontstaat en de week die volgt ontardt in een achtbaan van onderlinge ontboezemingen, vriendschap, conflicten en verzoeningen. Te midden van het feestgedruis borrelen echter ook geheimen, spanningen en verdriet op. Ondanks het feit dat hun vriendschap op de proef wordt gesteld, zijn de vriendinnen vastberaden om de dag te plukken. Totdat het lot een dramatische wending neemt.

*Angry Indian Goddesses* is een romantische komedie met een zwart randje; een film over krachtige vrouwen die zich vrij proberen te vechten in een land waar dat voor vrouwen niet zo vanzelfsprekend is. Een ode aan het vrouw zijn en tegelijkertijd een aanklacht tegen de Indiase mannenmaatschappij. En niet zonder controversie: de film werd in India zwaar gecensureerd.

# DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

In the last few years India has witnessed rapid economic growth and crashed right into the conflict of modernity versus traditions. Contemporary Indian women are at the center of this unfolding of a torn, troubled and tarnished modern era. Will the country move with the times or stay with traditional values or somehow manage both? As a filmmaker I was deeply inspired by the state of affairs which Indian women are experiencing: their conflicts over career, society, love, family, sex... and there are many layers to these stories that must be unraveled. *ANGRY INDIAN GODDESSES* is one of the first films to put modern-day Indian women at the heart of the story.

For years I longed to do a film with firebrand Indian women in lead roles because shockingly 96% of female roles in Indian cinema have the woman as an accessory, a decoration, or a lover (translate that to the female cast being sexy), or playing a mother, or sister whose "izzat" (honour) the hero or "big bro" must protect. Alternatively, she is the ultimate 'IT' girl! Her male lead must have a gun and a female counterpart but the film caters to males: it must be a testosterone driven film. Female roles are glamorized and there's always a dance or 'gaana' (song). Of course the glamour doesn't dignify the woman and it's still the guy's movie!

Be it action, rom-com, thriller... the man must dominate more screen time, say the real lines and win the women over. Even the recent lot of all Bollywood buddy movies run high on male testosterone, as if women don't "buddy" or connect with each other!! As a filmmaker who loves women and everything feminine, I have been witnessing an outcry from the Indian women for gender equality, respect and dignity. Thus, I was compelled to use their fury as my fuel to fire up the *ANGRY INDIAN GODDESSES*!

*Pan Nalin*  
September, 2015



### SARAH- JANE DIAS as FRIEDA

Sarah is a former Channel V VJ and Miss India 2007. She has also appeared in the Australian Rock Band INXS's video "Never Let you Go". She made her Bollywood debut opposite Abhishek Bachchan in Game (2011) and also starred in films such as Kya Super Kool Hai Hum (2012), O Teri (2014) and Happy New Year (2014). Sarah's upcoming film is the Guneet Monga (Shikhya Entertainment) produced Zubaan which premieres at this year's Busan International Film Festival.



### RAJSHRI DESHPANDE as LAXMI

Straddling the world of theatre, advertising and TV, Rajshri has also acted in films such as Kuch Toh Log Kahenge (2011), For Hire (2012), Talaash (2012) and Kick (2015). In 2014, she also played the character of Agent Veena in Anil Kapoor's hit TV show 24:India. Her latest release is the Malayalam film , Haram (2015).



### SANDHYA MRIDUL as SURANJANA

Sandhya Mridul, is acclaimed for her roles in Saathiya (2002), Page 3 (2005), Honeymoon Travels Pvt. Ltd. (2007), Via Darjeeling (2008), Force (2011) and Ragini MMS (2013). She was also the runner-up in the popular television dance show Jhalak Dikhhla Jaa (Season 2).



### AMRIT MAGHERA as JOANNA

A sought-after face in the fashion and entertainment industry, Amrit is the former brand ambassador of the cosmetic giant Lakme. Amrit has graced the front covers and features of many international magazines including GQ, Harper's Bazaar, FHM, Vogue, Maxim, Verve and Femina. In 2014, she starred in the feature film MAD: Mad About Dance followed by the Punjabi feature Goreyan Nu Daffa Karo (2014) and Amar Akbar Anthony (2015).



### PAVLEEN GUJRAL as PAMELA

A model, anchor, actor and stylist, Pavleen has been the proud face of brands such as Yamaha and Dabur. She has walked the ramp for designers such as Sabyasachi, Rohit Bal and Tarun Tahiliani and on major fashion shows such as the Wills India Fashion Week and Bridal Asia. She has hosted Band Baaja Buffet on the Food Network and Bazaar and Joggers Park for the Travel Trendz Channel. In 2014, she made her feature film debut with Trip To Bhangarh.



### ANUSHKA MANCHANDA as MADHUREETA

India's renowned pop diva was born into a family who loves their rock & roll. Anushka came into the limelight as a member of Viva, India's most successful, all-girl band which sold over half a million copies of their first album. Her connection with the youth led Channel V got her signed on as a VJ and her passion for motorcycles also led to her hosting MTV's Stuntmania. The super hit song Golmaal launched her Bollywood playback singing career and she has since worked with the hottest music directors in the country. Known for her cool style, Anushka constantly graces the lists of the best dressed women in the country.



### TANNISHTHA CHATTERJEE as NARGIS

Tannishtha is best known for her performance in the British film Brick Lane (2007) where she was nominated for the British Independent Film awards in the 'Best Actress' category. Her other notable roles have been in Academy Award winning German director Florian Gallenberger's film, Shadows of Time (2005), Road Movie (2010) with Abhay Deol, Jalpari: The Desert Mermaid (2012), Gulab Gang (2013) with Madhuri Dixit, Monsoon Shootout (2013) which was an official selection at the 66th Cannes film festival and Chauranga (2014). Tannishtha is currently filming the Australian romantic comedy UnIndian with Bret Lee and Garth Davies' film Lion co-starring Nicole Kidman and Dev Patel.

## PAN NALIN DIRECTOR



Pan Nalin came into the global spotlight with his debut feature film *SAMSARA* (Miramax). The movie was a commercial and critical success worldwide and won over thirty awards at various film-related events.

Nalin, a self-taught filmmaker, was born in a remote village in Gujarat, India. Until the age of 12, Nalin helped his father sell tea on a railway platform. He disliked school, putting his energy into painting and drawing instead. He also actively staged mythological dramas and folk plays.

Later, as a teenager, he left his family and village in pursuit of cinema. He studied Fine Arts at the M.S. University of Baroda. Nalin made over fifty wedding videos to finance his education. While living in Baroda, he discovered Hollywood movies and world cinema. A year later Nalin went to study design at the prestigious National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad (NID). While at NID, he wrote about movies and managed the film club by programming films from around the world. After creating four animated films and twenty short silent films in college, Nalin concluded that the best film school is life itself.

With a passion for cinema and travel what naturally followed was documentaries. Nalin made several of them with the BBC, Discovery, Canal Plus and other leading international networks. His multiple award-winning feature documentary *AYURVEDA: ART OF BEING* was theatrically released worldwide with major success. To date, it remains the highest grossing Indian documentary film.

Nalin's romantic epic *VALLEY OF FLOWERS* was pre-sold to nearly 35 countries and considered a major underground hit. It still continues to enjoy a multiple-platform release with cult, critical and commercial success worldwide. The Manga-like world of *VALLEY OF FLOWERS* was filmed in Japan and in the remote, high altitude Himalayas. *VALLEY OF FLOWERS* won Best Picture at IFFLA Los Angeles.

Nalin's latest feature documentary *FAITH CONNECTIONS* was an official selection at Toronto International Film Festival (2013) and it won the Audience Choice Award at IFFLA Los Angeles (2013). *FAITH CONNECTIONS*, currently in theatrical release across Europe, was also released in the U.S and Australia with great critical and commercial success. Nalin recently completed filming a spiritual thriller in India and New Zealand called *BEYOND THE KNOWN WORLD* starring David Wenham & Emmanuelle Beart, which is now in post-production in New Zealand.

Nalin's tragic comedy screenplay *SLIGHTLY SANE* adapted from S. H. Manto's *TOBA TEK SINGH* recently won the CJ Entertainment's Award for Best International Project at the Asia Film Market of Busan International Film Festival, South Korea.

Nalin has served as a jury member at many prestigious international film festivals, has attended several prominent, filmmaking and screenwriting labs, and has been on the panels of many prestigious cinema, literature & arts conclaves. In 2014 Pan Nalin made it to The Better India's prestigious list of "25 NRI Across The World Who Have Made India Proud".

## GAURAV DHINGRA PRODUCER



Gaurav has over a decade of experience producing some of the largest films and international TV shows created in India, including such features as RANG DE BASANTI, DELHI 6 and MANGAL PANDEY.

In 2011, Gaurav produced ICE ROAD TRUCKERS for History (USA), the biggest international TV show shot in India. He has also line-produced over 10 seasons of THE AMAZING RACE for CBS – USA.

In early 2012, Gaurav co-produced PEDDLERS which was selected in Critics' Week Section of Cannes Film Festival, 2012. In 2013, Gaurav co-produced HARAM KHOR & VAKRATUNDA MAHAKAYA with acclaimed producer Guneet Monga.

In 2013, Gaurav produced the highly popular feature documentary FAITH CONNECTIONS. Directed by Pan Nalin, it was an official selection at the Toronto International Film Festival TIFF 2013 - World Premiere. FAITH CONNECTIONS also won the Audience Choice Award at IFFLA, Los Angeles 2013. In 2014, Gaurav along with Kiwi producers Matthew Horrocks and Christian Eek, produced the English feature BEYOND THE KNOWN WORLD. Directed by Pan Nalin, the film stars David Wenham and Emmanuelle Beart and is currently in post-production. Gaurav is currently busy with a slate of films which are in different stages of development at Jungle Book Entertainment.



# TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

ANGRY INDIAN GODDESSES

HINDI / 104 MINS

COLOR / 5.1 DIGITAL CINEMA / CINEMASCOPE

## MAIN CREDITS

WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY PAN NALIN

PRODUCED BY GAURAV DHINGRA, PAN NALIN

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER: NANDISH DOMLUR

CO PRODUCER: SOL BONDY, JAMILLA WENSKE

CO-PRODUCER: SUDHIR CHANDER DHINGRA

ASSOCIATE PRODUCER: ARSALA QUREISHI, SIDDHARTH BAGAI, GAURAV SEHGAL, SUMEETA BHARDWAJ SEHGAL

LINE PRODUCER: SHYAM BORA

CO WRITERS: DILIP SHANKAR, SUBHADRA MAHAJAN, ARSALA QUREISHI

CASTING & ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR: DILIP SHANKAR

DOP: SWAPNIL S SONAWANE

EDITED BY: SHREYAS BELTANGDY

ADDITIONAL EDITING: VESSELA MARTSCHEWSKI

PRODUCTION DESIGN: ARADHANA SETH

ART DIRECTOR: TIYA TEJPAL

COSTUME DESIGN: ASHIMA BELAPURKAR

MAKE UP & HAIR DESIGN: SARA MENITRA

LOCATION SOUND: ATIREK PANDEY

SOUND DESIGN: P.M. SATHEESH & MANOJ GOSWAMI

ORIGINAL SCORE BY: CYRIL MORIN

SONGS: RAM SAMPATH FEATURING BHANVARI DEVI & HARD KAUR, ANUSHKA MANCHANDA

RAJESH 'BLAAZE' RAMAN, M BOYER FEATURING ANTONETTE MENDES, KARY ARORA

ASHISH PRABHU AJGAONKAR & DR SWAPNIL SALKAR & PRATICHEE MOHAPATRA



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