



19th MIFF 2026 opens with three global stories from Canada, Philippines and Iceland

Mumbai, 15 June 2026

From melting glaciers and fading memories to human longing and AI uncertainties, three films titled 'Time and Water', 'AGAPITO' and 'Good Luck to You All' set the tone for the 19th Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF) 2026, which was inaugurated in Mumbai today. The screenings of the three films were held at Ravindra Natya Mandir after the opening ceremony. MIFF, India's leading festival for documentary, short fiction, and animation, is being held from 15 to 21 June 2026.

A Meditation on Time, Ice, and Memory: *Time and Water*

Directed by Sara Dosa, *Time and Water* opens the festival on a reflective note. Presented by National Geographic Documentary Films and Sandbox Films in association with the Ninmah Foundation, the documentary follows Icelandic writer Andri Snær Magnason as he turns personal and historical archives into a symbolic time capsule. Set against retreating glaciers and shifting landscapes, his journey becomes an intimate reflection on ecological and familial loss, interweaving vanishing ice with fading memory. Sara Dosa is an Oscar-nominated nonfiction filmmaker known for exploring human nature relationships. The film offers a poetic meditation on time, change, and intergenerational responsibility.



Quiet Anticipation in a Forgotten Space: **AGAPITO**

Co-directed by Arvin Belarmino and Kyla Romero, the Filipino short film *AGAPITO* in Tagalog language unfolds in a fading bowling alley. As manager Mira completes her closing routine on the final day of the month, she awaits a visitor whose arrival carries quiet emotional weight. Through restrained storytelling, the film explores the tension between routine and expectation, revealing how ordinary spaces and gestures can hold deep layers of longing, memory, and human connection.

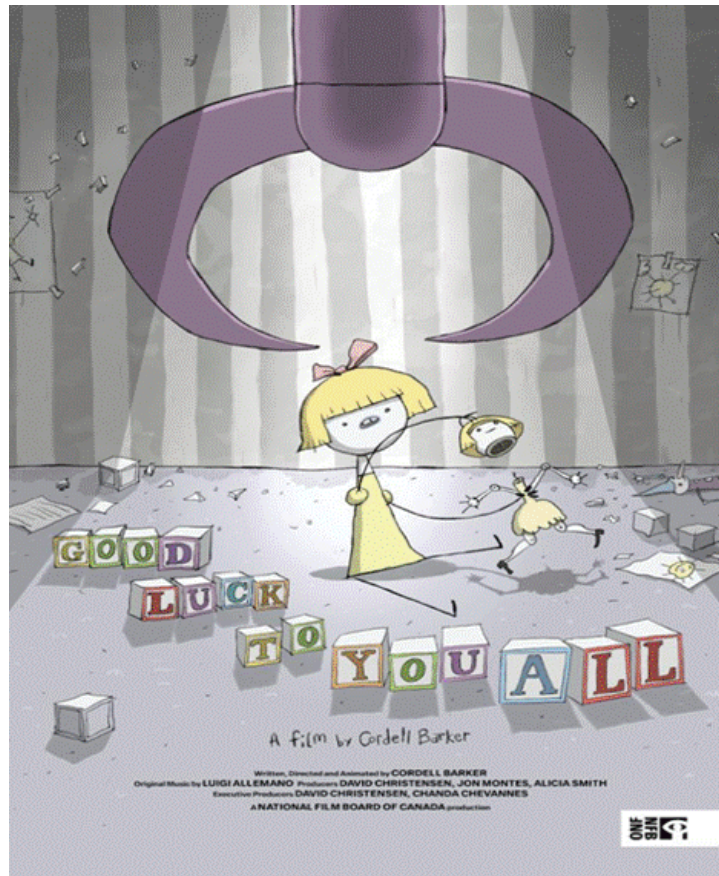


A Whimsical Warning from the Future: **Good Luck to You All**

The animated short film *Good Luck to You All*, directed by Canadian filmmaker Cordell Barker, introduces a shift in tone with its playful yet unsettling narrative. The film follows a young girl immersed in imaginative play with her toys, unaware that she may be connected to humanity's

uncertain future.

Layered with fragmented reflections from scientists and thinkers, the film oscillates between childhood innocence and philosophical unease. It raises urgent questions about artificial intelligence, technological evolution and the unpredictable paths of human progress, blending humor, wonder and caution in equal measure. Barker is a two-time Academy Award–nominated animator associated with the National Film Board of Canada.



Blending environmental concerns, human emotion and technological questions, the three opening films reflect the diversity and global outlook of the Mumbai International Film Festival. Their screenings set an inspiring as well as thought provoking tone for a week long celebration of cinematic excellence.

Recognized as South Asia's oldest and largest film festival dedicated to non-feature cinema, the Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF) has long stood as a vibrant celebration of documentary, short fiction, and animation filmmaking. Established in 1990 and organized under the aegis of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, MIFF has grown into a prestigious international platform that attracts filmmakers, artists, and cinema enthusiasts from around the world.

About the 19th MIFF

The 19th edition of MIFF promises an immersive and enriching cinematic experience, featuring a thoughtfully curated lineup of acclaimed international films alongside an exciting array of industry-focused initiatives.

- This year, the Competitive Section of the festival has received 1,459 film entries from 47 countries, including India.
- The festival showcases films in more than 42 Indian languages and over 30 languages from outside India, reflecting its global reach and cultural diversity.
- Featuring works by acclaimed filmmakers from around the world, the festival will present some of the finest documentaries, short fiction films, animations, debut director films, and student films.
- Alongside the screenings, the 2nd edition of Doc Bazaar, enriching masterclasses, and an Open Forum by IDPA will further enhance the cinematic and creative exchange at the

festival.

Step into the vibrant world of storytelling at MIFF 2026, where powerful cinema, creative minds, and inspiring voices come together to create an unforgettable celebration of documentary, animation, and short fiction filmmaking.

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PIB Team MIFF | Nikita Joshi/Riyas Babu/Robin Singh/Darshana Rane

Great films resonate through passionate voices. Share your love for cinema with #MIFF2026. Tag us @pibmumbai on X, and we'll help spread your passion! For journalists, bloggers, and vloggers wanting to connect with filmmakers for interviews/interactions, reach out to us at miff.mediadesk@pib.gov.in with the subject line: Take One with PIB.

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