

river to river® 20 Florence Indian Film Festival

River to River Florence Indian Film Festival 20th edition, 3-8 December 2020

The complete film programme is available with a single Festival pass of 9,90 Euros on [Mymovies.it](https://www.mymovies.it)
The Opening and Closing of the Festival, the live Q&As with directors and guests - the River to River Chai Times - are available for free on the [Facebook page](#) and [YouTube channel of the Festival](#).

THURSDAY 3 DECEMBER

8 pm - Opening Ceremony of the 20th River to River Florence Indian Film Festival

Link to follow: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iV91jtXBZl>

8.30 pm (online for 72 hours)

Kadakh by Rajat Kapoor, o.v. English, Italian subt., India, 2019, 99'

A group of friends meet for *Diwali* – the Festival of Lights – one of India's most important celebrations. An ensemble cast for a dark comedy full of twists and turns.

10.30 pm (online until the end of the Festival)

Photograph by Ashutosh Pathak, animation, o.v. Italian, English subt., India, 2020, 4'

Photograph is a portrait of life during the pandemic, a soul-searching and a wish to be kind to others in this new world.

FRIDAY 4 DECEMBER

11 am (online until the end of the Festival)

Four More Shots Please! Season 1

The show is composed by ten episodes of half an hour each. *Four More Shots Please!* Season 1 revolves around the lives of four very different women, fighting their own individual battles and tackling life as it comes. Based in the southern tip of Mumbai, the city that never sleeps.

3 pm (online for 72 hours) - SHORTS 1: Stories of couples and relationships

Giving away the Bride by Vardhan S.N. Dhaimodkar, o.v. Italian, English subt., India, 2020, 12'

A few minutes before his wedding, a young groom receives a text from his wife-to-be. An argument ensues, which will determine their future.

3.15 pm (online until the end of the Festival) - SHORTS 1: Stories of couples and relationships

Vitha by Avishkar Bharadwaj, o.v. Italian, English subt., India, 2020, 15'

The pregnant dancer Vithabai performs a live show during which the waters break. She is forced to go backstage to deliver the baby by herself.

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3.30 pm (online for 72 hours) - SHORTS 1: Stories of couples and relationships

The Nightingale by Shiva Katyal, o.v. Italian, English subt., India, 2020, 16'

In a conflict-ridden Kashmir, an Indian soldier and a local Kashmiri enter a forbidden relationship.

3.50 pm (online until the end of the Festival) - SHORTS 1: Stories of couples and relationships

The Newly Weds by Prataya Saha, o.v. Italian, English subt., India, 2020, 5'5"

The Newly Weds is a glimpse into the life of an urban newly married couple living in the digital technology age in an urban city in India.

4 pm (online for 72 hours)

Berlin to Bombay by Marco Hülser and Daniel Popat, o.v. Italian, English subt., India-Germany, 2020, 51'

Abu flies from Germany to India, his native country, where he hopes he will show his talent as an actor.

7 pm - River to River Chai Time with Rajat Kapoor, director of *Kadakh*.

Link to follow: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=19LSehqpeMM>

7 pm (online until the end of the Festival)

Four More Shots Please!, season 2, ep 1 and 2, o.v. in English, India, 2020, 80'

The four main characters meet in Istanbul to see Siddhi. When the group is together again, the girls tell each other what they have gone through in the last few months, from relationships to professional problems.

8.30 pm (online until the end of the Festival)

Manny by Dace Puce, o.v. Italian, English subt., India, 2020, 71'

Maya travels from India to Latvia, where she deals with three kinds of love: a real one, an imaginary one, and a virtual one. The dynamics among men, women and Artificial Intelligence plunge into a *Black Mirror*-like vibe.

10 pm (online until the end of the Festival)

Sir by Rohena Gera, o.v. English, Italian subt., India-France, 2018, 99'

Can social taboos keep two opposing but mutually-attracted worlds apart? An outstanding cast for this directorial debut, which received a standing ovation at the Semaine de la Critique of Festival de Cannes 2018, opened River to River the same year and released in Italian cinemas in 2019.

SATURDAY 5 DECEMBER

11 am (online for 72 hours)

The Geshema is Born by Malati Rao, o.v. Italian, English subt., India-Nepal, 2019, 56'

The exceptional journey of Namdol Phuntsok, a nun and the first woman to reach the Geshema, the highest degree in Tibetan philosophy.

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Midday - River to River Chai Time

Link to follow: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kzZmdkQT4iA>

When Buddhism looks towards women.

In conversation with buddhist nun of Tibetan tradition **Ven. Siliana.**

3 pm (online for 72 hours)

Manmarziyaan by Anurag Kashyap, o.v. English, Italian subt., 157', India, 2018

First screened at Toronto Festival 2018, this romantic comedy tells the story of young Rumi, a restless free spirit, caught up in a love triangle. A Bollywood-style film, moving at the whirlwind rhythm of Punjabi music, which will keep the audience glued to their seats till the very last. With Abhishek Bachchan.

6 pm - River to River Chai Time with Sonal Sehgal, producer and actor of *Manny*.

Link to follow: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pS4lz1hkEco>

7 pm (online until the end of the Festival)

Four More Shots Please!, season 2, ep 3 and 4, o.v. in English, India, 2020, 80'

After so many obligations and sacrifices, at last the girls are in for a refreshing change: Damini manages to finish her book, Siddhi makes her debut in a cabaret show, Anjana meets a lawyer she is intrigued by, and Umang manages to cheer Samara up.

8.30 pm (online for 24 hours)

Cargo by Arati Kadav, v.o. Italian and English subt., India, 2019, 113'

Prahashta works for the Post Death Transition service, welcoming dead people in his spaceship. One fine day, he is joined by the young astronaut Yuvishka, who will assist him in his job. A charming high-tech fairy tale, that explores the concept of life and death, hope and longing.

SUNDAY 6 DECEMBER

11 am (online until the end of the Festival)

Indian Himalaya by Matteo Aghemo, no dialogues, India, 2020, 6'

A journey through the remotest and least known areas of the subcontinent, in the attempt to capture scenes of daily life that go beyond the usual stereotypes.

11.15 am (online until the end of the Festival)

Buddha of the Chadar by Sean Whitaker, Ladakhi - English, Italian subt., India, 2020, 28'

A father and son go on a pilgrimage along an ancient Himalayan track, to bring a bronze Buddha statue to a remote monastery on the mountains.

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Midday - River to River Chai Time

Link to follow: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fr2tW3zYnmQ>

A journey towards the Himalaya.

In conversation with

Pierpaolo di Nardo, traveller, writer and travel designer (maldindia.it)

Marco Restelli, expert in South Asian studies, journalist and blogger (milleorienti.com)

4 pm (online until the end of the Festival) - Irrfan Khan Homage

Lunchbox by Ritesh Batra, o.v. English, Italian subt., India, 2013, 105'

A romantic conversation between housewife Ila and Sajaan, through the food in the lunchbox that is delivered to the man in his office every day, by mistake. Starring the great Irrfan Khan, guest of River to River Festival in 2014 and passed away in April 2020.

6 pm - River to River Chai Time with Anurag Kashyap, director of Manmarziyaan.

Link to follow: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o9K_DX1GVgk

7 pm (online until the end of the Festival)

Four More Shots Please!, season 2, ep 5 and 6, o.v. in English, India, 2020, 80'

The girls are involved in fairly complicated love stories: while Siddhi finds herself in a dull relationship with Amit, Umang and Samara begin to be successful on the social media, Damini and Jeh decide to go separate ways, and Anjana is increasingly attracted by Shashank, the lawyer.

7.30 pm - River to River Chai Time with Arati Kadav and Zenish Mehta, director and vfx supervisor of Cargo.

Link to follow: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dDnAGPo4sdM>

8.30 pm (online until the end of the Festival)

Without Strings by Atanu Ghosh, o.v. English, Italian subt., India, 2020, 92'

Kajal and Sraboni meet for the first time at the auditions for a reality show and tell each other the stories of their life crises. When they meet again, they will soon find out that none of them told the truth.

MONDAY 7 DECEMBER

5 pm (online until the end of the Festival)

Bamboo Ballads by Sajeed Naduthody, o.v. English, Italian subt., India, 2020, 30'

A journey through the history and applications of bamboo, and its role in environmental protection.

6 pm - River to River Chai Time with Atanu Ghosh, director of Without Strings.

Link to follow: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=knnPkdj8kOU>

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7 pm (online until the end of the Festival)

Four More Shots Please!, season 2, ep 7 and 8, o.v. in English, India, 2020, 80'

Drama never ends, and the situation gets even more intricate: Umang is increasingly worried about the preparations for Samara's wedding, Shashank and Anjana work as a team, Siddhi has not decided yet whether she wants a man by her side or not, and Damini is nagged by a doubt.

8.30 pm (online until the end of the Festival) - Irrfan Khan Homage

Karwaan by Akarsh Khurana, o.v. English, Italian subt., India, 2018, 115'

Avinash loses his father in an accident but is delivered the wrong body... An irresistible on-the-road comedy, masterly played by the international star Irrfan Khan.

TUESDAY 8 DECEMBER

10.30 pm (online until the end of the Festival)

La Ruota del Khadi Gaia Franchetti, o.v. English, Italian subt., Italy, 2019, 70'

Lit up by the voice and the charismatic personality of Tara Gandhi Bhattacharjee, Mahatma Gandhi's grand-daughter, the documentary describes the wide variety and opulence of textiles, from the Independence and the Khadi movement, created by Gandhi as a form of political and economic resistance to the British Empire, to today's India.

Midday - River to River Chai Time

Link to follow: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zy7H039RhOc>

Khadi as a symbol of Indian elegance and independence.

In conversation with

Tara Gandhi Bhattacharjee, President of the National Gandhi Museum, writer, activist and poet.

Gaia Ceriana Franchetti, director and founder of Indoroman.

3 pm (online until the end of the Festival)

The Ashram Children by Jonathan Ofek, o.v. English, Italian subt., India-Israel, 2019, 67'

Director Jonathan Ofek spent twenty years between Jerusalem and an ashram in India. When he is older, he wonders whether he has been raised in a sect.

4.30 pm (online until the end of the Festival) - SHORTS 2: Relationships between parents, sons and daughters, and strangers

Missing by Vipin Sharma, no dialogues, India, 2020, 15'

Different people formed like one lost family reunited in a dream like landscape filled with rains inside the museum of their memories.

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4.45 pm (online until the end of the Festival) - SHORTS 2: Relationships between parents, sons and daughters, and strangers

Silence in the Wind by Gaurav Baruah & Prajnyan Ballav Goswami, o.v. English, Italian, India, 2019, 13'
When Biju goes against the will of the parents, a secret is revealed, an identity that is borderline taboo and repugnant in his society.

5 pm (online until the end of the Festival) - SHORTS 2: Relationships between parents, sons and daughters, and strangers

Special Day by Ajay Shivan, o.v. English, Italian subt., India, 2020, 11'

Ved is all prepped up for his birthday. His mother Malti is excited about his birthday and she surprises him with an unexpected gift.

5.15 pm (online until the end of the Festival) - SHORTS 2: Relationships between parents, sons and daughters, and strangers

The Last Rights by Aastha Verma, o.v. English and Italian subt., India, 2020, 16'

A young Indian woman challenges her society's patriarchal traditions in order to give her deceased grandmother her last rites.

6 pm - River to River Chai Time with Akarsh Khurana, director of *Karwaan*.

Link to follow: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3-XHTAf3I48>

7 pm (online until the end of the Festival)

Four More Shots Please!, season 2, ep 9 and 10, o.v. in English, India, 2020, 85'

The wedding celebrations begin in a roller coaster of emotions and broken hearts. Umang and Samara are about to fulfil their dream to get married, but will this come true or not...?

8 pm - Closing Ceremony of the 20th River to River Florence Indian Film Festival

Link to follow: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SJiTHSrtVOg>

8.30 pm (online until the end of the Festival)

The Two Lovers by Ranjan Ghosh, o.v. English, Italian subt. India, 2019, 119'

Love between chef Farhaz Chowdhury and the lovely Basundhara, a Hindu Brahmin woman who runs a home catering service in Kolkata. This amazing story is about the celebration of food, that can unite countries, religions and souls.