



**BAGRI FOUNDATION LONDON INDIAN FILM FESTIVAL**

# **Ahimsa Gandhi: The Power of the Powerless**

*+ Pre-recorded Q&A*

Featuring music by U2 and AR Rahman, this compelling and powerful documentary explores the roots and global impact of the Gandhian message of non-violence. Including interviews with renowned scholars and African American activists through to the Dalai Lama, and using rare archival footage from India, USA, Poland and Hungary, Ramesh Sharma's film decodes the revolutionary power of non-violence and how it inspired movements of resistance across the world that still affect us today.

**[bfi.org.uk](http://bfi.org.uk)**

'If we could change ourselves, the tendencies in the world would also change.'

**Mahatma Gandhi**

On 2nd October 2019, the world commemorated the 150th birthday anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. To mark this historic milestone, award winning and Emmy nominated filmmaker Ramesh Shama has directed a feature length documentary that profiles the lasting legacy of Ahimsa – *Gandhi: The Power of the Powerless*.

The Gandhian influence in some way still speaks to the conscience of the world as nations grapple with intractable problems; as societies struggle to give the marginalised and the underserved human dignity and restore fundamental human rights.

The film narrates the impact of the Gandhian message of non-violence worldwide; how it inspired Martin Luther King Jr and the civil rights movement in USA, the Solidarity movement in Poland, the velvet revolution of Havel, and the anti-apartheid strife in South Africa and Nelson Mandela's fight against injustice, oppression, racism and his struggle to restore basic human rights and dignity for the Black citizens of his country. In short, the film decodes the power of non-violence and why it remains relevant to this day.

Interviews with world renowned scholars, biographers, as well as close family members of Mahatma Gandhi and Nobel Laureates such as HH The Dalai Lama, former Polish President Lech Walesa, iconic civil rights activists such as Congressman John Lewis and Rev James Lawson. This feature documentary weaves in rare archival footage, photographs and inspirational songs to put together a compelling and powerful narrative of the impact of Ahimsa – non-violence in some of the seminal political movements of the 20th century and its continuing relevance for contemporary times.

With a global arc as its canvas, the film underscores why Ahimsa remains the most powerful tool for conflict resolution. As Martin Luther King Jr says in the film, 'The choice is no longer between violence and non-violence. It is between non-violence and non-existence.'

**[ahimsa-movie.com](http://ahimsa-movie.com)**

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## AHIMSA GANDHI: THE POWER OF THE POWERLESS

*Written and Directed by:* Ramesh Sharma

©: Videovision Entertainment

*Presented by:* Engie

An Adline Entertainment production

*In association with:* First India Channel LLP,

Videovision Entertainment, Distan Horizon

*Executive Producers:* Michela Scolari, Simmran Bedi, David Traub

*Consulting Producer:* Ahmed A. Jamal

*Producers:* Ramesh Sharma, Xavier Couture, Jean Luc Berlot,

Anant Singh, Uma Gajapati Raju, Sanchaita Gajapati Raju

*Director of Photography:* Nithin Upadhye

*Edited by:* Yamini Upadhye

*Music Composer:* Debojyoti Mishra

India/South Africa 2020

108 mins

## BAGRI FOUNDATION LONDON INDIAN FILM FESTIVAL

**LIFF Opening Night: WOMB (Women of My Billion)**

**+ on stage Q&A with Srishti Bakshi and film critic Anna Smith**

Thu 17 Jun 17:20

**My Beautiful Laundrette**

Fri 18 Jun 20:20

**The Warrior + on-stage career interview with writer-director Asif Kapadia**

Sat 19 Jun 20:30

**Ahimsa Gandhi: The Power of the Powerless**

Sun 20 Jun 15:00

**Searching for Happiness...**

Tue 22 Jun 20:50

**Nazarband Captive**

Wed 23 Jun 20:45

**A'hr Kayattam**

Thu 24 Jun 18:00

**The Salt in Our Waters Nonajoler Kabbo**

Sun 27 Jun 15:00

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## REGULAR PROGRAMME

**Relaxed Screenings: The Reason I Jump**

Fri 18 Jun 14:30; Tue 22 Jun 18:10

**Woman with a Movie Camera: Wildfire**

Sun 20 Jun 18:40 (+ Q&A with director Cathy Brady); Mon 21 Jun 18:10;

Tue 22 Jun 14:40; Wed 23 Jun 20:50; Thu 24 Jun 14:45

**Member Picks: Rumble Fish**

Fri 2 Jul 17:30

**Projecting the Archive: Trottie True (aka The Gay Lady)**

**+ intro by BFI Curator Josephine Botting**

Tue 6 Jul 18:00

**Silent Cinema: Nell Gwyn + intro by BFI Curator Bryony Dixon**

Sun 18 Jul 15:30

**Seniors' Free Archive Matinee: Cabin in the Sky**

**+ intro by writer Marcus Powell**

Mon 19 Jul 14:00

**Experimenta: Born in Flames + discussion**

Thu 22 Jul 18:00

**Relaxed Screening (tbc)**

Tue 27 Jul 18:00

**Terror Vision: Children Shouldn't Play with Dead Things**

Thu 29 Jul 21:00

## LONDON SHORT FILM FESTIVAL

**UK Competition 1: I Forgot More than You'll Ever Know**

Sat 26 Jun 21:00

**UK Competition 3: Close Quarters**

Fri 26 Jun 21:10

**UK Competition 2: The Double Life Of...**

Mon 28 Jun 17:45

**UK Competition 4: Lessons in Survival**

Tue 29 Jun 21:10

**UK Competition 5: The Devil's in the Details**

Wed 30 Jun 17:50

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studio, a world-class library, regular exhibitions and a pioneering

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with unrivalled riverside views of Waterloo Bridge and beyond, a delicious

seasonal menu, plus a stylish balcony bar for cocktails or special events.

Come and enjoy a pre-cinema dinner or a drink on the balcony as the

sun goes down.

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## CHINESE VISUAL FESTIVAL

**Opening Night: UK Premiere: Drifting + intro**

Thu 15 Jul 17:50

**UK Premiere: Love Poem + intro**

Sat 17 Jul 12:00

**Spring Tide + intro**

Sun 18 Jul 15:00

**Back to the Wharf + intro**

Wed 21 Jul 17:50

**Swimming Out Till the Sea Turns Blue + intro**

Sat 24 Jul 14:00

**Closing Night: UK Premiere: Shadows + intro**

Sun 25 Jul 15:10

## NEW RELEASES & RE-RELEASES

**First Cow** From Fri 28 May

**After Love** From Fri 4 Jun (Q&A with director Aleem Khan and actor Joanna Scanlan on Sun 13 Jun 18:40)

**Gunda** From Fri 4 Jun

**Fargo** From Fri 11 Jun

**The Reason I Jump** From Fri 18 Jun

**Nashville** From Fri 25 Jun

**Ultraviolence** From Sat 26 Jun

Sat 26 June 14:20 + Q&A with director Ken Fero and

contributor Janet Alder

**Supernova** From Fri 2 Jul

**Another Round** From Fri 9 Jul

**Jumbo** From Fri 9 Jul

**Deerskin** From Fri 16 Jul

**Girlfriends** From Fri 23 Jul

**Mandabi** From Fri 23 Jul

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