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### Curators note: Asian Women in Animation

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For the large number of women who study animation, the industry surprisingly does not report as many professionals working in the usual studios and large projects. So what do they do? Where do they go? They probably make their own films with limited funds or crowd sourcing and make them in their own time. Given current technology, making independent animated films today is far more conducive and inclusive than it used to be. Women have taken great advantage of this accessibility and their films reflect their commitment to their art and the potential to voice their thoughts and concerns.

25 films from India, China, Malaysia and from Asian women living in the United Kingdom have been sourced and put together in this festival which include films from students and professionals.

In an environment where Asian countries are largely considered places for outsourced animation this package brings animation films made by Asian women that are original, self-reflective, political and experimental. The films explore the medium of animation and image-making that is more personal and adventurous. Several films from students look at issues of identity and relationships that lend themselves to the medium of animation. While some of the issues are universal, several films also look at their own cultural context like Snigdha Banerjee's *Saat Paak Mone Thak*, Miaojian Dong's *Cracked Chimney* and Mili Eugene's *Kali Karyamaayi*. From the experimental animated documentary like Anitha Balachandran's *Flood of Memory* that brings together live voices and sand to the beautiful imagery in the retelling of a story, to the enigmatic *Small People with Hats* by Sarina Nihei this package brings to the audience a kaleidoscopic view of the world as seen by Asian women.

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