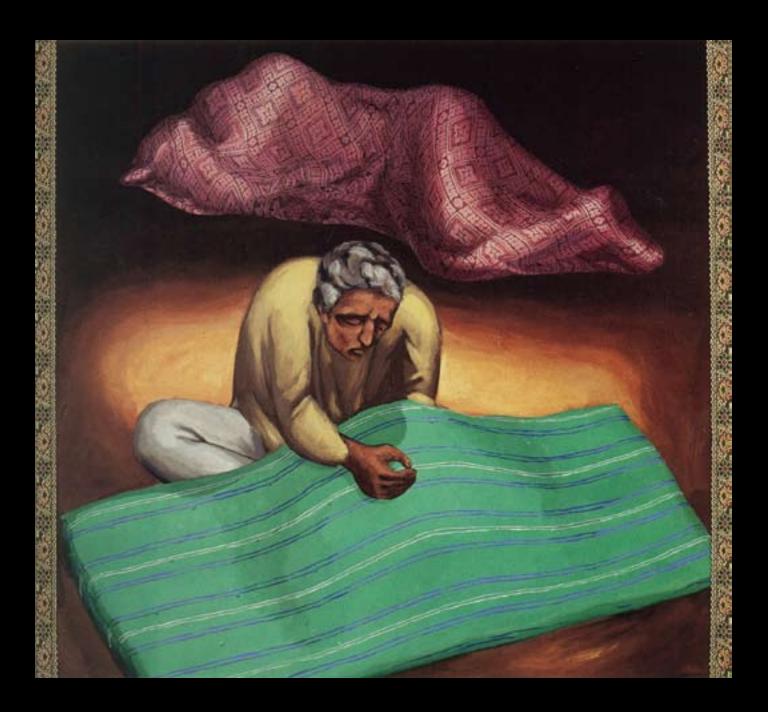


Cinema City Lived



Introduction

When the film image comes alive like a planet in the night sky of the theatre, it seems to behave like a dream that our sleep projects: it releases itself from its moorings, the strings, needles, threads, and labouring breaths that have struggled to give it life.

This book is an attempt to moor that image again. To also look at the labour that takes the needled thread through the cotton wad and makes a bed for fantasy.

The image of labour was perhaps always secondary to the power loom, the film star, the sea port of Bombay. There was a time when these were the three trademark images of a city that has always been iconised for its ability to make capital. Sometimes these industries shared landscapes and people: the migrant labour that worked in the cotton mills became the vibrant crowd that enabled businessmen to make cinema theatre districts of some parts of the city. Country wide distribution would happen in small offices around these theatres. Today, those vibrant centres are already seen as being in disuse, 'older parts' of a city that seems to be relentlessly letting out fresh tentacles northwards.

In a once unthinkable turn of history, the textiles mills were wiped out of the landscape. In the decade and more since then, the configurations of this city and its topology have rapidly changed. Land has almost become like a new bale of cloth, and the 'Real esate business', like a measuring rod that is seeking to give monetary value to every square inch. How has that other large constellation from a previous time, Cinema, survived?

Video has multiplied the forms of the moving image, and digital technology has altered the need for and the very idea of space vis a vis this medium. Today, large editing rooms have shrunk to personal desktop computers. And landscaped gardens are often merely a layer of image. It might not be a co incidence that cinema's reduced need for space has corresponded with Mumbai's ever growing urge of putting up every large tract of land for redevelopment.

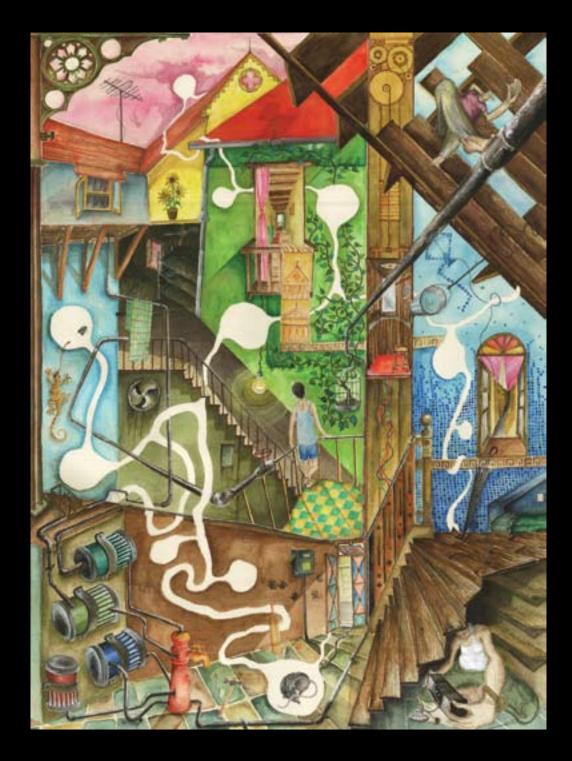
This book looks at some of the people who gave room to some part of this industry in their already very small houses. A lot of these homes exist in clusters in the northern parts of the city, in the glibly named 'suburbs', which are often the energetic and difficult new centres of urban life. Meeting them in their living and working spaces led us to the other exploration of the book- of the kind of city (itself an object created from desire and labour) that is getting constructed in the process, as people take on different adventures in their attempt to earn a livelihood and their desire to transform their lives in this metropolis.

We sensed that we were often listening to stories of what the demand of earning a living in this city does to the desires that people come here with. The industry of moving images builds itself on these necessities. Often people struggle to persist with their dreams, to somehow accomodate them in their current lives. They try and mine the thin opportunities that are offered to them.

Houses, then neighbourhoods, change shape in response to their inhabitants' struggle. Grills get extended, mezzanines grow like mushrooms, technology is domesticated. The edit software on the personal computer is a thin wall away from the household mixer-grinder. A small space under the clothes-line is cordoned off for 'writing'.

Not only individual spaces, but the city must shift shape to keep up with the energy of those bifurcating dreams. Well before land is levelled and concrete is laid, pathways snake through rubble, connections grow between clusters.

A lot of us have grown up in these suburbs, and unknowingly walked these concrete- dust laden streets, not giving much attention to how we live in cinema's industrial lot. How does our training in architecture and architectural spaces enable us to look at cinema city? This book is an expression of what we, as residents of this city, as students and designers of imagined and existing built spaces, as viewers curious about the moorings of the image we see, came upon, when we walked these roads attentively.



Themes & Methodology

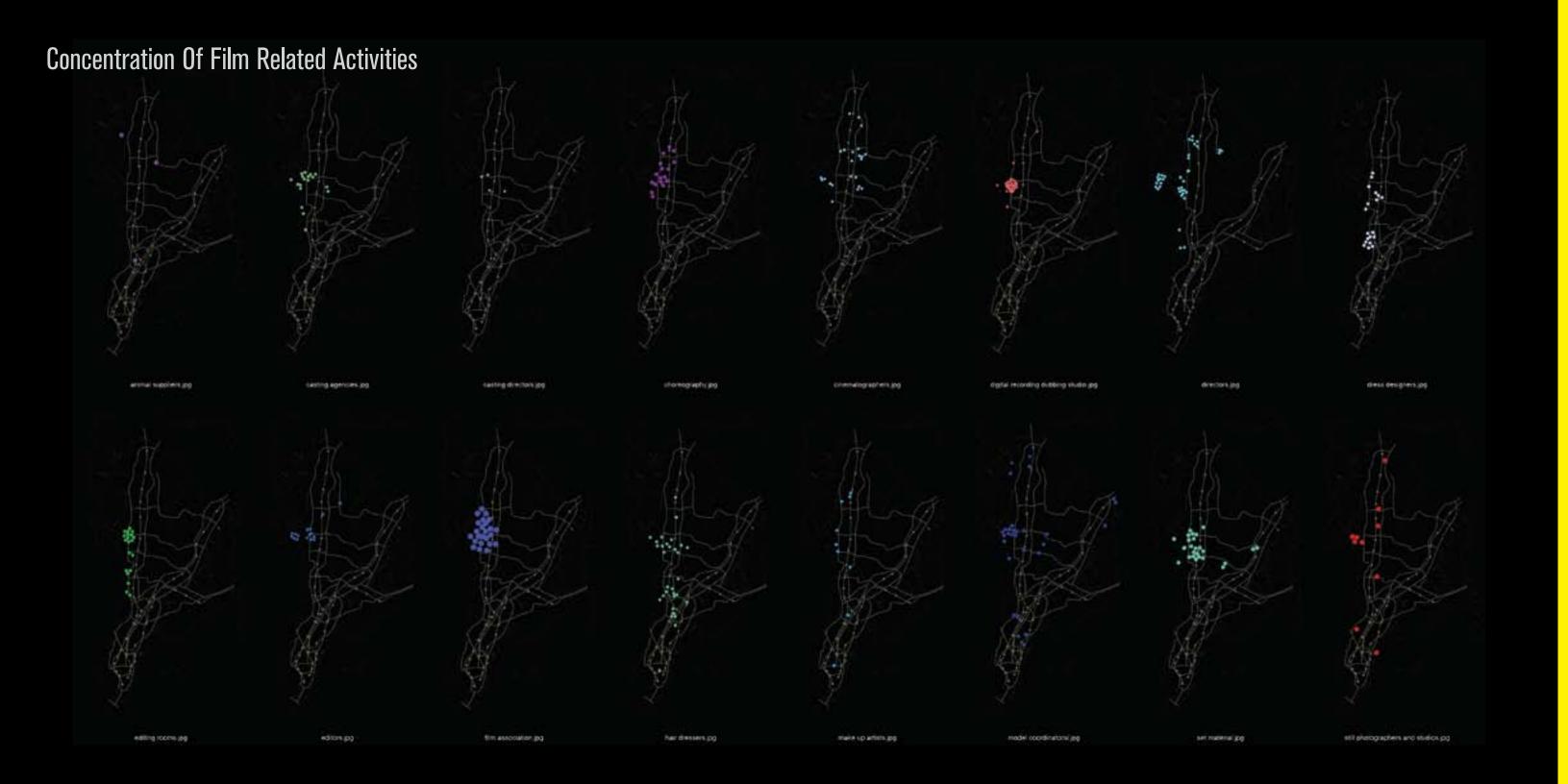
The term 'Cinema City' cannot be reduced to the sum of its two parts. i.e. 'city' within which cinema is seen/made, as if the city is somehow an empty container - a place where we live; or the 'cinema' is just a space in which we imagine the city - the space that we dream in. We believe that the discourses regarding both of these can play off each other and lead to new ways of seeing the city / cinema.

The space of desire bridges them. Both are cultural artefacts we dream and live in, in both we make ourselves anew. In both we find the utopias/dystopias that we try to inhabit within the parameters that exist in the everyday- our bodies, relationships, networks, buildings, machines, institutions. In a way, the city and cinema are merely the clumsy `concrete assemblages' through which we approach our own desires.

We would like to look at the architect's tool, drawing, as a similar clumsy assemblage. The drawing wants to be able to make an `image'.

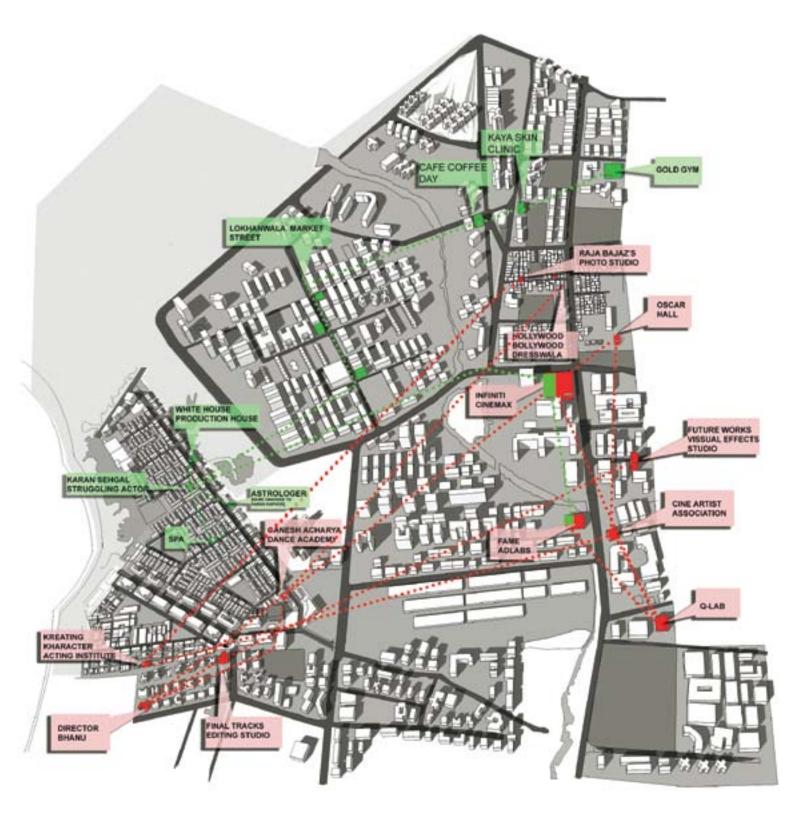
In the following pages, we have drawn and photographed and drawn around photographs, hoping to 'image' cinema city by following the assembly line of cinema, what is perhaps euphemistically called the 'production process'.

We started out by mapping the addresses in 'Film India', a professional directory of various film related services available in the city. We walked into some of those dense address clusters on the map. We have looked at the spaces inhabited by each of these individual producers, at various stages of production- the actor, the wig maker, the editor, the recycler.. In its contemporary domesticated form, when so much of the final product of the moving image is being produced in people's houses, we have tried to make maps of the built structures to be able to see those buildings as the imaginative acts of individuals working to transform their lives, via this production. And through them and about them, at the rapidly changing map of the city.











The Neighbourhoods of the Film Cluster







Lokhandwala Market



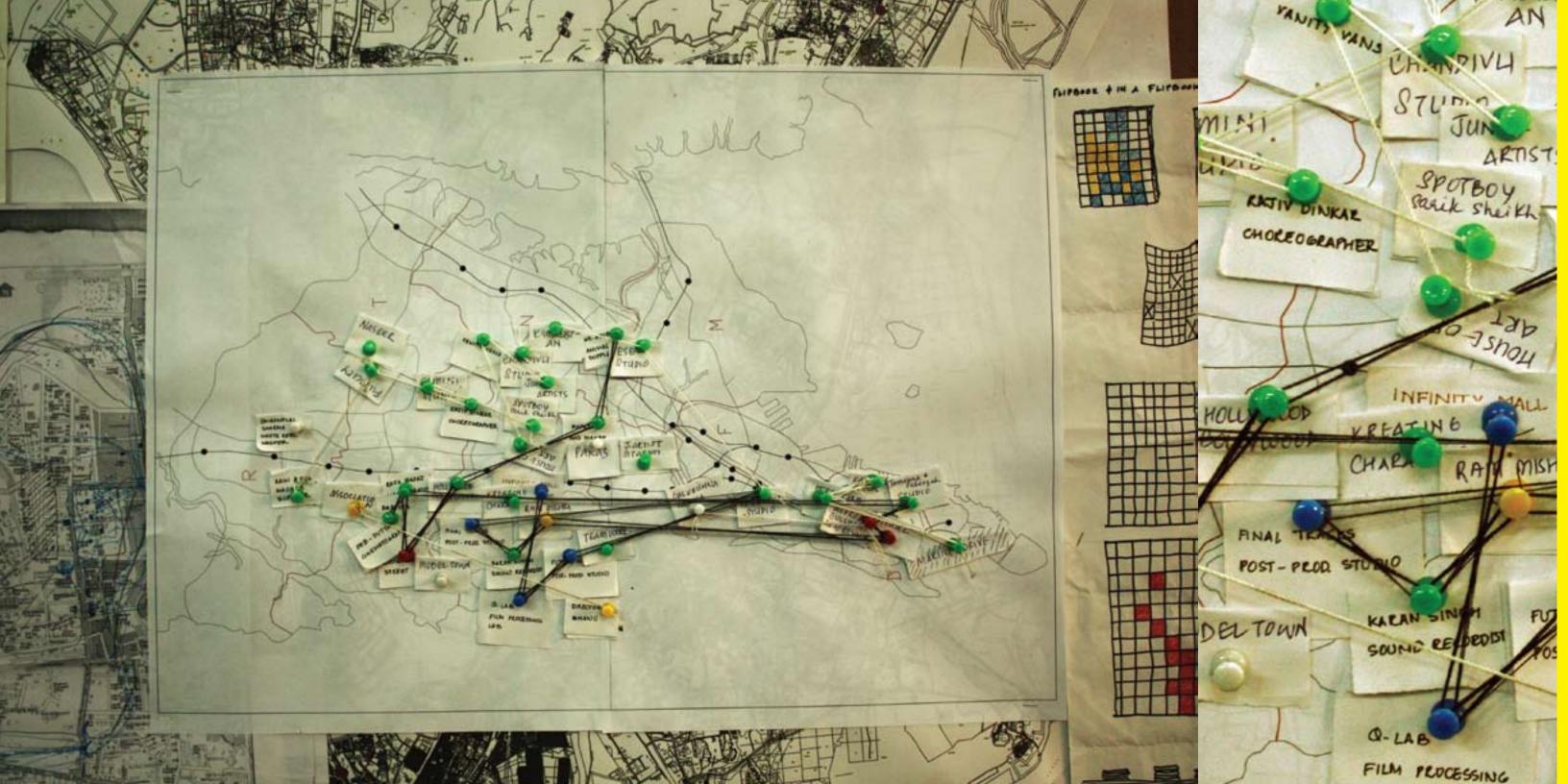
Link Road



S.V.P.Nagar







Compere & Dubbing Artistes

Pradeep Shukla 5/69, Deep Co. Op. Soc., D.N. Negar, Andheri (W). Mumbel-58, Tel.623-7074/ 024-2540

Prithipal S. Bajaj 11. Meera Madura, Lokhandwala Rd. 4 Bungalows, Andheri(W). Mumbai-53, Resi,629-0423 Pager:9624-219314

Promode Das Gupta 4, 'Swati', D.N. Nagar J.P. Rd., Andheri (W), Mumbai-56. Tel. 623-6942

Purnima Munsaf 26/830, Suryamukhi, Shastri Nagar, Goregaon (W), Mumbai-104

Pushpa Saxena A-14. Gautam Apts., Off J.P. Rd. Andheri (W), Mumbai-50. Tel. 623-4132

R. Murgesan C-4, Sarvodaya Bldg., Postal Colony Rd., Chembur, Mumbai-71 Tel.552-6783/282-0963

Rahul Mulani 2, 17th Floor, Inder Tower. Kakasaheb Gadgil Marg. Prabhadevi, Dadar, Mumbai-25.

Tel. 422-6785 Raj Joshi

7/A, 320, New D.N. Nagar, Andheri (W), Mumbai-58 Tel.623-3866

Rajendra Joshi 3/B. Bhatia Bldg., Ash Lane, Goldhale Rd., Dadar, Mumbai- 28. Tel.422-8351

Raily Sinha 304, 2nd Floor, Conquer Bldg., Near RTO, 4 Bungalows, Andheri (W), Mumbei-53. Resi,629-5217

Raju Srivastava 22. Uttara Apts., B, Jan Kalyan Nagar, Maloni, Malad (W), Mumbai-64. Tel.808-1908

Rakesh Dubey P-11/4, P & T Colony, Sahar Rd. Andheri (E), Mumbai-99, Tel.Req:8361917

Ramanna Wadhwan 4 Monalisa Off 9th Rd. Arya Vidya Mandir Marg. J.V.P.D. Scheme Mumbai-49, Tel.629-6778

Ramesh Tiwari 216/2, Ratiraj, Sher-E-Punjab Soc., Mahakali Caves Rd., Ancheri (E), Mumbai-93 Tel.834-9020/837-4395

Ram S. Chopra 602. Royal Gate, Yari Rd., Versova, Andheri (W), Mumbai-61 Tel.626-4843

Rashmi Dhawan 124, Nibhana, Pali Hill, Bandra (W), Mumbai-50. Tel. 649-6891

Ratna Bhushan 101, Link View, Rhandelwal Layout, Evenshine Nagar, Malad (W), Mumbai-64. Tel.889-9189

Ravindra Berde 24, Mangal Kiran Soc., Near Mhada, Kandivli (E), Mumbai- 67. Tel.388-3467

Ravi Patwardhan Plot No-1, 'Swagat', Shri Dattanagar Co-op Hsg. Soc. Hajoari Rd., Naupada, Thane-602 Tel. 540-8685/ 540-9155/9451

Rekha Bhimani 28-B. Laxmi Estate, Verma Nagar Andheri (E), Mumbai-09 Tel.835-3630/832-9280/836-0755

Robin Gupta 9, Nandini, Off J.P. Rd. 7 Bungalows, Andhen (W). Mumbai-58, Tel.634-3845 Roni Desai 34. Vasundhara, Warden Rd., Mumbai-26. Tel.497-3892

Ronnie Pal B-9, Gujrat Soc., 20th Rd. Khar (W), Mumbai-52. Tel.648-2811

Sanjay Shukla A/2, Jay Villa, Linking Rd., Santacruz (W), Mumbal-54. Tel.648-2995

Sanket Jaiswal 7/73, CPWD Colony, Sahar Village, Vile Parle (E), Mumbai-99 Pager:9602-128136

Sarita Sethi 32, Panchsheel Apts., 64, Pali Hill. Bandra (W), Mumbai-50. Tel.649-5092/604-7754

Sat Sharma 5. Raieshri, IInd Fir., Dattatraya Cross Lane, Santacruz (W), Mumbai-54. Tel.612-9486/ 612-5615

Satish Shah 30-A, Anand Nagar, Forjet St. Mumbai-36, Tel.388-2578/ 386-2049

Savitri Kochar B/4, 2nd Floor, Shiv Kutir, 280 S. V.S. Rd., Shivaji Park, Dadar, Mumbai-28. Tel.445-1628/ 446-6535

Shailaja Ganguly Bundalow No-1, Saras Baug. Sion Trombay Rd., Deonar Mumbai-88. Tel.551-9371

Shakti Singh 106, 'A' Wing, Vinit Apts., Juliu Versova Link Rd., Andheri (W). Mumbai-58. Tel.624-8860

Shivraj K. Suvarna H-001, Rishikesh, Apna Ghar, Samarth Nagar, Andheri (W). Mumbal-58, Tel.926-4529

Laxmi Villa

No.1., Shasbi Nagar Compound

Tel.833-2277/6806/1367/633-1866

1128, Brahman Shahi, Wai, Dist.

Safara, Tel.: Off.(92167)70023

Bungalow-3, Premium Tower,

Hist. Andhed MN: Mumbal-102

GUT No.:303/A, leatouri, Dist.

Nashik Tel. (02633)4273/4030

Goldhale Rd., Shivaji Fark, Dadar,

Mumbal-28-Tel-438-8609/9676/

Mumbai Booking:640-3704

644-1683 Fax: 6441677

Off.626-3178/626-6700

Lokhandwala Complex, New Link

Before Lothandwala Complex,

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Madan Kumar Salvekar

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Bersell Oil Milbs Petu Chard Compound, Parel. Marchite 12, Tel.412-1893/5806

Batters Worker 188 Hz, LV.P.D. Scheme Monto 42 Tel.529-6125

Reser Villa 45 Pati HIE, Bandra (W), Mimbel-50, Yel.648-3267/ **MILESTIN**

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Marca Dungalow Plat No-297, Opp. Diamond Barber, Central Avenue Rd., Dantur, Mumbai-71 THEMS 0408/0401

Bungalow No.27, Juhu Tara Rd. Sentacruz (W), Mumbel-49. Tel.#12-0048 Enhance, Andhert (E), Mumbal-93.

Challange Rest., Gokuldham, Goragaon (E), Mumbai-63. Off.849-1838/4541

Mukesty Mill ctubs Fire Brigade, Colsbu. Mumbai-5, Tel.284-2777/284-2873

Martindwate Bunisatowa Flot Ho-30/24, Gulmater Cross Fig No-5, JVPD Scheme, Murrissi-49: Tel.821-1127/ #20-1224/3886/E

Nair Bungalow Modh Island, Maled (W). Mumbai-64, Tel.802-2302

Tel. 828-6324/9218

Managert We Parle (M), Muntal-57 Tel.014-3136

National Park Borivali, Mumbai-66. Tel.005-7790/005-7242

Phil No-22, N.S. Ro-11, Mitel Neger, Juliu Scheme, Muntosi-49. Off.#26-8466/833-3673

Plot No-58, Jul Hins spc., 10th Rd. APD Scheme, Municipal 49 Off.826-7328

Nirmal Plot No.42, Jai Hind Sec., 108: Rd. J.V.P.D. Scheme, Munber-49 Tel.829-7581/7408

Javed Sayyed 101 B. Morar Ashish, Lewis Wadi, Eastern Express Highway, Opp Nitin Castings, Thane-604.

Tel.622808

Hemant Gailkwad

Tel.415-3020

Himanshu Joshi

Inder Sahadev

Tel.623-2841

3.5. Chauhan

128/28 B.D.D. Blocks, G.K. Rd.,

Naigaon , Dadar, Mumbai-14

Radha Sadan, Corner of 18th &

1st Rd., Khar (W), Mumbai-52.

227, Manish Nagar, J.P. Rd.,

Misnist Co-Op. Hsg. Soc.,

Sharmita Apts., 1st Floor, Flat

No-4, Kayani Nagar, Pune-14

Tel.545-4484/648-6093

Tel.534-8894 Jeetendra Rao

2 Shubh Hari Darshan, Plot No 665, 19th Rd., Khar (W), Mumbal-52, Tel.648-2342/0144

Jeetu Ran-A/307, Andheri Kookan Nagar les, Kondvita Rd., J. B. Nagar other (E), Mumbal-59 Resi,820-6012/648-2342

Jiten Sinha 17th Fir., Atlanta, 209, Nariman Faint Mumbai-21 Tel.204-5020

Jothi Mani C-31; Mehrins Nepeansea Rd., Mumbai-35 Tel.282-5625 Resk: 362-2095

5/178, D.N. Nagar, J.P. Rd. Andheri (W), Mumbai-58. Tel.624-5062

Jyoti Sarup B-64, Abhishek Apts., Juhur Versova Link Rd., Andhen (W). Mumbai-56, Tel.#23-3218/ 422-6339

Kamal Rajput 9, 3rd Marine St., 3rd Fir., Dhobitalao, Mumbai-2, Off.209-5373/206-6844

Kamal Saigal C/o. Motiram Kiny House, Eksar Koliwada, Borivali (W), Mumbai-92 Tel.895-6598

Kaushal Mishra 29/1028, Subhash Nagar, Chembur, Mumbai-71. Tel.556-0301/551-5718

Keshay Naidu B/504, Blue Diamond, 5th Floor, L.M. Rd., Opp. Marry Hospital, Dahisar (W), Mumbai-68.

Kishore Jadhay Ekta Video, 6A, Chopra Niwas, 5th Rd., T.P.S. IV. Almeida Rd. Bandra (W), Mumbai-50. Tel.642-6308/640-5272

Knikoo Dhar 701B, Denzil Apts., Plot 41, Off Lokhandwals Complex, Andheri (W), Mumbai-58.

Krishna Jaiswal E-3, Maharana Pratap Nagar, Lodha Heritage, Achole Rd., Natasopara(E), Dist-Thane-401209 Tel.873-8825 Resi.(02523)72625

Kulwant Singh B/5, Shabri Hsg. Soc., Pipe Line, Saki Naka, Andheri (E), Mumbai-72. Tel.Req.494-2343/ 852-0008

Kundan Kadwadkar 2/5, Bhagwan Singh Colony, Senapati Bapat Marg, Mahim, Mumbai-16. Tel. 422-4696

Video Editors

M

M. Gopinath Room No-292, AL-4, Sec-17, Airoli, New Bombay. Tel. Reg:769-1449. Off.:493-3678

Mahesh Bohidar 46, Amar Mahal, Chembur, Mumbai-89, Reg.649-6306/ 604-9176/640-8786

Mahesh Mistry B/6, Manorath, Daltapada Cross. Rd.2. Borivali (E), Mumbai-66. Tel.805-3724/646-3231

Manish R. Dodeja Shyam Sadan Apts., Near Sabri Maspd, S.V.Rd., Oshiwara, Mumbai-102 Tel.870-3585

Manohar Ghanekar Sadguru Enterprises, 80/20, Rajaram Bhavan, Sudarshan

Colony, Thane (E). Tel.540-5088

N.B. Gore 203, Pallavi Apts., B Wing, Pant Nagar, Ghatkopar (E). Mumbal-75, Off.510-3586 Resi,510-3586

P. Vedachallam 106, A Wing, Accord, Dr. Charat Singh Colony, Andheri (E), Mumbai-93, Rest.#24-6071

Prakash Jadhav H/8, Dev Chhaya Bldg. Dr. A.M. Raut Rd., Shivaji Park, Dadar, Mumbai-28. Resi,446-1453

SCREEN WORLD 1997

363

SCREEN WORLD 1997

SCREEN WORLD 1997









Pre-Production





juhi began working in the film industry when she visited her uncle during one of her vacations. he happened to know a producer who he would often stay shut at home so gave her a small role. most of his time at dance reherseals apurva is from a rich business family. he could save money.

apurva got an expensive portfolio made of his pictures.

an astrologer read his palm and told him his future lay in mumbai. he had also worked in a local news channel as a news anchor

it was during one such shoot that she met her husband and they fell in love immediately. he was another struggler, who danced in music videos.

apurva has realised that it is not easy to make it in the film industry and he is not cut out for the hard work that auditions demand, he has decided to turn producer.

12 hours a day at film city

she has to work for almost 20 hours a day while shooting for a serial, which may be at balaji studio or film city. she frequents infiniti mall and movies.

her geographical knowledge of the city does not extend much beyond the film cluster

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the attends as many parties as possible to market himself.

The initial property in the attends as many parties as possible to market himself.

dreams of having a house in

owing to a flamboyant lifestyle which included wearing branded clothes and accessories and frequenting expensive restaurants, sunny often compromised on the invisible aspects of his life, namely food and shelter. he used to discreetly survive on vadapav and chai and lived out of a small suitcase in a nonfurnished apartment. sunny regularly goes to a gym to maintain his looks and spends more than thirty percent of his income on he moves about in a honda city. all his money is sourced from home. clothes, looks and accessories.









PANTO VANS CHANT AN ME. LYO-ANIMAL SUPPLI The little black books of the production managers are STUDIO That book and the cellphone make their office. Their work is STUTUN JUN elling, making deals, enabling a smooth production for the MIN ARTISTS SPOTBOY sarik sheikh RAJIV DINKAL CHOREOGRAPHER WIG MAY "D J. ARTIST PARAS SITAP m. 50-7 Shou PAJA BAJAJ INFINITY MALL BALKRIST OLTAR OCIATIO VREATING DU WAY LUU U CHARA AN



ARVIND RAMESH RAUT

Arvind Raut much prefers watching the old Hindi film classics like 'Mother India' to films he has worked on. He started off as an assistant to a production manager in Ram Gopal Varma's company, the 'Factory'. After 2 years, he became a production manager himself. He is a freelancer now, working on 4-5 projects in a year, including events, shows, films and advertisements.







PARAS CHATURVEDI - Production Manager

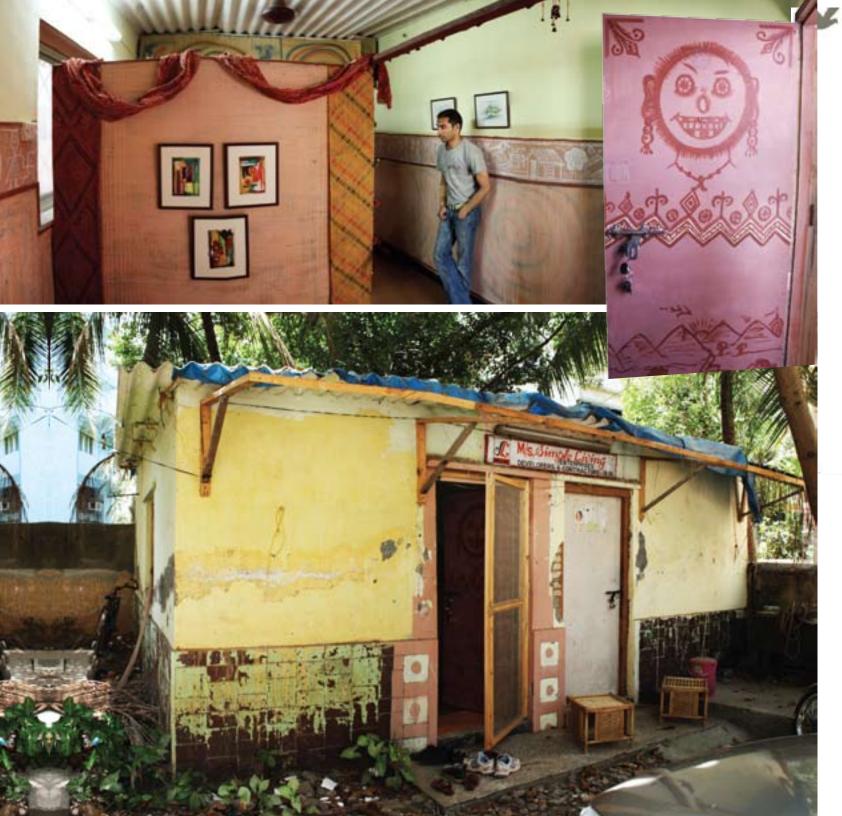


Chaturvedi came to Mumbai from his village in Rajasthan to direct films. He became a Production Managar instead. He shifted between his village and this city for years, lived with his sister for a while in Mumbai, moved out to the Lokhandwala area and then to a slum in Andheri (East). He still lets himself dream, drawing strength from the knowledge that his village home will always take him back.











Dedipya Bhanu - Director

Bhanu continues to pursue his desire to direct. He comes from a family conversant with 'sahitya kala'- literature and the arts. He got support: his parent shifted with him from Jaipur to Bombay, his wife has a regular job.

Bhanu directs small informational commercials and makes short films. He has recently seperated a 'seating space' for script writing, from his office space for commercials. Acknowledging the power that makes film making possible, he says that his dream now is 'to own a big production house'.



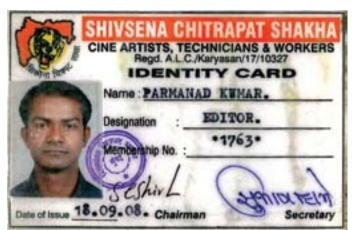


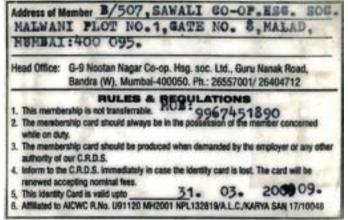




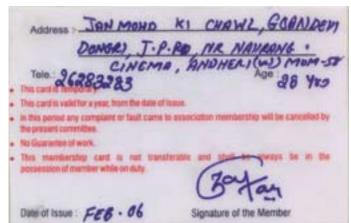
Associations

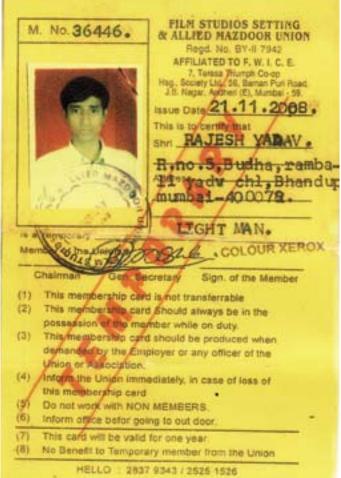
In an industry which is increasingly in the informal sector of production, the associations are meant to somewhat protect the rights of the workers. Under the larger umbrella of the FFI- the Film Federation of India- all associations, be they of actors, editors, stuntmen, dancers, are supposed to ensure minimum decent payments, guard registered ideas against copyright infringement, ensure contractual payments and so on. Many ironies persist in this desire to organise: the associations are sometimes too expensive for the personnel who need to fight for their rights; they can only gurantee payments on contracts which are only made at larger scales of production; the associations themselves can be bullies, sometimes accused of forcing people to join.

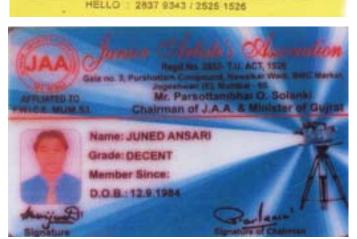


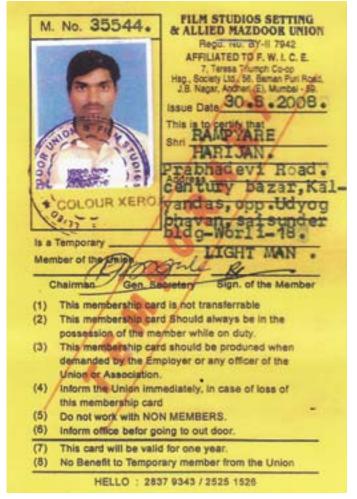








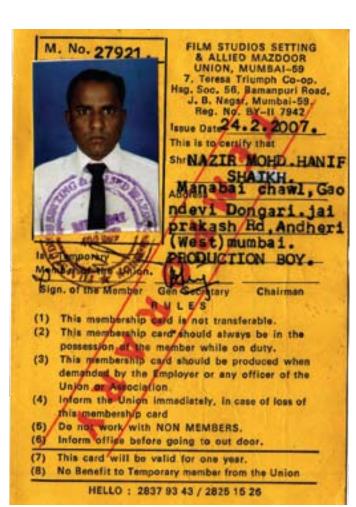


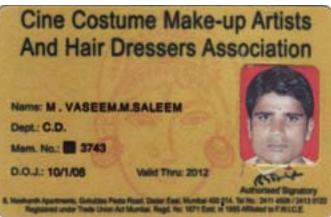


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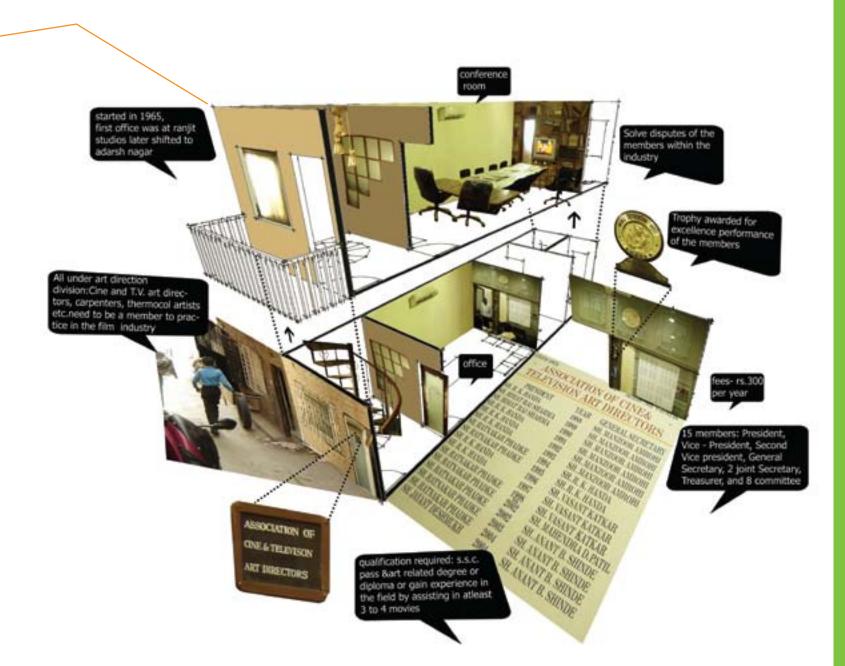
PASTRUCTIONS
The card is the property of Civil COSTUNE & MARE UP ARTISTES ASSOCIATION*This said is non hardwarder "Anage carry like used write on duly" This Card should be represented to the Analysis of College of Costune o





List of Associations

- 1. Association of Cine and TV Art Directors
- 2. Association of Cine & TV Advertising Production Executives
- 3. Association of film editors
- 4. Association of Voice Artistes
- 5. Cine & TV Artistes' Association
- 6. Cine Agents Combine
- 7. Cine Costume & Make-up Artistes' Association
- 8. Cine Dancers' Association
- 9. Cine Music Directors' Association
- 10. Cine Musicians' Association
- 11. Cine Singers' Association
- 12. Cine Still Photographers' Association
- 13. Film Studio Setting & Allied Mazdoor Union
- 14. Indian Film Dance Directors' Association
- 15. Indian Film & Tv Directors' Association
- 16. Junior Artistes' Association
- 17. Mahila Kalakar Sangh
- 18. Movie Actions Dummies & Effects Association
- 19. Movie Stunt Artists' Association
- 20. The Film Writers' Association
- 21. Western Indian Cinematographers' Association
- 22. Western Indian Motion Picture Sound Engineers' Association
- 23. Federation of Western India Cine Employees









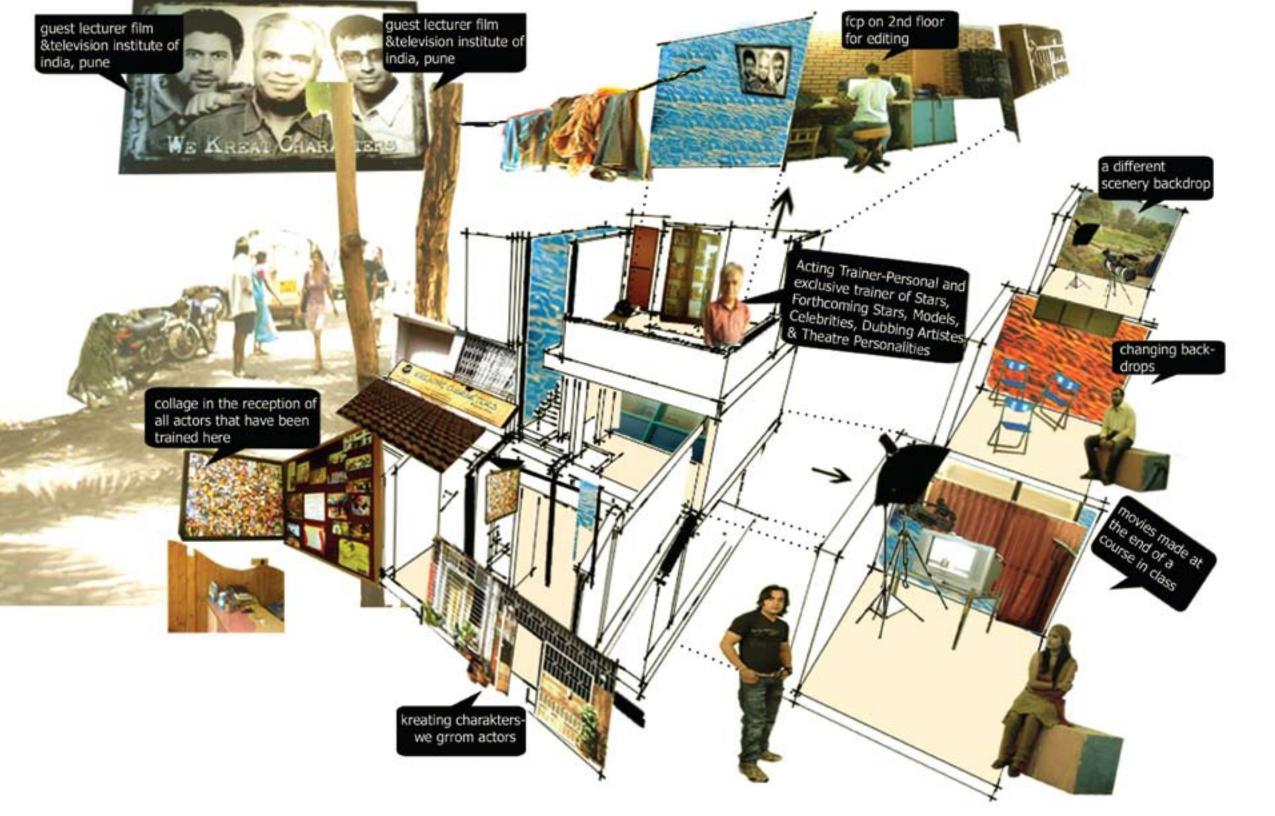
Association Of Cine & Tv Art Directors







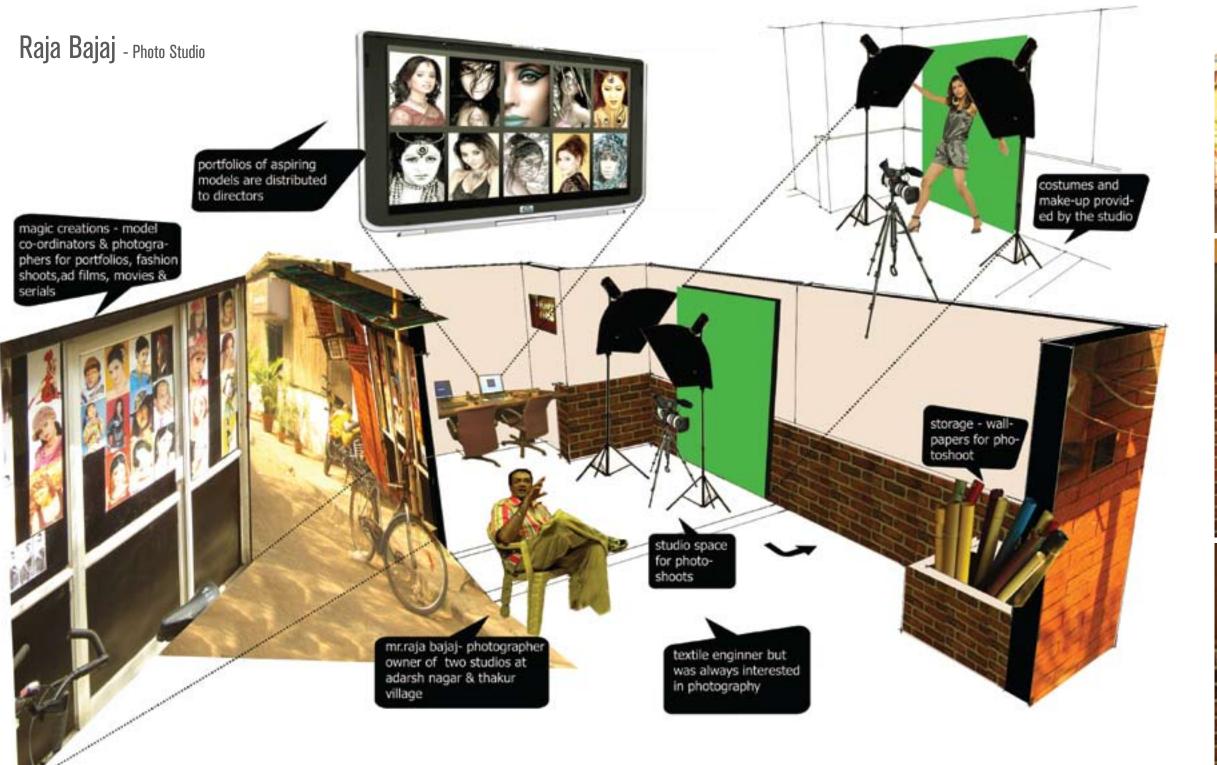




















SITARAM - Junior Artiste

Q: How did you start in the film line?

A: I worked in a hospital, I had read an advertisement about the hospital wanting an artist.. I used to read books and make jokes and people would say that I should do drama

Q: Are you from Mumbai?

A: Yeah, I am from proper Maharashtra. I first became a member of the Junior Artist Association. In '74 I earned Rs.13. Today this job can pay anything between Rs. 1300- 13000 a day. In '86 I joined as assistant to Pappu Nanda. I have worked on advertisements for 'Cadbury Chocolates', 'Water Kingdom', 'Haat pakad ke rakhna chodna nahein'.("Don't let go of my hand!"). You remember that line? I want to continue as a junior artist, I don't want to do everything myself. My whole family is here in Mumbai.

O: How many junior artists are there?

A: Junior artistes are part of an association. There are 22 departments at a shoot.

spot boy, light man, sitting wala, Art Director, Dancer, Junior Artist

Whatever is the director's requirement for a shoot...for instance he might say, "For this shot, I require females artists, this age, these many.. wearing goggles, caps..whatever" I get those particulars arranged. With dancers it is a little different- they have dance troupes.

Q: From when is this profession in existence?

A: Junior artists have always been there, for 40 – 50 years. They are like background artists.

No picture is made with the hero heroine alone. If the hero and heroine are sitting alone in the hotel, what's the use.. You need people sitting in the background. Like they say "bina patiyoin ke jhaad ka kya fayeda" - "Of what use is a big bush that does not have leaves?"

Q: Where is your office?

A: Junior artist Men's office is in Jogeshwari and the Women's is in Andheri

Q: What's the schedule of your shifts?

A: 7 - 2, 2 - 10, 9 - 5, 9 - 6. In the film line everybody works in shifts.

It's only the dancers who don't work in shifts. The Dance masters have their dance contracts which dictate the number of songs and number of girl and boy dancers.

Q: If a newcomer wants to join you then how do you take his screen test?

A: See, earlier we used to have a lot of films being shot in villages. We used to have a lot of shots with crowd of people. We could not become kings or emperors in the films, instead, we were given the roles of the monkeys. This way everybody got a part, became some member of the village. Now it is not the same. Now, every person is selected individually- does he suit the scene or not? Since the shoots are no longer in villages, they hand pick modern looking people, find out whether he is a good artiste... The Junior Artiste had no retirement fund. When it exists, it is not more than Rs. 15-25,000

O: When do you visit your village?

A: During Holi, for other festivals.

Q: Which place do you prefer, Mumbai or your Village?

A: My work is in Mumbai, I have got used to it.

O: What are your plans for the future?

A: See, I failed in the ninth standard: we did not have enough money to buy the books. Today, if you tell my son there is a shoot going on next doors, it doesn't mean anything to him. He has no interest in films.

Q: Do you believe Mumbai is the city of dreams?

A: In Bombay no one can go hungry: you might have 2 lakh rupees, you might have two rupees. Both kinds of people live here. You can get off at VT station and get vada pav for 5 rupees and water for 2 and feed your whole family. Whoever told you Mumbai is a city of dreams is right. But if you have to to survive in Mumbai you have to have a house. Only one who has a house can live with his family in Mumbai





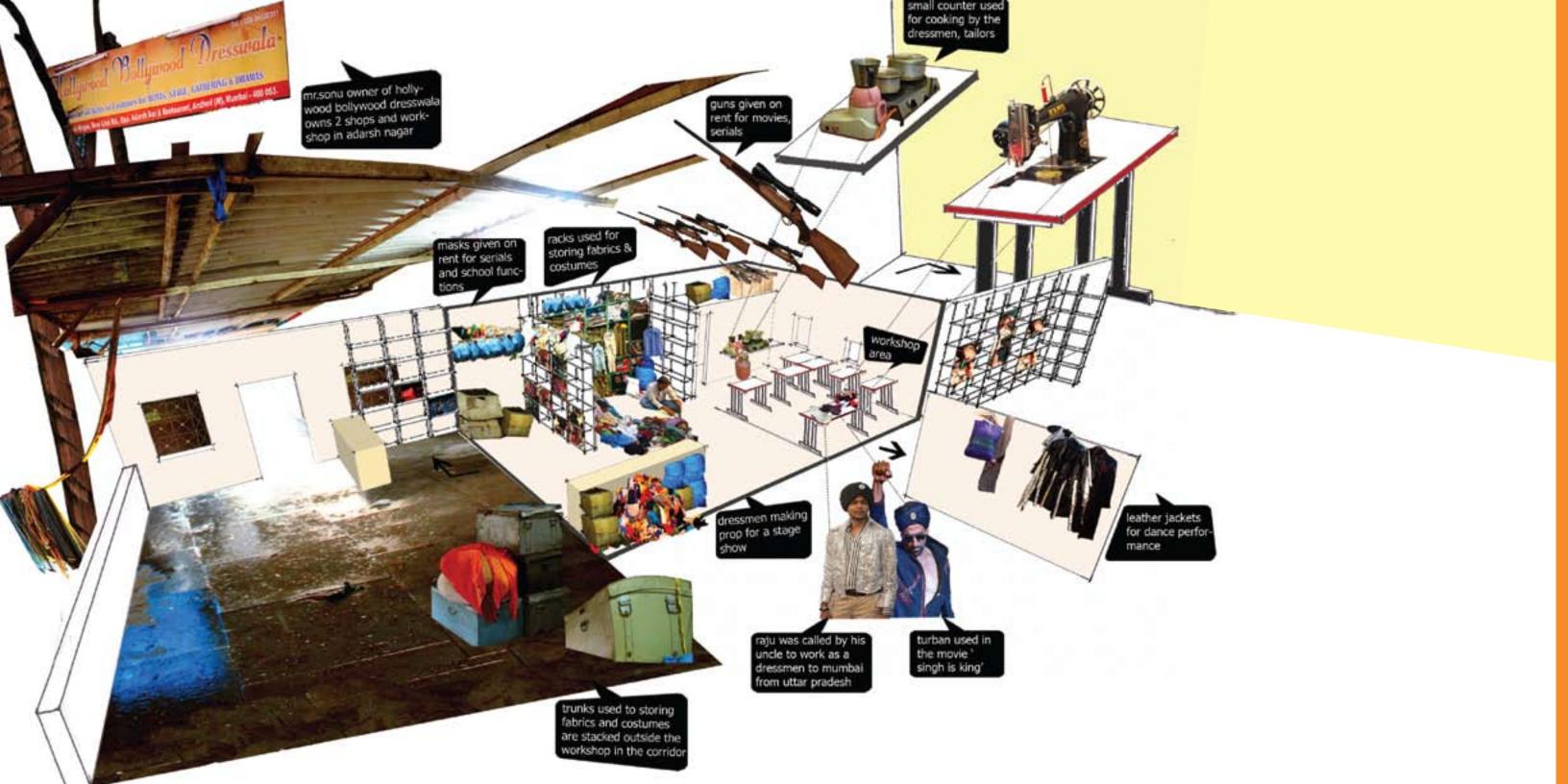
Production

The grandly named 'Hollywood Bollywood Dresswalla' has two units on the main road Costumes - Hollywood Bollywood Dresswala at Lokhandwala complex. The unit with a glittering shop front works on sales. The other unit, set into the rear of the same area, is a workshop where costumes for the lead and supporting actors are stitched. Here tailors and craftsmen live and work, labouring away on sewing machines, making dazzling robes for stars or replicating something seen on screen Shop: Hollywood Bollywood Dresswala for a client seeking a transformation. Mr. Sonu, Owner of Hollywood Bollywood dresswalla. He worked with Magan dresswalla for 25 years and owns two workshops in Adarsh Nagar New Link Road, Andheri Collection of dress materials and dresses, sold and given on rent also for shootings Shops and restraunts on Link Road Mannequins on the window displaying their creations



















Fog, Rain & Storm Fan Supplier - Surendra Yadav

Anurag Enerprises, Goregaon West

Q: For how long have you been here?

A: It's been a year now.

Q: Do you like Mumbai city?

A: No. Not really. I'm here for the money.

Q: So if you get lots of money would you go back to your village?

A: Yes. I would. If I can have a deposit of 10-20 lakhs of rupees with me, I would go back to my village and leave this work.

Q: Do you have anything that you own in your village?

A: Yes, I have farms. My parents, wife and kids, all live there. My parents are old. My elder brothers and their families have also shifted here.

Q: So how often do you visit your village?

A: Whenever I get time. I also go if there is a family function like a wedding..

Q: Don't you go during vacations?

A: We don't have fixed vacations. When there is no work, I can treat that time like a holiday, and go to my village. When there is work, I must get back.

Q: Does your family come here?

A: Yes, they do sometimes.

Q: Do they like to check out the shoots and the city, etc. ?

A: Not really. They come here to work. Money is what matters.

Q: Your brothers and their families are all here?

Q: Which village do you come from?

A: It is this village in Uttar Pradesh in the district of Gaupur. Why do you ask me this? Are you guys from some T.V. channel?

Q: No. We are part of this project from college and this project is about cinema and its impact on the city. As part of this project we are taking interviews of many people from this industry.

A: So after taking these interviews from people what are you going to do with them?

Q: We will either publish it in a book or we may put it up on our website.

A: Mr. Kishore Sawant told me that you guys would come in at around 1:00 p.m.. It is 4 p.m. now. I didn't do any work during the day nor could I go anywhere because of this interview.

Q: We had to go to a few other places as well to take interviews. Where are you staying in Mumbai?

A: Right here, behind this office. This man here takes care of the equipment and manages the place. If we encounter any problem or if we need anything we have to talk to him about it.

Q: How many people live here along with you?

A: There are 3-4 others but right now, they have gone to their village.

Q: When all the equipment you have here goes for a shoot do you go along with it?

A: Yes. We do.

Q: When there isn't any shoot happening?

A: We stay here. We are here all day long at such times. We have a few people working for us and even they are here all day.

Q: And what is their work schedule like?

A: They come here in the morning at around 10 o' clock. They are there till around 4 o' clock in the evening. After which if there is any work left, they go and finish it, else they go home.

Q: So are there any upcoming projects where your services will be required?

A: We will have to make rains for this new movie based on the 26th July floods in Mumbai and the shooting schedule will last almost two months, throughout which time they will be need the 'rain'.

Q: Which banner is making the film?

A: Vishesh Films. It's a Mahesh Bhatt production.

Q: On which other feature film have you worked?

A: 'Devdas'. From start to end, I have worked on that movie.

Q: Any other movies?

A: Many. I have worked on a lot of them but I can't really remember the names of all of them.

Q: Do you watch movies?

A: Yes. I watch every film. Regardless of whether I have worked on it. Sometimes if someone else has worked on it, it's interesting to see their work as well.

Q: How many people will one find in Mumbai sharing the same profession as yours?

A: About 30-35. They all work on different projects. Some will work for the Yash Raj banner while some will work for Karan Johar. Some work on ad. films, some on television serials and some just keep working on any of the other random projects that come their way. Eventually, everyone has their fixed clientele.

Q: Do you have a fixed clientele?

A: Yes. I do. It includes Tips Films, Rajshri Films, Vishesh Films, etc. There are a few television serials as well and also some 4-6 ad film makers who always work with us.





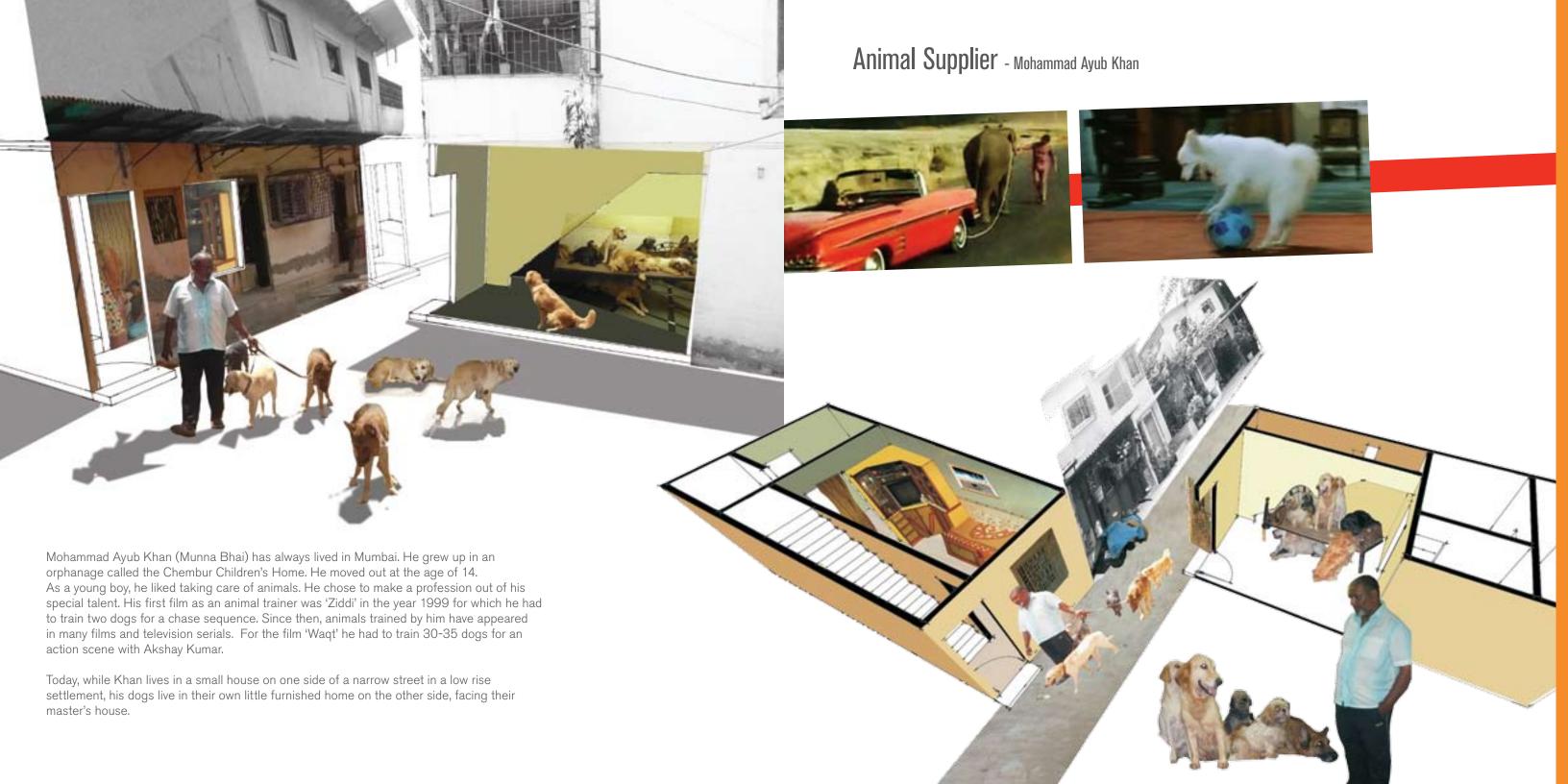


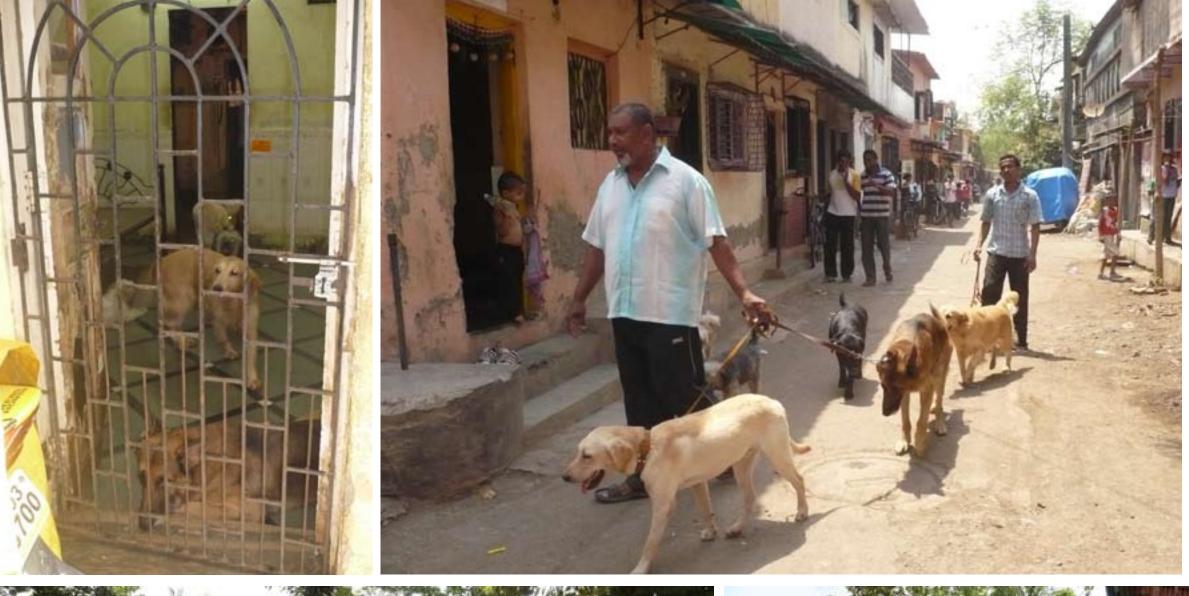




















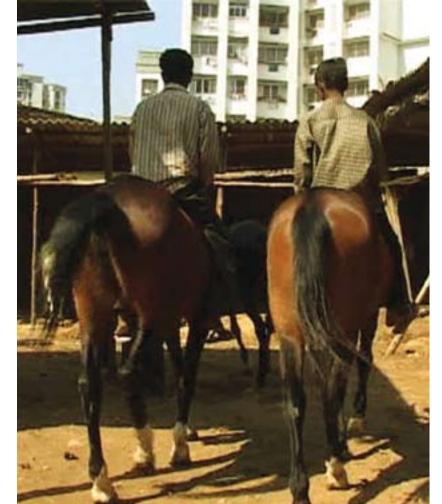
Stud Farm - Verma Brothers





Born 1978; Janakpur, Nepal.1999 migration to Bombay | 2001 student in Kreative Dance Academy | 2007 job as horse attendant in stud farm







"Ab toh dacoit films nahi banti... ab sirf underworld. Aur underworld toh ghode pe nahi aati hai na ki haathi pe. Ab sab gadi main ya motorbike main. Hum ab jyadatar shaadi ke ghode dete hai. Woh dacoit filmwali raunak nahi rahi".

"They don't make dacoit movies anymore... now it's the underworld. And the underworld never comes riding a horse or an elephant. Now it's all cars and motorbikes. So now it's mostly for weddings that we supply horses. Now the opulence of dacoit films is gone."

Vikhu Verma, stud farm owner, on the decline of business in supplying horses to the film industry.







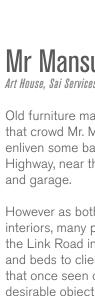




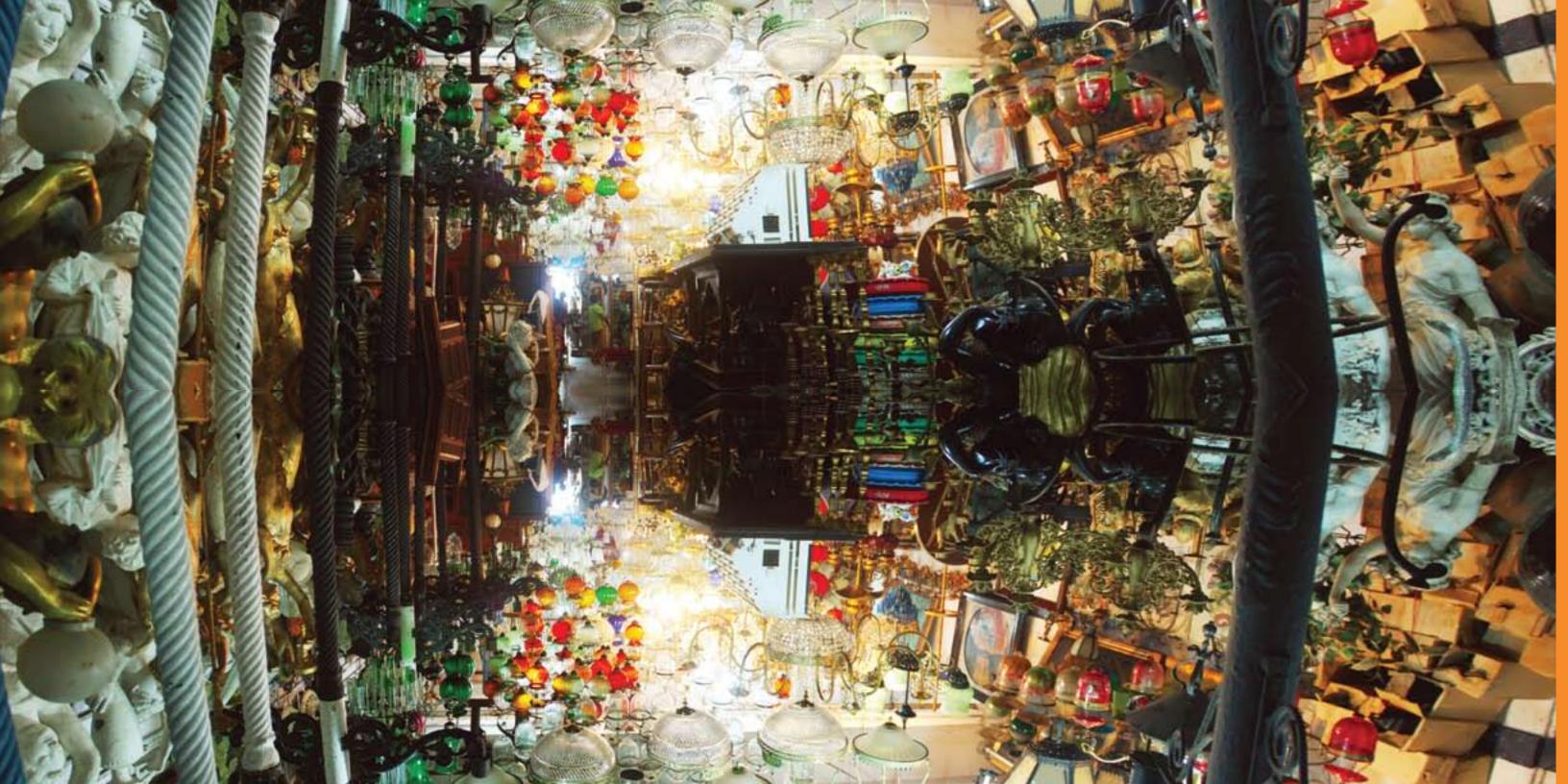






























Bhanurao Dhanaji Kamble is a pioneer in the field of driving 'vanity vans'. These are luxurious 'make up rooms cum caravans' that definitively separate the star from the ordinary mortals at a film shoot. He drove Poonam Dhillon, apparently the first actor to use this personal home- awayfrom- home on location. After working with her for more than a decade, he began designing and supplying his own vans. His 5 vans, parked just off the Western Express Highway, supply an elite clientele that includes Chiranjeevi and Amitabh Bacchan. Individual stars order comprehensive changes in the interiors of the particular van they like to use. Chiranjeevi specially called for 'his' van to use in his preelection rally.







Spot Boy - Bhaiyalal N. Patel

Q: Where can we find more people to interview?

A: You will get 4-5 more people under the tree near Hindustan studio at around 9-10 a.m.. You can talk to 2-3 of them as well.

Q: Is it true that these days they don't shoot on Juhu beach?

A: They used to go there quite frequently earlier. At that time there was nothing around here However there is a certain kind of fear all over now. How can you take big artists to Chowpatty .. actually anywhere out in the open?

Q: So they make a set of Juhu beach elsewhere nowadays?

A: Yes! You have to make it.

Q: And where do they make such sets?

Q: What about outdoor locations? Maybe a beach which people don't visit?

A: Yes. But then that's quite far away.

Q: Do you go outdoors for such shoots?

A: I do go.

Q: Which places have you been to for outdoor shoots?

A: I have been to Bhopal, Goa, Khandala, Punjab....

Q:: So isn't it good that you keep visiting places like these ?

A: Yes. For such outdoor shoots an entire group is made. There are around 50-60 people and when you have to stay with them for around a month or so, then it becomes like being in an altogether new family. After the shooting is over, after all the songs are shot, the family breaks on the last day and everyone goes back to their own lives.

Q: Tell me something about your family. Where does your family reside?

A: They all live in Gondia. My mother, my father, my brothers and sisters, they all live there. I regularly send them money from here.

Q: So do you stay here alone or with your friends?

A: I stay here with my friends and one brother.

Q: Where is your house in Mumbai?

A : Andheri.

Q:: In Andheri (East) or Andheri (West) ?

A: Andheri (East).

Q: Do you take your kids along with you sometimes for these outdoor shoots? To see a new place, maybe?

A: No! Never.

Q: So you have never even taken them to the sets here, or on an outdoor shoot?

A: Never. This is just my work.

Q: What if sometimes your kids wish to see a shoot?

A: I never take them along . I have seen people take family and kids along.. the kids get bored waiting around in the sun, they want to go home! (laughs)

Q: Is a shoot very time consuming?

A: Yes! Sometimes it takes a full day to finish a small piece of work. Every man on a set is busy all day. Everyone has to work. From the artistes to everyone else present on the set.. everyone is busy because they have this given time to work in and they know that.

Q: What is the schedule like? Does the shoot start on time or is there always a delay of 2-3 hours?

A: A preferred kind of shoot starts between 9-10 a.m. There is a break from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. After which from around 2.30 p.m. to around 9 p.m., the work has to be finished.

Q: So you have to work from morning 9 a.m. to evening 9 p.m.? They must be paying you for overtime as well, isn't it?

A: Yes! You have a lot of work on settings and lighting to do in the morning so that the set is ready for shoot from 2:30 pm.

Q: What happens when the same set is used for about a week or so? What changes have to be made every morning to the set in such a case?

A: The director hands down a list of changes to be made to the assistant everyday. Accordingly we make the changes, be it lighting, building, etc. and at the end of the entire schedule the set is broken down.

Q: Everything is broken down?

A: Yes. The photo is there, if ever it is needed. Otherwise the work is done and the set is broken.

Q: Who handles all this work?

A: The art director and his sub-ordinates.

Q: So as spot boys you work for the artistes most of the time?

A: We have to keep an eye on everything. We have to help the art directors, the lighting technician and all other technicians. We have to help co-ordinate all the work.

Q: So what is the minimum number of spot boys required for a single shoot of a film or a serial?

A: Six. One handles market work. One is given the responsibility of making tea.. he will make tea all day. Someone is also required to load and unload goods from spot to spot on the set.

Q: Each one is assigned a particular job?

A: It has to all be co-ordinated. One person has be attentive to the director's needs, one to the cameraman's, one to the artiste's.

Q: How are you intimated about a shoot? Do they call and tell you?

A: No. I go and meet them at the office. There was this director named Raghunath Jalani for whose group I worked for almost 15-20 years.

Q: Is there an association in which you register yourself, one that provides you with work?

A:Yes.

Q: Did this association exist when you started out as a spot boy 15- 20 years ago?

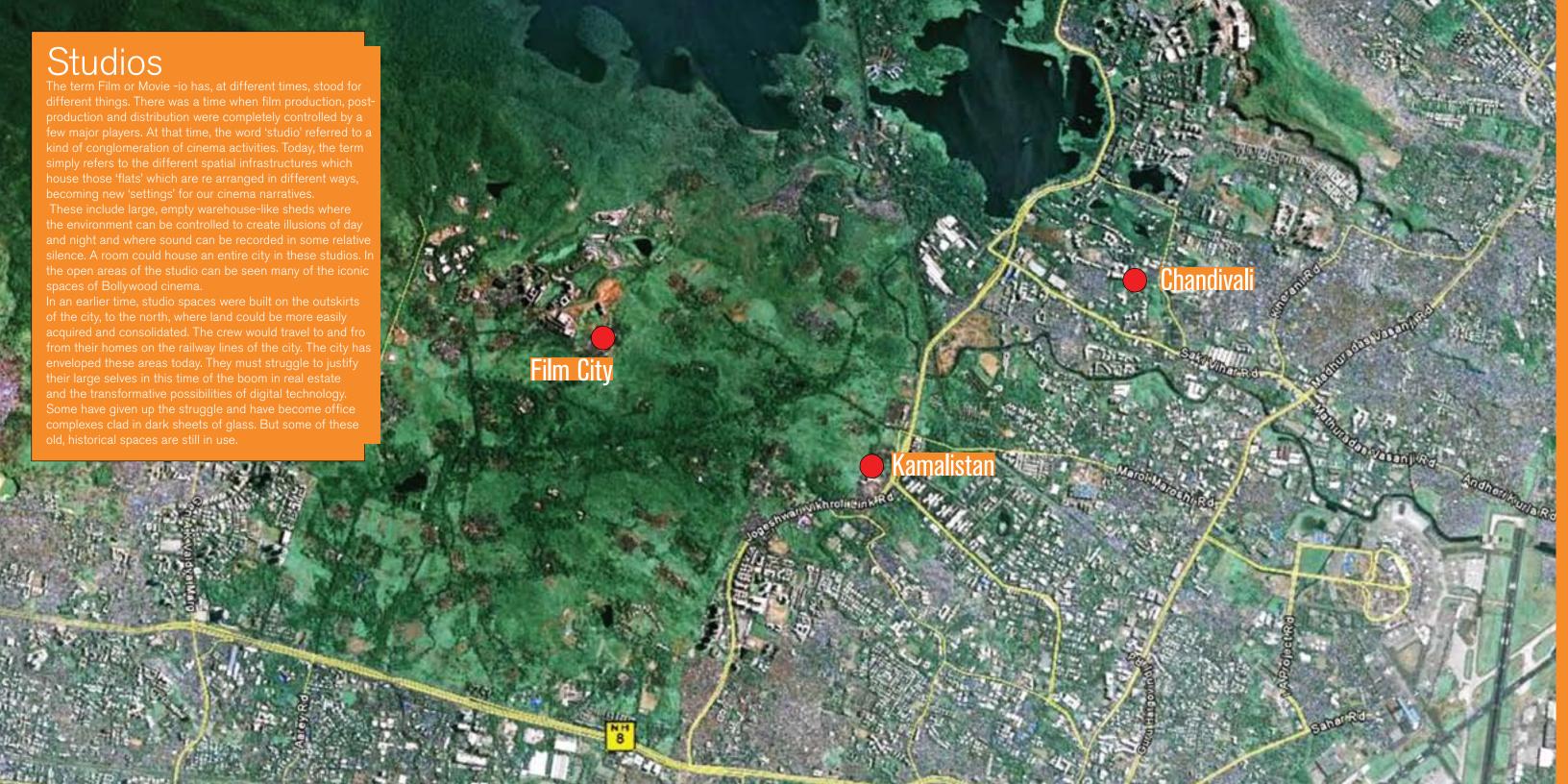
A: Yes

Q: So wherever this association decides to send you, you must go?

A: Yes. They inform us in advance. They tell us that what material is needed in which place and how the work is to be done.

Q: OK. Thank you so much for sparing your precious time.

A: No problem.





Chandivali Studio

Andheri (East), Mumbai

North of this studio is a grandiose high- rise residential district called Hiranandani Complex; to its immediate south is a large slum settlement alongside low income housing pockets; surrounding it are the older industrial areas which were developed at a time when space was easily available in these northern parts of the city. Today, the older spaces have become anomalies. Along with those industries and the slums, Chandivali is facing the pressure of re-development. That the studio is still being used by many shooting crews to set up sets of stables and palaces, suggests that the romance of lost kingdoms still holds its own space in our image market.

It was set up in 1944 by Chandrarao Ganpatrao Kadam "The Stunt King" (1901-1995). He had worked in Gujarat as a gymnast before coming to this city in 1928. His is one of the many iconic rag-to-riches stories that mark the history of this city: of coming to Mumbai with just a few rupees in his pocket in the year 1928; becoming an actor, then a producer and director of silent films and talkies; working with well known actors like Lalita Pawar, Bhagwan Dada and Hansa Wadkar as his co-artists.

He built Chandivali studio to create diverse locations for his own shoots and also to lease out the space to other producers for their films. The 'salient backdrops' of our cinema are all here.. the villain's den, the 'authentic village', the police lock up, the fancy cottage..

The circus gymnast who made his own Big Top of this corner of Bombay is no more, but his family still owns and runs his studio.



























Love [1995]













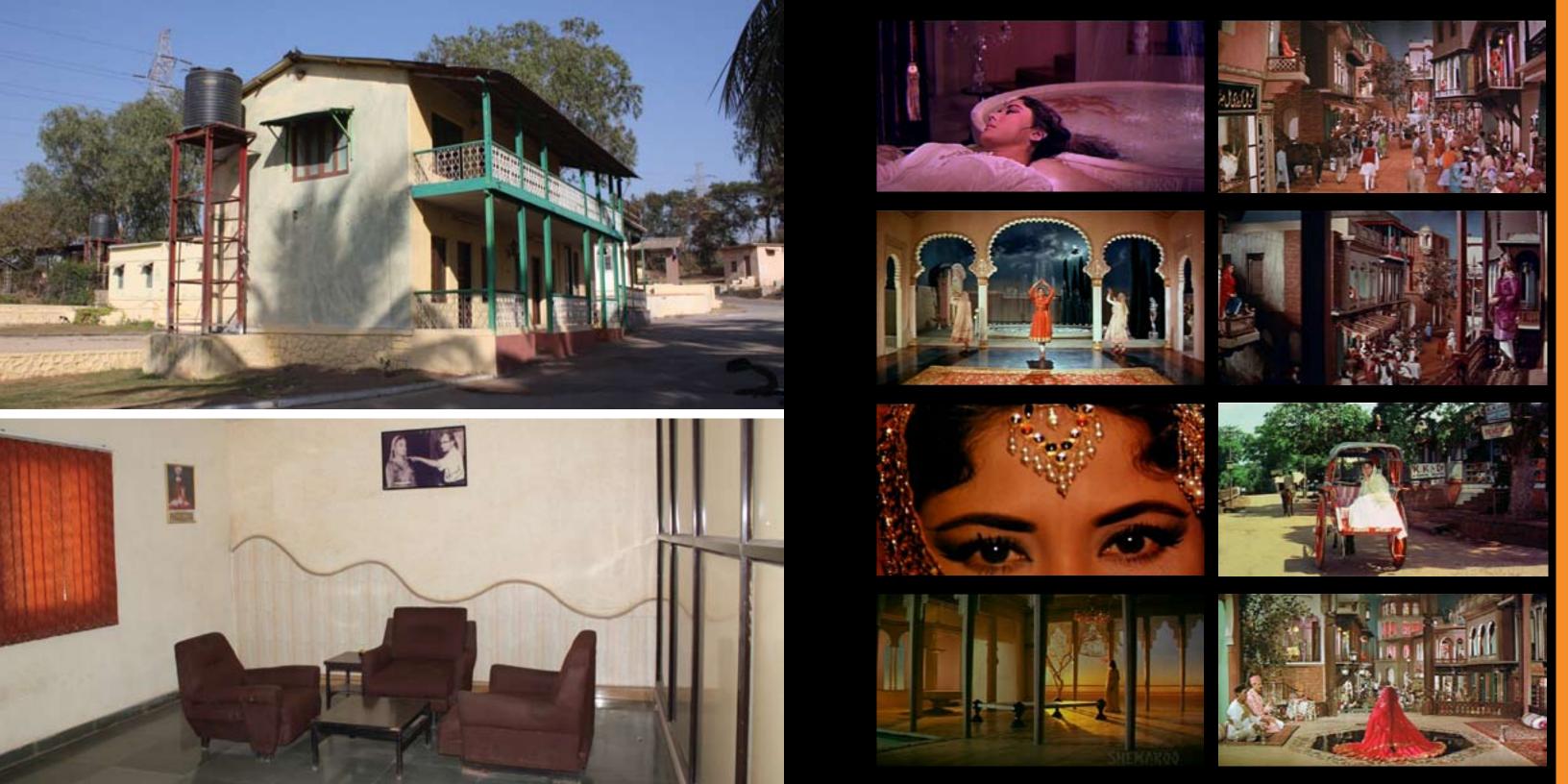




















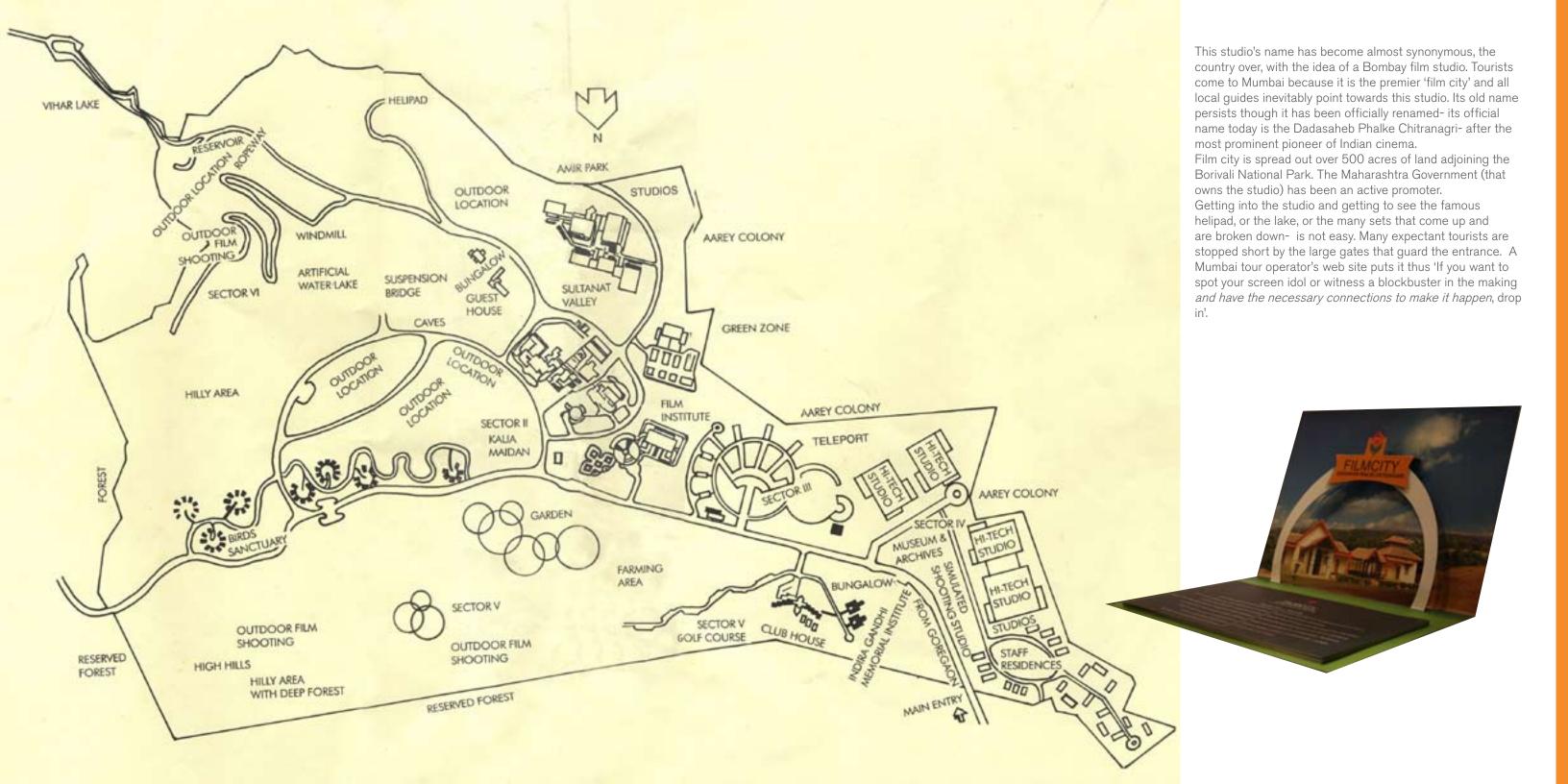


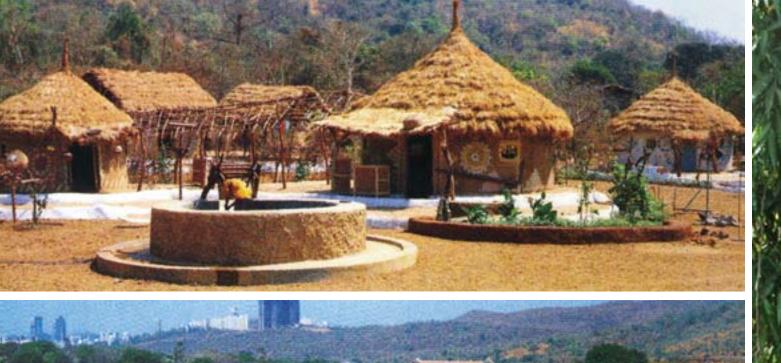




























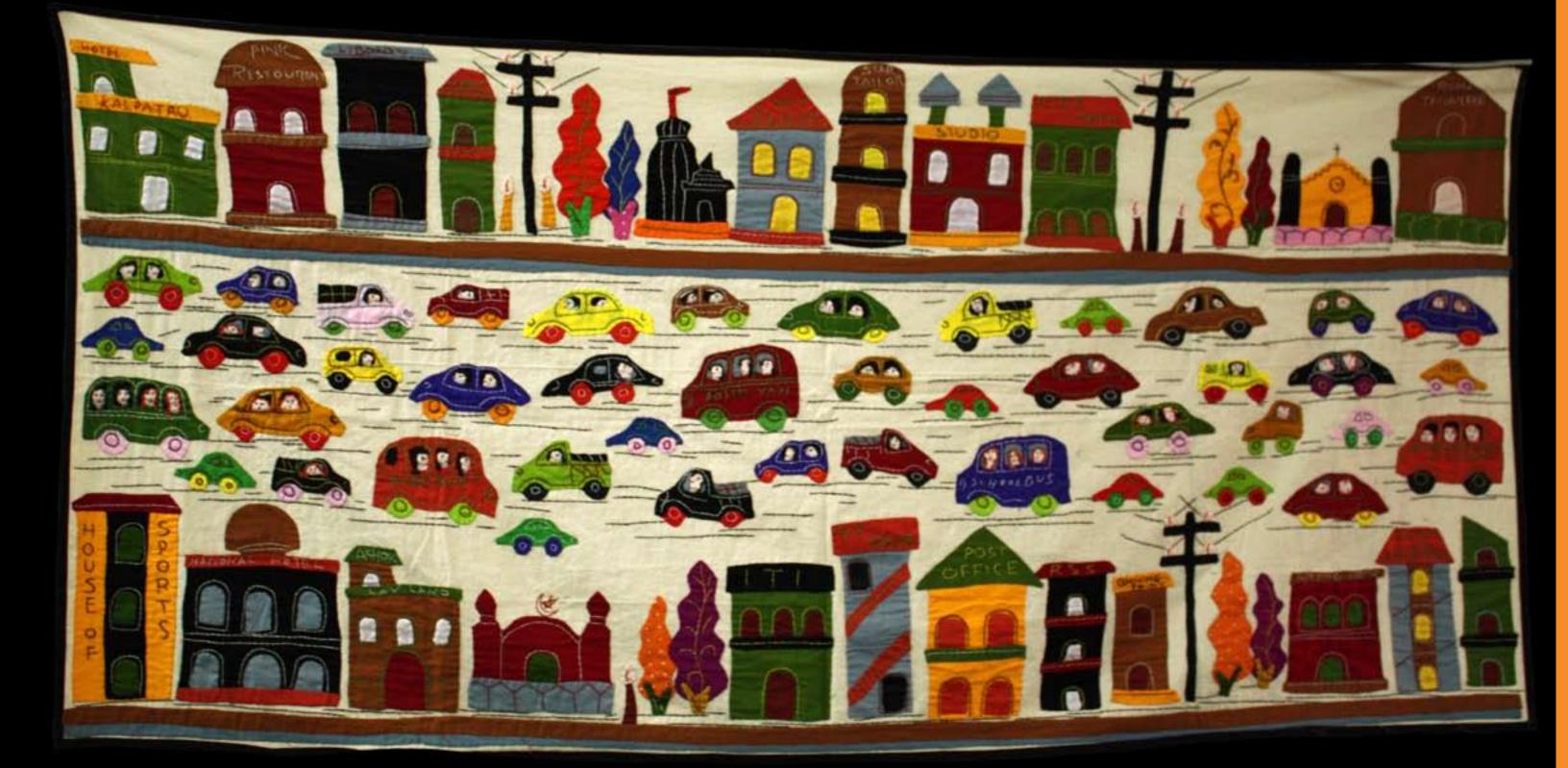










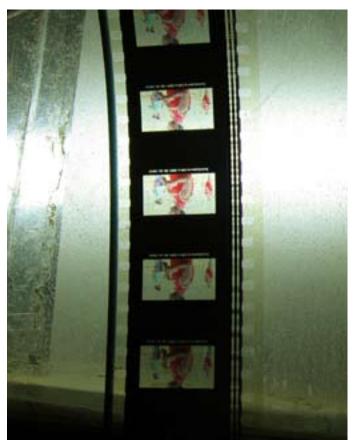


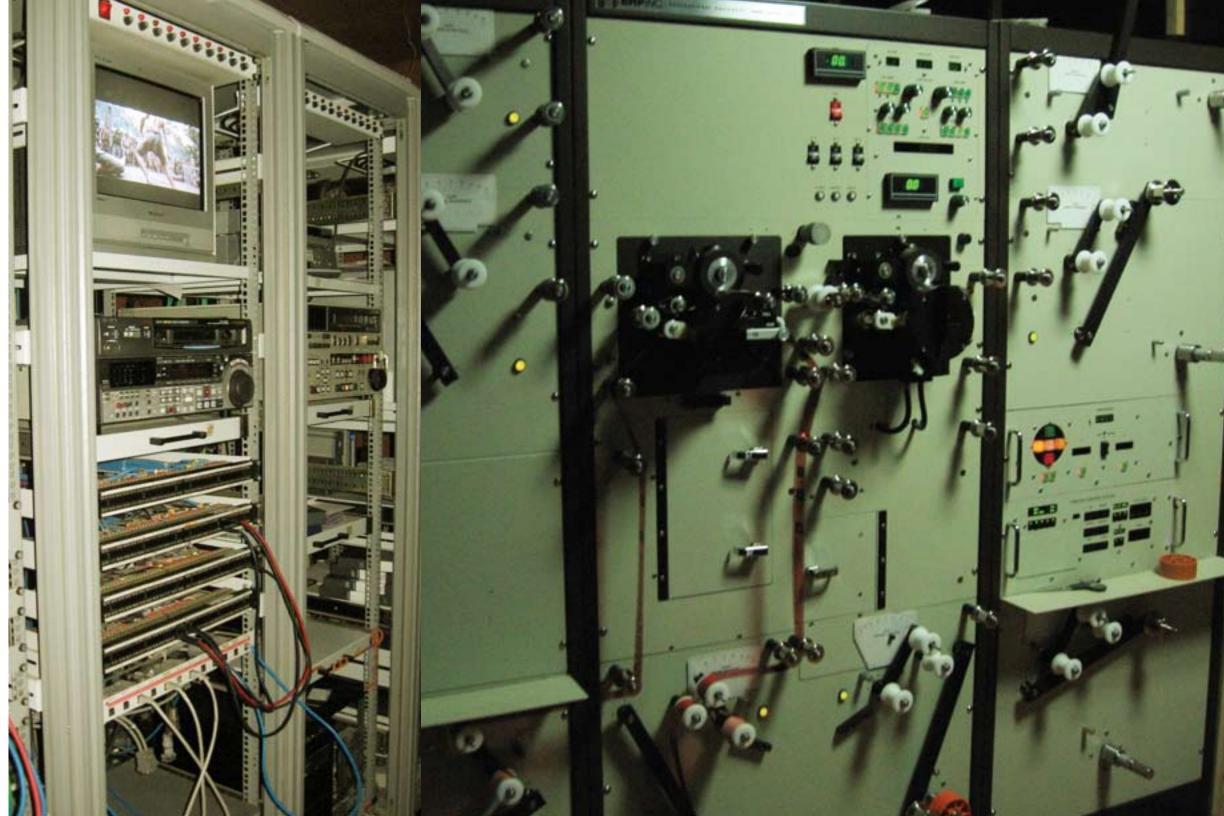
Post Production

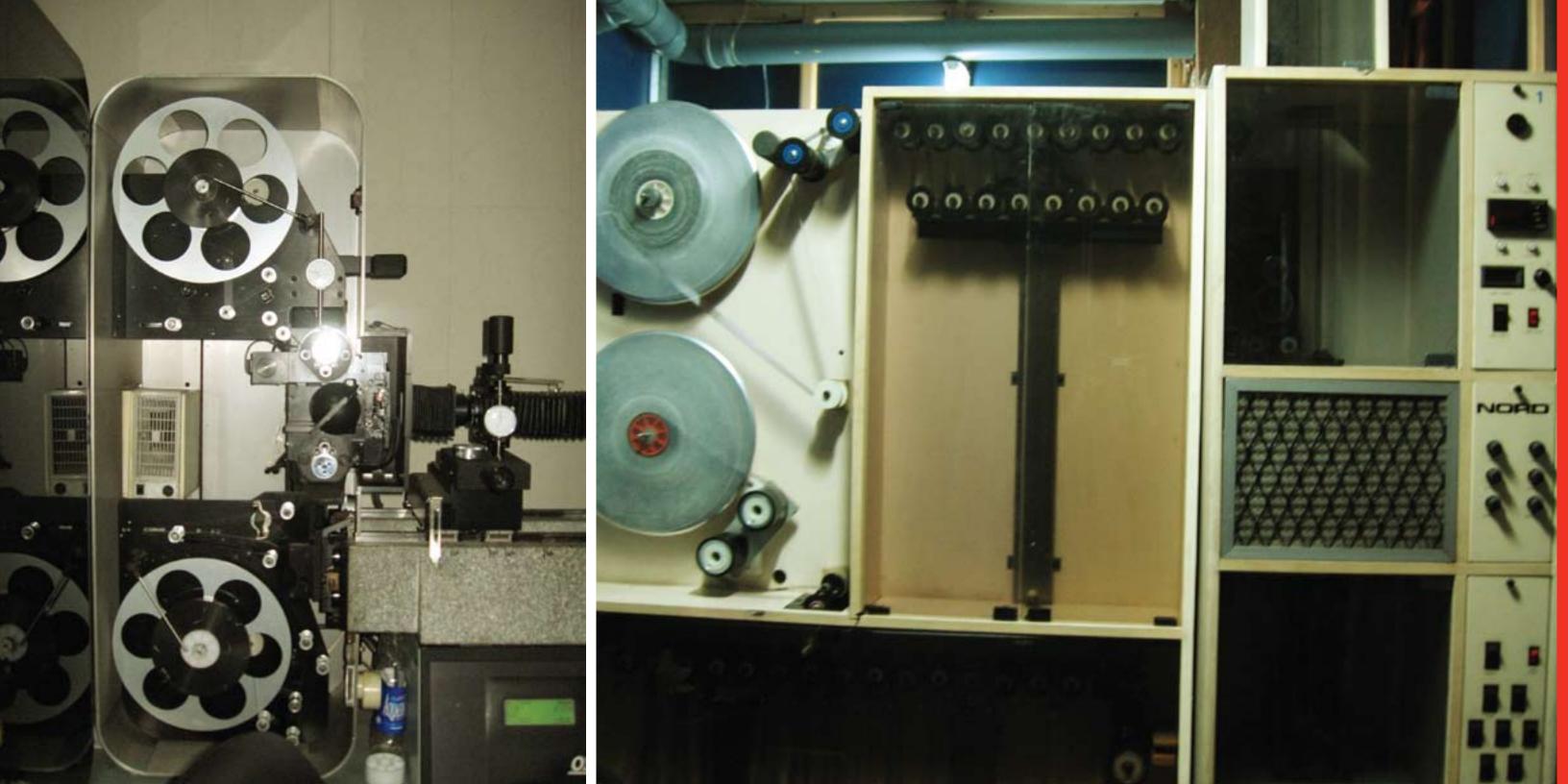
The film shoot is romantically called the period of film 'production', but the film is far from being a product after the shoot. The units of constructed time called sequences, have been recorded. They will now need to be arranged and re arranged, worked upon, sometimes reconstructed digitally. Sound, music, colour correction must still happen, multiple copies of the film print must be made in the lab, and digital copies must be made ready for distribution.

Digital technology has shrunk production spaces. Entire films can be edited on a desktop well furbished with software that can be found in pirated versions with other pavement merchandise. Dubbing can be done in a small apartment well blocked with mattresses.

So while old studios still exist and are used by some of the large production houses, many smaller post production facilities have mushroomed in the city, their largest density in and around the Lokhandwala area in Andheri(West).









Future Works

'Future Works' takes up an entire floor of a commercial building on the main road in the Veera Desai Road area directly opposite the Fame Adlabs multiplex.

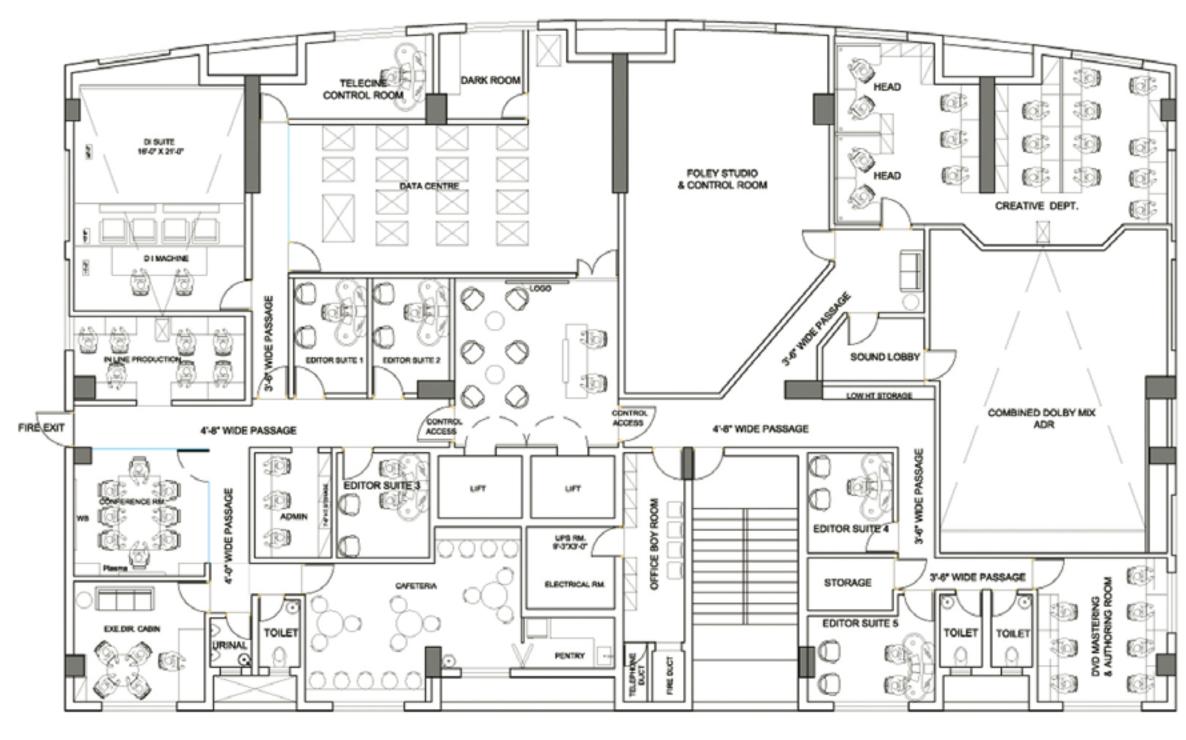
Editing, colour correction and sound mixing studios are placed around a central lobby. The quiet buzz of work in the air conditioned space makes you feel like you have walked into some specialist hospice to treat the image.

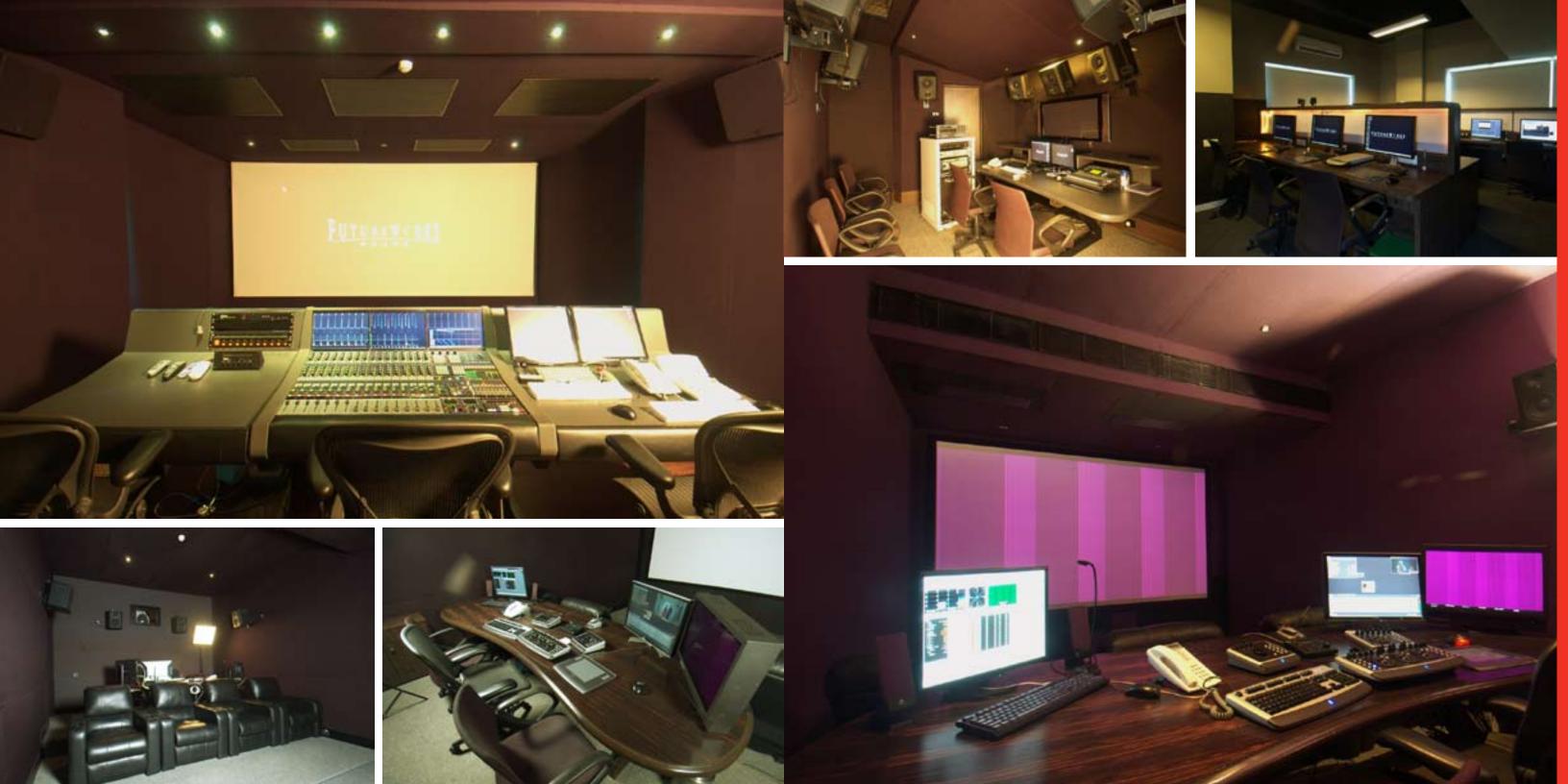
People bent over rows of computer monitors work at transforming screen images, adding outlandish locations to a couple, or ghoulish features to a regular face..

The same company that runs Future Works in this cluttered cinema suburb, still retains a link to the older spaces of production: they own a sound mixing studio inside the capacious and historic structure that is Rajkamal Studio, in Parel.

Rajkamal Studios was bought over by the legendary film maker V Shataram, from the Wadia Company in 1942. At one time it was one of the most sophisticated studios in the country with two stages, a dubbing theatre, a huge dance floor and a film archive.





























Gemini Studios



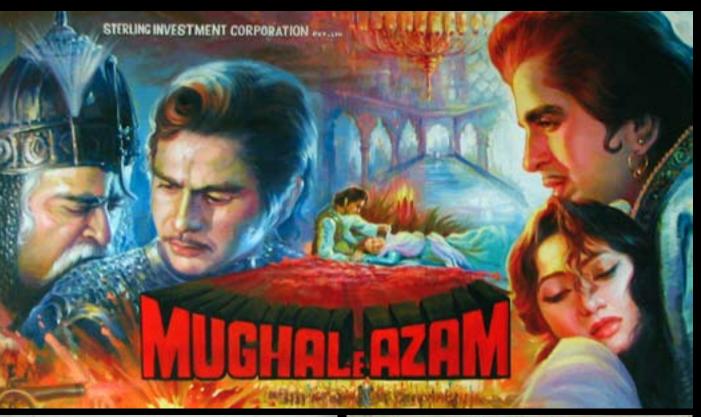


Distribution

Bal Krishna Vaidya - Poster Painter







Disappearing act

As Married thereon, now instant despress quirily extend our rest total ray. Like the typic who becomes not to CV find with numbers and then deliveded them monthly The criticies who shours had change for the incerting pointer.

HOARDING ARTEST

Barrers Varia







Rehmanbhai - Poster Painter



... this is banner art... in this convention villains are usually green, blue, pink & Mauve. Nowadays the hero and the villain are the same colour! Who's the hero then?

- on the convention of hand painted banner













Mohammed Asif Sheikh & Mohammed Shamsher Sheikh - Poster Mounters



At precisely 3pm, Mohammed Asif Sheikh and Mohammed Shamsher Sheikh arrived at the site. Within seconds Asif had climbed the scaffolding and had reached the bottom of the 20 feet by 40 feet billboard. Shamsher pulled out a well folded flex and joined him up there. Asif took the flex and climbed to the top of the billboard. He unfolded it and started nailing the flex on the previous advertisement itself. Shamsher started nailing it from the bottom. They walked on the billboard's framework: each entwined his feet and leaned outwards to check whether the alignment was alright, knotted one arm around a vertical beam while taking nails out of his pocket, and hardly spoke a word.

This acrobat-like performance went on for 15 minutes. Neither the height, nor the absence of any safety belt affected the smoothness of their performance.

"If we use a safety belt, then it would take us nothing less than 2 hours to do what we can easily do in 15 minutes. But didn't you see how at least one part of our body was entangled in the scaffold; we make sure we are never in a vulnerable position. Inshallah! Until now, no one has died whilst working, hopefully it will remain that way." Asif said

Just then Shamsher got a phone call informing him of the next billboard that they had to change.

"We have been in this field for around 3-4 years. Actually, I could have put this flex up by myself, but thought I could use my nephew's (Asif) help and in turn it would help him gain confidence, as he's a little new to this. We all learn by watching and through practice only. Now, he has to put up a 10 X 20 flex at Grant Road, and I need to go to Goregaon."







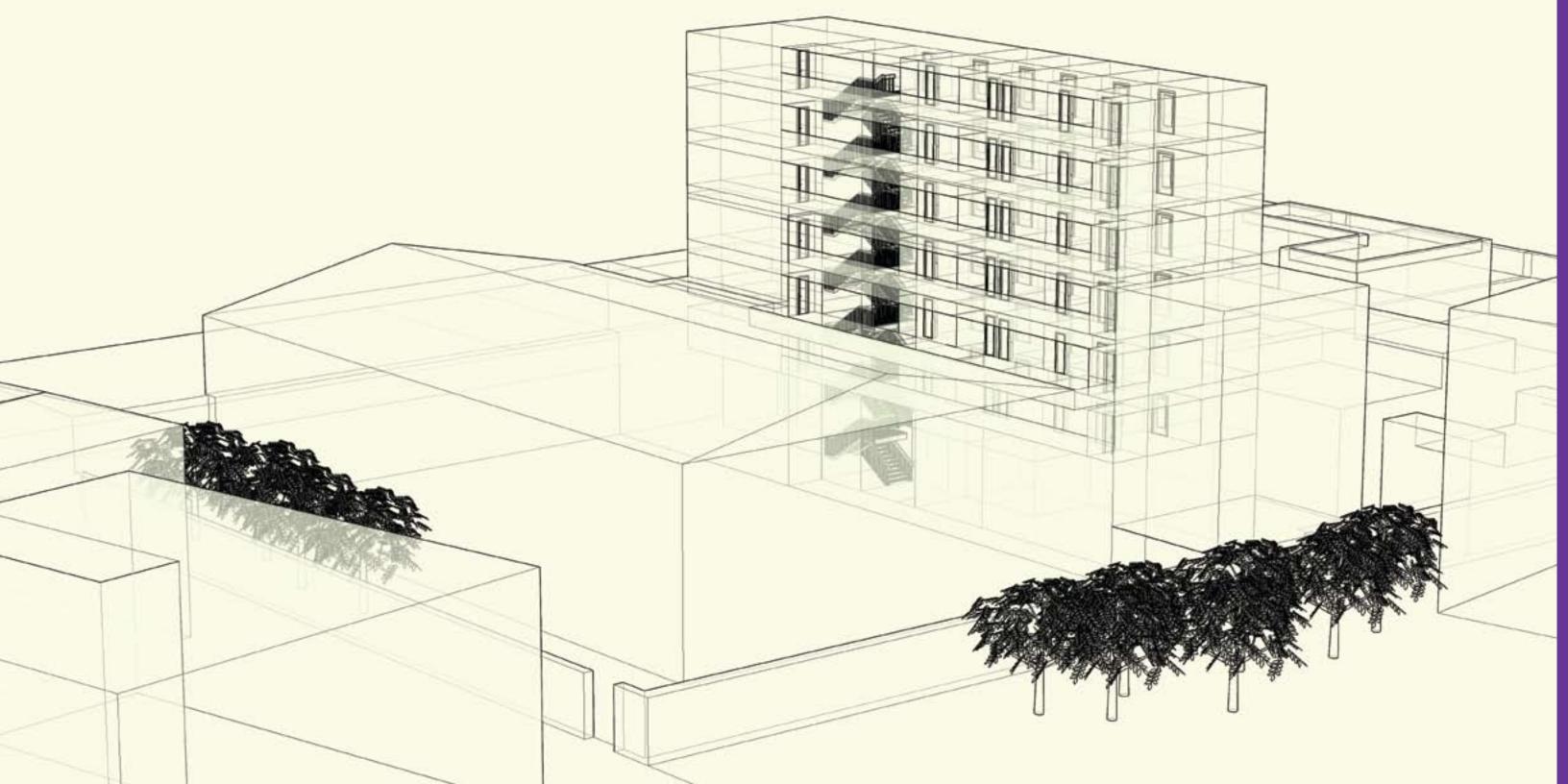


Naaz

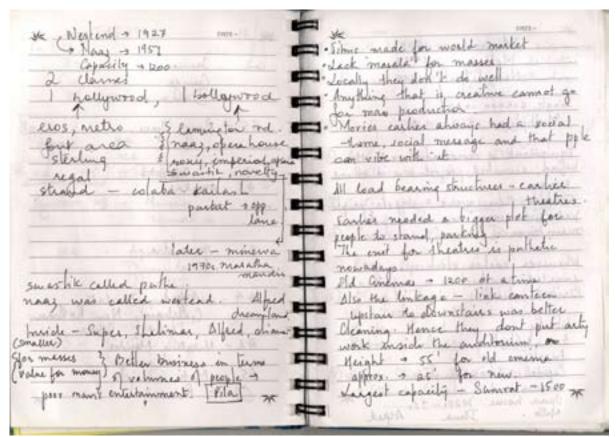
Pila House drew its strength as an entertainment district, from the large presence of migrant labour in its precincts. The old Parsee theatre, the Natya Sangeet of the late 19th century, the tamasha and the rising star of feature films, all jostled for space once upon a time in this vibrant neighbourhood.

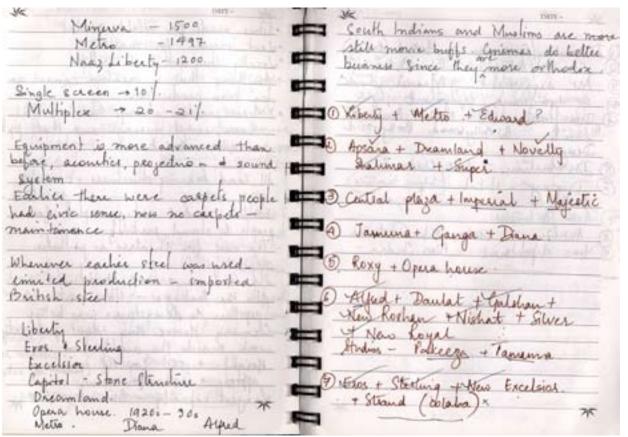
The clout of cinema grew, pushing out earlier forms of entertainment. Navketan's 'Taxi Driver' premiered at Imperial, also called Haathiwaala theatre for the two large concrete elephants that stand on its lot, Pathe, which later became Swastik, Minerva, Novelty, Super Cinema, Ripon(now famous as Alfred Cinema). Naaz, started as the West End theatre in 1927. It went on to become famous for its canteen that served as the city's market place for distributing prints for Hindi films, all over India. A lot of distributors still work out of small unpretentious offices tucked away in the building.

First the entry of big money from diamond companies and the music industry, then the corporatization of the film industry has led to a shift in business practices. The distributor is not yesterday's all powerful figure, and has to take much larger risks to buy distribution rights. Large companies sometimes prefer to make direct deals with the exhibitors in important territories. Even so, deals continue to be made at Naaz, over tea, pastries and film gossip, even if the distribution is mostly of smaller Bhojpuri films, B grade Hindi films and English films dubbed in Hindi.













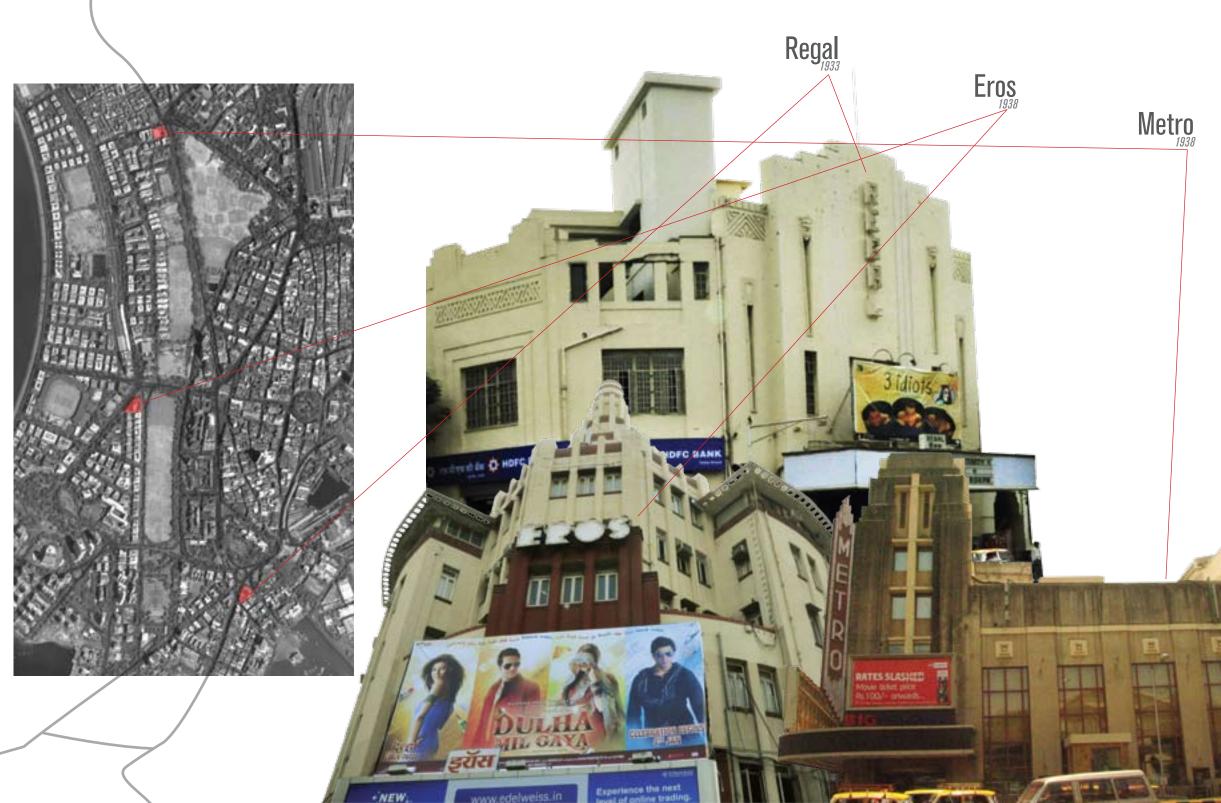


Art Deco Theaters

In the 1930s huge transformations of the landscape of the city were undertaken involving large scale reclamations of land from the sea including the iconographic Marine Drive. Perhaps one of the most unashamedly indulgent architectural styles, Art Deco lent itself easily to symbolize the aspirations of a upwardly mobile middle class in a Bombay that saw itself as progressive and modern. With names like Sunrise Court, Ivorine and Eden Court and iconography borrowed from automobiles, exotic oriental locations like Egypt and Mesopotamia, these buildings became portals to opulent imaginations of other places. It is natural then that the great monuments of this period are the movie theaters built at the corners of important junctions in the new city with towers that rise marking the corner, colorful facades ornamented with playful details, interiors in marble and chrome with murals on the walls depicting stories of travel.

Three of these are Eros, Regal and Metro, all located at important locations between the older fort of the city and the newer areas that developed to the West. Regal theatre marks the southern edge of the older Fort district. Built in 1933, directly opposite the Prince of Wales Museum, it was designed by Charles Stevens. It was the first of Bombay's art deco cinemas. It was one of the first buildings in the city to have an underground parking system with an elevator to bring the patrons to the upper levels. Eros, built in 1938, lies directly at the corner of Oval Maidan- one of the most famous open spaces in the city. Its distinctive telescope shaped tower and colorful façade is part of the assemblage of historic buildings around it. The interior is in black and white marble and the iconography of the interior details borrows heavily from Indian architecture.

Metro, the third of these theatres, lies to the north of the fort area. This was also built in 1938, by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayor studios to showcase their films in Bombay. Subsequently, the building was the favored location for the star-studded premiers of big Hindi blockbuster films all through the 1970s and 80s. Towards the turn of the century, big theatres like Metro started losing their audiences to multiplexes. The building was recently transformed into a multiplex with efforts to retain its historical art deco details.









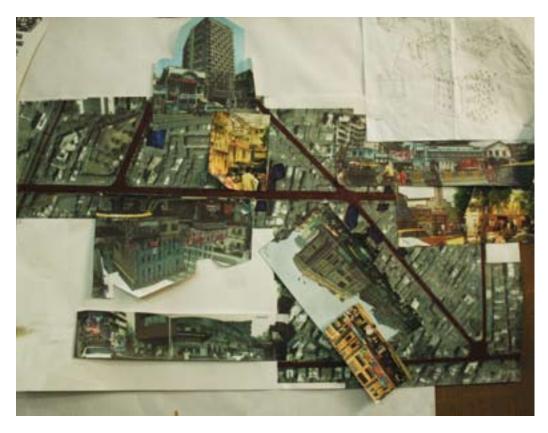




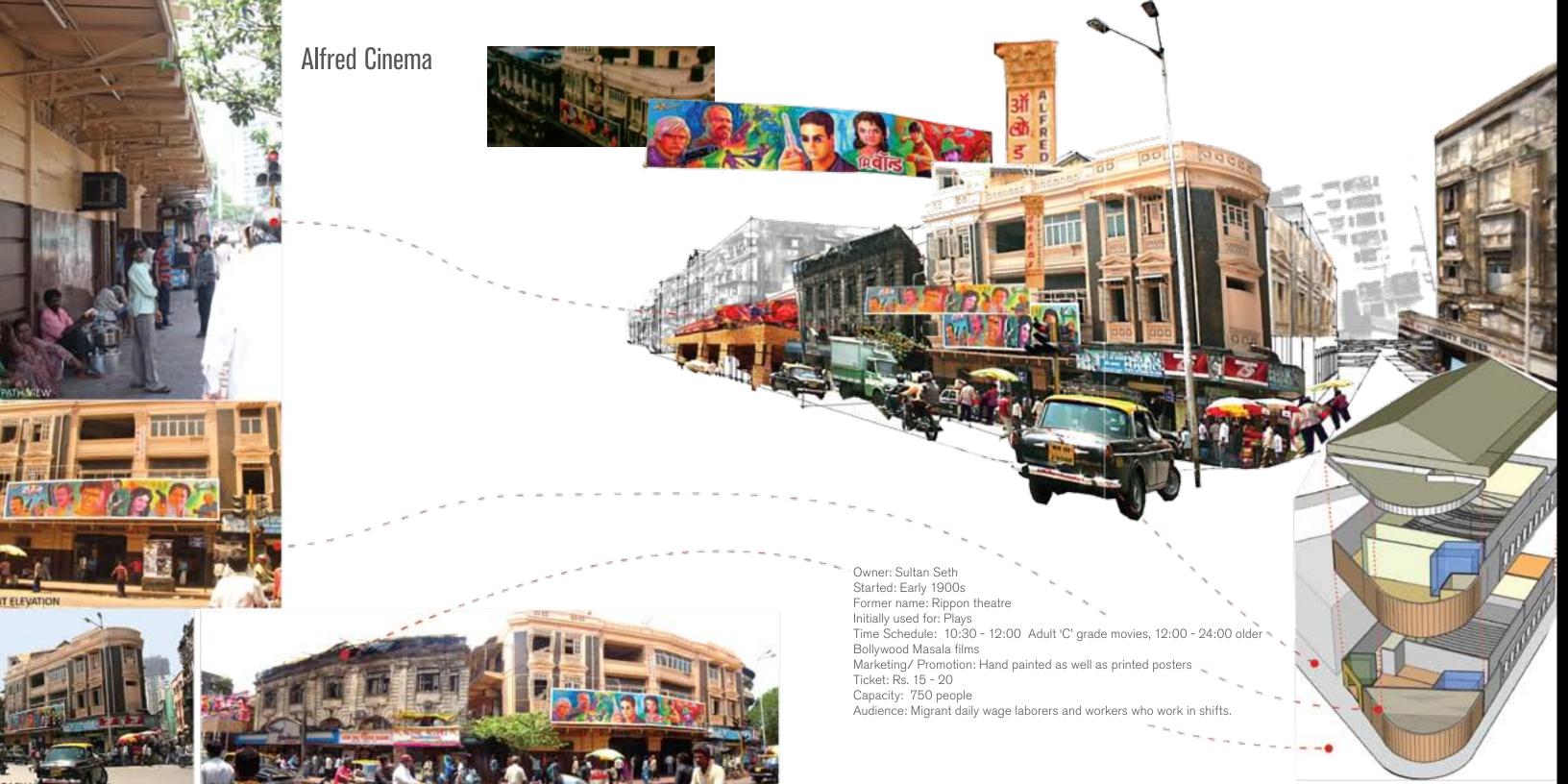


Pila House

Pila House is the historic entertainment district of the city. Carved out of a sprawling graveyard it was demarcated as the entertainment district - Play House, in 1850. It lies sandwiched between the inner city bazaars to the south, the mill lands to the north, the docklands to the east and the luxury apartments of Malabar Hill to the west. The neighborhood is a location for the intersection of desires emanating from all these surrounding spaces and its labyrinths. Cinema theaters line its streets showing films for classes forgotten by the multiplexes. Most of these halls were originally used by traditional Parsi drama groups and were subsequently transformed into cinemas.











GULSHAN

Owner: Ismail Kapadia & Ibrahim Khatri Started: First quarter of 20th century

Land ownership: Sharing the land with beetle-leaf seller

Initially used for: Movies

Time Schedule: No morning shows, 4 shows daily: 12-3, 3-6, 6-9, 9-12 Movie typology: 2 weeks Bhojpuri films, 2 weeks Bollywood films Marketing/ Promotions: Hand painted posters

Ticket: Rs. 6 - 15 Capacity: 680

No female audience

Audience: Migrant daily wage laborers and workers who work in shifts.

... for the poor there were just two kinds of entertainment, one was the red light area and the other was cinema. This area had both of them, so they used to spend time here and leave. There were no families living in this area. Owner of Gulshan Talkies and adjacent restaurant on Pila House, the entertainment district

Single Screen Theaters

For most of us who grew up in the 70s and the 80s, this is where we went to watch films. Clustered around the railway stations and within the markets around them, these huge concrete frame structures were the centers of the film watching rituals of families and groups of friends on days off. Today as film watching habits transform and as the audiences either flock to the mass produced or 'niche' films screened in multiplexes; or to the regional films and old fashioned pot-boilers of the 80's found in slum theaters and on television, these monstrous monuments to the film watching rituals of the past crumble away. Many of them struggle to survive in spite of the onslaught of change; still others give way and are transformed into multiplexes and malls.









Jaya | Diamond | Ajanta | Milap

This is a group of theaters around Borivili railway Station in the western suburbs of Mumbai connected to each other by a network of streets that sell everything from houshold goods, clothes to jewellery. Jaya is the largest of the three. You enter the front courtyard of the theater through a small alley lined with hawkers. The building is three storied with the entrance of the theater to the right. Above the theater are a series of small shops and office establishments. There used to be a break in the wall from where you could walk over to the other theater 'Diamond'. This breach as subsequently been walled up and now one has to walk back to the main road and take a longer route to get there. Smaller than Jaya, 'Diamond' was known for its unusually steep Balcony level, where you literally look down at the screen. The stalls below, though cheaper, gave a better view.

A narrow pedestrian street selling CD's and clothes thronging with people connects Diamond to 'Ajanta'- the third and the last of this triad. From a name that evokes historical cave temples this theater saw a history of devolution, as it first gave up showing the more expensive mainstream Hindi films and started showing cheaper films in Bhojpuri or Marathi, until it finally gave up trying to resist inevitable change and was demolished. Today a multiplex is being built where it stood.

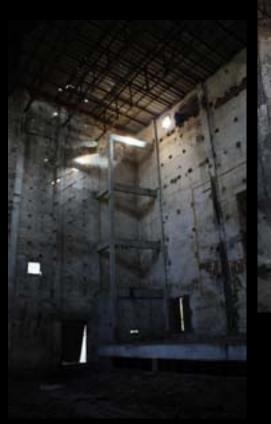
Another theater that awaits the Multiplex treatment is 'Milap' further south on S V Road. With a name that means 'Meeting' it is easy to see this building as emblematic of a deeper change in the city where meetings between classes at public spaces are becoming rarer. This monumental theater has been evacuated for some years now. Completely stripped of everything , the seats, the screen, the projector, all that remain of the paraphernalia of film watching is the empty shell of the building and a few fragments of film on the ground. The only inhabitants of the space are the lone afternoon sleepers who lie underneath the trees in its compound and the men who have started a makeshift garage in the space.











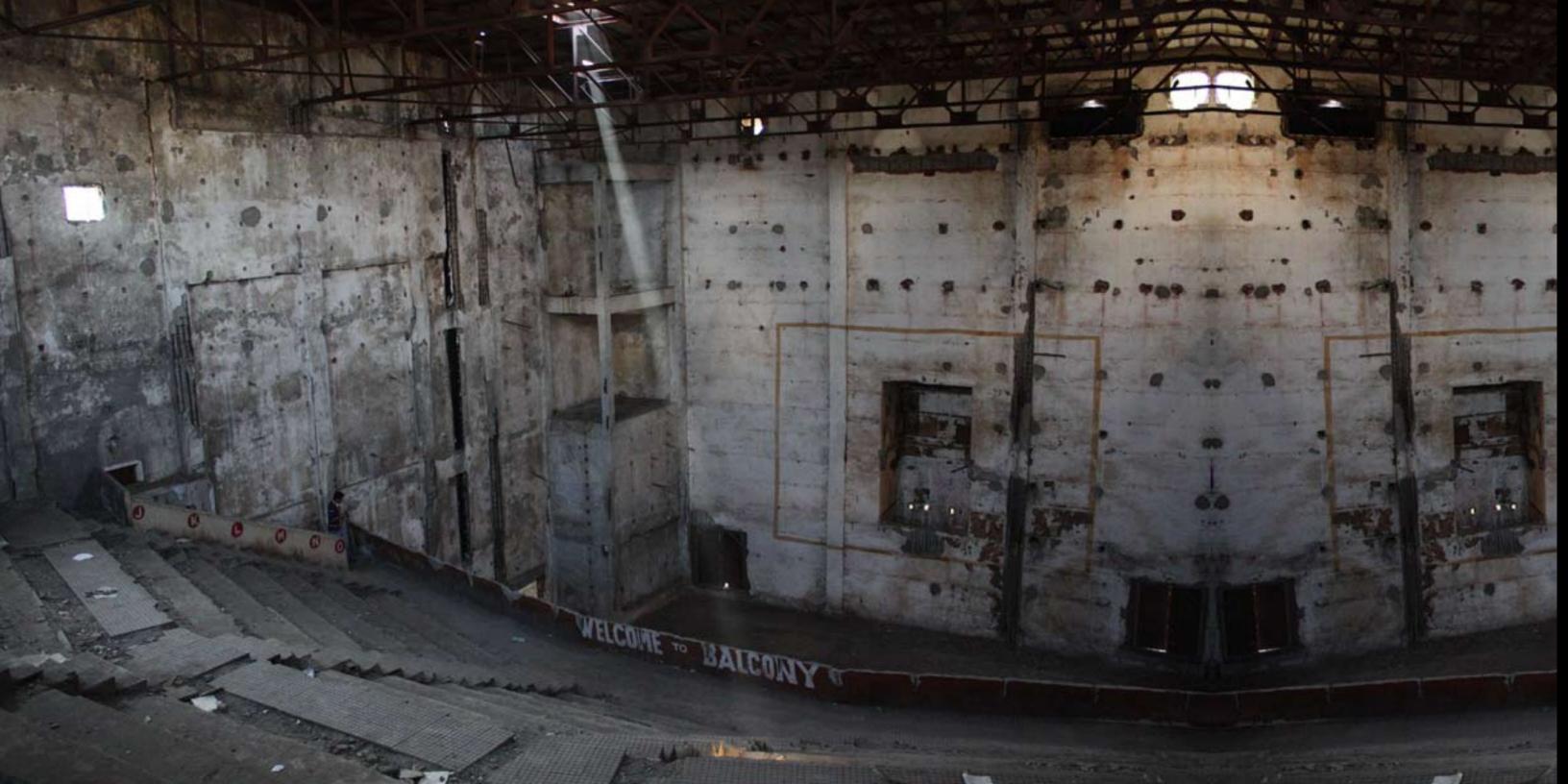
































Slum Theaters

Screen II

XX Pornographic Films Tcickets Rs. 15

Inserted into the dense fabric of the slums of the city where over 50% of the population live are thin slices of entertainment spaces for the mainly male migrant labor of the city. Finding the ticket prices in the multiplexes too exorbitant they flock to these theaters where tickets can be bought for as little as 5 Rupees. The theaters are long thin buildings that are completely introverted. They only open out through a narrow door to the street. At night this façade is completely closed making it hard to find these establishments; but in the day they are marked on the street by the posters of the films being shown inside. The ticket collector sits guard in front while Inside is a series of dark stuffy rooms where DVD players play pirated films projected on screens or on large screen televisions to men sitting in corners on the floor or on the few chairs and benches there might be. As you move from one room to the next the pornographic content of each of the films increases- from the relatively mainstream right up in front to the x-rated tucked away at the back.

Screen I Old Bollywood Films Tcickets Rs. 15

Screen III XXX Pornographic Films Tcickets Rs. 15 30 mln

Mala Video

Location: Malwani Slum, Orlem, Malad (W) Ticket Rate: Rs.10-25 depending on the movie screened Movies screened: Hindi, Regional (Telugu), sometimes cricket matches

The slum theater is part of a network of similar establishments scattered around the whole slum. The owners and managers of the 7 theaters in the area all belong to a large extended family. While an uncle owns the theaters, the nephews are involved in their day to day running. Each of these theaters shows different films from 10 in the morning till midnight. Three of the theaters screen Hindi films that range from recent films to older films and movies in Telugu because of the strong presence of a Telugu speaking community in the area. The family owns one separate benches for women. But later, with the Marathi projector and hires another six for the remaining theatres for Rs. 250 a day.

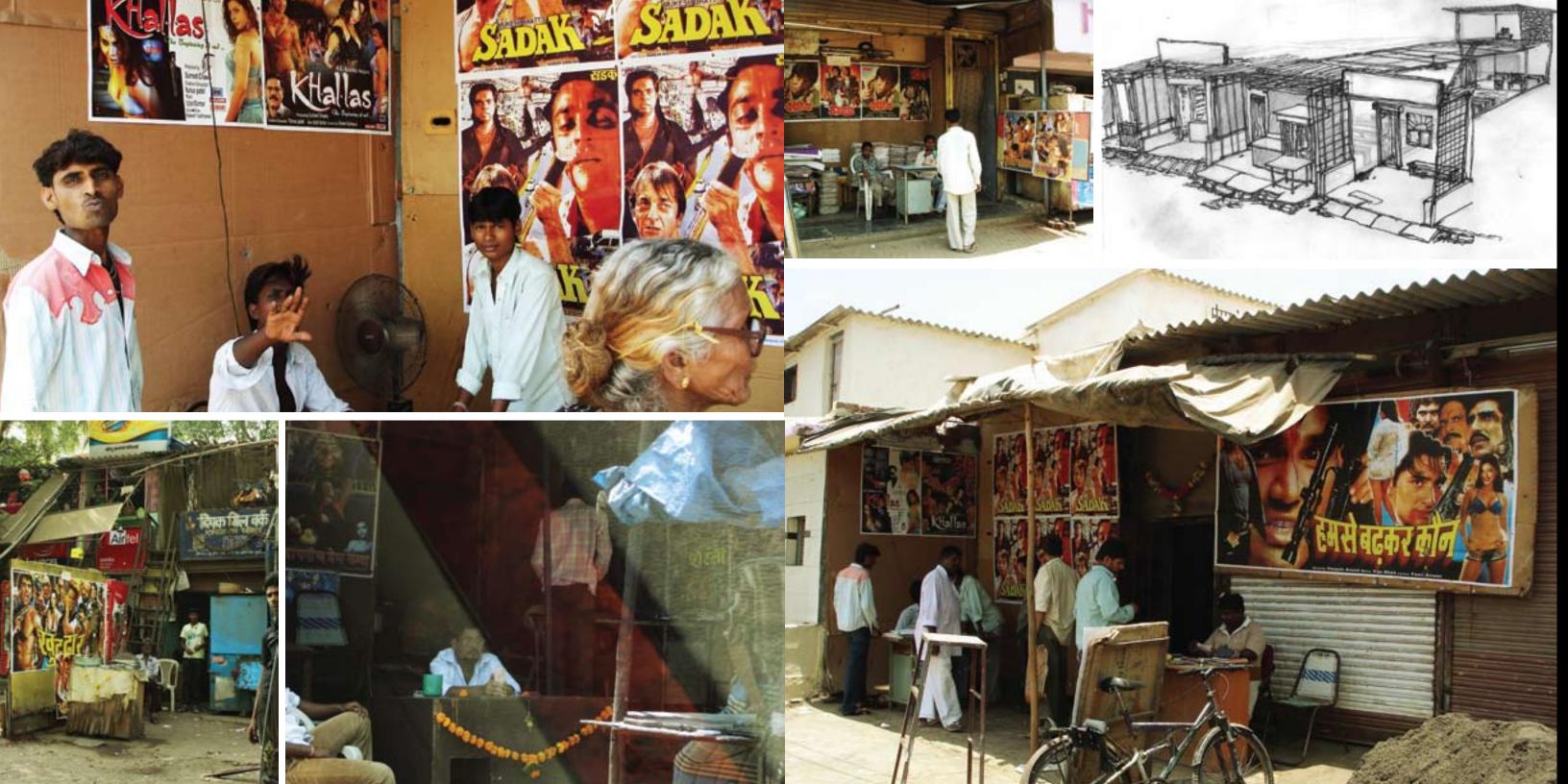
All the films screened here are shown illegally. Sometimes DVDs are obtained from neighboring video libraries. These are the older Bollywood films or films in other regional languages. There are even alleged stories that the police seize pirated DVDs from nearby dealers and rent them to the slum theatres for a fee!

In the theater there are seven rooms out of which two are used as storage and living spaces and the other 5 are used to screen movies.

The locals say that the theatre has been running for 30 years. These seven rooms were bought 30 years ago. Initially the ticket rate was one rupee and fifty paise and the films screened were mainly in Marathi language for the residents who were predominantly Marathi speaking. There were community shifting to the far suburb of Mankhurd and this area being occupied by migrants from Andhra Pradesh, the owners of the theatre started screening Telugu. These theaters exist on precarious line between the legal and the illegal. Police raids are frequent. As a result studying these is fraught with danger, because any formal documentation may prove detrimental to the theatre.







TAMBU | Traveling Tent Theaters

There are Cinema Cities that work as vectors emanating from the metropolis across the landscape of the country. These vectors carry with them images that shape the imagination of the city. Traveling Tent ('Tambu') Theaters are such a phenomenon. Begun 50 years ago, they now exist only in the State of Maharashtra. Every few months a miniature Cinema City springs up for a period of 15 days in a village and then travels to another. Often part of religious festivals, these theaters are the highlight of traveling fairs that move from village to village, attracting their audiences from the surrounding places. For a short period of time a space outside the village comes alive with the lights and sounds of cinema. Kohinoor Talkies is one such theater that travels across the length and breadth of the state 8 months of the year. It is only during the monsoon season that they pack up all their goods in a warehouse in the town of Paithan.

The theater is generally set up just outside the main village. Often the land belongs to temple trusts that lease it out. Permissions are required from local authorities like the gram panchayat and the collector. It takes around a day to set up the theater including the projector room, tent screen, ticket counter and the fencing to prevent people from entering without a ticket. The company leases the truck that carries the equipment from one town to the other, along with the labor to set it up. The cost of rental varies from 5,000- 10,000 rupees as per the distance and location of travel. The distributors, along with the film prints, supply movie posters and other publicity materials.

Each tent has a capacity to seat around 2000 to 3000 people. Shows start in the evening at 6 or 7 o'clock and continue all night till dawn. The films are acquired for a fee of around 10,000 to 30,000 rupees from a distributor in Aurangabad. The films shown are Telugu films that have been dubbed in Hindi as they are full of the action, dance and melodrama that the theater owners say the locals enjoy. Films in Marathi, the local language, are also popular while Hindi movies are hardly screened.



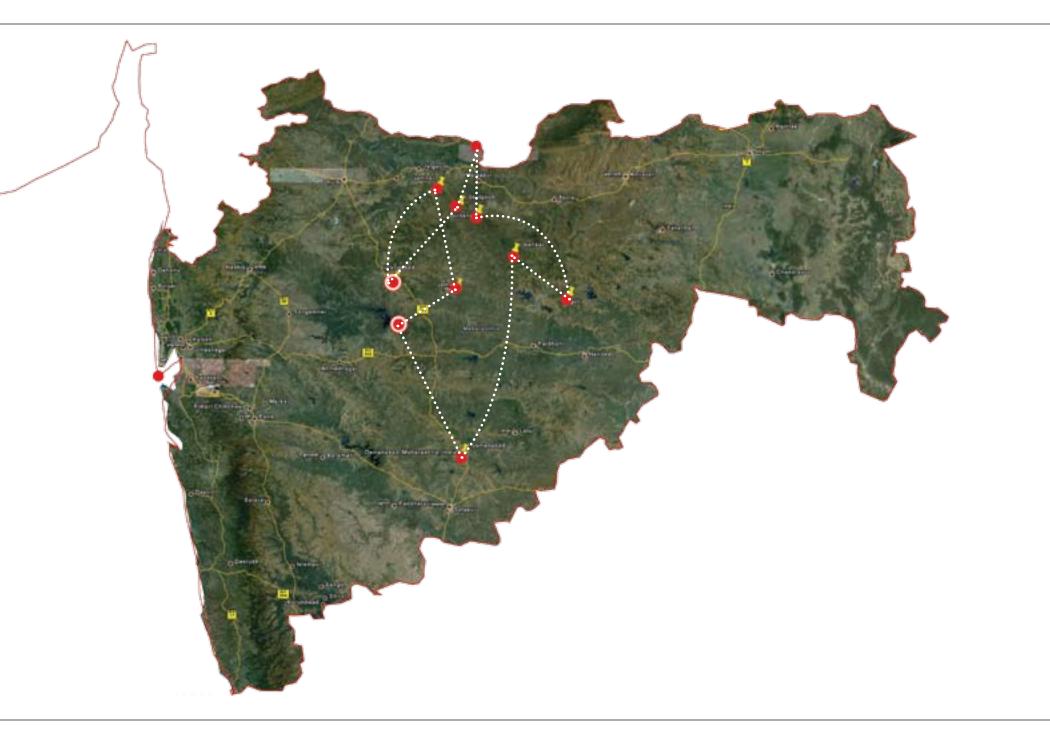






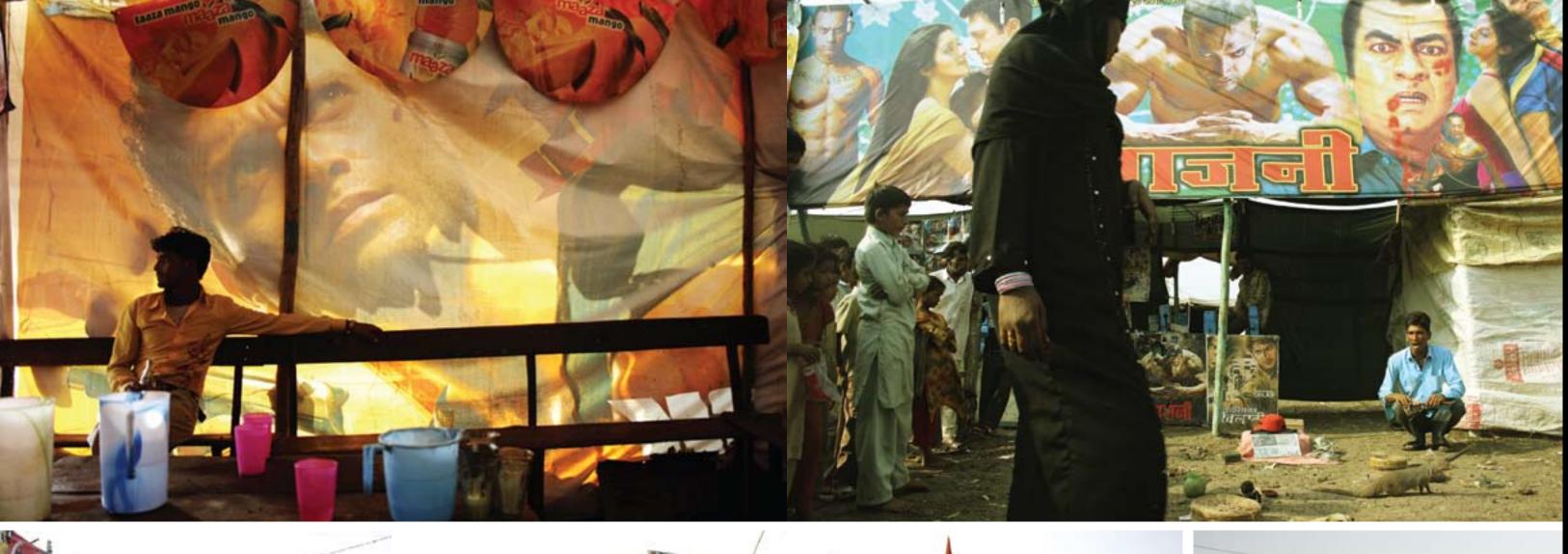






Mapping the route of Kohinoor Traveling Talkies

VILLAGE	TALUKA	DISTRICT	PERIOD
Deulgaonraja	Deulgaon	Buldhana	30 days
Mukamulli	Mehekar	Buldhana	8 days
Dhoni, Vasind	Shahapur	Thane	15-20 days
Singola	Jamner	Jalgaon	8 days
Goregaon	Hingoli		15 days
Hivrashram		Buldhana	5-6 days
Dahrkalyan		Jalna	8 days
Barashu		Parbhani	25 days
Islapur	Kinwat	Nanded	8 days
Nagdosh	Kimwada		5-6 days
Dhotra	Sillod	Aurangabad	10 days
Paithan	Paithan	Aurangabad	20-25 days
Shiknapur	Shiknapur	Satara	8 days
Yermala	Osmanabad	Osmanabad	8-10 days
Tirh	Osmanabad		10-15 days
Ranjangaon		Aurangabad.	20 -25 days

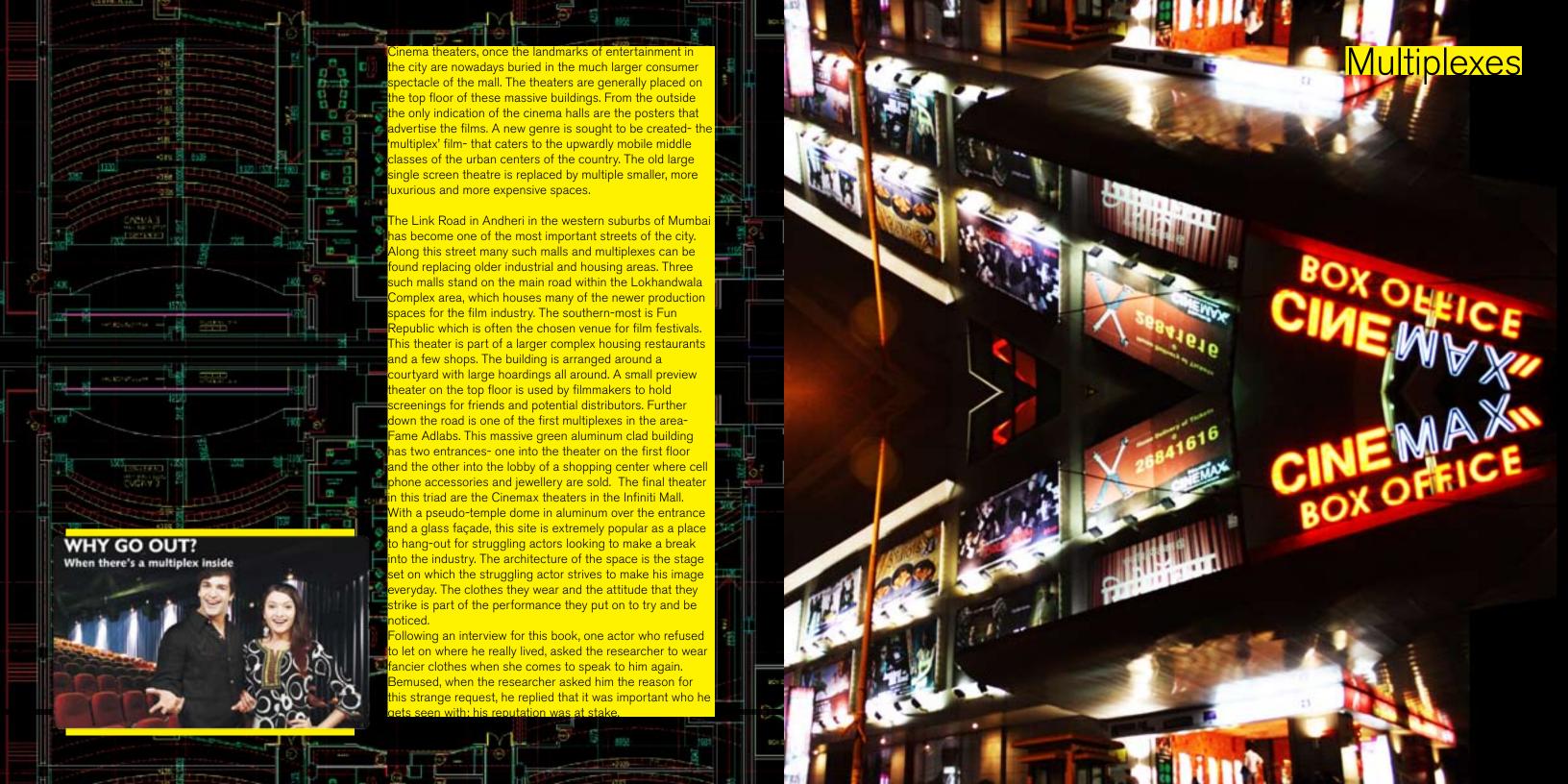




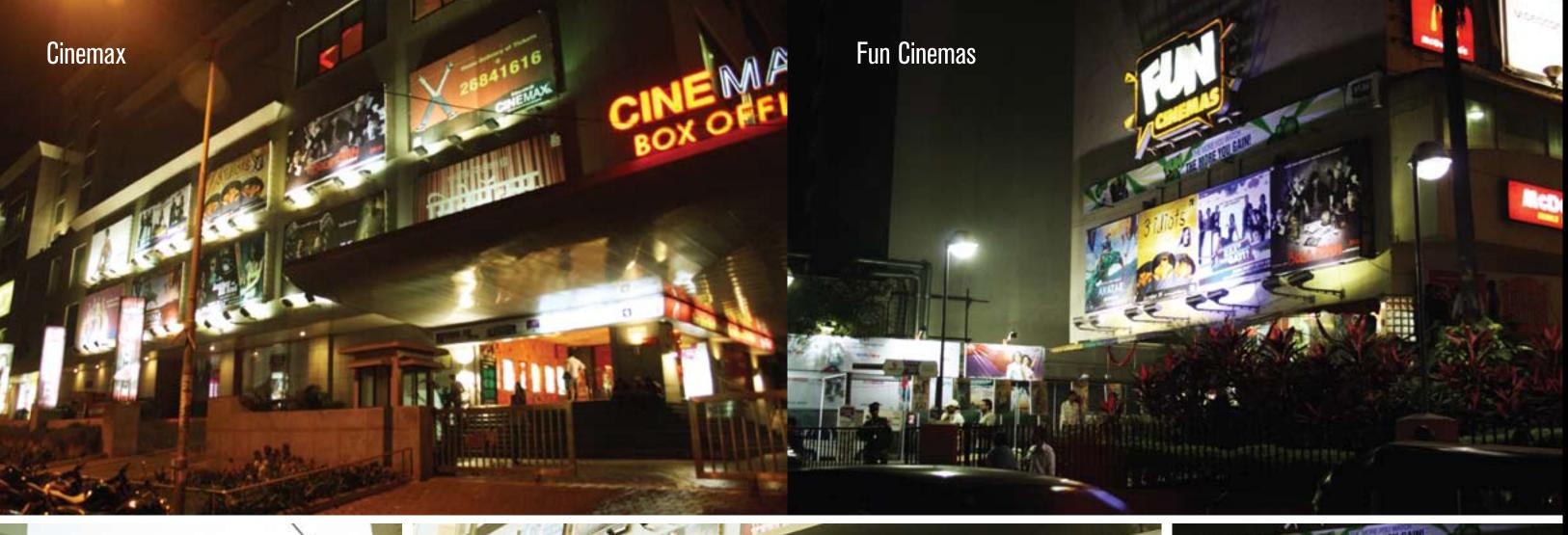












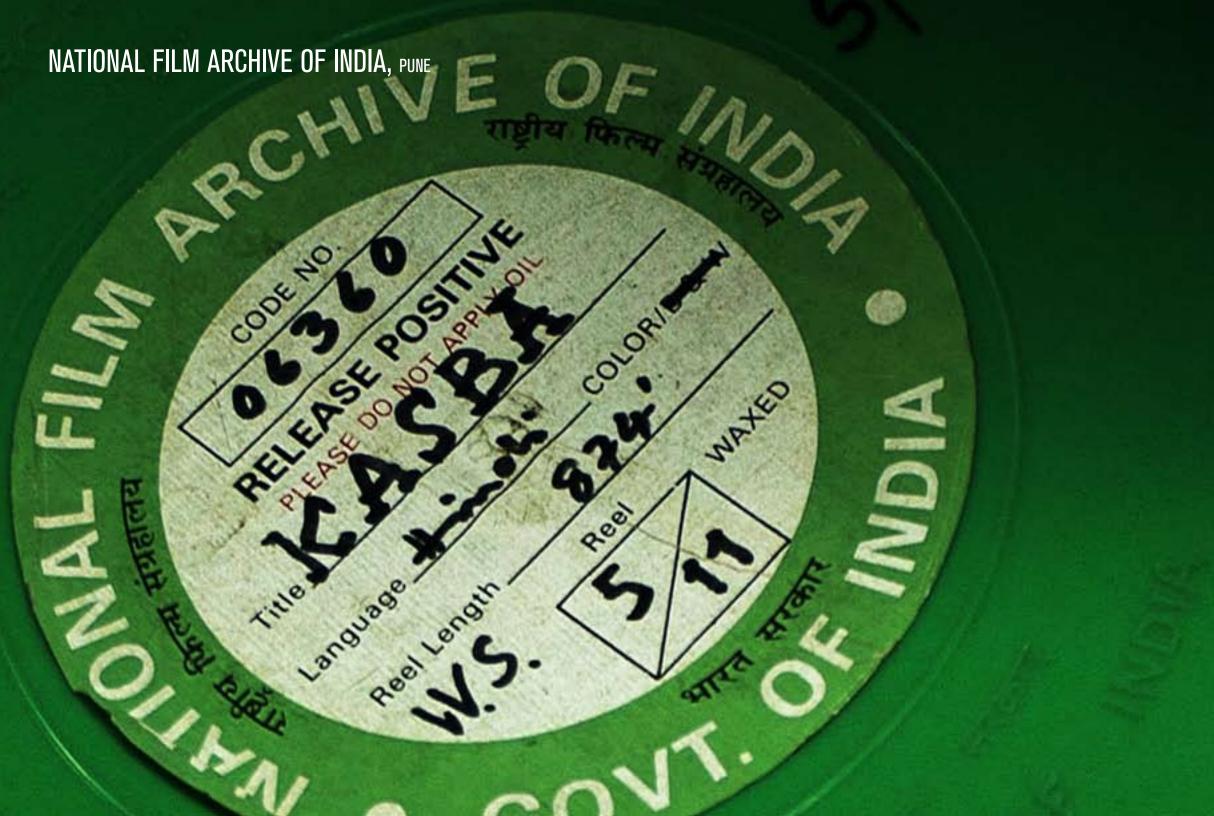








Archiving Recycling



"The mission of the National Film Archive of India is to safeguard the heritage of Indian Cinema for posterity and act as a centre for dissemination of a healthy film culture in the country. Promotion of film scholarship and research on various aspects of cinema also form part of its charter. Familiarizing foreign audiences with Indian Cinema and to make it more visible across the globe is another declared objective of the Archive."

That is from NFAI's website. The archive was started in the 1960s with the persistent initiatives of a few individuals working at the Film and Television Institute of India. The foremost among them is P.K. Nair, academic and film historian, who headed the archive for many years. What started as a informal effort of a few cinema enthusiasts has now grown into a full-fledged organization under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

The archive now has temperature and humidity controlled vaults for storing film prints and negatives of invaluable films that constitute Indian film history. It also has a large collection of world cinema classics. It is here that films are preserved in their pristine celluloid form — something a film enthusiast would give an arm and a leg to experience and watch on the big screen.

The archive has been a great resource for film festivals, academic institutions, film societies and individuals alike. Apart from film prints the archive also keeps film stills, posters and publicity materials, which are available for viewing and for research purposes.



















Film Poster Seller

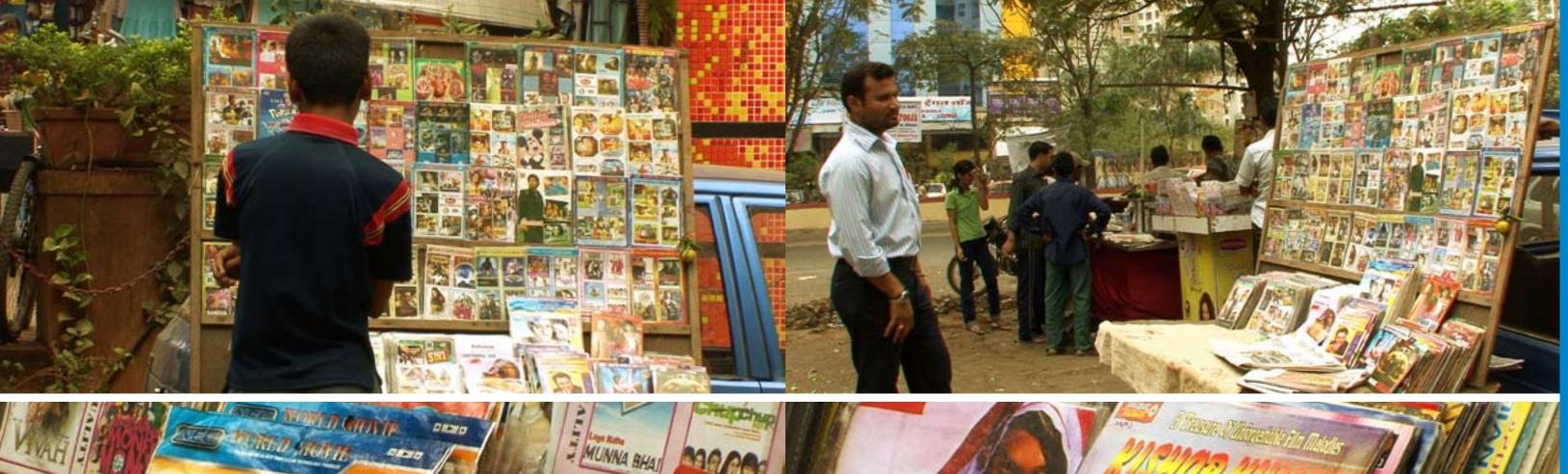
Bar Dancers



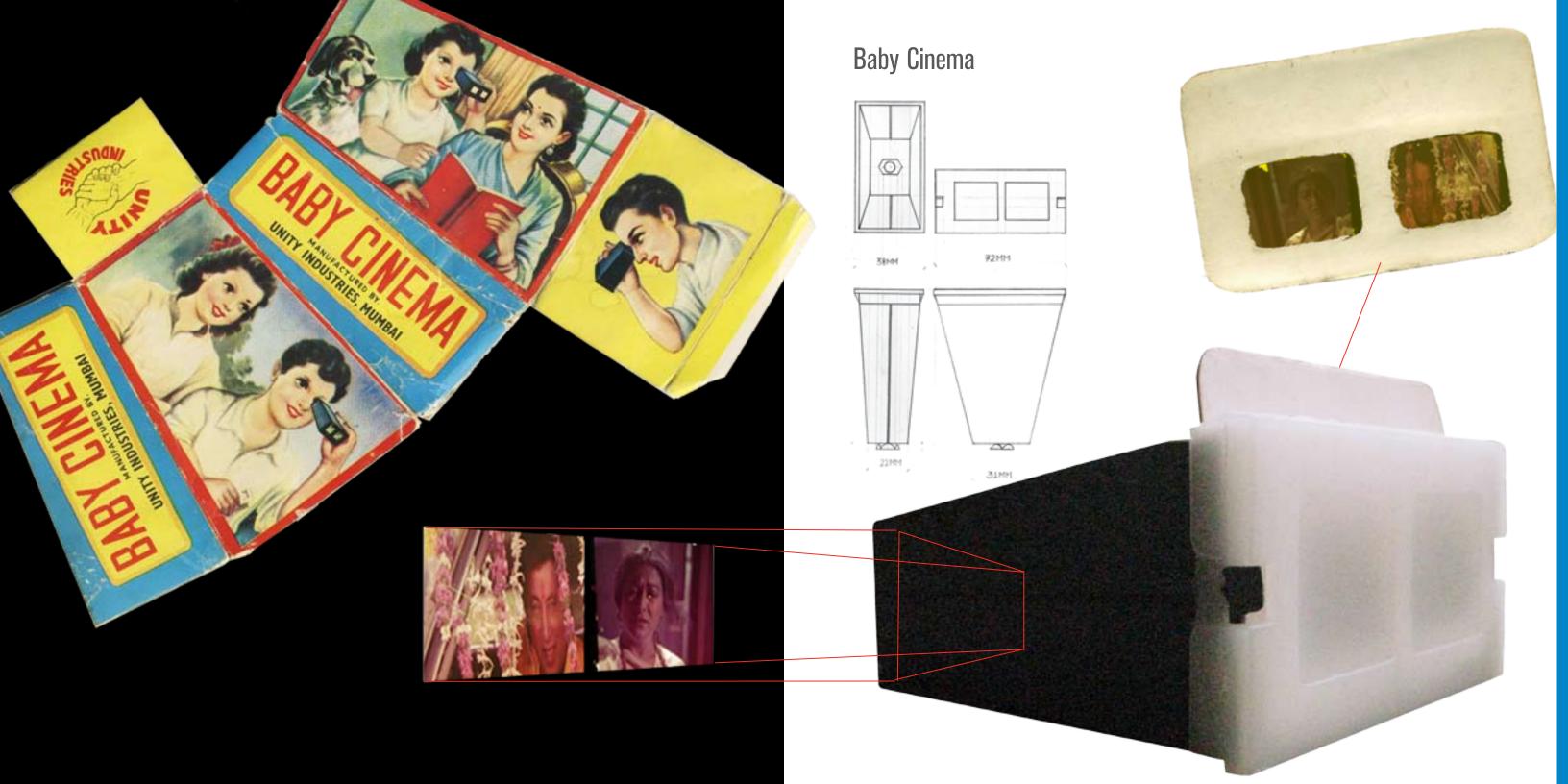




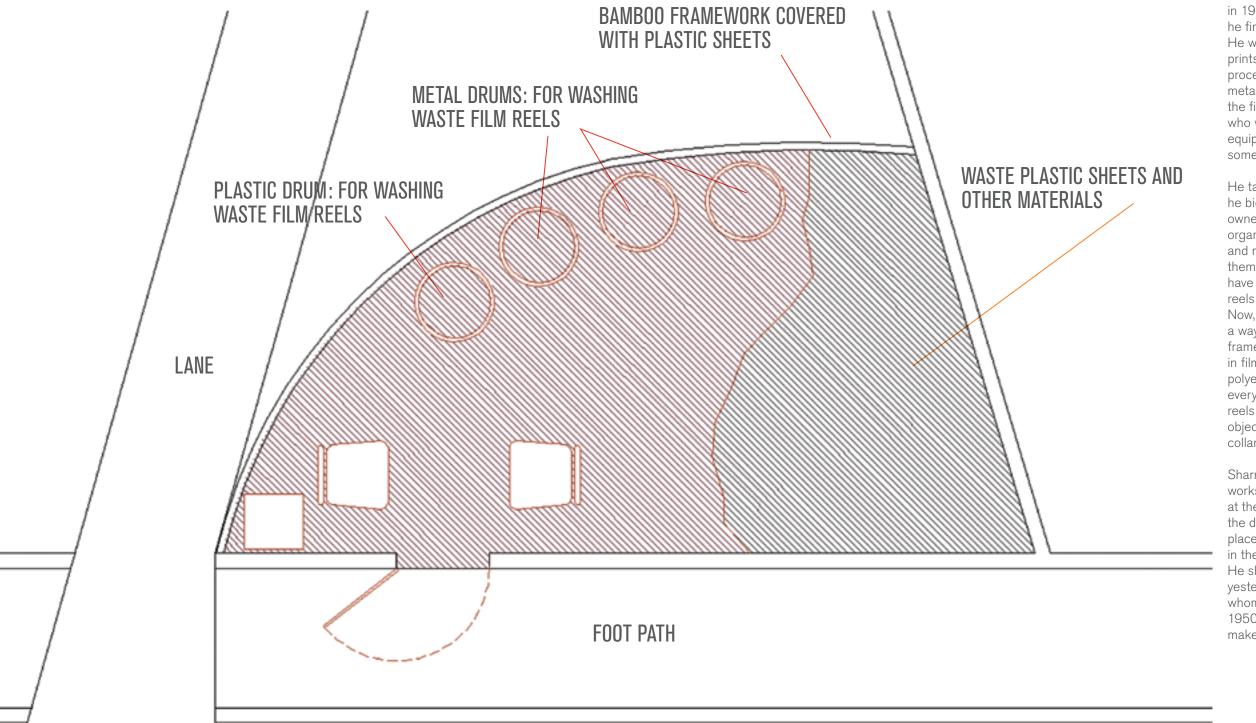
Kareena aka Sandhya
Born 1982, Moradabad, UP
1998 Migration to Bombay
1998-1999 work as domestic worker
2000 casual dancer in beer bar
2002 permanent dancer in beer bar
2005 jobless due to ban on bar dancing
2006 casual and freelance sex worker







One Man Film Recycling Unit

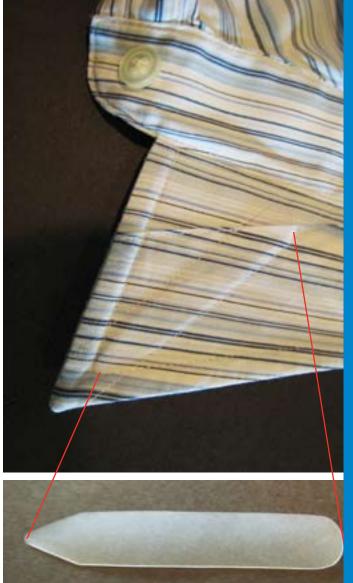


Octogenarian Chiranjilal Sharma arrived in Bombay along with his family from Lahore at the time of India's partition in 1947. Working in the film industry as an odd-jobs hand he finally settled into his business of waste film recycling. He would collect waste black and white film negatives and prints from film laboratories, editing and sound studios and process them in his crude workshop to extract precious metallic silver from them. The cellulose triacetate base of the films would then be given to bangle manufacturers who would dye it and make bangles of various colors. His equipment consisted of a few vats heated on a wood fire, some chemicals and rudimentary brushes.

He talks of his biggest order in the late 1960s when he bid for the recycling of all of Films Division's (state owned propaganda documentary and newsreel making organization) waste films and damaged prints by the ton and made a small fortune selling the silver extracted from them. Unfortunately for him, films went color and color films have no silver in them. He would often be seen scrubbing reels of magnetic 35mm tape to extract something from it. Now, he comes to his workshop everyday and has devised a way of using color prints and negatives to make small film frames which he sells to toy makers, to be used as slides in film-viewing toys that are sold at fairs. Then he heats the polyester based prints of films in warm water and scrubs every trace of emulsion off them, to make clean polyester reels which are in turn supplied to recyclers to make various objects out of them. Small stiffeners for the corners of short collars are among such items made from recycled film.

Sharma-ji, as everyone calls him, sits in his small trapezoidal workshop in Kulupwadi in the northern suburb of Borivali, at the edge of the national park. He can tell the story of the development of the suburb from nothing to the bustling place it has become, along with many anecdotes of working in the film industry in his soft, sometimes inaudible voice. He slips into Punjabi, his mother tongue, while talking of yesteryear superstar, and his contemporary, Dev Anand, whom he used to meet in the studios, way back in the 1950s. He remembers how he spent a lot of money trying to make his son into a hero.











Credits



Cinema City Lived

An initiative of Majlis and Research and Design Cell, Kamla Raheja Vidyanidhi Institute for Architecture and Environmental Studies, Mumbai

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Sleep; 1998; Sudhir Patwardhan Boy in the Balcony; 2006 -07; Ranjit Kandalgaonkar, Saurabh Vaidya, Aditya Potluri for Majlis Fellowship

Production Animal Supplier:

Jhansi Ki Raani, 1952, directed by Sohrab Modi Haathi Mere Saathi, 1971, M.A. Thirumugam Dharamveer, 1977, Manmohan Desai Hum Aapke Hain Kaun, 1994, Suraj Barjatiya Asoka 2001, Santosh Siyan

Chandivali:

Love, 1991, Suresh Krishna

Kamalistan:

Pakeezah, 1972, Kamal Amrohi

Display

Single screen theatres.

Double Spread number 12; Photographs; Photographer: Zubin Pastakia

Tambu Cinema.

Double Spread number 2, Lower 4 Images; Double Spread number 4, Upper 2 images, Lower 1 Left Photographer: Amit Madheshiya

Multiplexes

Page 1, Advertisement for Celestial City, Pune

All other images from Design Cell and Majlis Archive.

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