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BALEKEMPA

The Bangle Seller



OFFICIAL SELECTION
INTERNATIONAL
FILM FESTIVAL
ROTTERDAM
2018

INDIA

| 2018

| 1h43

| KANNADA

| 2K DIGITAL

| 5.1 SOUND



ZOO ENTERTAINMENT

SYNOPSIS

A village bangle seller and his wife cannot conceive a child. The villagers gossip. In this close-knit patriarchal community in South India, hidden desires and relationships find a way to exist. Will the husband's secret ever come out?

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

'Balekempa' has been filmed in and around the villages where I grew up. The people acting in the film are people I know, personally. Almost all of them are farmers. The only professional actor is Bhaghyashree, who plays the role of Saubaghya. The characters in my film, likewise, are drawn from what is around me - but my process is not only to describe them as they are, but also imagine what it is to be each one of them. Each character is a question, waiting to be answered.

The narrative of the film revolves around the secret relationships and desires of normal village-folk living in a largely agrarian and extremely patriarchal society in the Mandya district of Karnataka. It has been my intention to show how, despite the constant scrutiny and circulation of gossip among the extremely close-knit community, there is a lot that remains hidden under the surface – there are stories that may go to the grave without being uttered, relationships that seem non-existent except for those who are living them.





DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Ere Gowda was born to a farming family in the Mandya District of Karnataka in 1981, and came to filmmaking only much later in life. His Curriculum Vitae includes jobs ranging from house servant, office boy, driver, security guard and gardener to filmmaker.

Ere Gowda rose to fame with the film 'Thithi', directed by Raam Reddy - for which he is credited as the Script Writer, Second Unit Director, Line Producer and Casting Director. For his contribution to the film, Ere Gowda won the Asia New Talent Award 2016 at the Shanghai International Film Festival for 'Best Screenplay', as well as the Karnataka State Award for 'Best Dialogue Writer'.

'Balekempa' is Ere Gowda's directorial debut.

FILMOGRAPHY

Balekempa, 2018

PRODUCTION

Zoo Entertainment Pvt. Ltd., founded by Vivek Gomber, is an independent film production company dedicated to producing non-mainstream artistic endeavours in India. In 2014 the company produced their first film, 'Court' directed by Chaitanya Tamhane. The film premiered at the 71st Venice Film Festival, where it won the Lion of the Future award for best debut and the Orizzonti award for Best film. 'Balekempa' is their second production.

CREDITS

PRIMARY CAST

Saubhagya: Bhagyashree

Kempanna: Jnanesh

Mahesha: Chandrashekar C.S

Hanuma: Nagaraju D.P

PRIMARY CREW

Director: Ere Gowda | Producer: Vivek Gomber | Writer: Ere Gowda

Editor: Saumyananda Sahi | Cinematographer: Saumyananda Sahi

Executive Producer: Naren Chandavarkar | Creative Producer:

Chaitanya Tamhane | Sound: Susmit 'Bob' Nath | Music: Benedict Taylor & Naren Chandavarkar | Colourist: Sid Meer | Re recording

Mix Engineer: Sreejesh Nair | Art Director: Ere Gowda

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