Rahul Roy completed his masters in film and TV production from the Mass Communication Research Centre, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi in 1987 and since then has been working as an independent documentary film maker. Roy's films have focused on communalism, labour and masculinities. His films have been widely screened and won several international awards. Roy's films are used to teach courses in film studies, gender, anthropology and labour at several universities in North America, Europe and South Asia.



Besides film making Roy has been researching and writing on the theme of masculinities. From 2003 to 2007 he coordinated a travelling seminar on masculinities which visited 16 universities across South Asia. He is a recipient of a MacArthur Foundation Fellowship in India. Yoda Press published his graphic book titled, *A little Book on Men*, in 2007. He designed and coordinated two regional film projects Let's Talk Men 1.0 and 2.0 (www.letstalkmen.org) under which eight films on masculinities were produced in Bangladesh, India,

Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

He is currently coordinating, *The Justice Project* (https://justiceprojectsouthasia.wordpress.com/), a South Asian regional research and film project that will produce 15 research papers and 5 films on the theme of justice and conflict. His latest film, *The Factory*, produced under this project follows the trial of 147 workers of Maruti Suzuki automobile manufacturing factory in Manesar, Haryana who have been charged with murder and held without bail for over 2 years.

He will be touring the US in September and October 2015 with the following films:

THE FACTORY | dir. Rahul Roy | India | 132 mins | 2015

147 workers of India's largest automobile manufacturing company Maruti Suzuki are on trial for the murder of a senior manager and 2500 workers dismissed. It has been two and a half years and the case drags on. Their bail application has been rejected by the courts.



On each hearing they are led to the courtroom by the police while families line up to catch a glimpse. Defence lawyers plan their strategy in the court canteen. Justice seems a dim hope. The film follows the fate of the under trial workers, families and terminated workers to investigate the underbelly of industrial conflict and the elusive nature of justice.

TILL WE MEET AGAIN | dir. Rahul Roy | India |87mins | 2013

In 1999 a film ends with the promise that four young men who are the main protagonists of the film and the director will meet again in ten years. They do meet again in 2012 and the world seems to have changed in the years that have gone by. The four friends are now married, have children and entirely new ideas like the share market have made an entry into what was a working class resettlement area of Delhi.

The documentary explores through the everyday of four men the experience of a changing Delhi and how it intersects with their marriage, children, families and work. The documentary criss-crosses between 1998 and 2012 to set up a story that spans more than a decade and brings us up close to the unpredictability of life as well as continuities that belie any simple answers to the idea of the city, its working populations, change and men.



When the four friends meet again...they share with the camera stories from the past and their complicated present. Bunty, Kamal, Sanjay and Sanju, best of friends and residents of Jehangirpuri, a resettlement area of Delhi are trying to make their lives in a city that is no longer as distant as it was in their teens...it has consumed them and they are now the city, it's everyday...their childhood memories of deprivation a source of amusement for the children...marriage that fearful future is now their present...relationships are no longer a romantic song sequence but an everyday negotiation, a reality...violence always lurks round the corner...responsibilities are not a romantic goal but a crushing detail...today is not yesterday...it cannot be...and tomorrow remains uncertain.

THE CITY BEAUTIFUL | dir. Rahul Roy | India | 78mins | 2003

Sunder Nagri (Beautiful City) is a small working class colony on the margins of India's capital city, Delhi. Most families residing here come from a community of weavers. The last ten years have seen a gradual disintegration of the handloom tradition of this community under the globalisation regime. Families have to cope with change as well as reinvent themselves to eke out a living.



The City Beautiful is the story of two families struggling to make sense of a world, which keeps pushing them to the margins.

Radha and Bal Krishan are at a critical point in their relationship. Bal Krishan is underemployed and constantly cheated. They are in disagreement about Radha going out to work. However, through all their ups and downs they retain the ability to laugh.

Shakuntla and Hira Lal hardly communicate. They live under one roof with their children but are locked in their own sense of personal tragedies.

Festivals:

The Leipzig International Documentary Festival, 2003, Germany Other Worlds Are Breathing, World Social Forum, Mumbai, 2004 Cinema Du Reel, Paris, 2004 Munich International Documentary Film Festival, 2004 Goettingen International Ethnographic Film Festival, Germany, 2004 Jeevika National Livelihood Documentary Festival, Delhi, 2004 Vikalp: Films For Freedom, 2004, Mumbai Beeld Voor Beeld, Amsterdam, 2004 Vermont International Film Festival, USA, 2004 Filmer à tout prix, Brussels, 2004 Lisbon International Documentary Festival, Portugal, 2004 South Asian International Film Festival, New York, 2004 Muenster Ethnographic Film Festival, Muenster, Germany, 2005 RAI International Ethnographic Film Festival, UK, Sep 2005 Film South Asia, Kathmandu, Sep 2005

Dacca Short Film Festival, Bangladesh, 2005

Doc's Kingdom, Portugal

Sardinia International Film Festival, Italy

Freiburg Film Forum, Germany, 2007 - Retrospective

Persistence Resistance: edge of visual narrative, 2011 - retrospective of Rahul Roy

Madurai International Documentary Festival, 2010 – Retrospective

Awards:

Le Prix international de la Scam at Cinema Du Reel Basil Wright Prize at RAI International Film Festival, UK Second Prize at Jeevika Documentary Festival

MAJMA (Performance) | dir. Rahul Roy | India | 54mins | 2013



Aslam sells medicines for sexual problems on the pavements of Meena Bazaar near Jama Masjid in Delhi...Khalifa Barkat presides over an akhara in the adjacent park and puts a group of young men through the moral and physical grind of wrestling...Through the park and the market pass hundreds of men every day...*Majma* explores the instability and insecurity of working class lives and its impact on male sexuality and gender relations. Majma has been made under a fellowship from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation.

Festivals

Yamagata International Documentary Festival, Asian Currents Japan, 2001 International Documentary Festival (idfa) Silver Wolf competition, Amsterdam, 2001

Cracow International Film Festival, Poland, 2002

Munich International Documentary Festival, Germany, 2002

Goettingen International Ethnographic Film Festival, Germany, 2002.

Selected for the Ethno Filmfest, Berlin, 2002

RAI International Ethnographic Film Festival, Durham

Film South Asia, Kathmandu, Nepal, 2003

Kara International Film Festival, Karachi, Pakistan, 2003

Humjinsi International Film Festival of Sexual and Gender Plurality, Bombay 2003.

Freiburg Film Forum, Germany, 2007 - Retrospective

Persistence Resistance: edge of visual narrative, 2011 - Retrospective of Rahul Roy

Freiburg Film Forum, Germany, 2007 - Retrospective

When Four Friends Meet | dir. Rahul Roy | India | 43mins | 2000

When four friends meet...they share with the camera their secrets...sex and girls; youthful dreams and failures; frustrations and triumphs. Bunty, Kamal, Sanjay and Sanju, best of friends and residents of Jehangirpuri, a working class colony on the outskirts of Delhi are young and trying to make their lives in an environment which is changing rapidly...girls seem to be very bold...stable jobs are not easy to come by...sex is a strange mix of guilt and pleasure...families are claustrophobic...and the blur of television the only sounding board.



Screenings:

Hawaii International Film Festival Special Screening At The UN, New York Munich International Film Festival North-South International Film Festival, Geneva. Goettingen International Ethnogeraphic Film Festival, Germany, 2002. Unesco/Psbt International Film Festival, New Delhi, 2003 Freiburg Film Forum, Germany, 2007 - Retrospective Persistence Resistance: edge of visual narrative, 2011 - retrospective of Rahul Roy Madurai International Documentary Festival, 2010 – retrospective

Links

http://www.persistenceresistance.in/festival2011/news/retrospective-on-rahul-roy.html

http://asianetwork.org/ane-archived-issues/2007-fall/anex2007-fall-matson.pdf

http://www.caravanmagazine.in/arts/difficult-loves

http://www.academia.edu/444543/Love In the Midst of Fascism Gender and Sexuality In the Contemporary Indian Documentary

http://www.thehindu.com/opinion/columns/Kalpana Sharma/lets-talk-about-men/article5119760.ece

 $\underline{\text{http://www.sunday-guardian.com/young-restless/dissecting-masculinity-in-the-south-asian-context}}$

https://in.news.yahoo.com/the-freedom-of-the-beards-114931056.html

http://indianexpress.com/article/cities/chandigarh/the-human-element

http://infochangeindia.org/film-forum/documentary/the-city-beautiful-sundar-nagari.html

To arrange a screening please contact Rahul Roy at: rahulroy63@gmail.com