

ABAI Fest 2013 was organised on 6th and 7th of December 2013 at Manasa Gangothri, Mysore, Karnataka by ABAI in association with Department of IT BT and S&T, Government of Karnataka and with the support of KBITS and other partners. The fest was aimed at building more awareness about the sunrise industry of Animation, Visual effects, Gaming and Comics.

Inauguration:

ABAI Fest 2013 was inaugurated by Mr. Srivatsa Krishna, Secretary to Government of Karnataka, Department of IT, BT and S&T. Dr. K S Rangappa, Vice Chancellor, University of Mysore, Mr. T. S Nagabharana, eminent Actor and Director in Kannada film Industry, Mr. Biren Ghose, President ABAI, Ms. Shelley Page, Head, International outreach, DreamWorks, London UK, Mr. Ronald Diamond, Executive producer, Acme Film Works, Los Angeles USA were the other dignitaries present on the dais.



In his welcome address Mr. Biren Ghose, President ABAI, gave a glimpse of what was in store for the audience at ABAI Fest 2013 and said “The fest is a dream come true for the organisation and India's Digital art community. Fifty hours of AVGC content from Hollywood, Europe and India will be featured during the fest”

Mr. Srivatsa Krishna, Secretary to Government of Karnataka, Department of IT, BT and S&T in his inaugural address stated that the State Government is committed to encourage Animation, Visual effects, Gaming and Comics industry and has already initiated various steps in this direction. “We are pleased to support ABAI in organising this globally recognised festival” he stated.

Mr. Nagabharana, Eminent Actor and Director while addressing the audience remarked “India is rich in the art of storytelling and Bangalore being one of the world leaders in technology, has contributed towards Oscar winning movie like Life of Pi. The Animation, Visual effects industry is yet to grow to a higher scale in India and regional producers and film industries should take advantage and be part of it.”

Dr. K S Rangappa, Vice Chancellor, University of Mysore was glad to have ABAI Fest 2013 in the University campus and said “We are very glad that the First ever Animation, Visual effects, Gaming and Comics festival is being held in Mysore and in the premises of our University. This is a great opportunity for students of Mysore to learn more about and be part of this emerging industry.”

The dignitaries were presented with Mementos on this occasion. Mr. Biren Ghose proposed the vote of thanks



Mr. Srivatsa Krishna presenting memento to Ms. Shelley Page



Mr. Srivatsa Krishna presenting memento to Mr. T S Nagabharana



Mr. Srivatsa Krishna presenting memento to Mr. Ron Diamond



Mr. Srivatsa Krishna presenting memento to Mr. K S Rangappa



Mr. Srivatsa Krishna presenting memento to Ms. Archana Krishnamurthy as a token of appreciation



Mr. Srivatsa Krishna presenting memento to Ms. Akshata Udiaver



Mr. Biren Ghose presenting memento to Mr. Srivatsa Krishna

ABAI Fest 2013 was a platform for screening of a never before bouquet of movies over two days in 3 screens (Senate Bhavan, Humanities Hall and Open Air theatre) in the campus of University of Mysore. All the three venues were filled to capacity for every show on both the days.

The Shows at ABAI Fest 2013

Global VFX Showcase the film was exclusively made for the Fest by MPC team in London and Bangalore. The showcase included making of some of the movies like Harry Potter, Life of Pi, Skyfall, Pirates of the Caribbean, SuperMan: Man of Steel, Prometheus and few others.



Best of Anancy 2013 – Anancy Festival is the world's most coveted Animation Film festival and Best of Anancy 2013 was screened on both the days of the festival. This was the only place in the world to screen these films outside Anancy, France. Anancy film festival has a registration fee of over Rs.1000!

TASI short films showcase: A compilation of short films which were the finalists of TASI Viewer's Choice Awards. It was a mixture of Short feature films, Ad films, Students' graduating films from India and abroad. The films were compiled and Curated by Ms. Akshata Udiaver, Editor and Founder All About Animation and Secretary of The Animation Society of India. The Short film showcase was divided into three packages – 2 showcasing only Indian content and 1 showcasing the International content. The Indian content consisted many movies like Fulwanti and Slim – C and ad films like Zoo Zoos and other Vodafone ads made by Vaibhav studios and TASI International Compilation consisted of many of the Oscar winning movies like "The Paths of Hate".



ABAI Flavours of India – Collection of short animated movies from across India, depicting the vast culture and variety in the art of Storytelling by digital storytellers from various parts of India. This included movies like Suppandi, Journey to Nagaland and few others



Ron Diamond - Diamond is a member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts And Sciences and serves on the Executive Committee for the Feature Animation and Shorts Branch and Chairs the committee to evaluate festivals for Academy Oscar Qualification Status. Diamond presents The Annual Animation Show of Shows, starting its 15th year, a curated program of new shorts from the previous years, screenings take place at all the US major animation studios, leading universities and Arts Colleges and several animation festivals.



“Giant's First Step” - A collection of movies which are the first works of greatest directors in Hollywood such as Brenda Chapman (co – director of Brave), Peter Docter (director Mosnters Inc, Up), Eric Goldberg (Famous for his work on the movie Looney tunes: Back in action) amongst many others

“Show of Shows” –Diamond presents his annual curated Animation Show of Shows now in its 15th year at all major animation studios and leading educational animation programs. The 15th edition of the annual “Show of Shows” a compilation of the best short films from Hollywood, like Bless You, Sub Conscious password, My mom is an airplane and few others.

Shelley Page

Shelley has been working in the field of feature animation since 1986. She has credits on over 20 films to date, including "Who Framed Roger Rabbit?", "Shrek 1-4", "Shark Tale", "Madagascar", "Kung Fu Panda", and "How to Train Your Dragon".

Her career in animation began when she worked in London with legendary animation director Richard Williams. From 1987 she served as head of backgrounds on the Walt Disney film "Who Framed Roger Rabbit?". In 1989 she became head of backgrounds at Steven Spielberg's Amblimation Studio. In 1995 she moved to Los Angeles as one of the first team of artists to join Steven Spielberg, Jeffrey Katzenberg and David Geffen's new studio, DreamWorks Animation as co-head of Artist Development.

The 'Eye Candy' show - A personal selection of some the very best new international short animation films.



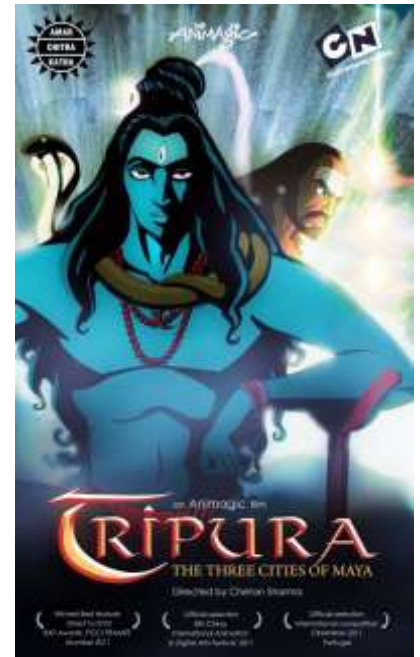
"Eye Candy show" – Presented in the current 'Eye Candy' presentation are award-winning professional short films, music videos and TV commercials as well as a selection of exceptional recent graduation films from the leading film and animation schools worldwide. Shelley's selection is constantly evolving as she discovers wonderful new films during the year's events - so no two 'Eye Candy' screenings are ever exactly the same! Most of the films were not restricted by language barrier as there were very few or no dialogues used. Some of the movies that were included in the show were Ascension, Gloria Victoria and few others.

World of Gaming -Trailers of the best games of 2013 including Battlefield 3, Call of Duty 4 – Modern Warfare, FIFA 14, Final Fantasy XV, Forza Motorsport 5, Gods of War, Need for Speed Rivals and many other launches of 2013 were screened



Global Animation Package – Collection of ‘making of’ few of the world's best animated movies made in the year 2013 such as “The Smurfs 2” in one package. The film was a sneak peek at what happens behind the scenes of the best of the animated movies, a quick preview of the movies’ journey from scratch to the end product shown in the span of 1 hour.

Feature Film – **Tripura** directed by Chetan Sharma, is an epic tale from the ancient pages of India's mythic past! There is a constant struggle for control of the universe between the God-like Devas and their stepbrothers the Asuras symbolizing light and dark forces. Maya the great asura architect and sorcerer rescues and raises the three asura princes Tarakaksha, Kamlaksha and Vidyunmali as his wards after the asuras have been driven out of their kingdom. He hopes to bring the displaced asura people back together on the path of prosperity and virtue. The 3 princes follow Maya’s guidance to achieve their powerful kingdom of Tripura (*The three cities tri-pura*) blessed by Brahma the creator himself to be indestructible till a single arrow passes through the three cities.





Feature film – Kushal Ruia’s **Sons of Ram**

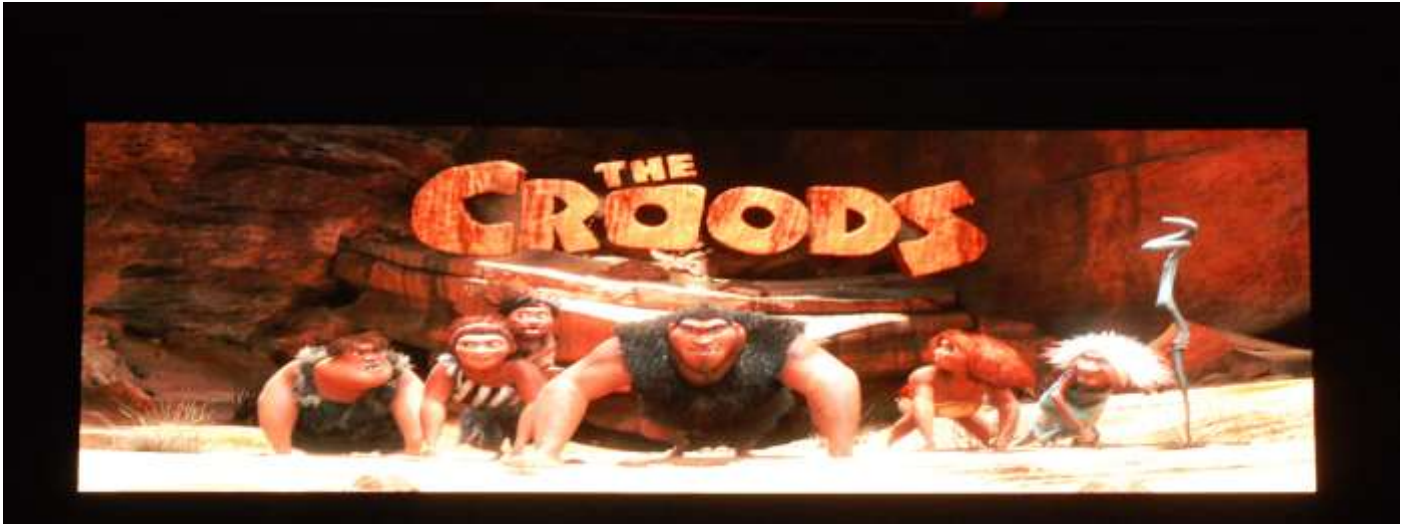
Surayavanshi Ram of Ayodhya, the greatest warrior king that ever lived, was forced to send his beloved wife Sita into exile, thus leading him and his kingdom to despair and towards an empty future. Unknown to Ram, far away in sage Valmiki's hermitage, Sita lives as Vandevi, raising their twin sons, Luv & Kush. Though not aware of their lineage, the twins imbibe wisdom, compassion & combat skills that would put any royal prince to shame. Sita teaches Luv -Kush to always work as a team, secretly hoping that her estranged family would find a way to come together one day. The twins must conquer their inner demons before they can achieve their destinies. Accompanied by a steadfast gang of lovable friends, Luv-Kush's journey takes them from enchanted forests with mythical creatures to the revered land of Ayodhya, the home of their fabled heroes.

Feature Film - **World of Goopi and Bagha** directed by Shilpa about Goopi & Bagha, two wise fools, one lives to sing and the other to play the drum. Despite their acute ineptness, their passion for music knows no bounds. When the villagers cannot bear to listen to them anymore, both are banished to the same forest. Here, Goopi & Bagha encounter each other and their fates become entwined for life. A strong and immediate bond is forged by the two hapless souls, both in search of connoisseurs of their musical craft.

And thus begins the extraordinary adventure of Goopi & Bagha.



Premiere of feature film **“CHAKRA – The Invincible”** an Indian super hero from Mumbai, created by the most famous Super hero creator Stan Lee (Famous for co – creating Spiderman, Ironman, X – Men, Thor and many others)



Feature Film “**The Croods**” - DreamWorks’ comedy adventure that follows the world's first modern family as they embark on a journey. The biggest Box office blockbuster of the year 2013 was screened under the stars and DreamWorks’ crescent moon without the fishing boy on both the days of ABAI Fest 2013 in the open air theatre.

Partner Presentations:



DELL

DELL as one of the key partners of ABAI Fest 2013 displayed their latest technology laptops, tablets and other gadgets. A live demo of the products gave a glimpse of their wide range of high end products and audience showed keen interest in the product range.

Da Vinci College - ABAI aptitude test

Da Vinci conducted series of aptitude tests in groups of 20 persons to gauge their aptitude in the field of Animation, Visual effects Gaming and Comics. The quiz session was a real brain teasers and specially students could test their level of knowledge required to enter the AVGC field. Thousands of participants at the Fest took up the aptitude test. This initiative aroused a lot of interest among student community to opt for career in animation industry.





NVIDIA's gaming zone

NVIDIA, displayed its state of the art technology in display hardware by extending a hands on experience to enthusiastic gamers. The experiential game consoles satiated the thirst of game enthusiasts to try out the joy of gaming themselves with the latest technology hardware.

AIGA

The Asian Institute of Gaming and Animation displayed their student's brilliant work of creativity and rare works of the alumni of the institute. Gaming industry which is finding greater acceptance among younger generation, large number of students queued up before the stall to enjoy the thrill of gaming.



Jain Animation School



Jain Animation School, which has carved a niche for them in animation education, displayed works of their talented students. Every visitor was explained about the scope and opportunities available the field of Animation, Visual effects Gaming and Comics to the students who were interested in making a career in this sector

Arena Mysore,

ARENA Mysore stalled witnessed group of students enquiring the courses offered by the institute and were amazed by the displayed works of the talented students. Sketching by a skilled artist using latest gadgets attracted visitors in large numbers. Photos of the participants being animated amused the visitors.



Pixellation workshop by Prosenjith Ganguly

A workshop on Pixellation was conducted on day 1, Participants were taught how to make an animated movie by using a still camera. The participants were then given a chance to make their own movie using this technique. This was a unique experiment to attract students to an area that offers chance to prove their artistic mettle.



Laser Shows, Sky lanterns, Fireworks

The Grand show of ABAI Fest 2013 came to an end with equally grand celebrations, the fun and festive mood was maintained from the very beginning all the way till the end. The show apart from being home for the best ever screening, also witnessed the spectacular fireworks, the cool laser beam shows, Animations using lasers which depicted the rich cultural heritage of Mysore and the state and also the milestone in the Indian Animation Industry like the first Iconic animated character, Oscar winning shorts making the already enthralled audience want more of this fest than they could take home. Like Mr Nagabharana exclaimed, "ABAI Fest was truly the 'Dasara' of Animation, Visual effects, Gaming and Comics!"

