Child-Trafficking Drama 'Sold' to Open Indian Film Festival of Los Angeles

Jeffrey D. Brown’s Sold will serve as the opening night film at the Indian Film Festival of Los Angeles, which runs from April 8-13 at the ArcLight Hollywood in Los Angeles.

Additionally, Jasmine Jaisinghani has been appointed the festival’s first-ever artistic director, it was announced by Christina Marouda, IFFLA’s founder and chair of the board. Celebrating its 12th year, IFFLA showcases Indian cinema.

Sold, a drama about child trafficking is adapted from Patricia McCormick’s novel and executive produced by Emma Thompson and stars Gillian Anderson, David Arquette and Seema Biswas.

“Because of Sold’s marvelous script and courageous and brilliant cast, it is a story that we can all watch – so that we may understand the processes of slavery in modern India and feel able to act without feeling the kind of rage and hopelessness that gets in the way of doing anything,” Thompson said.

Jaisinghani comes to IFFLA from AFI Fest, where she served as the cultural and industry relations director and headed guest services. An independent producer of Indian-Mexican descent, she also has worked in the music industry, including a stint at George Harrison’s record label Dark Horse.

“We’re thrilled to have Jasmine on board as our artistic director,” Marouda said. “She was our first festival coordinator in 2005, and has been associated with IFFLA since. This feels like a full circle, and we could not think of a more deserving person to take on this position.”

Rounding out this year’s programming team are director of programming Mike Dougherty, documentary film programmer Sudeep Sharma and short film programmer Thouly Dosios.