

## CURATORS' NOTE

Soundphiles is a celebration of listening and the 2017 edition of Soundphiles, **An Ear for Cinema**, celebrates listening and cinema. Cinema is everywhere – on the screen, on our TV sets, on the radio waves. With the mobile phone, cinema is now even in the palm of our hands, and can be viewed anywhere. Cinema is about life and it is also life. It is livelihood, art, industry. With **An Ear for Cinema**, we set out to explore how the sounds of cinema intersect with the sounds of life, how the reel and the real collide. The soundtracks we received have played this out in many interesting ways. The works were so eloquent in their communication that it was like going to the movies with our eyes shut.

This year, all the selected entries are inspired by Hindi cinema and most of them feature the Hindi film soundtrack which has become an integral part of storytelling in our movies. There are real-life narratives that mirror the drama and passion of the big screen – the charmingly “filmi” and incredibly authentic stories of love recounted in first person. There is the celebration of cinema played out through a game that resonates the reach and affection for the movies that transcends language and borders, and fills you with joy and nostalgia. A scenario that is part of movie trivia is recreated in a nostalgic soundtrack and in another, the sounds of the everyday invade the sounds of the screen.

**An Ear for Cinema** journeys through these stories exploring many soundscapes and many emotions, and draws attention to the critical role that sound plays in making the magic of cinema.

*Parvati Balagopalan and Samina Mishra*