“Sold,” starring Gillian Anderson, Seema Biswas and David Arquette, centers around child trafficking and is based on by Patricia McCormick’s novel, which is based on real-life accounts.

“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.

The opening night gala reception will be at Nirvana-Bombay Palace in Beverly Hills.

Jasmine Jaisanghani has been tapped as artistic director for the 12th edition of the sprocket opera, which will announce its full lineup later this month. “We’re thrilled to have Jasmine on board as our artistic director,” said fest founder and board chair Christina Marouda. “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.”

The Indian Film Festival Los Angeles, which showcases groundbreaking Indian cinema, runs April 8-13.