Nawazuddin Siddiqui’s ‘Haraamkhor,’ ‘Dhanak’ to Premiere at 13th IFFLA

Nawazuddin Siddiqui stars as a teacher having an affair with his student in “Haraamkhor,” screening at the 13th Annual Indian Film Festival of Los Angeles April 8.

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- Haraamkhor

Nawazuddin Siddiqui stars as a teacher having an affair with his student in “Haraamkhor,”
screening at the 13th Annual Indian Film Festival of Los Angeles April 8.

San Leandro, Calif. — An exploration of young love and a vibrant tale of adventurous Shah Rukh Khan fans are among the lineup of films to be screened at the 13th Annual Indian Film Festival of Los Angeles, kicking off April 8.

IFFLA, set to showcase more than 30 films from Indian filmmakers around the globe, will open with the world premiere of Nawazuddin Siddiqui-starrer “Haraamkhor” at ArcLight Hollywood in Los Angeles, Calif.,
the festival’s home since its inception.

Produced by Anurag Kashyap and Guneet Monga, who was felicitated with the Industry Leadership Award at IFFLA in 2013, the film is helmed by debut feature director Shlok Sharma.

Both Sharma and filmmaker Nagesh Kukunoor will attend the red carpet galas along with “Haraamkhor” star Siddiqui and producer Monga.

Siddiqui stars as Shyam, a teacher having an illicit affair with one of his students against the backdrop of young love colliding with the complications of budding adulthood.

“We’re thrilled to kick off our 13th edition with the world premiere of ‘Haraamkhor.’ … It invigorates us to have a filmmaker return to IFFLA, and especially so when their first feature is as powerful as this,” said Jasmine Jaisinghani, IFFLA’s artistic director, in a statement.

Sharma has previously had two short films at the festival, of which “Tubelight’s Moon” was honored with the Audience Award in 2011.

IFFLA concludes April 12 with the U.S. premiere of Nagesh Kukunoor’s “Dhanak,” which had an award-winning premiere at the Berlin Film Festival earlier this year.

“Dhanak,” a celebration of childhood and family, is about the colorful journey of a brother and sister who trek across Rajasthan to meet Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan.

“I have been a longtime fan of Nagesh’s work and look forward to welcoming him back to IFFLA. ‘Dhanak’ is a stunning film — infectious in its joyous spirit and appreciation for the beauty that surrounds us,” said festival founder and chair Christina Marouda in a statement.

Kukunoor will be returning to IFFLA after more than a decade. His film “3 Deewarein” screened in 2003, the festival’s inaugural year.

Visit IndianFilmFestival.org for tickets and information about the full festival lineup.

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