पर्दा

PURDAH

JEREMY GUY FILMS PRESENTS "PURDAH"
PRODUCTION SOUND SHASHI KASARE | SOUND DESIGN SUNG ROK CHOI
MUSIC BY MARCELLO DE FRANCISCI | LINE PRODUCER ASHWIN RAI SHETTY
CINEMATOGRAPHER JEREMY GUY | EDITORS ANISHA ACHARYA & SALMAN SYED
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER TRACY GUY | PRODUCED BY JEREMY GUY & SUSHRUT JAIN
DIRECTED BY JEREMY GUY





पर्दा

PURDAH

ABOUT PURDAH

Director: Jeremy Guy
Producer: Jeremy Guy, Sushrut Jain
Exec Producer: Tracy Guy
Editors: Anisha Acharya, Salman Syed
Director of Photography: Jeremy Guy
Sound Designer: Sung Rok Choi
Composer: Marcello De Francisci
Genre: Documentary
Length: 71 minutes
Aspect Ratio: 16:9
Language: Hindi, English, and English subtitles
Shoot Location: Mumbai, India
Completion Date: February 2018

FESTIVALS

Cinequest Film Festival
Sheffield Doc/Fest Doc/Player
Dances With Films
Indian Film Festival Stuttgart
Indian Film Festival of Melbourne
Five Lakes Film Festival (Germany)
Chicago South Asian Film Festival

WEB AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Website: www.purdahfilm.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/purdahfilm
Twitter: www.twitter.com/purdahfilm
Instagram: www.instagram.com/purdahfilm

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Jeremy Guy
Company: Jeremy Guy Films, LLC
Email: purdahfilm@gmail.com
Phone: 1 (805) 448-9807



PRESS

"It's like **a real-life Bend It Like Beckham"**
-NPR (KQED)

"'Purdah' Is an **Eye Opening** Look at Women Persevering in Sports." **9.9/10**!
-Electric Bento

"**Uplifting and empowering**"
-Film Threat

"**A stunning film** that brings us into a world that is so different from ours that it is almost unrecognizable."
-Eric Doctorow, CEO Random Media

"Purdah is a **beautiful narration of women's fight for identity** and ambition in modern India."
-Media Entertainment Arts Worldwide

LA Premiere of Director Jeremy Guy's "Purdah"
-Hollywood Press Corps

"**My pick of what to see:** 'Purdah,' also chosen for closing night Sunday. Also making its Southern California premiere, this intriguing look at the limits religion can pose on extraordinary ability."
-The Culver City Observer

"Guy's story … aims to remind us that there are places in the World where more conservative views are held about women and their place in society and the home"
-Trailer Launch on Screen Anarchy

Culture, Dreams, Life: A Discussion With 'Purdah' Director Jeremy Guy
-Electric Bento

"Purdah shows how inventive people are in India to improve their situation"
-SWR2 (Southwest Broadcasting – translation on our Facebook page)

We Are Moving Stories Interviews Purdah Director Jeremy Guy
-We Are Moving Stories

Jeremy Guy's Directorial Debut of "Purdah" ("Veil") Hosts Los Angeles Premiere Screening at Dances With Films
-Press release on PR Web

"Here within the culture of India where women and men's roles are dictated by the way of life, this doc follows a bold daughter who decides she wants to play cricket, traditionally a man's game. What follows is initially a surface story of ups and downs, lies and truths, but then the film slowly beings to go deeper and highlight various issues within the family itself."
-Why So Blu

"An insightful **story of female empowerment** through sport"
-"It's a Question of Balance" KSCO radio

"This **inspirational** film about the sisters' candid journey of self-discovery is **a must see** with family and friends."
-Modern Latina

"Purdah by Jeremy Guy is an **inspiring and uplifting** film." ★★★★ review
-Movies Move Me

A "**beautiful and rousing story**"
-Film School Radio

An Interview with Jeremy Guy, Director of Purdah
-Movie Ranker

"Purdah is a film that shows well how a belief system and the guidance of one's religion can impact children's dreams and adults' lives."
-Cinema Crazed

"This story follows Kaikasha in her quest to be the first Muslim on the Mumbai women's cricket team and then follows her into a corridor of uncertainty after **a shocking turn of events changes the fate of her family**."
-The Indian Panorama

"Patterns emerge from the chaos of existence, making everyone feel less isolated."
-Metro Newspaper

San Jose film festival to screen Jeremy Guy's documentary feature PURDAH
-India Blooms News Service

"Purdah... a documentary directed by American filmmaker Jeremy Guy about a 20-year-old Indian Muslim **girl who overcomes societal pressure, family crises, and poverty to make her mark**."
-Connected to India

"Documentary feature PURDAH depicts shattering aspirations of three Muslim sisters."
-Canadian Media

"In Purdah, women and girls jockey to make their separate dreams come true… And the barriers are real."
-In the Seats

Cinequest Represents the Culture and Community of Silicon Valley with Selection of Indian Films
-India Currents

Jeremy Guy's Purdah
-Film India Worldwide

-Additional links can be found on our social media pages (links on page two)

P U R D A H

noun pur·dah \ˈpər-də\

1. A veil or screen.
2. The custom in certain Muslim communities of keeping women in seclusion, with clothing that conceals them completely, in order to stay out of the sight of men.

Short Synopsis

The inspiring story of a young Indian woman who trades her burka for dreams of playing on the Mumbai Senior Women's Cricket Team and how the harsh realities for women in her country creates an unexpected outcome for her own family, ultimately shattering and fueling aspirations.

Long Synopsis

The independent-minded young women of the Mirza family have ambitious dreams for their lives and careers. Despite their earnestness, they face an uphill battle coming from a conservative Muslim family in Mumbai, India.

Kaikasha Mirza became enamored with cricket as a young woman, yet she was forbidden to play and forced to be a spectator in her burka. After months of persistence, Kaikasha eventually persuaded her father to allow her to remove her burka for the first time to become one of only a few Muslim women cricketers in all of Mumbai. Now Kaikasha is chasing her dream of playing for the prestigious Mumbai Senior Women's Cricket Team. In the days leading up to the tryouts, Kaikasha's parents give her the ultimatum that she will have two years to become a professional cricketer or they will arrange her marriage. Once married, her husband would likely not allow her to play, thus pinning all of Kaikasha's hopes on the upcoming tryouts for the Mumbai team.

Kaikasha's eldest sister, Saba, has her own dreams for her career and yearns to become a model, yet she endures harsh criticism for wearing a burka to interviews. Heena, the youngest sister, desires to become a fashion designer or a singer, but poverty may impede her pursuits. All three girls must contend with the wishes of their father who does not believe women should work, in addition to the whispered judgment of those within their community.

Purdah is a feature length documentary that follows each of the Mirza women as they battle through unexpected family crises, poverty, and intense societal pressure to pursue their dreams.



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

I first met Kaikasha Mirza while working on another film in India in 2011. When I heard Kaikasha say that she did not know of any other Muslim women who played cricket, I knew that Kaikasha had a unique story to tell. Later when Kaikasha introduced our crew to the rest of her family and we heard their stories, we realized that the film would have to be about the whole family. In particular, we felt we needed to focus on each of the Mirza sisters since Saba and Heena shared many of the same challenges that Kaikasha faced in this very conservative religious environment.

Roger Ebert famously said that movies are like "a machine that generates empathy." At the early screenings of *Purdah*, a number of people expressed to me that our documentary allowed them to relate to people and learn about a culture on the other side of the world that they otherwise never would have known much about. I know that I, as a man, was able to really learn a lot from these women and the challenges they face in trying to support their family and pursue their passions. Particularly given the current political climate, I hope that audiences, both outside and inside India, can empathize with women in such a challenging situation like the Mirza sisters and share in their hopes and dreams.



THE TEAM

Jeremy Guy
Producer/Director/Cinematographer

Jeremy Guy is an award winning director and cinematographer based in Los Angeles. His work spans a wide variety of formats including narrative feature films, major television shows, and independent documentaries.

As a filmmaker, Jeremy has sought out films that push boundaries with challenging stories and that take risks with new visual styles. Many of these projects have played at prestigious film festivals including the Santa Barbara International Film Festival, the Palm Springs International Film Festival, and countless others around the world. Several of these films have won major awards, such as the feature documentary he recently shot, *Beyond All Boundaries*, which won six Best Film awards and, after its theatrical run, can now be seen on television, Netflix, and Amazon. Other award winning projects that he has shot or directed include *Weak Species*, that won four Best Film awards, *Greatest Hits*, winner of the 2Change Films filmmaking competition, and *Perspectives*, that the Santa Barbara Independent called "one of the best in the entire Santa Barbara International Film Festival."

Documentary filmmaking is of particular interest for Jeremy because he feels that real life stories can be much more powerful and relatable than fiction. Jeremy had a great connection with the Mirza family and was honored to tell their story in *Purdah*.

Jeremy graduated from the University of California, Santa Barbara Film Studies Program with Highest Honors and Departmental Honors before earning his Master of Fine Arts degree from the University of Southern California in Film Production.

Sushrut Jain
Producer

I was born and raised in Mumbai, India and grew up a cricket fan just like Kaikasha Mirza. My mother, an avid cricket fan to this day, handed me a plastic toy bat soon after I had learned to walk.

I came to the United States to pursue a Bachelor's degree in Mathematics and Economics at Ohio Wesleyan University. I continued my education at Stanford University, getting a Master's degree in Economics, following which I worked for a few years as an economist in San Francisco. However, I found myself drawn to storytelling and went on to graduate school in Film Production at the University of Southern California's School of Cinematic Arts in Los Angeles.

In 2008, I wrote and directed a short film titled *Andheri* (Darkness) – a realist drama set on the streets of Mumbai. The film went on to play at over 40 major film festivals around the world including the prestigious Clermont-Ferrand (France), Edinburgh (Scotland), Palm Springs Shortsfest, Nashville, San Francisco Asian American, Expression en Corto (Mexico), the Kerala Film Festival (India) and others. The film also won several awards at these festivals.

I wanted to return to Mumbai to make a film that featured a personal narrative and social commentary about the people of India. I believe my filmmaking experience in Indian conditions, my love for cricket, and my understanding of Indian and Western cultures, position me uniquely to make this interesting film.

Anisha Acharya
Editor

Anisha Acharya is a Film Editor from Bangalore, India, currently based in Los Angeles. She completed her MFA in Film Editing at the American Film Institute Conservatory. Her AFI thesis film *Day One* was nominated for an Oscar in the Live Action Short Film category in 2016. *Day One* has won the Student Academy Award, a College Emmy and the US Student BAFTA Award. Her films have screened at the Cannes Emerging Filmmaker Showcase, AFI Fest, Camerimage and Mill Valley Film Festival among others. Anisha brings a strong narrative focus to her process. Making stories come to life on the big screen is her driving passion.

Salman Syed
Editor

Salman Syed graduated from the prestigious American Film Institute with an MFA in Film Editing. He currently works as Lead Assistant Editor at Anonymous Content. His professional credits include Assistant Editor on VH1's *Barely Famous*, the Cooking Channel's *Rev Run's Sunday Suppers*, *Meet the Smiths* on TBS, Discovery Channel's *One Man Army*, and the independent features *Raze*, starring Zoe Bell and Rachel Nichols, *McCanick*, starring David Morse and Cory Monteith, and Editor on the Bollywood entertainment program *Showbiz India*.

Salman was raised in Southern California and is an alumnus of Palos Verdes High School. It was there that he discovered his love of filmmaking and editing, and was a founding member of *Live From 205*, now one of the top high school broadcast programs in the country.

He received a BA in Film Production with an emphasis in Editing from Cal State University Northridge in 2010. While there he studied and edited under the guidance of CSUN and AFI alum Donald Petrie (Director of *Grumpy Old Men*, *Miss Congeniality*) and Michael Hoggan, A.C.E. He also served as personal assistant for Ed Saxon (Oscar winning Producer of *The Silence of the Lambs*, *Adaptation*).

AFI gave Salman the privilege of learning under such great editors as Donn Cambern A.C.E. (*Ghostbusters II*, *Easy Rider*), Stan Salfas (*Let Me In*, *Dawn of the Planet of the Apes*), and Marty Nicholson (*Deadwood*, *Game of Thrones*), among many others. At AFI Salman edited the AFI thesis films *Ghost Light* and *Greg*.

Sung Rok Choi
Sound Designer

Sung Rok Choi is a sound designer and re-recording mixer in Los Angeles. He started his career as a sound editor for South Korean feature films including *Sympathy for Mr. Vengeance* and *Barking Dog Never Bites*. Later on, he started working as a re-recording mixer focusing on dialogue mixing for films like *Tae Guk Gi: The Brotherhood of War*. In 2005, he was the supervising sound editor and mixer on the film *Tale of Cinema*, which was nominated for the Palme d'Or at the Cannes Film Festival in 2005. He came to the United States and joined the USC School of Cinematic Arts in 2006 and ever since he has continued his career in film including sound design work on *Snowpiercer*. Sung Rok was nominated for MPSE Verna-Field Award in 2010 and 2011.

Marcello De Francisci
Composer

Marcello De Francisci is an American composer with an Italian-Argentinean background based in Los Angeles. His career began as a visual artist while attending fine art school in the city of Seville (an institution founded by famed Baroque painter Bartolome Esteban Murillo), later furthering his education at the Universidad Complutense de Madrid. During the course of his studies he taught himself music and would soon discover his true passion was to score soundtracks to films.

Most of Marcello's early childhood until his early twenties was spent traveling and living abroad due to his father's work as an international sales manager for a company based in the U.S. He resided in countries throughout South America, the Caribbean, all across the U.S., North Africa, and Spain. On his summer breaks from school he would venture across the straits of Gibraltar to Northern Morocco immersing himself in the culture of this historic place. These journeys and experiences were the building blocks of his temperament as an artist as well as the foundation to an extensive musical palette he brings to the motion picture soundtrack industry today.

In October of 2003 Marcello found the means to pursue a solo career as a film composer. In 2006 he won the best soundtrack of the year G.A.N.G. award for his work on SCEA's *God of War* game. Since he has scored a slate of award winning films including Natalie Portman's Western *Jane Got A Gun* for The Weinstein Company and the anticipated sequel to *Baraka* art house documentary *Samsara*. He is a recipient of two Australian Film Critics Circle Awards for his work on *Balibo* and *Oranges & Sunshine*.





CREDITS

Directed by
Jeremy Guy

Produced by
Jeremy Guy
Sushrut Jain

Executive Producer
Tracy Guy

Editors
Anisha Acharya
Salman Syed

Cinematographer
Jeremy Guy

Line Producer
Ashwin Rai Shetty

Music by
Marcello De Francisci

Sound Design
Sung Rok Choi

Production Sound
Shashi Kasare

Featuring
Kaikasha Mirza
Saba Mirza
Al Heena Mirza
Akhtar Hussain Mirza
Bilkees Mirza
Mohammad Azhar
Farhan Mirza
Mohd Hamza Shaikh
Akshaya Surve
Sharmila Surve
Aparna Kambli
Anjali Pendharkar
Hemangi Naik
Sneha Tak
Aarti Chourasiya

Additional Interviews Director
Ashwin Rai Shetty

Production Coordinator
Ankit Dahake

Additional Camera Operators
Ankit Mhatre
Karthik Ganesh
Chetan Vohra
Prabal Bose

Camera Assistant
Guru Panesar

Re-recording Mixer
Sung Rok Choi

Additional Production Sound
Roshan Pathak
Rohit Pathak
Sanjay Joil

Assembly Editors
Joel McWilliams
Ruju Mehta
Rishi Shukla

Graphics and Titles
Anisha Acharya

Production Assistant
Gabriel Glaeser
Mangesh

Lead Transcription
Ranjana Mitra
Sneha Nair

Additional Transcription
Akanksha Gupta
Sukruta Alluri
Akshay Mittal

Colorist
Bruce Goodman

Music Recorded, Mixed, and Produced at
10,000 Watts of Iron Studio, Pasadena, CA

Special Thanks: Saregama India Limited
Song 'Dikhai Diye Yun' © Saregama India Limited
Music Composer: Khaiyyaam
Lyricist: Mir Taqi Mir

Special Thanks for Footage Licensed by
Mad Coolie Productions, LLC

Special Thanks
Beyond All Boundaries
Derek Boonstra
Brian Golden Davis
Dan Faltz
Aastha Gaur
Yu Gu
Chris Hogenson
William Kwok
Clayton Sakoda
Ryan Todd
Byron Turk
Christopher Makoto Yogi
The Guy Family

Copyright 2017 Jeremy Guy Films, LLC

