



New feature film 'My Melbourne' to release in Australia march 6 and India march 14

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Four diverse stories about identity and belonging

Directors: Kabir Khan, Rima Das, Imtiaz Ali, Onir



Mind Blowing Entertainment has announced that **MY MELBOURNE**, a unique anthology feature film interweaving four powerful stories exploring sexuality, gender, race, and disability, shot and situated in Melbourne, releases into **Australian cinemas on March 6** and in **India on March 14**. It is the first Australian film to be distributed in India since 2016.

Producer **Mitu Bhowmick Lange AM** said:

"It's been almost ten years since an Australian film has been released in India, so we are absolutely delighted that the film will be screening in more than 22 cities across the country."

MY MELBOURNE is a truly inclusive feature film, celebrating diverse voices and talents. Four of India's finest filmmakers—**Kabir Khan, Onir, Rima Das, and Imtiaz Ali**—worked with emerging creatives from under-represented backgrounds to create this film about identity and belonging, based on authentic migrant experiences.

Each of the film's four narratives is inspired by true stories or lived experiences, together creating a portrait of life in today's multi-cultural Melbourne. From the early stages of writing to the final cut, the Indian directors and their professional teams mentored the local cast and crew and were in Melbourne for each of the shoots.

Featuring in the films are acclaimed Australian actors **Kat Stewart** (*Offspring*) and **Arka Das** (*Lion*), cricket coach and legendary player **Brad Hodge**, Hindi star **Arushi Sharma, Nathan Borg**—the first deaf actor to appear in *Neighbours*—and a number of exciting new talents, such as **Afghanistan refugee and budding cricket star Setara Amiri**, each playing roles close to their own lived experiences.

The title track of **MY MELBOURNE** is sung by **Janaki Eshwar**, known for being the youngest contestant on *The Voice Australia* and a highly accomplished singer, and **Parvyn Kaur Singh**, the former frontwoman of the cult band *The Bombay Royale*. The second track, **Azadi**, has been sung in both Hindi and Dari by **Aryana Sayeed**, one of Afghanistan's most loved and inspiring singers and activists, dubbed *'the Taylor Swift of Afghanistan'*.

Producer **Mitu Bhowmick Lange AM** said:

"Our goal for 'My Melbourne' is not only to create an entertaining feature film that is authentic, contemporary, honest, and relevant but also to discover and nurture the next generation of underrepresented diverse filmmakers and their unique stories. Working with some of the most respected filmmakers in the world, our local creatives have learned from the best without compromising on their cultural and authentic narrative styles."

[Trailer](#): Watch here

'MY MELBOURNE' STORIES

NANDINI

Inspired by true events | Theme: Gender

Language: Bengali/English

Director: Onir

Co-Director: William Duan

Concept by: Gregory Francis

Screenplay by: Gregory Francis & William Duan

Starring: Arka Das, Jackson Gallager, Mouli Ganguly

Synopsis:

A story of grief and forgiveness, **NANDINI** follows the reunion of a queer Indian man, Indraneel, and his father Mihir after many years of estrangement. The pair are thrust together again when Mihir comes from India to complete the *Asthi Visarjan* (ash-spreading) ceremony after the passing of Indraneel's mother.

JULES

Inspired by true events | Theme: Gender

Language: Hindi/English

Director: Imtiaz Ali

Co-Director: Tammy Yang

Concept by: Mitu Bhowmick Lange AM

Screenplay: Arif Ali, Shivangi Bhowmick & Monique Nair

Starring: Arushi Sharma, Kat Stewart

Synopsis:

Sakshi is a 23-year-old newly married woman who has recently moved to Melbourne. Jules is a 52-year-old homeless wanderer with a sharp tongue, a survivor's spirit, and a flair for crossword puzzles and poetry. Their worlds collide on the pavement of St Kilda with unexpected results.

SETARA

Inspired by true events | Theme: Race

Language: Dari/English

Director: Kabir Khan

Co-Director: Puneet Gulati

Concept & Screenplay: Monique Nair & Nazifa Amiri

Starring: Setara Amiri, Brad Hodge, Sepidah Fallah

Synopsis:

Fifteen-year-old Setara joins a local cricket team as she attempts to rebuild her life in Melbourne after fleeing Taliban rule in Afghanistan with her mother and older sister.

EMMA

Inspired by true events | Theme: Disability

Language: Auslan/English

Director: Rima Das

Co-Director: Samira Cox

Concept & Screenplay: Samira Cox & Monique Nair

Starring: Nathan Borg, Rynna Lawson, Mikhaela Ebony

Synopsis:

Emma is a talented deaf dancer living with Usher Syndrome. In her early 20s, she struggles with increasing doubts about her sense of self and her prospects of a career in professional dance. Since childhood, she has dreamed of being a dancer, but industry discrimination and other attitudes hold her back. Despite support from her family and friends, it is not until she meets Nathan, a highly successful deaf dancer who is at peace with himself, that she regains her self-belief.



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