

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Five New Films Awarded Production Funds by the Global Film Initiative**

*Accolades for Previous Grantees Include FIPRESCI Award and Sundance Screenwriters Lab*

**San Francisco, CA – March 31, 2010** – The Global Film Initiative announced today that five filmmakers have been awarded production funding for their film projects during the Initiative's Winter 2010 granting-cycle.

“These projects represent a new level of talent and vision that is unafraid to take risks, both creatively and culturally,” says Susan Weeks Coulter, Board Chair of the Global Film Initiative. “They are accomplished, insightful and daring, and we look forward to their success.”

The projects were selected from a group of sixty-eight applications, from thirty-four different countries. Grant recipients are chosen for their artistic excellence, accomplished storytelling and cultural perspective on daily life around the world. Funds received from grants are used to subsidize post-production costs such as laboratory and sound mixing fees, and access to advanced editing systems.

Since its founding in 2002, the Initiative has awarded eighty-six grants to film projects from Africa, Asia, Central and Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Middle East. These grants have supported the works of both emerging and established filmmakers, and have made a significant impact on the growth of developing film industries.

The Winter 2010 grant recipients are:

- **MISS LOVELY, dir. Ashim Ahluwalia, India**  
Two brothers working in Mumbai's seedy C-movie industry come to odds when one decides to make a romantic feature about a mysterious, young ingénue he meets on a train.
- **NINAH'S DOWRY, dir. Victor Viyuoh, Cameroon**  
A headstrong woman leaves her village and resists her abusive husband's attempt to reclaim his rights of dowry after she becomes pregnant with another man's baby.
- **RED PRINCESSES (PRINCESAS ROJAS), dir. Laura Astorga Carrera, Costa Rica**  
During the height of the Sandinista movement, a young Costa Rican girl pretends to be the leader of a secret revolution, unaware that her game has tragic similarity to the real-life activities of her parents.
- **SHADOWS AND FACES (GÖLGELER VE SURETLER), dir. Derviş Zaim, Turkey**  
In a bucolic village, the disappearance of an elderly puppeteer sets in motion a series of events that lead to a violent conflict between once peaceful neighbors.

- **TRAMP (TRAMPAS), dir. Eduardo Villanueva Jimenez, Mexico**  
A drug-addicted wanderer forms an unusual friendship with a beggar, leading the pair on an elliptical journey through Mexico that includes, of all things, a life-changing trip to the circus.

Recent success of previous grantees:

- **40 DAYS OF SILENCE (40 KUN CHILLA), dir. Saodat Ismailova, Uzbekistan.** Director Saodat Ismailova selected to attend the 2010 Sundance Screenwriters Lab. GFI grant awarded in 2009.
- **IMANI, dir. Caroline Kamy, Uganda and DOOMAN RIVER, dir. Zhang Lu, China.** Official selections of the 60th Berlin International Film Festival. GFI grants awarded in 2009.
- **INDEPENDENCE (INDEPENDENCIA), dir. Raya Martin, Philippines.** Co-presented by the Global Film Initiative during the 2010 San Francisco International Asian American Film Festival as part of a special showcase on Filipino cinema. GFI grant awarded in 2008.
- **CRAB TRAP (EL VUELCO DEL CANGREJO), dir. Oscar Ruiz Navia, Colombia.** Awarded the FIPRESCI prize at the 60th Berlin International Film Festival (International Forum of New Cinema section). GFI grant awarded in 2007.

The Initiative's next granting deadline is July 15, 2010 and applications must be postmarked by this date. Submissions will be accepted beginning April 30, 2010; please visit the Global Film Initiative's website for more information regarding applications and guidelines:  
<http://www.globalfilm.org/programs.htm>.

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### **About the Global Film Initiative**

*The Global Film Initiative* is a U.S.-based, not-for-profit organization specializing in the support of independent film from Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East. Founded in 2002 to promote cross-cultural understanding through the language of cinema, the Initiative awards numerous grants to deserving filmmakers from around the world each year, and supports a touring film series entitled Global Lens. For more information about the Global Lens film series and Global Film Initiative programs, please visit our [website](http://www.globalfilm.org) or contact us at [gfi-info@globalfilm.org](mailto:gfi-info@globalfilm.org).



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