



Other productions co-financed by Polish Film Institute are also achieving festival successes.

The excellent documentary 'Pianoforte' (2023) by Jakub Piatek had a world premiere at the Sundance Film Festival. The Polish audience could watch it during the 20th edition of Millennium Docs Against Gravity Film Festival. After the festival successes, 'Pianoforte' was included in the prestigious list of Oscar Nomination Predictions by Variety.



The latest film by Małgorzata Szumowska and Michał Englert, a Polish-Swedish co-production entitled 'Woman of...' (2023) was premiered in the Main Competition of the Venice International Film Festival. In addition, the Orizzonti section included the Macedonian-Polish-Croatian co-

production 'Housekeeping for Beginners' (2023) (North Macedonia, Croatia, Serbia, Poland, Kosovo) by Goran Stolevski, and Out of Competition film by Roman Polanski, 'The Palace' (2023) (Italy, Switzerland, France, Poland). All of the titles were co-financed by Polish Film Institute.



The Polish incentive system is open to all new domestic and international co-productions, feature, animated and documentary films and series that meet the conditions set out in the Act and the Regulation.



The Palace



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THE OTT SAGA...

The proceedings at IIFTC Knowledge Series 2023, kicked off with a riveting discussion between Mansi Darbar, an independent business advisor in media and entertainment, and Milena Drincic, Head of the International Department at the Polish Film Tourism.

Mansi, a serial start-up specialist with 15 years of experience, has been associated with iconic television companies such as In10 Media



Network, Applause Entertainment, ALT Balaji, and Big Synergy. As a start-up enthusiast, Mansi expressed her passion for building businesses from the ground up and witnessing their growth.

The conversation delved into transformation of the Indian entertainment industry, driven by the rise of over-the-top (OTT) platforms. These streamers have reshaped content consumption with factors such as high-speed internet, lower subscription rates, and widespread smart phone use contributing to their exponential growth. According to a report, India's OTT user base witnessed a remarkable 20% growth in 2022, reaching 424 million users. This growth was particularly significant in small towns and rural areas, extending the expansion of OTT platforms beyond urban centres. The Indian OTT

market is projected to continue its growth at a Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 20% to 23% between 2022 and 2030, making the upcoming years crucial for the streaming business.

While drawing upon Mansi's experience in the industry, Milena expertly navigated through many topics to touch upon the traditional nature of the Indian media and

original series annually. However, she emphasized the need for more, suggesting that platforms should aim for at least 50 to 60 original series per year to meet the growing demand. Anticipating future growth, Mansi stated that the OTT market is expected to reach a value of USD 12 to 15 billion by 2030, driven by India's vast internet and mobile user base.

The conversation also addressed the shift in engagement of big Bollywood celebrities with OTT content. Mansi observed that the new medium values talent over stardom, providing opportunities for a diverse range of actors, writers and directors. Commenting on the future for new Indian talent in the OTT space, Mansi said that the future is bright and as OTT platforms continue to experiment with diverse content, there will be a continuous demand for fresh talent to portray unique characters to connect with the audiences.

As the discussion wrapped up, Mansi, known for her involvement in start-ups, expressed her excitement about the opportunities for start-ups in the media and entertainment industry. "The digital revolution has opened doors for innovation, allowing start-ups to explore various ideas and business models within the sector" she signed off.

In response to an audience question about the future for new Indian talent in the OTT space, Mansi said that "The future looks incredibly bright. With OTT platforms constantly creating new stories and characters, there will be a continuous need for talented individuals to bring these narratives to life", she reiterated.

The fireside chat concluded with both the ladies expressing their belief in letting things unfold and looking forward to whatever the future holds.