Call for Book Chapters

FILM AND PLACE IN AN INTERCULTURAL PERSPECTIVE:
INDIA-EUROPE FILM CONNECTIONS

Publisher
The book to be considered by Routledge (Open Access Book)

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Book rationale
The Indian film industry produces over 1,500 films annually. While Indian cinema has had a presence in certain parts of the world linked to its diaspora, in the recent past, it has crossed over to non-South Asian audiences. This expansion has also led to a widespread incorporation of new locations in the production process. The proposed book attempts to understand the mobilization of European locations in Indian cinema, linking these practices to the contexts of tourism, cultural connections, and new economic opportunities for investment and employment. European governments, tourism ministries and film commissions, have recently worked towards the promotion of their respective countries as film-shooting destinations. In doing so, they usually emphasize the offer of professional services, good value for money based on local services and incentives. Besides benefiting the film industry, featuring a location in a film is also meant to promote the tourism industry (so-called film-induced tourism). The link between film locations and the potential for tourism is now becoming significantly apparent across Europe, potentially fostering a post-pandemic recovery. In addition, the infrastructure that makes the mobilization of foreign locations possible is a complex ecology that involves event management companies, technologies, the hotel industries, unskilled labour and trained film personnel in the countries where shooting is conducted. A spatial perspective is especially relevant considering that the film industry is heavily reliant on local and global networks of production. This infrastructure enables not just the promotion of tourism, but also employment opportunities, knowledge sharing, country branding with long-term economic and transcultural effects.

Aims
The aim of this interdisciplinary book is to discuss the complex domain of place and space in cinema and the role that the film industry plays in establishing cultural connections and economic cooperation between India and Europe. A special focus will be given to an understanding of how locations shape and are shaped by film production and circulation. The main threads of the book aim to:
• investigate the construction of place through the use of European locations in Indian cinema;
• map the scale and analyse the specific locations across Europe where Indian cinemas are being shot (European-wide and country-specific analyses);
• identify the specific nature of the infrastructure that allows for mobility and operation of film crews in these European locations;
• investigate the role of policies supporting film production and film collaboration between India and Europe;
• examine the cultural practices of European and Indian film production workers;
• analyse the socio-economic impact of the Indian film industry in Europe and in India.
Important dates
Chapter Proposal Submission Deadline: 15 July 2021
Proposal Acceptance Notification: 22 July 2021
Full Chapter Submission Deadline: 1 January 2022
Submission of Revised Chapter: 1 March 2022

Submission Procedure
The book is intended to be interdisciplinary and we welcome contributions from different fields (including but not limited to film studies, anthropology, geography, economics, sociology, cultural studies, cultural diplomacy, etc.). If you would like to contribute a chapter, please submit a short abstract (150-200 words) using the following form: https://forms.office.com/r/zjhB5pqczd no later than 15 July 2021. Your proposal should include: a) 150-200 word abstract which details the research aims, research significance, method/approach and findings, and b) author(s)’ biography (max. 100 words) and contact information (name, position, institution and email). Each contribution must be original and unpublished work, not submitted for publication elsewhere. Contributions from a wide variety of disciplines are welcomed, in order to provide diverse and creative perspectives. Full details and submission guidelines will be provided to contributors after acceptance of proposals.

If you have any questions, please get in touch with Dr Hania Janta (hanna.janta@unibas.ch) or Dr Krzysztof Stachowiak (krzysztof.stachowiak@amu.edu.pl).