



CENTRE FOR INDO-CANADIAN STUDIES
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE of the FRASER VALLEY

EHSAAAS

SOUTH ASIAN FILM FESTIVAL

Swades Thursday, March 13

Discussion by Dr. Summer Pervez

(Directed by Ashutosh Gowariker) Set in modern day India, Swades is a film that tackles the issues facing the citizens of this nation on the grass root level. The India of Swades is colorful, heterogeneous and complex, and it is to this environment that Mohan Bhagava (Shah Rukh Khan), a bright young scientist working as a Project Manager in NASA, returns on a quest to find his childhood nanny. What begins as a simple mission prompted by nostalgia and affection turns into a journey into the heartland of rural India, both literally and metaphorically. The film uses the contrast between the highly developed world of NASA, which has been at the forefront of advances in space research, and this world back home in India, which is at the crossroads of development. Mohan's simple quest becomes the journey that every one of us goes through in search of that metaphysical and elusive place called home.

Monsoon Wedding Wednesday, March 19

Discussion by Dr. Nicola Mooney

(Directed by Mira Nair) A charming family drama about a very chaotic Indian wedding. A wealthy father who is trying to see that his daughter Aditi's wedding goes off without a hitch. Though familiar with Western ways, he has little patience with them and is dead set on seeing the nuptials done properly and traditionally. Disillusioned with her long time relationship with Vikram, a man who is almost twice her age, Aditi suddenly agrees to submit to an arranged marriage with Hemant, an engineer from Houston. Yet as the ceremony nears, she gets cold feet and returns to see her former lover, even though it could spell disaster for everyone involved. Meanwhile, Aditi's comely 17-year-old cousin Ayesha is coming to terms with her blossoming sexuality and has her sights set on Rahul, another relative who is a college student in Australia. Then there is Ria, also Aditi's cousin, who has a shocking revelation to make.

Mangal Pandey Wednesday, March 26

Panel Discussion

(Directed by Ketan Mehta) Mangal Pandey - The Rising is an epic tale of friendship, betrayal, love and sacrifice set against the backdrop of what the British called the sepoy mutiny but which for the Indians was the First War of Independence. 'Company Raj' as it was known, had been plundering the country, treating the locals unjustly and causing widespread resentment. After a hundred years of subjugation, the Indian consciousness is rising through the revolutionary prospect of change and self-rule.

Lagaan Wednesday, April 2

Discussion by Satwinder Bains

(Directed by Ashutosh Gowariker) Lagaan tells the tale of the Indian village Champaner, beset by drought and British colonialism in the year 1893. Without a drop of rain in months, the worried villagers of Champaner decide to ask the local authorities for a temporary repeal of their taxes, the hated lagaan. Led by the heroic Bhuvan (Aamir Khan) they bring their plight to the military governor, Captain Russell. But the sadistic Russell threatens to raise the lagaan threefold, unless the villagers can beat his men at a game of cricket, in which case he'll lift taxes on the entire province for a period of three years. Bhuvan accepts the challenge, but there's a problem, no one in Champaner knows how to play cricket. A band of misfits come to the rescue, coached by Russell's soft-hearted sister Elizabeth and the race is on to be ready in three months' time.

6:30 - 9:00 pm
FREE ADMISSION
DONATIONS WELCOME

B101 Theatre
UCFV Abbotsford Campus
33844 King Rd
Contact: 604-854-4536

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