



YOUKU ORIGINAL AND BUSAN INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL PRESENT

CHANDRA

चन्द्र



CHANDRA

Directors: Fateme Ahmadi , Asmita Shrish

2015 Nepal 15'

Colour Nepalese English Sub

Logline

Chandra walks through earthquake-hit Kathmandu with his grandfather, to visit his mother and newborn sibling in hospital. What awaits them at the end?

Synopsis

Seven-year-old Chandra and his elderly grandfather have to travel on foot through earthquake-hit Kathmandu in order to get to hospital, where Chandra's mother has just given birth. Chandra is oblivious to the scenes of misery on the streets, and is fascinated by the many curious and beautiful sights, and excited about meeting his new sibling. Grandfather, who knows the sheer scope of destruction, attempts to protect Chandra from the grim reality of it all, while gradually coming to terms with the fact that the city is no longer the same, and that the hospital may not even stand. What awaits them at the end of their journey? Will it be a newborn baby, or bad news?

CHANDRA

Directors' Statement

Chandra was our immediate and inevitable reaction to the situation we happened to experience in Nepal earthquake April 2015. Chandra's script was set in Kathmandu and we submitted it to The Asian Film Academy's "ASIA'S MASTER'S AND NEWCOMERS PROJECT". It was selected eventually and got funded by the Youku Original, Heyi Pictures, and Busan International Film Festival. We had the opportunity of developing the script and making the film under the supervision of award-winning director Naomi Kawase. We all trailed to Nepal from England and it was less than ten days before our shooting date when the big devastating earthquake of Nepal happened. It was one of the saddest experience one can imagine. In fact, "Chandra" was the only film and visual document to have been shot in Kathmandu shortly after the earthquake and it meant to show the organic encounter of little Chandra with the bitter heartbreaking reality in every step he takes. The film also addresses the different aspects of migration as one of the most important social issues in the Asian societies. It explores the powerful and complicated relationship between two individuals, Chandra and his grandfather, and what had bound them to each other and to their future. It was a challenging project which took us 8 months but our passion for telling the story of little Chandra carried us through.

CHANDRA

Cast

Bir Bahadur Rai
Arun Rai

Crew

Directors

Fateme Ahmadi
Asmita Shrish

Writer

Fateme Ahmadi

Production Designer

Menuka Rai

Production Managers

Uttam KC

Cinematographer

Narendra Mainali

Script Editor

Farokh Soltani

Editor

Abolfazl Talooni

Make-up artist

Saroj Pandey

Sound Designer

Payam Hosseinian

Sound recordist

Uttam Neupane

Composer

Filip Sijanec

Colourist

Jason R Moffat

CHANDRA

Director's Bio & Filmography

Fateme Ahmadi

Born and raised in Shiraz, Iran, Fateme completed her BA degrees in Persian Literature and Filmmaking at Tehran University and The Art University of Tehran, respectively. In 2009, she completed the MA General Linguistics course at the IHCS in Tehran before becoming the first individual awarded a scholarship from MOP to attend the two-year MA Filmmaking program at The London Film School. During the course, Fateme wrote, edited, and directed more than ten short films including a few documentaries for BBC World Service. Her graduation film “One Thousand and One Teardrops” has been shortlisted in more than 40 festivals all around the world with two nominations for the Best Animated Short at the Orlando Film Festival 2014 and Best UK Short Film at the East End Film Festival 2015. It also has won awards for the Best Documentary of the Beeston Film Festival 2015 and Special Jury Mention at the East End Film Festival 2015.



WRITER & DIRECTOR

- 2015 Chandra, 15 minutes, AFA & Youku original
- 2014 One Thousand & One Teardrops, 17 minutes, MOP & London Film School
- 2013 Shiva, 3 minutes. Shirin Neshat Workshop, London Film School
- 2012 Jafar khan Has Returned From The West, 12min, BBC World Service
- 2012 Ten Nights of Poetry, 26min, BBC World Service

Asmita Shrish

Recently recognised by Youku and Busan International Film Festival's Asian Masters and Newcomers Project for her film 'Chandra', Asmita Shrish is a Nepalese filmmaker, visual artist and ethnographer exploring new ways of looking at human stories to connect with world. She was one of 8 directing fellows in Asian Film Academy 2014 nurtured by auteur Béla Tarr. Completing BA in Anthropology in Kathmandu University and MA in Graphic Arts and Animation from University of Gloucestershire, Asmita did her documentary course from National Film and Television School, UK in 2013 funded by Empire magazine. Her graduation film 'Auntie Ganga' about the diasporic Nepalese community in the military town of Aldershot, UK has won student competition in Human Rights Watch Film festival in 2014. Recently she had been commissioned by BAFTA and Arts Council England to produce further work on the retired Gurkha (Soldiers) community in England. She is founder of Dhaulagiri Films where she collaborates and experiments with like-minded artists from different country and origin. During her MA course she produces 'Kaloo School', which was premiered in International Documentary Film festival Amsterdam in 2013 and was nominated for One World Human Rights Film festival Prague, Human Rights Film Festival Bir Duiyo Kazakhstan and many other festivals around the globe.



DIRECTOR/PRODUCER

- 2015 Chandra, 15 minutes, AFA & Youku original
- 2015 VILLAGE CALLED LANGTANG , 52' Documentary in development
- 2014 BROTHERS, 10' Asian Film Academy
- 2014 LITTLE NEPAL, 25' Documentary in production by BAFTA, Art Council England, B3 Media and London Asian Film
- 2013 AUNTIE GANGA, 12' Documentary
- 2013 WITHDRAWN, 3' Shirin Neshat Workshop, London Film School
- 2012 AN EVENING WITH KIDS OF KATHMANDU” – 3' Documentary

CONTACT

Production Company

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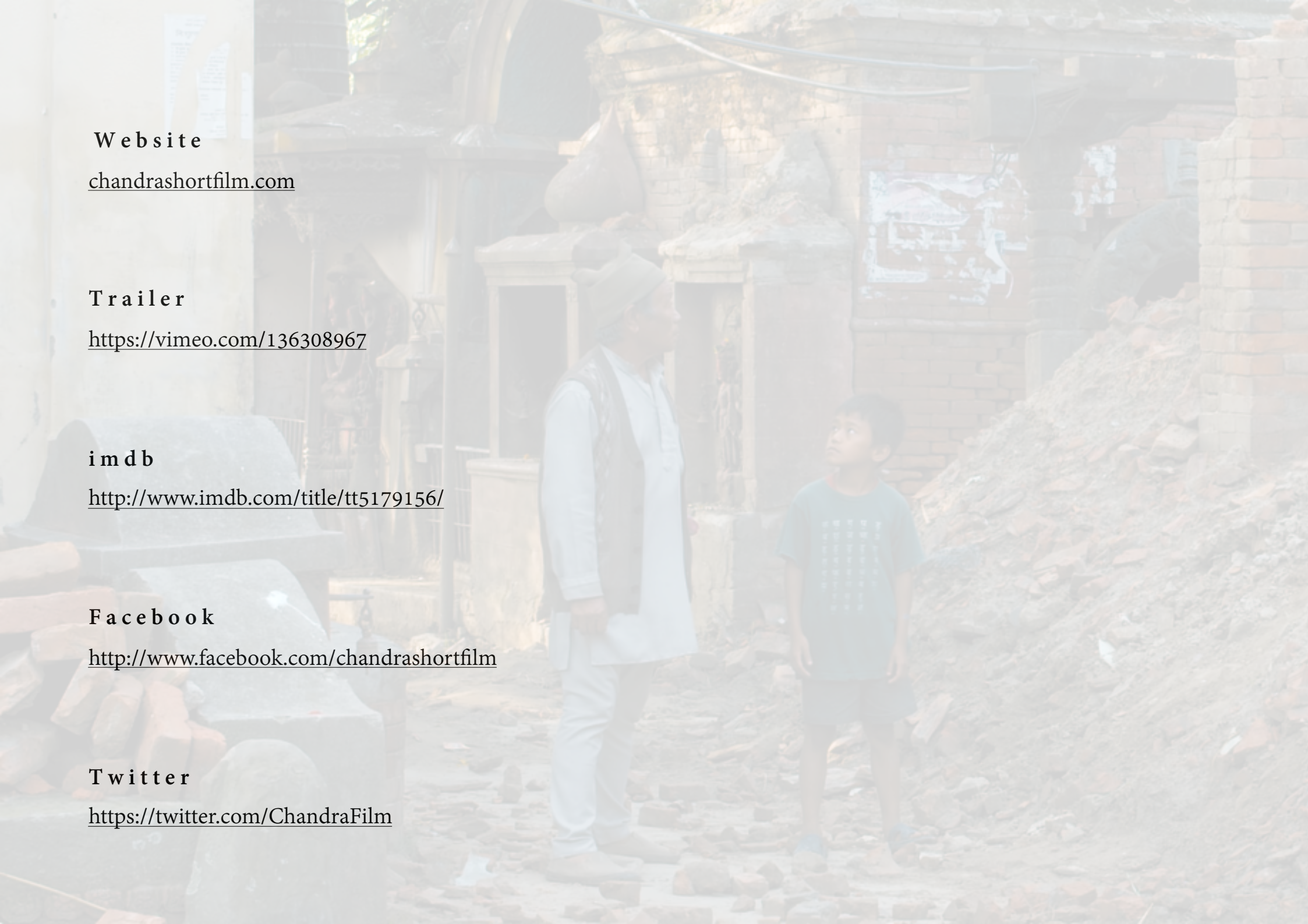
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Website

chandrashortfilm.com

Trailer

<https://vimeo.com/136308967>

imdb

<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt5179156/>

Facebook

<http://www.facebook.com/chandrashortfilm>

Twitter

<https://twitter.com/ChandraFilm>

