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# 'Aligarh' closes New York Indian Film Festival

IANIS | May 15, 2016, 03.35 PM IST



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A still from 'Aligarh'

Filmmaker Hansal Mehta's 'Aligarh' was chosen as the closing film of the 16th annual New York Indian Film Festival (NYIFF). The festival, which concluded on Saturday, screens feature, documentary and short films made from, of, and about the Indian subcontinent in the independent, art-house, alternate and diaspora genres every year. 'Aligarh' is based on the real life incident of Srinivas

Ramchandra Siras, an academician at the Aligarh Muslim University, who was suspended from his job because of his sexual orientation. The film stars Manoj Bajpayee and Rajkumar Rao.

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Before attending the fest, Rajkumar took to Twitter on Saturday night and wrote: "Going to one of my favourite cities in the world. New York. 'Aligarh' has been chosen as the closing film of the prestigious New York Indian film festival." Mehta was excited that the American city would witness their "labour of love". 'Aligarh' has been lauded at many film festivals, including Indian Film Festival of Los Angeles, where it received a special mention.



**Raj Kummar Rao** ✓  
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**'Aligarh' gets a standing ovation at New York Indian Film Festival**

by 2016-05-14 5:43pm, PTI

*Aligarh is based on the real life incident of Dr Shrinivas Ramchandra Siras.*

Filmmaker Hansal Mehta's critically-acclaimed *Aligarh* was greeted with a standing ovation after it brought down the curtains on New York Indian Film Festival.

*Aligarh*, starring Manoj Bajpayee and Rajkumar Rao, was based on the real life incident of Dr Shrinivas Ramchandra Siras, who was terminated from his job because of his sexual-orientation.



**ManojJain**  
@ManojNitesJain

Standing ovation for @BajpayeeManoj at #NYIFF2016 for #Aligarh.


4:11 PM - 14 May 2016

22 retweets, 26 likes

47-year-old Manoj Bajpayee played the role of Siras, while Rao, 31, was seen as a journalist in the film.

At the festival, veteran stars Neena Gupta and Rajit Kapoor won the best actress and best actor award respectively for their performances in debutant director Pushan Kripalani's *The Threshold*. The film dwells on a broken relationship of an elderly India couple, played by Neena and Rajit.

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# Hansal Mehta's Aligarh closes New York Indian Film Festival

Aligarh was chosen as the closing film of the 16th annual New York Indian Film Festival.

By IANS  
New York  
Published May 15, 2016,  
14:38

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Aligarh was chosen as the closing film of the 16th annual New York Indian Film Festival.

Filmmaker Hansal Mehta's "Aligarh" was chosen as the closing film of the 16th annual New York Indian Film Festival (NYIFF).

The festival, which concluded on Saturday, screens feature, documentary and short films made from, of, and about the Indian subcontinent in the independent, art-house, alternate and diaspora genres every year.

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"Aligarh" is based on the real life incident of Srinivas Ramchandra Siras, an academician at the Aligarh Muslim University who was suspended from his job because of his sexual orientation. The film stars Manoj Bajpayee and Rajkummar Rao.

Before attending the fest, Rajkummar took to Twitter on Saturday night and wrote: "Going to one of my favourite cities in the world, New York. 'Aligarh' has been chosen as the closing film of the prestigious New York Indian film festival."

Mehta was excited that the American city would witness their "labour of love".

"Aligarh" has been lauded at many film festivals, including Indian Film Festival of Los Angeles, where it received a special mention.

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## Hansal Mehta's 'Aligarh' screened at New York Indian Film Festival

Published by Hemant Sanganeer on May 17, 2016

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**H**ansal Mehta's 'Aligarh' screened at New York Indian Film Festival



The New York Indian Film Festival (NYIFF) witnessed Hansal Mehta's Aligarh, a riveting heartbreaking, poignant, and hard-hitting tale at the Gala closing night on Saturday, 14th May '16 at Skirball Center for Performing Arts, 566 La Guardia Place @ Washington Square South, NYC. The festival featured 40 screenings (35 narratives, 5 documentaries).



In addition five programs of short films too got featured here. The festival highlighted various cinemas of India's different regions. The New York Indian Film Festival announced the winners of its competition categories in the final event for the successful festival, which ran from May 7 - May 14.

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It was a delight for Director Hansal Mehta as he returns to NYIFF after "City Lights" (the love story of a common man), the opening film of 2014, festival at NYIFF. Both City Lights as well as "Aligarh" were prominently screened at NYIFF. After the successful and much appreciated screening of the much talked about movie, Manoj Vajpayee, the versatile and much acclaimed actor participated in a post-screening conversation with the IAAC supporters and other filmmaker in attendance.



"We are delighted to be a part of NYIFF again with the screening of our current film Aligarh. This progressive turn is simultaneously a product of and a response to the changing mores of the urban middle class, which has developed a more tolerant view than other segments of society. This contingent is numerically a minority but it is Bollywood's most significant source of revenue." Hansal Mehta, Director



"I am delighted to honor these brilliant filmmakers for the diversity of their plots, themes & characters!" said Aron Shivdasani, IAAC Executive & Artistic Director.

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**Winners:**

**Best Film: Highway**

**Best Director: Umesh Vinayak Kulkarni for Highway**

**Best Screenplay: Ruchika Oberoi, Island City**

**Best Actor: Rajit Kapoor, Threshold**

**Best Actress: Neena Gupta, Threshold**

**Best Child Actor: Vedashree Mahajan, The Silence**

**Best Documentary: Cities of Sleep**

**Best Short: Daaravtha**

**About NYIFF:**

The New York Indian Film Festival is the oldest, most prestigious Indian film festival in the United States. It is dedicated to showcasing, promoting and building an awareness of Independent, art house and diaspora films from/about/connected to the Indian subcontinent.

Our mission is to encourage filmmakers to tell their stories, to educate North America about them and their talent and to facilitate the making and distribution of these films. NYIFF boasts eight days of premiere screenings of feature, documentary & short films, industry panels, special events, retrospectives, red carpet galas, an award ceremony, packed audiences and amazing media coverage.

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## 2016 New York Indian Film Festival announces its awards

MAY 18, 2016 9:54 AM

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IEWS: 5

The New York Indian Film Festival (NYIFF) announced the winners of its competition categories at a ceremony at The Skirball Center, in the final event for the successful festival, which ran May 7 – May 14.

“I am delighted to honor these brilliant filmmakers for the diversity of their plots, themes and characters!” said Aroon Shivdasani, IAAC Executive & Artistic Director.

“Our jury had a tough job since this year’s nominations were very strong,” commented NYIFF’s film festival director Aseem Chhabra. “I congratulate all the winners, the nominees and also other filmmakers who shared their films with our audiences.”



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Salman Rushdie presenting the award for Best Film accepted by Umesh Vinayak Kulkarni for HIGHWAY who also won Best Director for the film.  
Photo credit: Mo Pitz

Below is the full list of winners:

- Best Film:** *Highway*
- Best Director:** Umesh Vinayak Kulkarni for *Highway*
- Best Screenplay:** Ruchika Oberoi, *Island City*
- Best Actor:** Rajit Kapoor, *Threshold*
- Best Actress:** Neena Gupta, *Threshold*
- Best Child Actor:** Vedashree Mahajan, *The Silence*
- Best Documentary:** *Cities of Sleep*
- Best Short:** *Daaravaha*

Attached photo

Photo Caption: Salman Rushdie presenting the award for Best Film accepted by Umesh Vinayak Kulkarni for HIGHWAY who also won Best Director for the film.  
Photo credit: Mo Pitz

The post 2016 New York Indian Film Festival announces its awards appeared first on BollySpice.com.

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## 16th Annual New York Indian Film Festival

Edit Team May 17, 2016 Party With the Stars



The NYIFF announced the winners of its competition categories at a ceremony at The Skirball Center, in the final event for the successful festival, which ran May 7 - May 14. Highway, a film by Imtiaz Ali wins top awards in the festival and Aligarh, a film by Hansal Mehta got screened at the last day of the festival. Though Hansal Mehta could not attend the fest due to the medical emergency. However, it was STILL a magical night! Aligarh blew everyone away and when Manoj Bajpayee walked on stage for the post-screening discussion, the audience leapt up and gave him an astronomical standing ovation!

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**MANOJ BAJPAYEE STARRER 'ALIGARH' WON HEARTS IN AT A NEW YORK FILM FESTIVAL**

Sanskriti Shiksha • May 16, 2016 • India, International, News

**ALIGARH**  
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The film closed the 16th Annual New York Indian Film Festival and received a standing ovation.

Directed by Hansal Mehta, the Manoj Bajpayee starrer 'Aligarh' has received raving reviews everywhere. It is based on the true story of Srinivas Ramchandra Siras, a professor in the Aligarh Muslim University who was fired because of his sexual orientation. The film also stars Rajkumar Rao, Nina Gupta and Rajit Kapoor.



**Manoj Jain**  
 @MansinNiraJain

Standing ovation for @BajpayeeManoj at #NYIFF2016 for #Aligarh.

4:11 PM · 14 May 2016

22 36

The screening, which was attended by prominent film personalities was the last of the festival which showcases documentaries, short films and movies from various genres. Nina Gupta and Rajit Kapoor also won Best Actor awards for their performance!

Aligarh has garnered a great response from all over the world, earning a special mention at the Indian Film Festival of Los Angeles as well.

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## HANSAL MEHTA'S 'ALIGARH' CLOSING NEW YORK INDIAN FILM FESTIVAL

By Anand Pandit on May 15, 2016



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Filmmaker Hansal Mehta's 'Aligarh' was chosen as the closing film of the 16th annual New York Indian Film Festival (NYIFF).

The festival, which concluded on Saturday, screens feature, documentary and short films made from, of, and about the Indian subcontinent in the independent, art-house, alternate and diaspora genres every year.

'Aligarh' is based on the real-life incident of Srinivas Ramchandra Siras, an academician at the Aligarh Muslim University who was suspended from his job because of his sexual orientation. The film stars Manoj Bajpayee and Rajkummar Rao.

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Before attending the fest, Rajkummar took to Twitter on Saturday night and wrote: "Going to one of my favourite cities in the world. New York. 'Aligarh' has been chosen as the closing film of the prestigious New York Indian film festival."

Mehta was excited that the American city would witness their "labour of love".

'Aligarh' has been lauded at many film festivals, including Indian Film Festival of Los Angeles, where it received a special mention.

Inputs from IANS

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## Closing film Aligarh gets standing ovation at New York Fest

PTI  
May 15, 2016 | UPDATED 14:50 IST

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New York, May 15 (PTI) Filmmaker Hansal Mehtas critically-acclaimed "Aligarh" was greeted with a standing ovation after it brought down the curtains on New York Indian Film Festival.

"Aligarh", starring Manoj Bajpayee and Rajkumar Rao, was based on the real life incident of Dr Shrinivas Ramchandra Siras, who was terminated from his job because of his sexual-orientation.

"Standing ovation for @BajpayeeManoj at #NYIFF2016 for #Aligarh," tweeted Mehta, who attended the festival along with Bajpayee.

The 47-year-old actor played the role of Siras, while Rao, 31, was seen as a journalist in the film.

At the festival, veteran stars Neena Gupta and Rajit Kapoor won the best actress and best actor award respectively for their performances in debutant director Pushan Kripalanis "The Threshold".

The film dwells on a broken relationship of an elderly India couple, played by Neena and Rajit. PTI PSH NDS



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