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Indian Art Film is a Good Work of Art

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We all love to see films, we enjoy it, we spent are our three hours sitting at one place. But generally most of the people see films and forget. They do not go to the deep meaning of the film so sometimes the main motto of the writer remains hidden.

Indian cinema is known as Bollywood. Indian film industry is the second largest in the world. Each of the larger regions of India supports its own film industry such as Hindi, Kannada, Bengali, Tamil, Telugu, and Malayalam and so on. But the most famous Hindi film industry has been settled in Mumbai former Bombay so known as Bollywood.(web)

Films are considered as the best medium of entertainment in India. So it has got immense popularity. Near about 1,600 films in various languages are produced every year in India. Dadasaheb Falake is known as the father of the Indian cinema. So the most prestigious award of Government of India for lifetime contribution to cinema has been named after him since 1969.(web)

Like Bollywood, the Tamil, the Telugu, the Malayalam and the Kannada industries of south India have a film culture as a single entity. (web) Even a new entity has been developed due the globalization that is Indian diaspora. Many Indians who are living in foreign, they are doing excellent work in this field.

After the independence of India most critically acclaimed films were produced during the period from late 1940s to 1960s, so this particular period is known as the golden age of Indian cinema.

Art is everywhere around us. So now a day any skilful work is known as art. Film is also a skilful work of art. Most of the times, we see movies rather than watching it. A director pours his all skills to tell us the story visually. As we say that literature is the mirror of the society, the

same statement can be used to describe the responsibility of films. It means films do not only entertain but shows the reality of society. Apart from the mainstream films, there are many films which depict art of our life through the medium of films.

Art films:

In addition to the commercial films, we are having art films which are purely based on Indian society and culture. Art film does have formal qualities which made it different than the mainstream Indian films. Art films are having a sense of social realism; focus on thoughts, and on dreams. Such art films are presented in special cinema halls and in film festivals. Art films need a particular kind of knowledge to understand it as these films are difficult to understand. In comparison with mainstream films art films are low budget films and it does not need any costly promotions but its popularity is based on the opinion of critics, commentators, bloggers, and mouth publicity by its audience. These all distinct conventions have made art film a genre in itself. A film scholar David Bordwell and a film theorist Robert Stam also agree that "art film" is a film genre.(web)

Satyajit Ray is well-known filmmaker who has made art films in different languages. Along with him Shyam Benegal, Adoor Gopalkrishnan, Mira Nair, Maniratnam, Jabbar Patel, V. Shantaram, Sudhir Mishra, Vijay Sing and Anurag Kashyap etc. are some of the famous Indian art film directors.

Art films work to overcome the social issues. Each film has a storyline which consist of various themes which depict independent India with its society and culture. Nationalism, modernism, Impact of regional and religious violence, and globalization are some of the common themes that found in Indian art films.

Popular Indian Art films

Anjali:

Anjali is a Tamil feature film by Mani Ratnam. The storyline of the film deals with a story of a mentally challenged dying child and an emotional suffering experienced by her family. The film is loosely inspired by the televised docudrama *Son-Rise: A Miracle of Love* even Mani Ratanam also got inspired by his neighbour who had a problem of autism.

The film was dubbed into Hindi and Telugu and released under the same name. Anjali was critically acclaimed and won three National Film Awards. It was selected as India's official entry to the Oscars in 1991, but unfortunately not nominated.

Shwaas:(2004)

Shwaas is a Marathi film by Sandeep Sawant released in 2004. The storyline is based on a real-life incident in Pune. It is a low-budget film of Indian rupee 30 lakhs. Arun Nalawade is one of the eight producers of Shwaas, he read a story by Madhavi Gharpure, published in the Diwali edition of a magazine. He thought that it would make a wonderful film storyline. Proper planning was done. The team was taken to many villages manage and makeshift venues were all used for screening. As Indian audience want songs in films but in case of Shwaas, there is no a song, heroes, heroines or recognizable stars of Marathi film industry.

Shwaas won the National Award for best film in 2004. It was shot in 30 days at Sindhudurg, Konkan, Pune and at KEM Hospital in Mumbai. It took one and half years to complete the post-production. Shwaas becomes a significant turn for Marathi cinema.

After its success, it has been released in Hindi, Bengali and Tamil languages. This all purity and simplicity of Shwaas made it so popular because of which India has got an official entry for Oscar award. Even the film has received various awards at state and national level. Along with this in the year 2003 the film achieved National Film Award for Best Feature Film 2003, National Film Award for Best Child Artist – Ashwin Chitale.

Peepli Live (2010)

‘Peepli Live’ is satirical comedy art film which focuses on the issue of suicides of farmers. It is written and directed by Anusha Rizvi. It employs a comic tone to tell us a serious story. Natha is a poor farmer and lead character from the village people who struggles to farm and to make money for his family.

The film won to many awards such as Star Screen Award 2011, Apsara Award for best story, Asian Film Award for best composer and also nominated for many awards.

Most famous Indian art film directors**Satyajit Ray:**

Satyajit Ray was a Bengali filmmaker. He is regarded as one of the greatest filmmaker of the 20th century. He directed 36 films including documentaries, short films and feature films. He was not only a filmmaker but a fiction writer, publisher, illustrator, calligrapher, music composer, graphic designer and film critic. *Pather Panchali* (1955) is first film; it won eleven international prizes including the inaugural best human documentary award at Cannes film festival.

His *Aprajito* (1956), *Jalsagar* (1958), *Devi* (1960), *Charulta* (1964), *Two* (1964), *Nayak* (1966), *Sikkim* (1971), *The Inner Eye* (1972), *Sadgati*(1981), *Agntuk* (1991) are some of the best art films.

He has received many awards including 32 national film awards by the government of India. Ray is the second film personality after Chaplin to have been awarded an honorary Doctorate by Oxford University. He has received very prestigious Padm Bhushan in 1965 and Dadasaheb Falke award in 1985. Such a versatility of his personality has made him a legend in field of Art films.

Shyam Benegal:

Shyam Benegal is an Indian director as well as a screen play writer. His first four feature films *Ankur* (1973), *Nishant* (1975), *Manthan* (1976) and *Bhumika* (1977) which gave birth to a new genre, which has now to be called parallel cinema in India.

His *Kondura* (1978), *Junoon* (1978), *Kaliyug* (1981), *Mandi* (1983), *Samar* (1999), and *Hari Bhari* (2000) are well known films.

He received the Padm Shree (1976), Padm Bhushan (1991) and Dadasaheb Falke Award for the year 2005. He bagged the National Film Award for Best Feature Film in Hindi seven times which is the greatest achievement of him.

Mira Nair:

Mira Nair is an Indian American filmmaker based in New York. Her production company, Mirabai Films, make films for international audiences. Her films based on Indian society, whether in the economic, social or cultural spheres. *Mississippi Masala* and *The Namesake* are her best films. Two of her Golden-Loin award winner films *Monsoon Wedding* and *Salaam Bombay!*, was nominated for the Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film.

She was awarded the India Abroad Person of the Year-2007. Along with this she was awarded India's third highest civilian award the Padma Bhushan, in 2012 by President of India, Pratibhatai Patil. And many of her films have achieved various awards. Mira Nair though living in U.S. her love for India has still attached her with it through her art films.

Conclusion:

To conclude that art films a film is not just a storyline or performance of characters, or songs or dance but it is a collective hard work of all artists. So it can be said that art films are creative works of art which not only entertain the audience but also teach them. Art films are

consists of various arts such as writing, acting, shooting, editing, composing, and dancing and so on which make film art.

India is a multistate country where every state and every culture have its own art that represent their own culture. In case of films, mainstream films they are having the business point of view so they may be based on love stories or made just for an entertainment. But if we combine art and films, we get art films, which give us thought provoking entertainment.

So we come to the conclusion that film is an art and an artistic film results in art films.

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- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Filmmaking>