

Berlin, 30<sup>th</sup> of September 2011

**And the winner is: Writer Director Neelesha Barthel will present her Wueste-Film-Project “Marry Me & Family” at the IndoGerman Script Development Workshop in Mumbai**

**The Jury** for the IndoGerman Script Development Workshop selected the project “Marry Me& My Family” out of numerous applications. The Project was sent in by eminent German Production Company “Wueste Film Ost”. The screenplay in its third draft had received script development support by the German Federal Film Board in the past and German Broadcaster ZDF is signed in as a co-production partner for the feature film debut of Writer/Director Neelesha Barthel.

“**Marry Me & Family**” is a colourful and heart-warming family comedy featuring German-Indian, German-Turkish, German and Indian Characters. What makes the screenplay special and authentic is that German-Indian Neelesha Barthel uses her own life experience as a source of inspiration. Hence it is not without coincidence that she has chosen young German-Indian woman Kissy to be the main character in her feature debut. Kissy lives with her daughter Meena, her new boyfriend Karim and his son Jeremy in Berlin-Kreuzberg. The happy-go-lucky patchwork family would have everything they need in order to be happy – were it not for one big problem: Kissy’s beloved Café Karma and adjoining apartment are threatening to be sold to an investor, which would mean being job- and home-less all at the same time. In order to get her traditional Indian granny’s dowry and save her modern patchwork family’s existence, Kissy decides to marry her ex-boyfriend. But this is just the beginning of something what will not work out...

**A three days workshop**, to be held from the 11th to the 13th of October 2011, the Indo German Script development workshop is organized by the Mumbai Academy of Moving Image and Life Entertainment, Germany in association with “Germany and India 2011-2012- Infinite Opportunities”, PRIMEHOUSE, dffb, HFF and SKW Schwarz Rechtsanwälte.

**The Script Development Workshop** will be held from October 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> in Mumbai and will bring together some of the best script writers, directors and teachers from India and Germany. Amongst them: Dani Levy (Go for Zucker, My Führer) shows “what makes people laugh” and will discuss with Indian writers and directors like Sooni Taraporevala (Salaam Bombay!, The Namesake) and Anjum Rajabali (Raajneeti) about International Cross-Over Influences in Indian and German Films. Bejoy Nambiar, Megha Ramaswamy, Anusha Rizvi and Akshat Verma, writers and directors of the films “Shaitan”, “Peepli Live” and “Delhi Belly” will tell us their visions for a new cinema in India. The Heads of screenwriting academies at dffb, Berlin and HFF, Babelsberg, Jochen Brunow and Torsten Schulz (Boxhagener Platz) will talk with Indian writers and directors about “How do stories learn to travel” and will go “From Literature to Big Screen”. Georg Heinzen (Gran Paradiso) will travel “Beyond Heroes Journey” and Dr. Claudia Gladziejewski ([www.script-doctors.com](http://www.script-doctors.com)) will do script-constellations on IndoGerman Co-Productions like the invited “Marry Me& Family”. The seminar: “Legal Framework on IndoGerman Coproductions will be held by Indian Lawyer Dina Dattani and German Lawyer Andreas Peschel-Mehner

**The Workshop** is focusing on all aspects of storytelling and script development for both sub continents India and Europe. German and Indian experts are offering advises on development & Co-Productions between India and Europe. The workshop will assist screenwriters and producers in getting a better understanding about the Indian, respectively the European way of storytelling respectively both markets.

**Participants** will be Independent German and Indian screenwriters, directors and producers discussing feature-length film projects in the stage of development and the issue of Co-Production. Online-Accreditation is now open at: [www.mumbaifilmfest.com](http://www.mumbaifilmfest.com)

**Participation fee:** 3.000,- Rs (approx. 48,- Euro)

**Dates and Locations:** October 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>, Eden Hall, Raheja Classique Club (adjoining Infinity Mall), Link Road, Oshiwara, Andheri (W), Mumbai-400 053

**Contact: India:** Uday Shankar Pani (Project Coordinator), [udayspani@gmail.com](mailto:udayspani@gmail.com), +91-9820123962

**Germany:** Stephan Ottenbruch; Life Entertainment GmbH, Kurfürstendamm 62, D-10707 Berlin,

T.: +49 (30)32909-250, [info@life-enter.de](mailto:info@life-enter.de), [www.life-enter.de](http://www.life-enter.de), [www.mumbaifilmfest.com](http://www.mumbaifilmfest.com),

[www.primexchange.eu](http://www.primexchange.eu),

[www.germany-and-india.com](http://www.germany-and-india.com)