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From Ancestral Roots to Human Bonds, 12 Goan Films Bring Local Stories to the Global Stage at 57th IFFI

CHENNAI – 21 Nov, 2026 Long celebrated across the world for its coastal charm, vibrant heritage, and unmatched hospitality, Goa has another side that deserves equal attention — its stories and the people behind them. At the 57th International Film Festival of India (IFFI), a specially curated package brings this side of Goa to the screen, exploring lives, relationships, memories and experiences that are both deeply local and universally relatable.

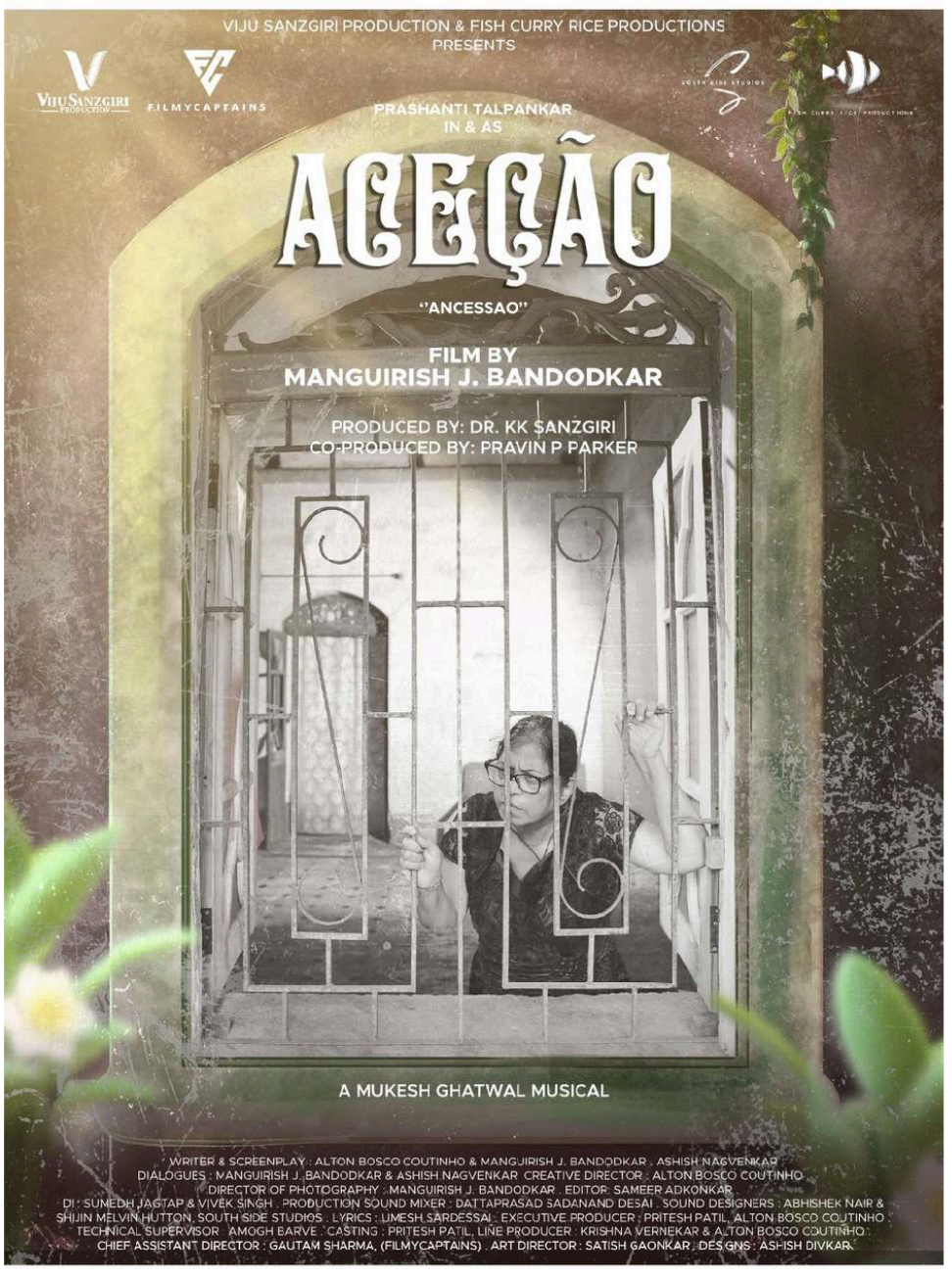
Scheduled for screening from November 21 to 28 at INOX Panjim, this collection of films traverses a rich emotional landscape. Stories of an elderly woman confronting her conscience, a forgotten local hero whose past resurfaces, a daughter seeking reconciliation with her family, and an elderly villager defending his ancestral home reflect the range of human experiences explored through these films.

Spanning Konkani and Marathi, the selection comprises feature and short films that explore a wide spectrum of themes, including family relationships, social realities, personal struggles, identity, childhood, loneliness and personal discovery. From deeply personal narratives to quirky comedies and thought-provoking dramas, the films offer audiences an engaging glimpse into the evolving landscape of filmmaking in Goa.

A glimpse into the Goan film selection:

Director: Manguirish J. Bandodkar | Language: Konkani | Duration: 30 minutes

Set in a quiet Goan village, Ancessao follows an elderly woman living alone, filling the silence of her life with conversations about others. Unable to confront her own grief, she eventually recognises her gossip as a distraction from an unhealed wound. When her conscience prompts her to change, she makes a resolve to mend



her ways, but the transformation proves short-lived.

Director: Vardhan Vijaykumar Kamat | Language: Konkani | Duration: 1 hour 39 minutes

Once a celebrated local hero, Umesh now leads a reclusive life in a rural Goan village, surviving on odd jobs and haunted by an unresolved past. His life takes an unexpected turn when aspiring filmmakers Anton and Rohan arrive to document him. As they navigate local rumours and half-truths, they uncover a forgotten talent and the painful circumstances behind his isolation. As trust gradually develops, Umesh grows increasingly wary of the camera. Umesh explores identity, trust and the cost of a forgotten legacy.

Director: Prasad M. Naik | Language: Konkani | Duration: 11 minutes