**LABOUR OF LOVE**

**a film by**

**Aditya Vikram Sengupta**

*Synopsis*

Set in the crumbling environs of Calcutta, LABOUR OF LOVE is a lyrical unfolding of two ordinary lives suspended in the duress of a spiralling recession. They are married to a cycle of work and domestic routine, and long stretches of waiting in the silence of an empty house. They share each other’s solitude in pursuit of a distant dream that visits them briefly every morning.

*Director’s Statement*

LABOUR OF LOVE is set against the backdrop of a spiralling recession that had hit India a few years back. Thousands of people lost their jobs without notice. Factories shut down and mills were locked. Faced with the uncertainty of losing their own jobs, the film’s two central characters are under constant pressure to sustain their livelihood. But even in the face of adversity, they seem to possess a serene power and their demeanour helps display a strange, comforting calmness.

For a married couple that is forced to negotiate the expectations of love with the compulsions of absence, affection is often manifested through little acts - fixing a button on the other’s shirt, adding together each other’s earnings and cooking enough for two. The film essentially portrays two individuals who cannot trick time by speeding up their lives. The pace of the narrative is such that the viewer is compelled to not remain a spectator and become an active participant in the proceedings, where routine, objects and memories become representations of those who are involved in it, and where the definitions of time and space are functions of our feelings.

*Director Biography*

**Aditya Vikram Sengupta**

Aditya Vikram Sengupta was born in 1983 in Calcutta, India. At a very young age his interests meandered towards performing arts. He started training in western classical music and was an active dramatist throughout his childhood.

He studied literature at Calcutta University before pursuing design studies at the National Institute of Design. After specialising in Graphic Design, he trained himself in animation and film.

His student shorts have screened at various international festivals including Clermont Ferrand Short Film Festival, Animafest Zagreb and Sao Paulo International Film festival. His paintings have been showcased in galleries across India and one of his posters is exhibited at the Religious Art Museum, Tehran.

Aditya Vikram was working with a leading music TV station as a promo director for three years before he decided to pursue filmmaking full time. He realised that filmmaking encompasses all his interests, allowing him to express himself in a wholesome manner.

LABOUR OF LOVE is his first feature film

*Cast*

**Ritwick Chakraborty**

Ritwick Chakraborty is one of the finest actors in contemporary Bengali cinema. He used to work as a medical representative before he decided to follow his passion for acting. Known for playing unconventional roles, Ritwick loves pushing the boundaries in his profession. His films *Shabdo* and *Bakita Byaktigato* have both won the prestigious National Film Awards in India.

**Basabdutta Chatterjee**

Basabdutta Chatterjee studied Bengali literature at the renowned Visva-Bharati University. She started her media career as a news channel host and an anchor for television shows. Her interest in acting led her to taking up roles in popular Bengali television serials. LABOUR OF LOVE is her first feature.

*Crew*

**Jonaki Bhattacharya** *(Ex. Producer/Production Designer)*Jonaki is a Calcutta born Designer and a graduate in Communication Design from Symbiosis Institute of Design, India. A trained classical pianist, Jonaki wears many hats. She worked as an interior designer for a number of fine dining restaurants in Mumbai and Kolkata before deciding to pursue a career in films. Jonaki is one of the founding partners of For Films. She has channelised her learnings and experience from handling various roles in the production of advertisements for her first feature LABOUR OF LOVE.

**Vikram Mohinta** *(For Films)*
Vikram is a Producer with For Films. An MBA with a specialization in marketing,
in the past he has worked in PR and did a 5 year stint with a large multinational where he was responsible for business, marketing and brand management of its luxury products portfolio in India. Vikram has a keen interest in the arts. He has previously directed and acted in shorts and plays, run a community radio station and was a part of a music band. While pursuing his management degree, he did his dissertation on the business of cinema.

**Mahendra J Shetty** *(Director Of Photography)*
Mahendra Shetty is one of India’s top cinematographers. He studied Fine Arts from Chamarajendra Academy of Visual Arts, Mangalore and trained with prominent cinematographers in India. He shot the acclaimed feature film *Udaan* (Cannes Un Certain Regard 2011) that won him the Best Cinematographer award at India’s Filmfare Awards. His other film credits include *Lootera* and LABOUR OF LOVE.

**Anish John** *(Sound Designer)*
Originally from Calcutta, Anish John is a Sound graduate from the Film & Television Institute of India. He started his career as a sound recordist and editor for various shorts, narrative features and documentaries before shifting to sound-designing and mixing. His projects span a wide range from Indian narrative features *Ship Of Theseus* (Toronto 2012), *I.D.* (Rotterdam 2013) to International film and TV productions *Million Dollar Arm* and *24*.

*Credits*

**LABOUR OF LOVE**

*a* FOR FILMS *production*
*a film by* ADITYA VIKRAM SENGUPTA
"LABOUR OF LOVE" *with* RITWICK CHAKRABORTY & BASABDUTTA CHATTERJEE
*production designer* JONAKI BHATTACHARYA
*sound designer* ANISH JOHN
*editor* ADITYA VIKRAM SENGUPTA
*cinematography* MAHENDRA J. SHETTY | ADITYA VIKRAM SENGUPTA
*line producers* RITOBRATA PAUL | TRIDIB KUMAR SENGUPTA
*produced by* ADITYA VIKRAM SENGUPTA | JONAKI BHATTACHARYA
*written and directed by* ADITYA VIKRAM SEGUPTA

*Technical details*

Duration 84 mins

Aspect ratio 2.39

Genre Drama

Sound 5.1

Language Bengali

Year of Production 2014

Country of Production India

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