



DOMENICO PROCACCI and **TIMVISION**

present

BANGLA

A film by

PHAYM BHUIYAN

with

Phaym Bhuiyan, Pietro Sermonti,
Carlotta Antonelli and Simone Liberati

Produced by **FANDANGO** with **TIMVISION**

Distributed by **Fandango**

Work developed with the support of the LAZIO REGION, regional fund for cinema and
audiovisuals, with the backing of DG CINEMA



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Cast

Phaim	Phaim Bhuiyan
Asia	Carlotta Antonelli
Matteo	Simone Liberati
Olmo	Pietro Sermonti
Fede	Davide Ornaro
Carla	Alessia Giuliani
Marzia	Milena Mancini
Navila	Sahila Mohiuddin
Nasima	Nasima Akhter (Phaim's Mum)
Shipon	Rishad Noorani
Fayruj	Fabian Durrani
Shoshi	Sanija Shoshi Haque
Tangir	The "real" Tangir
Rifat	Raja Sethi

Crew

Production Supervisor	Ivan FIORINI
Organizer	Michele OTTAGGIO
Story and Screenplay by	Phaym BHUIYAN and Vanessa PICCARELLI
Photography	Simone D'ONOFRIO
Casting	Marco DONAT-CATTIN
Sound	Vincenzo URSELLI
Costumes	Patrizia MAZZON
Set Design	Mauro VANZATI
Music	Dario LANZELLOTTI
Editing	Roberto DI TANNA

A FANDANGO and TIMVISION production

Producer	Domenico PROCACCI (FANDANGO)
Producer	Annamaria MORELLI (TIMVISION)
Executive Producer	Laura PAOLUCCI
Creative Producer	Emanuele SCARINGI

Synopsis

Phaim, a young Muslim of Bangladeshi origin born in Italy 22 years ago, lives with his family in Rome's multiethnic Torpignattara neighborhood, works as a museum steward, and plays in a band. At a concert, he meets Asia, his exact opposite: pure instinct, and no rules. The attraction between them is immediate, and Phaim will have to figure out how to reconcile his love for the young woman with the most inviolable of Islam's rules: chastity before marriage.

Director's notes

The idea for the movie arose a year ago, in the wake of the broadcast Nemo-Nessuno escluso in which I played a lead for one episode. The inspiration underlying the report, which also became the inspiration for the film, draws from a personal problem of mine: "girls."

What does it mean for a twenty-year-old youth, a second-generation Italian and a Muslim, to live in a world that is often so far from the precepts of Islam, especially when it comes to the sphere of relationships and sex? What happens when desire comes knocking at his door?

Starting from these questions, we developed the screenplay, based essentially on my own life, seeking to recount it in its everyday aspects from a comic perspective and with an affectionate yet biting gaze: the collision with the Western world, the generational differences within my own family, and, above all, finding love by meeting a girl, and coming to terms with the world of women. It is a world that does not respond to the same rules I was taught, but instead seems to run in the opposite direction.

We sought to bring the conflict between religion and desire down to the personal level, recounting it as a daily battle, a contest between will and resistance, while trying to articulate it in its various aspects, in terms not only of religion and sentiment, but of relationships, family, and social life as well.

This gave rise to a small fresco, in which the characters teeter continuously between obligation and desire as they seek a necessarily multifaceted identity.

From the visual and directing standpoint, the idea is to try to portray the complexity of the microcosm in which the story is set – Rome's multiethnic Torpignattara neighbourhood – using a nimble style, following the characters, and with a photography able to grasp the neighbourhood's visual richness: dilapidated buildings and murals, people of all colours, produce dealers open 24 hours a day, and modern beer shops. Mosques and churches. The young and the elderly. All this is Torpignattara, the neighbourhood where I was born, and that will star in the film on a par with the other characters.

I think it is important for this world to be recounted by a young person like myself, Bangladeshi in origin but born and raised here, and therefore with direct, inside understanding of the events the character experiences.

BIO Phaim Bhuiyan

Phaim Bhuiyan was born in Rome on 31 October 1995. A second-generation youth of Bangladeshi origin, he grew up in the Torpignattara neighbourhood. At the state vocational school I.P.S. Virginia Woolf, he studied advertising graphics, while also discovering his real passion for filmmaking. He began to approach the audiovisual world at 14 years of age, opening a YouTube channel and, in parallel, took part in contests along with his school, winning a number of prizes. He began working as a videomaker at 17, producing several videos for rappers and punk rock bands on the Roman underground scene. After earning his secondary school diploma, he won a scholarship to IED and embarked on an in-depth educational path in filmmaking, meeting a number of industry professionals. During his three years there, he continued working and, among various opportunities, he collaborated with Rai for the programme *Nemo - Nessuno Escluso*, in which he produced a report dealing with second generation love. The visibility this brought him earned him the notice of Emanuele Scaringi, who introduced him to the world of cinema, recommending that he makes his first work for Fandango along with TIMVISION.