

EXZEMA

Cinema and Culture Association

Presents

The First Bollywood Documentary



SINI & ROY

സിനി & റോയി

*A love story between Bologna and India*

Written and directed by

Claudine Tissier & Fabio Campo

Under the patronage of:

Regione Emilia Romagna - CGIL Emilia Romagna – Comune di Bologna

## Synopsis

We would like to tell you a story, a very simple story.

The story starts in an Italian city where Sini and Roy, a young Indian couple, work hard at their jobs.

It then moves on to Kerala, where Sini and Roy kindly allowed us to accompany them for some happy, unforgettable days.

In their company we discovered an India that was very different from the typical Western clichés: lively, colourful, warm, unpredictable.

We met throngs of smiling children, curious elderly ladies, charming girls, young lovers, simple and generous people who welcomed us, who agreed to share their daily lives with us, sometimes even revealing their dreams, hopes and fears.

Accompanied by music and guided by film images, we filmed the small things in their everyday lives.

They might seem insignificant, but they are rich in the essential truth that in the banality of minor events, human beings are alike.

This video is not just a travel journal.

It's an emotional space in which to share our feelings with you; feelings which have no boundaries but are universal.

So we'd just like to tell you this story, a simple story, a love story.

## The style

The authors, both lovers of Indian cinema, made this documentary in the typical Bollywood style: highly coloured, sometimes kitsch and stereotyped. The soundtrack is taken from various older and more recent Indian movies.

This documentary was produced using a minimum of technical equipment: the shooting was carried out with two digital video cameras and the post-production was carried out without a professional studio.

## The authors

Claudine Tissier and Fabio Campo live in Bologna. They are involved in many artistic projects related to different fields. During their many travels to Asia, they have shot many video clips. "Sini & Roy" is their first documentary movie.

## Sini, Roy, the state of Kerala

**Sini** is 30 years old, she is Catholic and has studied economics at university. She got married when she was 19, following the Indian custom of arranged marriages: she had never seen her husband before but she accepted to marry him, although she was not forced to. She came to Italy to work many years ago, after

her marriage. The marriage became very difficult and she is now obtaining a divorce. She has a five-year-old girl who is looked after by her husband's family in India. She hopes to have her daughter back after the divorce. Two years ago she met Roy, with whom she lives and works. In the future she would like to marry him, to stay in Italy for 3 or 4 more years and then go back to Kerala, where she hopes to open a clothes shop. Her family doesn't know about Roy. Sini is waiting for the divorce to tell her father about him.

**Roy** is 30 years old as well. He is Catholic and has been in Italy for the last five years. During this period he has never been back to India. He works really hard, just like Sini, often more than 10 hours a day, with only Sundays off. He saves money to help his family and so that his sisters can get married, and to buy a taxi once he gets back to India. He hopes he can marry Sini.

**Kerala** is a state in the south-western part of India. In this state there is a large Catholic minority and also a high percentage of Communists. The landscape is green and tropical. The period in between the end of June and the beginning of July coincides with the monsoon season. Kerala is the state of Arundathi Roy, the most famous contemporary Indian writer, who is deeply involved in the anti-globalization campaign. Her most famous novel: "The God of Small Things" is set in her home village, just a few kilometres from Sini's village.

### Credits

Written and directed by: Claudine Tissier & Fabio Campo  
Filmed in Bologna by: Danilo Caracciolo and Fabio Campo  
Filmed in Kerala by: Fabio Campo and Claudine Tissier  
Sound: Massi Aquilano and Roberto "Sacco" Secchi  
Video editing: Fabio Campo  
Graphic: Nole.biz  
Italian text adaptation: Andrea Trombini and Elio Talon  
French version: Claudine Tissier  
English version: Mette Rudvin and Dalila Campo  
Italian dubbing: Alice Campo, Cléo Ivanoff, Serena Mignani, Elio Talon, Andrea Trombini  
Narrator: Claudine Tissier  
Promotion: Cristiana Costantini, Gianna Nuvoli  
Non-original Soundtrack: (Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam movies)  
Production: EXZEMA - 2006 - MiniDV PAL 4:3 and DVD  
French version: 75 minutes  
Italian version: 75 minutes  
Italian version with English subtitles: 60 minutes  
Italian Version (2): 60 minutes

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