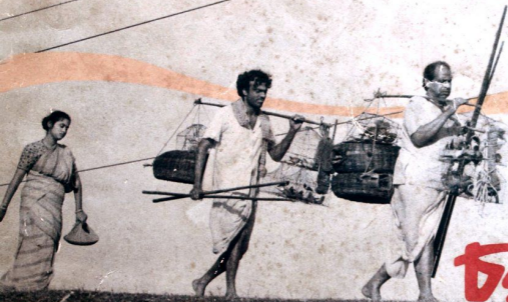


SHANKAR GOPE PRESENTS A FILM BY BUDDHADEB DASGUPTA



WORLD
PREMIERE AT
BERLIN
FILM FEST
1994

চাৰাচাৰ

CHARACHAR • SHELTER OF THE WINGS • L'ABRI DE LEURS AILES • DER SCHUTZ DER FLÜGEL

PRODUCED BY GOPE MOVIES (P) LTD. INDIA

SHELTER OF THE WINGS

Lakhinder follows his hereditary profession as a bird-catcher, but with the irony of his having an intense love for the victims of his trade. This love becomes an obsession, especially after the death, some six or seven years earlier, of his three-year-old son, Nital. His passion, and his habit of freeing almost as many birds as he catches, puts his marriage in both emotional and economic jeopardy. As he pursues his dreams through their metaphor, the birds, his wife, Sari, develops a relationship with another man, Natobar.

Lakhinder makes an effort to save his marriage by taking a consignment of birds to sell in Calcutta, but when the trader innocently feeds him wild goose from Lakhinder's own district, the bird-catcher vehemently renounces his trade and, as a consequence, loses his wife to Natobar.

After the final, violent endeavour to be reconciled with his wife, Lakhinder lets her go. Becoming one with his beloved birds, he now enjoys the shelter of the wings.

L'ABRI DE LEURS AILES

Lakhinder exerce le métier de ses ancêtres, la chasse aux oiseaux. Mais, chose curieuse, il aime éperdument les oiseaux qu'il capture. Sa passion était devenue une véritable obsession six ou sept ans auparavant lors de la mort de son jeune enfant, Nital.

Il relâche presque tous les oiseaux qu'il capture, ce qui met son mariage en péril, tant sur le plan économique que matrimonial. Alors qu'il est tout absorbé par les oiseaux, sa femme s'éprend de Natobar.

Pour tâcher de sauver son mariage, Lakhinder va vendre des oiseaux à un grossiste de Calcutta. Mais quand ce marchand lui sert une assiette d'oiseaux de son village, Lakhinder rompt à jamais avec son métrier...et sa femme s'envole avec Natobar.

Lakhinder tente en vain de regagner sa femme, mais après une violente querelle il la laisse partir. Lui et ses oiseaux ne font plus qu'un, et Lakhinder se réfugie à l'abri de leurs ailes.

DER SCHUTZ DER FLÜGEL

Lakhinder geht seinem ererbten Beruf als Vogelfänger nach, allerdings mit der Ironie, daß er eine intensive Liebe zu den Opfern dieses Gewerbes hegt. Diese Liebe wird zur Besessenheit, besonders nach dem einige Jahre zurückliegenden Tod seines dreijährigen Sohnes Nital. Seine Leidenschaft, und seine Gewohnheit, fast alle gefangenen Vögel wieder freizulassen, führt seine Ehe in eine emotionale und finanzielle Krise. Während er seinen Träumen durch ihre Metapher, die Vögel, folgt, wendet sich seine Frau Sari einem anderen Mann, Natobar, zu.

Lakhinder unternimmt den Versuch, seine Ehe zu retten, indem er eine Sendung Vögel zum Verkauf nach Calcutta bringt. Als aber dort der Vogelhändler ihn ohne böse Absicht Wildgänse aus Lakhinders Heimatgegend vorsetzt, sagt sich der Vogelfänger hitzig von seinem Beruf los und verliert als Folge seine Frau an Natobar.

पंजाब



Nach einem letzten, gewalttätigen Versuch, seine Frau zurückzugewinnen, läßt Lakhinder sie ziehen. Er wird eins mit seinen geliebten vögeln und steht nun im Schutz ihrer Flügel.

Director's Statement

In "charachar" (shelter of the wings), the interior world of Lakhinder is similar to that of a creative artist who does not want to compromise with the world around him. After the final fight with his circumstances in "Bagh Bahadur" my protagonist steps into the world of realisation in "Tahader Katha". In "Charachar" he does not want to fight because he has realised that life is not merely a catching and selling of birds, it is much more.

The situation is the same for me - making a film is not just another job to be done. It is the continuous search of the innerself through the extension of reality.

Charachar

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FILMFESTSPIELE
BERLIN 1994
IN COMPETITION



THE DIRECTOR

Buddhabdeb Dasgupta is one of the most important filmmakers in India after Ray, Ghatak and Sen. He made DOORATWA (The Distance) in 1978, NEEM ANNAPURNA (Bitter Morse) in 1979, GRHAJUDHANA (Crossroads) in 1981, SHEET GRISHMER SMRITI (Season's Memoirs) in 1982, ANHI GALI (The Blind Alley) in 1984, PHERA (The Return) in 1986, BAGH BAHADUR (The



Tigerman) in 1990, TAHADER KATHA (Their Story) in 1992. 'CHARACHAR' (Shelter of the wings) is his latest film. His films were screened at major Film Festivals like Cannes, Berlin, Venice, Locarno, Karlovy Vary and won awards and high critical acclaim. He has also made several significant documentaries. Buddhabdeb Dasgupta is an eminent poet in Bengali literature and has five books of verse to his credit.

THE PRODUCER



Born in 1948, Mr. Shankar Gope graduated in Arts. As a businessman, having a very high profile, he has entered in the arena of performing Arts like films and theatre in 1989. By now, Mr. Gope has produced five Bengali feature films and two films in Oriya, of which SHEET PAATHADER THALALA (Bengal) directed by Prabhat Roy, won National Award (Best Film on FAMILY WELFARE) and also VINYA SAMAYA, directed by Manmohan Mahapatra (Best Oriya Film) for 1992. His latest film is CHARACHAR (Shelter of the wings) directed by Buddhabdeb Dasgupta. Mr. Gope has his own production and distribution company-Gope Movies (P) Ltd. of Calcutta.

Technical details

Colour : Eastman
Screen format : 35/1 : 1.66
Sound System : optical
Running time : 86 mts
Year of Production : 1993
Country of origin : India
Language : Bengali

Credits

Shankar Gope presents

চারাকার CHARACHAR

Story : Pratulla Roy
Screen play-Direction : Buddhabdeb Dasgupta
Associate Director-Music : Biswadeb Dasgupta
Camera : Soumendu Roy
Decor : Shaladal Mitra
Editing : Ujjal Nundy
Production Executive : Dulal Roy
Producers : Shankar Gope, Gita Gope

Cast

Rajit Kapoor, Laboni Sarkar, Sadhu Mehar, Shankar Chakraborty, Manoj Mitra and Indrani Holdar.

World Sales

Gope Movies (Pvt) Ltd.
132, Lenin Sarani
Calcutta 700013, INDIA
Ph. 26 9778 • 244 5569
OR
Contact : Buddhabdeb Dasgupta
32/1F, Gariahat Road (South)
Flat 3A, Calcutta 700031, INDIA
Ph. 4735545
Fax 33-2486871

