

Drushti Film Forum Report 2017-2018

Drushti Film Forum (DFF) is a film society of Somaiya Vidyavihar initiated and managed by K.J. Somaiya college of Arts and Commerce. DFF is a platform of screening and understanding meaningful Cinema from all over the world with academic approach and passionate viewing.

In the academic year 2017-2018, DFF started its membership drive in the month of July with curtain raiser films like- Life is Beautiful (1997/Italy), The Walk (2015/US), and Peepli live (2010/Hindi/India).

This year DFF was inaugurated on 27th July 2017 by our own students who were part of MAMI Mumbai International Film Festival as Young Critics and made us felt proud with their talent in these years. Those students include Raunak Raje, Saba Purkar, Omkar Kulkarni, Payal Shah. However Karan Jhala and Salim Shaikh could not attend the function because of their prior appointments. On this inaugural occasion, English - Tamil film Lessons in Forgetting was screened.

Other films that were screened throughout the academic year as our regular Thursday screenings are as follows : Modern Times (1936/US), Garm Hawa (1974/Hindi/India), About Elly (2009/Iran), Hero (2002/China), The Boy in the Stripped Pajamas (2008/UK), Lion (2015/Australia), Shatranj ke Khiladi (1977/Hindi/India), Postmen in the Mountains (1999/China), Bicycle Thieves (1948 /Italy), Rang de Basanti (2006/Hindi/India), 400 Blows (1959/France), Sound of Music (1965/US), Cinema Paradiso (1988 /Italy). DFF is not just about screening the films, but it is about understanding it in a context. So we have regular practice of properly introducing the film before its screening and discuss it later after the screening with a participatory approach.

Along with regular screenings, a Understanding Cinema workshop was conducted by Prof. Abhijit Deshpande on 18th and 19th August 2017 and was attended by 22 student participants.

A special screening of documentary – Ram ke Naam (based on Ayodhya issue), in association with History department, was organised on 7th December 2017 and later



discussed by Prof. Hemali sanghavi, Prof. Gaurav Gadgil and Prof. Abhijit Deshpande.

A mini Film Festival like event – One day with Films titled Human Film Festival was organised on 19th January 2018 at two different venues – Kalidas sabhagruha and Conference room with total 6 films with human issues. These films include, Human volumes 1 and 2, Baraka, Osama, Bicycle Thieves, Court. Prof. Sonali Deogirikar and Prof. Rohini Fadate attended the screening and had a discussions with students.

On the occasion of Human Film festival Essay writing competition was held on different topics on cinema. The results are as follows: First- Janhavi Vichare (11th Commerce), Second- Rakshita Jain (TYBMS), Third- Hrishikesh Thakurdesai (SYBBI).

This year, Saba Purkar initiated Film Study Group with few fellow students and discussed films in detail in some of its formal-informal sessions.

Send off to TY students was held on 15th February 2018 in the conference room.

The DFF team of the year is : Prof. Abhijit Deshpande, Prof. Mamata Tendulkar, Prof. Pratima Kadu and the student volunteers- Saba Purkar, Payal Shah, Pooja Prabhu, Maitri Bhanushali, Atharva Patwardhan, Pratik Shetty, Riya Thakkar, Prachi, Ankita Parab, Subhash Modi, Bhagyashri, Mubasshira Qureshi , Sumit, Sambodhi Gaikwad, Shivika singhai, Apurva Nambiar, Rohit Ohal.

All of those team members with their consistent efforts made all the above activities of DFF successful and meaningful and set the agenda for new academic year.



Abhijit Deshpande
(Abhijit Deshpande)
Chairperson, DFF