

SIPPING TEA CINEMAS
PRESENTS

Still... Somewhere

कहीं दूर...

Story & Direction by SUSHIL RAJPAL

Produced by SUDIPTO SEN




THE PROJECT IS SHORTLISTED
@



WAVES BAZAAR at BERLINALE EFM 2026

STILL...SOMEWHERE (कहीं दूर...)

(Working Title)

A warm, intimate photograph of a woman with long, wavy brown hair hugging a young child with curly hair. They are both smiling and looking towards the right. The scene is set in a sunlit room with a window in the background and several potted plants on a table to the right. The lighting is soft and golden, creating a cozy atmosphere.

In a race against time,
a mother's love
knows no borders.

TAGLINE

LOGLINE

A single mother embarks on a harrowing journey, away from her serene life in Berlin to the chaotic streets of India, in search of a man. A man who is believed to hold the key to her son's survival. With time slipping away and chaos at every turn, she battles against impossible odds to save her child's life.





SYNOPSIS

At forty-two, Tashi is independent, accomplished, and alone by choice. Living in Berlin, she becomes a mother through artificial insemination, determined to raise her child without compromise or dependence. For eight years, her decision feels complete.

Then her son, Avi, is diagnosed with leukaemia. When Tashi discovers she is not a compatible bone-marrow donor, and that Avi carries a rare genetic profile, time turns ruthless.

With no medical options left, she is forced to confront the truth she never wanted to face, the anonymous sperm donor, Avi's biological father, may be his only chance of survival. The anonymity that once symbolized freedom now threatens her child's life.



SYNOPSIS

Her desperate search takes her to an unexplored, untouched part of India, unfolding a journey far more dangerous than geography alone.

As she navigates unfamiliar cultures, buried identities and moral fault lines, the absence of a father becomes as haunting as his possible presence.



OBJECTIVE

Set against the backdrop of contrasting cultures and the weight of personal sacrifice, the film explores a newfound sense of belonging and hope in the most unexpected places.





THE STORY ARC

Still ... Somewhere (कहीं दूर ...) is an intimate, emotionally charged drama about a mother racing against time and her relentless fight to defy fate.

SPECS

- TITLE : Still ... Somewhere (कहीं दूर ...)
- TAGLINE : In a race against time, a mother's love knows no borders.
- GENRE : Drama
- BUDGET : 1.5 Million Euro
- FORMAT : Feature film
- ASPECT RATIO : 1:2.35
- SOUND : Dolby Atmos
- LANGUAGE : Hindi, English
- LOCATION : Europe, India
- DURATION : ~ 110 mins
- TARGET AUDIENCE : Universal
- STATUS : Active Development / Looking for Co-Producer / Finance



CHARACTER SKETCH

Samantha Ruth Prabhu as TASHI

The Protagonist

A single woman in her '40s, a successful entrepreneur, living blissfully in Berlin with her mother & son. She is loving, courageous, emotionally strong yet vulnerable.

CHARACTER SKETCH



AVI

The Purpose

Avi is 8 years old, extremely charming, fun-loving, naughty and mature way beyond his years . His greatest strength lies in his ability to connect with people . He is the lifeline of his mother, Tashi and granny, Urmila.

Suggestive Cast

CHARACTER SKETCH

Nadhiya as URMILA

The Backbone.

Urmila, in her '60s. She embodies modernity and style not only in her appearance but also in her thought process and lifestyle. Urmila is a pillar of support for her daughter, Tashi, and a superwoman for her grandson, Avi.

CHARACTER SKETCH



Vinay Pathak as BRIJESH

The Jack-of-all-Trades.

Brijesh, in '50s, is street-smart, immensely resourceful, residing in Old Delhi, known for solving problems for a fee.

CHARACTER SKETCH



Vishal Jethwa as INDRAJEET

The Quest.

Once a charming Delhi University student in his '20s, Indrajeet is now a ruthless and dangerous rebel group leader.



CHARACTER SKETCH

Kanwaljeet as JAGANNATH

The Savior.

Jagannath, a lawyer by profession in his '60s, is an upright man whose strong presence and integrity make him highly regarded in society.



CHARACTER SKETCH

Renuka Shahane as LAXMI

The ocean of love.

Laxmi, wife of Jagannath, is in her '50s. She is very sweet, caring, and exceedingly motherly. Her nurturing nature, wisdom, and ability to offer love and logical advice are crucial in holding the family together.



MOOD BOARD
(GERMANY)





MOOD BOARD (INDIA)



DIRECTOR'S VISION & TREATMENT

As a filmmaker, I have always drawn inspiration from real-life incidents and the people around me. My last feature film, ***Antardwand*** (Inner Conflict), was also inspired by a true incident involving a friend of mine.

This story, however, emerges from the lives of a few of my female friends - who dreamt of having their own biological child without having a partner in their lives. Their desire for independence and self-determination reflects a changing world, where traditional structures of family and companionship are being questioned and redefined.

Yet, in their pursuit of living independent lives, they sometimes overlook the consequences that life inevitably presents. What begins as an empowering and liberating dream can gradually turn into a situation where one is forced to question their own choices - for better or for worse. As a friend, I am in no position to judge anyone's decisions, but as a storyteller, this thought stayed with me.

From that reflection, this film was born - entirely imagined, yet deeply rooted in emotional truth.

DIRECTOR'S VISION & TREATMENT

Still ... Somewhere (कहीं दूर ...) is a deeply personal exploration of motherhood, identity, and the meaning of family.

Tashi is a woman who believes she has complete control over her life, her choices, and her independence - until fate pushes her into a journey where certainty fades out and vulnerability fades in. What begins as a medical race against time soon becomes a collision of worlds. The quiet order of her life in Berlin stands in stark contrast to the chaos of India - not merely as a geographical space, but as an emotional landscape. India, in this film, is not a backdrop. It is a living, breathing character - unpredictable, overwhelming, compassionate, and brutal, all at once.

I wanted to tell a story where survival is not only physical, but deeply emotional. Tashi arrives searching for a man, a solution, a cure. What she finds instead is complexity. The absence of the biological father of her child becomes as powerful as his presence somewhere else. Her journey is not just about saving her child; it is about discovering that family can be found in the most unexpected moments, and that love often arrives disguised as loss.

Visually, the film moves from controlled, composed frames to restless, unsettled imagery - mirroring Tashi's internal unraveling and eventual transformation. This film is a tribute to all mothers who fight impossible battles, and to the miraculous ways in which life sometimes offers a second chance.

SUSHIL RAJPAL : Story Writer & Director

Sushil Rajpal is a post-graduate in History from Delhi University and a graduate in Cinematography from the Film & Television Institute of India (FTII), Pune.

He began his filmmaking journey in Mumbai, building an accomplished career as a cinematographer across advertising and feature films.

Over the years, he has shot hundreds of commercials, collaborating with acclaimed directors such as Pradeep Sarkar, Shantanu Bagchi, Ram Madhvani, and Hansal Mehta.

His directorial debut, ***Antardwand*** (Inner-Conflict), inspired by real-life events, earned the National Film Award and firmly established his distinctive voice in Indian cinema.

In penning ***Antardwand*** - a story that confronts the dark truths still prevalent in some parts of modern society - Sushil employs a strong, simple, and honest narrative style.

The emotional depth of the film draws deeply from his roots and the land he grew up in: the state of Bihar.



SUDIPTO SEN : Producer

SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY:

DIRECTOR:

- THE KERALA STORY: Unprecedented Blockbuster of Indian cinema with over INR 400 crore (USD 44 million) in Box Office collection (2023).
- BASTAR – THE NAXAL STORY: First Major hit of 2024.

UPCOMING PROJECTS:

PRODUCER:

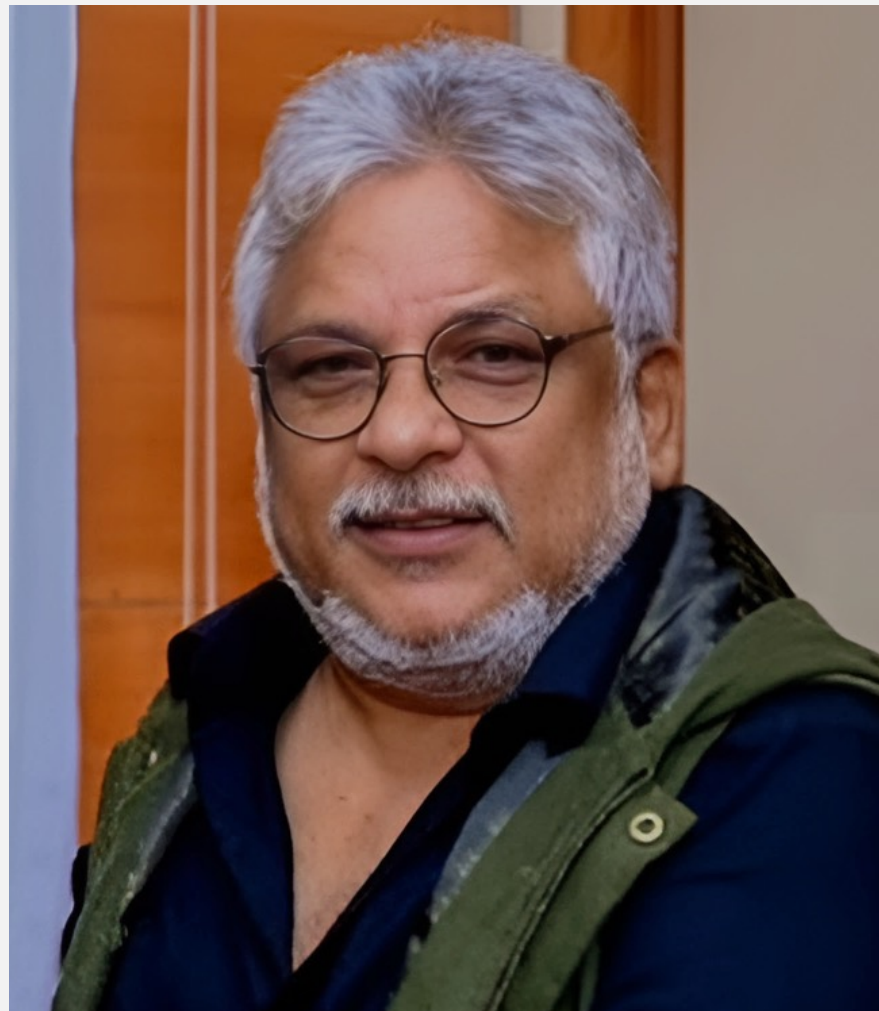
- CHARAK – A Hindi folklore horror feature film to be released in Q1, 2026.
- STILL SOMEWHERE – An Indo-European Hindi feature film (Waves Bazaar @ EFM 2026).

PRODUCER & DIRECTOR:

- KAAL– A Hindi Feature film going on floor in March 2026.
- NUTAN BAZAAR – A Hindi Feature film going on floor in May 2026.
- DURGA - A Hindi Feature film in pre-production stage.

SELECTED LAURELS:

- National Film Awards (Best Direction – THE KERALA STORY, 2023)
- National Film Awards (THE OTHER WEALTH & GURU JI - AHEAD OF TIME)
- Best Film Award (IN THE NAME OF LOVE!) at London Independent Film Awards
- Best Film Award (AKHNOOR) at Golden Gate Film Festival, USA
- Integrated Realization Award (AKHNOOR) at Brussels International Film Festival
- Best Director (AKHNOOR) at San Francisco International Film Festival, USA
- English feature film THE LAST MONK - Cannes Film Festival, 2007 & Special Invitation at Rotterdam International Film Festival, 2008



THE TEAM

SUSHEN BHATNAGAR
BHAWANI BISAL

Screenplay Writers

Sushen Bhatnagar is a film and television writer-director, with a Post Graduate Diploma in Film Direction and Screenplay Writing from Film & Television of India (FTII), Pune. He is known for his work on **Monica** (2011), **Soch** (2002), and **Kasak** (1996), and is recognized for his strong narrative sensibility and character-driven storytelling.

RAJA SAYAD

Cinematographer

Raja Sayad is a cinematographer with a Post Graduate Diploma in Cinematography from FTII, Pune. He has an extensive body of work as a Director of Photography, having shot thousands of advertisements. Known for his versatility and visual precision, his work spans a wide range of styles and formats, marked by strong composition and a refined cinematic sensibility.

ASEEM SINHA

Editor

Aseem Sinha is an Indian film editor with a Post Graduate Diploma in Editing from FTII, Pune. He has predominantly worked in the Hindi film industry and is especially known for his long-term collaboration with filmmaker Shyam Benegal. His work includes **Sardari Begum, Zubeidaa, Welcome to Sajjanpur, Well Done Abba.** He has also edited notable films such as **Aar Ya Paar** (1997), **Khoobsurat** (1999), **Jajantaram Mamantaram**, earning recognition for his nuanced storytelling and precise editorial craft.

MANOJ SIKKA

Sound Designer

Manoj Sikka is a film and television sound designer, with a Post Graduate Diploma in Sound Recording & Sound Design from FTII, Pune. He is known for his work on acclaimed projects such as **Mission Kashmir, Batla House, Mumbai Diaries,** and **D-Day**. With a career spanning decades, his work is noted for its technical finesse and immersive soundscapes that enhance narrative storytelling.



CONTACT

Producer : Sudipto Sen

Handphone/☎: +91-99307 48250, E: sudipto@sippingteacinemas.com

Story & Direction: Sushil Rajpal

Handphone/☎: +91-93241 19686, E: sushilrajpal@gmail.com

Thank You

SIPPING TEA CINEMAS

1313-1317, Peninsula Park, Veera Desai Industrial Estate Road, Andheri West, Mumbai 400 053, India.

www.sippingteacinemas.com

SWA, India Registered. Sole copyright & IP holder of the content.