

PROGRAM INFORMATION HANDBOOK

SIKHLens

SIKH ARTS & FILM FESTIVAL INDIA CHAPTER 2023 CHANDIGARH

PRESS CONFERENCE & MEDIA INTERACTION



23RD FEBRUARY | THURSDAY
CHANDIGARH PRESS CLUB, SECTOR 27
TIMING : 11:30 AM - 01:30 PM

CULTURAL AND LITERARY SYMPOSIUM



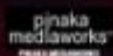
24TH FEBRUARY | FRIDAY
GGSDS COLLEGE (MINI AUDITORIUM) , SECTOR 32
TIMING : 10:30 AM - 02:00 PM

SIKHLens: SIKH ARTS & FILM FESTIVAL 2023 INDIA CHAPTER



25TH FEBRUARY | SATURDAY
TAGORE THEATRE, SECTOR 18
FULL DAY - 11:00 AM TO 09:00 PM

BROUGHT TO YOU BY



SUPPORTED BY

PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES




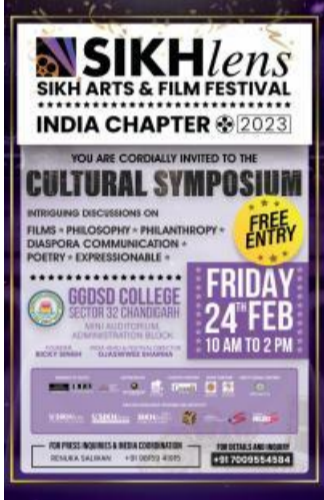

BICKY SINGH FOUNDER, SIKHLENS
OJASWEE SHARMA INDIA HEAD, SIKHLENS

FOR DETAILS AND INQUIRY
+91 7009554584

FOR PRESS INQUIRIES & MEDIA COORDINATION
RENUKA SALWAN +91 98159 41915

Outline of Festival Events this year

**SIKHLENS: SIKH ARTS & FILM FESTIVAL 2023
CHANDIGARH, INDIA**

DATE	DAY	EVENT/ PROGRAM	LOCATION/VE NUE	TIMINGS
23RD FEBRUARY THURSDAY		PRESS CONFERENCE & MEDIA INTERACTION ANNOUNCEMENT OF PROGRAM DETAILS, ITENARY, INTRODUCTIONS OF GUESTS AND PARTICIPANTS, Q&A	CHANDIGARH PRESS CLUB, SECTOR 27, CHANDIGARH (Main Hall)	11:30 AM - 01:30 PM (Duration: 2 hours)
24TH FEBRUARY FRIDAY		CULTURAL SYMPOSIUM FEATURING 25 SPEAKERS ON <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sikh Diaspora Across the Globe - Sharing Culture and Heritage with Roots • Communicating for Impactful Storytelling: Challenges and Progress • Storytelling for Community Voices by Actors • Expressions of Faith & Philosophy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expression with Poetry: Focus Sanjha Punjab • ExpressionAble: Rising beyond the challenges of disability <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Voices - Communication of Philanthropy • The Story of SIKHLENS - The Journey since inception 	MINI AUDITORIUM, ADMIN BLOCK GGSDS COLLEGE, SECTOR 32, CHANDIGARH (1 st Block - Above Principal's Office)	10:30 AM TO 2: 00 PM (Duration: 3:30 hours)
25TH FEBRUARY SATURDAY		SIKHLENS: SIKH ARTS & FILM FESTIVAL 2023 INDIA CHAPTER IN CHANDIGARH Full-day Film Festival, and Exhibition Red Carpet, World Premiere, and Launches	TAGORE THEATRE, SECTOR 18, CHANDIGARH Main Auditorium & Courtyard	FULL DAY - 11:00 AM TO 09:00 PM (Duration: 10 hours)

SYMPOSIUM

FRIDAY | 24th FEBRUARY 2023
Time: 10:30 AM to 2:00 PM

Venue: GGDSD College Sector 32, Chandigarh
Mini Auditorium, Admin Block, Above Principal's Office

ENTRY FREE

SIKHLens
SIKH ARTS & FILM FESTIVAL 2023
INDIA CHAPTER

FESTIVAL & SYMPOSIUM GUESTS

- RASHPAL SINGH DHINDSA
- BAHAOUR SINGH
- FRANÇOIS DUTIL
- KAREN DOSANJH
- DILJIT
- KANWALPREET SINGH
- ANEESHA MADHOK
- CJ SINGH
- RENUKA SALWAN
- JATIN SALWAN
- LILY SWARN
- SARVPRIYA NIRMOHI
- SWARN SINGH KAHLON
- COL DALJIT SINGH CHEEMA
- DEEPAK SHARMA CHANARITHAL
- DR. KDS BEDI
- PARAM KALRA
- KULDEEP SINGH BHOGAL
- GURLJAKAT SINGH BHAR
- ROOPINDER SINGH
- AMY SINGH
- NAVOT SAAN
- SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
- SEHAJ AMRINDER
- CHAITANYA MUKUND

FESTIVAL DIGNITARIES

- PATRICK HEBERT
- CAROLINE ROWETT

FESTIVAL EXHIBITORS

- NARINDER PAL SINGH
- JASWINDER SINGH
- MANJEEV KOUR
- AMAR SINGH GULATI
- DEVINDERPAL SINGH SENGAL

FESTIVAL HOSTS

- BICKY SINGH
- GURPREET KAUR
- OJASWEE SHARMA

www.sikhLens.com
SIKHLENS BROUGHT TO YOU IN INDIA BY PINAKA MEDIAWORKS

BROUGHT TO YOU BY: PINAKA MEDIAWORKS, TUBE, UNITED SIKH MUSEUM, MASTERSHOT, PUNJAB UNIVERSITY, CANADA, SIKHLens COMMUNITY VOICES, SIKHLens WORLDWIDE PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES, SIKHLens PUBLICATIONS, SIKHLens DESTINATION, SIKHLens PROJECTS

Key Overview

Timing	Topic	Panel
10:30 AM	Introduction and Host	SARVPRIYA NIRMOHI, Recipient of State Award in 2023 in the field of Public Service by Chandigarh Administration. Senior Broadcaster with All India Radio for 25 years and DD Chandigarh.
10:35 AM	Keynote	AJAY SHARMA Principal, GGDSD College
10:40 AM	Sikh Diaspora Across the Globe: Sharing Culture and Heritage with Roots Conversation on Documenting diaspora and History through books and films	<p>KAREN DOSANJH, Author of Untold Stories: The South Asian Pioneer Experience in British Columbia - Curator of SIKHLens Production Film - Hidden Histories: The Sikh Migration Path to Canada</p> <p>SWARN SINGH KAHLON, A veteran Researcher, and Author of several books on Sikh Migration to non-English speaking countries in Continental Europe, Latin America, and Asia Pacific.</p>

11:10 AM	Writing, and Reporting with Challenges - Sikhs in Mainstream Journalism and Public Relation. Effective communication on diaspora matters.	CJ SINGH , A veteran Public Relations Expert with nearly 4 decades of Experience. He is the National Sr Vice President of the Public Relations Council of India, an advisor on Strategic Communication, and Adj. Professor, Shoolini University.	RENUKA SALWAN , Public Relations and Communication Professional with nearly 4 decades of Experience. Former Director of Public Relations of the Bureau of Indian Standards and Panjab University. Recipient of the Chanakya Award for Excellence in Public Relations and many other awards in the profession of PR.
11:40 AM	Expressions of Faith & Philosophy	ROOPINDER SINGH , Author of "Guru Nanak His Life and Teachings". He has been a Senior Associate Editor, The Tribune	COL DALJIT SINGH CHEEMA , Author, Motivational Speaker, Professor of Management, Punjab Ratan Awardee 2008
12:00 PM	Social Responsibility of Actors - "Choosing Wisely and Living the Role Responsibly"	DILJOTT , Actress, Founder Dream Buds Foundation, Recipient of India Inspirational Women Award 2021 KANWALPREET SINGH , Actor & Singer well known for his film Zubaan and Television Show- Channa Mereya ANEESHA MADHOK , Aneesha Madhok , best known for her Hollywood film Bully High Movie	DEEPAK SHARMA CHANARTHAL , Poet, Writer & Journalist (Primarily Social & Literary issues), Recipient of State Award in 2019 by Chandigarh Sahitya Academy for his Book "JARAN"
12:40 PM	Sanjha Punjab, Saving the language and expression with Poetry beyond borders	JATIN SALWAN , Lawyer & Poet - Bestseller Punjabi Poetry of 2022 for 'Phoori' AMY SINGH , Poet & Writer LILY SWARN , Multilateral poet and author of 7 best selling books and over 70 awards like Chandigarh Sahitya Akademi Best Author Award.	
1:00 PM	ExpressionAble, Expressions and Communications Strategies for rising beyond challenges.	NAVJOT SIAAN , Music Composer SHIV KUMAR SHARMA , Disability Activist SEHAJ AMRINDER , Lyrics Writer CHAITANYA MUKUND , Disability Advocate , Researcher and Writer	
1:20 PM	Communication of Philanthropy, - How media and production tools play an important role in highlighting stories and case studies of philanthropic work. - Discussion on various modes such as films, documentaries, articles in newspapers and the internet, and the use of social media for the tools - scale, relevance, and priority order. - Writing with responsibility	RASHPAL SINGH DHINDSA , Philanthropist, Chairman - United Sikh Mission, Working on setting up the largest free-of-cost eye camps across Punjab since 2005, the largest Solar Panels at Sri Harmandir Sahib, and now a free Hospital BAHADUR SINGH , Philanthropist, Chairman - One Beat Group, The man behind the uplift-ment of rural area of Bhira Uttar Pradesh with a free Multi-speciality Hospital and 5 institutions imparting medical education to the region. DILJOTT , Actress, Founder Dream Buds Foundation, Recipient of India Inspirational Women Award 2021	DR. KDS BEDI , Internationally acclaimed Sales and Marketing Coach having worked in three top MNC's - Coca-Cola, PepsiCo and Mercedes Benz!!! He is an academicians of repute for more than a decade.
1:45 PM	The Story of SikhLens - The Journey	BICKY SINGH and GURPREET KAUR , Founders - SikhLens	PARAM KALRA , Founder Starthub Nation, the biggest managed office space company in Chandigarh region.
2:10 PM	Insights of the Film Festival 2023, A look into this year's program	OJASWEE SHARMA - India Head & Festival Director of SikhLens (India) - Film Director: Recipient of 'Rajat Kamal', from the President of India at the 68th National Film Awards by the Government of India.	

SIKHLens

SIKH ARTS & FILM FESTIVAL

INDIA CHAPTER

2023

- ★ FILM SCREENINGS ★ PERFORMANCES ★
- ★ WORLD PREMIERE ★ CURTAIN RAISER ★
- ★ EXHIBITION OF HERITAGE & CONTEMPORARY ARTIFACTS ★



25TH FEBRUARY 2023



TAGORE THEATRE

CHANDIGARH

SCAN FOR DETAILS



★ 11 AM TO 9 PM ★ FULL DAY ★

BROUGHT TO YOU BY



SUPPORTED BY



COUNTRY PARTNER



VENUE PARTNER



INSTITUTIONAL PARTNER



SIKHLens WORLDWIDE PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES



RSVP

BICKY SINGH FOUNDER, SIKHLENS
OJASWEE SHARMA INDIA HEAD, SIKHLENS

FOR DETAILS AND INQUIRY
+91 7009554584

FOR PRESS INQUIRIES & MEDIA COORDINATION
RENUKA SALWAN +91 98159 41915

FILM FESTIVAL

SATURDAY | 25th FEBRUARY 2023

Time: 11:00 AM to 09:00 PM

Venue: TAGORE THEATRE Sector 18, Chandigarh

ENTRY FREE



SIKHLens
SIKH ARTS & FILM FESTIVAL
INDIA CHAPTER 2023

INVITATION

★ FILM SCREENINGS ★ PERFORMANCES ★
★ WORLD PREMIERE ★ CURTAIN RAISER ★
★ EXHIBITION OF HERITAGE & CONTEMPORARY ARTIFCATS ★

FREE ENTRY

TAGORE THEATRE SATURDAY
CHANDIGARH 25TH FEB
TIME : 11AM - 9PM (FULL DAY)

FOUNDER: BICKY SINGH | INDIA HEAD & FESTIVAL DIRECTOR: OJASWEE SHARMA

FOR PRESS INQUIRIES & MEDIA COORDINATION: RENUKA SALWAN +91 98159 41915
FOR DETAILS AND INQUIRY: +91 7009554584

Key Overview

INSIDE THE MAIN AUDITORIUM

Film Screenings, Keynote Speeches by High Commissions of Canada and Britain,
Book and Calender Launches, Performances

OUTSIDE THE MAIN AUDITORIUM, COURTYARD AND GLASS AREA

Exhibition - Display of Heritage and Contemporary Art by 5 Artists
A total of 1800+ Article Display
Walk-through backdrops, along with Books and the annual SikhLens Calender 2023
Commencement of the exhibition will begin at 11:00 am IST.

OUTLINE OF EVENT SEGMENTS
on 25th FEBRUARY, SATURDAY AT TAGORE THEATRE

TIME	SEGMENT
11:00 AM TO 11:30 AM	INAUGURAL
11:30 AM TO 1:30 PM	FILMS SESSION - I
1:30 PM TO 2:30 PM	LAUNCH AND KEYNOTE - I
2:30 PM TO 5:00 PM	FILMS SESSION - II
5:00 PM TO 5:30 PM	LAUNCH AND KEYNOTE - II
5:30 PM TO 6:00 PM	PERFORMANCE
6:00 PM TO 8:00 PM	FILMS SESSION - III
8:00 PM TO 9:00 PM	CLOSING

<p>Key highlights of this year's SikhLens: Sikh Arts & Film Festival 2023 (India Chapter) in Chandigarh</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● This year, 20 films produced/submitted from 8 countries will be screened from Countries: India, Canada, United States, United Kingdom, Kenya, Pakistan, Malawi, Singapore
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Focus on Diversity, Diaspora Stories, and Community Voices
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A striking display of 1800+ art heritage artifacts and art - Exhibition at the Courtyard of Tagore Theatre, Chandigarh
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● World Premiere of Documentary: Hidden Histories: The Sikh Migration Path to Canada
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● World Premiere of Documentary: One Beat
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A dedicated pre-event cultural and literary symposium featuring 25 speakers at GGSDS College, Chandigarh one day before the screening event
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Launch of SikhLens Calender 2023 - Hidden Histories : Pioneer Sikhs in Canada
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Trailer launch of SikhLens Publications Book - "The Legend of 1972 - Like Hockey & Beyond"
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Announcement of Next Dates of the Festivals in UK, Canada, USA and India 2024

FULL DAY PROGRAM FLOW

SATURDAY | 25th FEBRUARY 2023

Time: 11:00 AM to 09:00 PM

Venue: TAGORE THEATRE Sector 18, Chandigarh
MAIN AUDITORIUM

ENTRY FREE



11:00 AM to 11:30 AM ---- INAUGURAL

National Anthem, Welcome Note, Lamp Lighting Ceremony
SikhLens India 2023 Welcome and the playback of "The Spirit of SikhLens in India".

LIST OF SCREENING FILMS

11:00 AM ONWARDS



01:30 PM ONWARDS



06:00 PM ONWARDS



11:30 AM to 1:30 PM ---- FILMS SESSION - I (1)

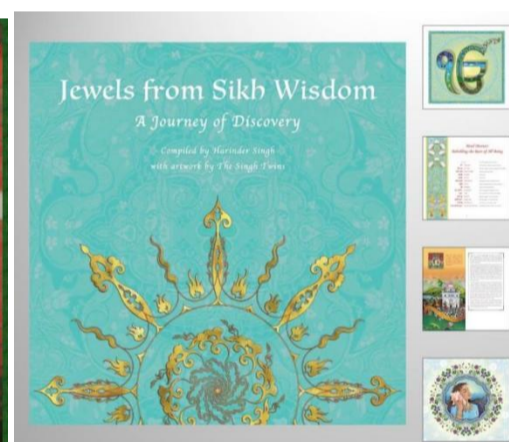
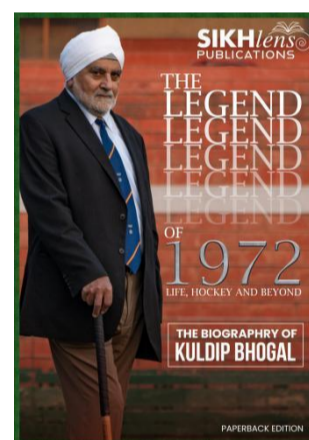
7 Films will be showcased in Films Session - I.

The session will begin with the playback of the trailer of Hidden Histories: The Sikh Migration Path to Canada.

SNo.	Film/Program Title	Run Time	Country of Production	Name of Director(s)	Film Represented By
1	Jitt De Nishaan	16	India	Simratpal Saini, Davinder Singh	SikhLens
2	Kalasinghas	20	Kenya	Khalsa Lakhvir Singh	SikhLens
3	Tilla Jogia	6	Pakistan	Jogi De Naal	SikhLens
4	Children of Partition: An Oral History of Pothoharis	40	United Kingdom	Bhupinder Singh Bhasin	SikhLens
5	Football Fever	7	India	Gurvinder Singh	Roundglass Foundation, Devinder Pratap Singh
6	Kaur	15	United Kingdom	Parvinder Shergill	SikhLens
7	Phoori	5	India	Ojaswee Sharma	Jatin Salwan, Renuka Salwan

1:30 PM to 2:30 PM**COUNTRY REGION FOCUS: UNITED KINGDOM****LAUNCH AND KEYNOTE - I**

- **Book Trailer Launch of SikhLens Publications "The Legend of 1972 - Life Hockey & Beyond"**, "One of the productions of our forthcoming book The Legend of 1972- The book trailer of Kuldeep Singh Bhogal, the former Olympian who played for Uganda in the 1972 Munich Olympics, will be being announced this year in Chandigarh festival. The trailer of the book shall unfold the daring and spirited journey of the former Olympian KS Bhogal.
- **Book Launch of SikhLens Publications "Jewels from Sikh Wisdom"**.
- **Keynote by Caroline Rowett British Deputy High Commissioner**
- **Announcement for SikhLens in UK Festival 2023 - next festival after Chandigarh, India will be held in England on Saturday - 17th June 2023 at Millennium Point, Curzon St, Birmingham.**

**2:30 PM to 5:00 PM ---- FILMS SESSION - II (2)**

8 Films will be showcased in Films Session - II.

Total Runtime of the Session will be 150 minutes.

SNo.	Film/Program Title	Run Time	Country of Production	Name of Director(s)	Film Represented By
1	Singh in The Lion City	14	Singapore	Upneet Kaur Nagpal	SikhLens
2	The Return of Koh-i-noor	11	United Kingdom	Harinder Singh	Tirath Singh
3	The Next President of Malawi	15	Malawi	Sean Ahluwalia, Kyle Decker, Tay Kitts, Jeremiah Thompson	SikhLens
4	ICOR Episode 5-Kartarpur Corridor	30	India/Pakistan	Zeynep Gul Unal	SikhLens
5	Copeless	22	Canada	Jaskaran Singh	SikhLens
6	Amreeka	4	United States	Sahib Singh	SikhLens
7	Badlaav	17	India	Ojaswee Sharma	Mohinder Singh Talib
8	Hidden Histories: The Sikh Migration Path to Canada WORLD PREMIERE	30	Canada	Kashif Alvi	Karen Dosanjh, Bicky Singh & Hansjeet Duggal

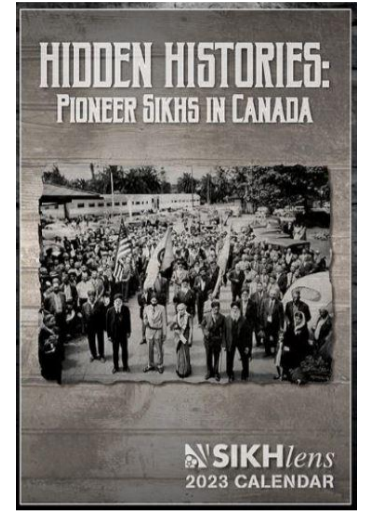
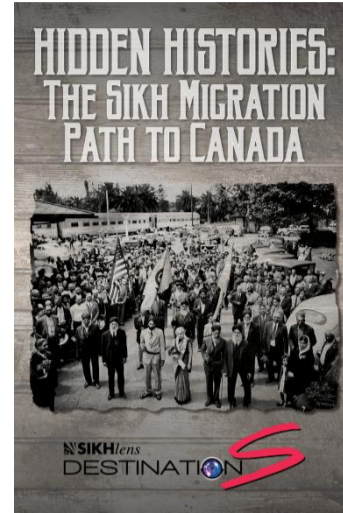
- **Book Trailer** SikhLens Publications "The Legend of 1972 - Like Hockey & Beyond" will be screened before the screening of the world premiere of Hidden Histories: The Sikh Migration Path to Canada, bearing the Canadian connection of the story.
- **World Premiere of the "Hidden Histories: The Sikh Migration Path to Canada"** will be the closing film of Films Session II (2)

5:00 PM to 5:30 PM
COUNTRY FOCUS: CANADA

SIKHLens 2023 CALENDAR LAUNCH AND
WORLD PREMIERE OF DOCUMENTARY : HIDDEN HISTORIES: THE SIKH MIGRATION PATH TO CANADA

LAUNCH AND KEYNOTE - II

- Experience on documenting and filming the Hidden Histories: The Sikh Migration Path to Canada by Karen Dosanjh.
- **Launch of SikhLens Calender 2023**, Theme: Hidden Histories : Pioneer Sikhs in Canada.
- Keynote by François Dutil, Consul, Consulate General of Canada in Chandigarh.
- Announcement for SikhLens in Canada Festival 2023 - next festival after England in Toronto - East Coast and Vancouver - West Coast
- Announcement for next year's focus of Calender 2024 from Canada based artist.



5:30 PM GATKA PERFORMANCE

The performance segment of the evening will be a phenomenal Gatka performance by Shaheed Baba Deep Singh Ji Gatka Akhara.



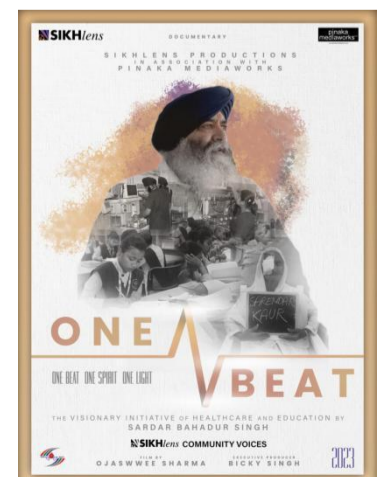
6:00 PM to 8:00 PM FILMS SESSION - III (3)

SNo.	Film/Program Title	Run Time	Country of Production	Name of Director(s)	Film Represented By
1	Sarbat Da Bhala	51	India	Ojaswwee Sharma	Dhan Guru Ramdas Ji Langar Sewa, Hoshiarpur
2	Super Sikh	16	India	Amolak Singh	Amolak Singh, Jagvinder Singh
3	Powering The Gurudwaras of Punjab with Solar Energy	10	India	Ojaswwee Sharma	Rashpal Singh Dhindsa and United Sikh Mission Group
4	Okra King	10	United States	Hansjeet Duggal	SikhLens
5	One Beat WORLD PREMIERE	40	India	Ojaswwee Sharma	Bahadur Singh and One Beat Group

- World Premiere of the "One Beat" will be the closing film of Films Session III (3) and will be the closing film of this year's film festival.

8:00 PM to 9:00 PM CLOSING

- Honoring OneBeat, United Sikh Mission, DGRLS - Hoshiarpur
- Honoring Hosts of the Festival
- Honoring Exhibitors of the Festival
- Honoring Participants and Keynote Speakers of the Cultural and Literary Symposium of the Festival
- Closing Remarks by Festival Founder and Festival Directorate
- The Date Announcement for next year's date for SikhLens India 2024 for 24th February, 2024 - Saturday



FULL DAY PROGRAM EXHIBITION

SATURDAY | 25th FEBRUARY 2023

Time: 11:00 AM to 09:00 PM

Venue: TAGORE THEATRE Sector 18, Chandigarh

ENTRY FREE

Exhibition - Display of Heritage and Contemporary Art

A total of 1800+ Article Display



NARINDER PAL SINGH

An Antiquarian, Numismatist, Philatelist, Conchologist, Philuminist, Collecting Sikh Coins, Sikh Relics, Handwritten Manuscripts, Arms & Armour, War Medals, Postal Stationary and Stamp Papers of Sikh States. Founder Curator: Akal Sahai Museum, Ludhiana - World's First private Sikh Museum.

- Coin Collections issued in the reign of Sikh Misls (Khalsa Military Govt), Sikh Sovereign State of Maharaja Ranjeet Singh, Kharak Singh, Sher Singh, and Maharaja, Duldeep Singh - Last Coin of the Sikh Empire. From different mints i.e. Lahore, Multan, Peshawar, Kashmir, Amritsar, Dera jat, Dera Ghazi Khan, Anandgarh, Mankera, etc.
- Coin issued from Jaipur (Rajasthan) and Nijibabad (U.P.) in the name of Guru Gobind Singh.
- Coins of various Sikh States, CIS Satluj States (Nabha, Patiala, Jind, Kaithal)
- Handwritten Manuscripts of Sikhism, Hinduism, and Islam written in Gurmukhi, Persian (Farsi), Arabic, and Sanskrit.
- Arms and Armour of Sikhs from the Mughal period to the Anglo-Sikh Wars.
- War Medals of the Sikh Soldiers from WWI, WW2, and Post-independence wars in the Republic of India.
- Sikh Relics
- Stamps, First-day covers, Picture postcards, Spl covers, on Sikhism from 1935 till date issued by British India Govt., Republic of India, Canada and Pakistan
- Stamps, Postal Stationary, and Stamp Papers of the Sikh States, (Nabha, Patiala, Jind, Faridkot, Kapurthala, Kalsia, etc.) and pre-independence period of India.
- Ink Pots of various metals, from the Mughal period to the British period, which were used to write the Granths.

JAGWINDER SINGH

Cyclist & Foot Artist

- Display of Art created with feet.

AMAN SINGH GULATI

Artist specializing in micro/miniature art - Guinness World Book Record Holder for the world's largest puzzle portrait by an individual.

- Soul of Sikhism Volume 1: Almond Art work series dedicated to first Guru of Sikhism Sri Guru Nanak Dev Ji. Chaar Sahibzaade Almond Art work series dedicated to four Sons of Guru Gobind Singh Ji.
- Soul of Sikhism Volume 9: Almond Art work series dedicated to 9th Guru of Sikhism Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji. Customized collection of wallets & purses.

DEVINDERPAL SINGH SEHGAL

Kite Man of India - Limca World Book Record Holder for the World's Smallest Kite

- Showcase of the World's Smallest Kite
- Kite-Art on Social Messages on various Goals and days declared by the United Nations: International Peace and Brotherhood, Say No To Smoking, International Yoga Day, Teachers' Day, Say no to fire-crackers, Anti-Child Labour Day, International Women's Day, International Day of Sports, Nine-Eleven, Baisakhi, How to prevent COVID-19, World Heart Day, Environment Day and message Against Corruption

RAVLEEN KAUR

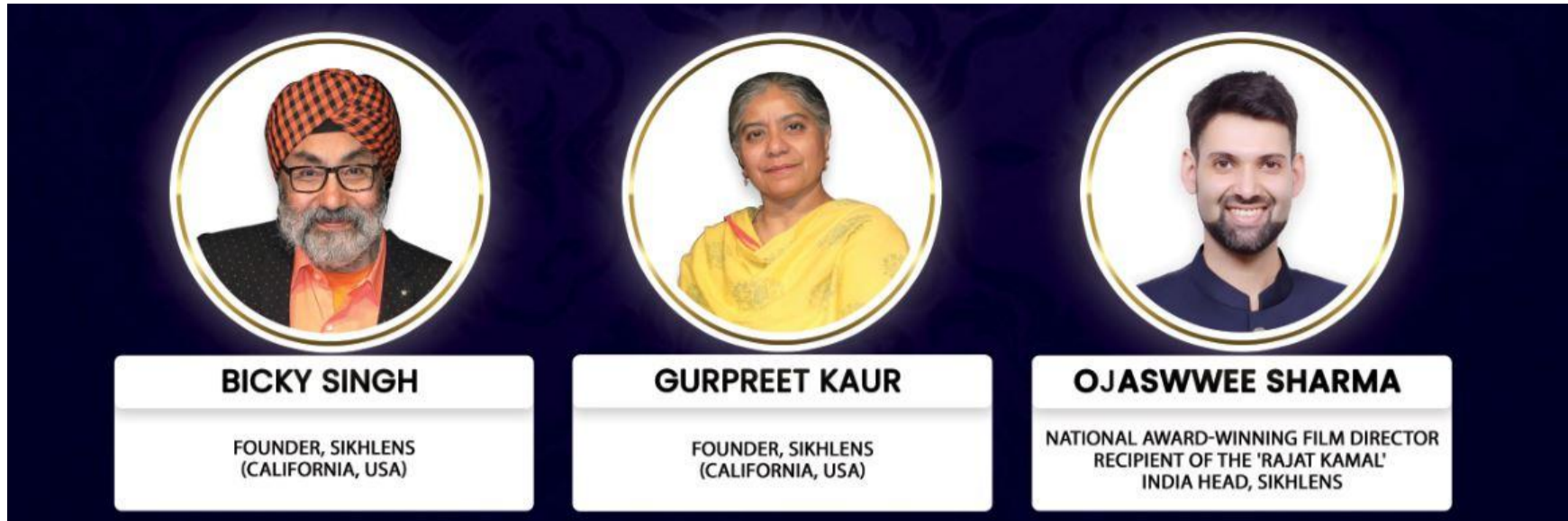
Artist of Calligraphy

- Showcase of Gurbani calligraphy, Sketches and Oil Painting

DISPLAY OF BOOKS BY

- ATAM PARGAS SOCIAL WELFARE COUNCIL 100+ Books on Primary and Secondary Education
- SIKH DHARAM GRANTH STALL 100+ Titles on literature, fiction and philosophy

HOSTS OF THE FESTIVAL



Quote from the Founder & Festival Director

<p>“SikhLens 2023 in Chandigarh will be our fourth annual SikhLens: Sikh Arts & Film Festival in India. We will be showcasing the beautiful culture and heritage of the Sikhs from around the world. We look forward to seeing you all on February 25th. Our programs have expanded since last year, and we are hoping to connect with new and emerging artists from the Diaspora, with more patrons to support film scholarships.”</p>	<p>“We have had 3 successful festivals in 2020, 2021 and 2022 respectively. This year we have a great line-up of original films, a large pre-event symposium, book and calendar launches, performance, and large display of heritage art and books from around the world for the city audience this year. Our focus this year is on diversity of the Sikh Diaspora and inclusion of Community Initiatives. People of all age groups will find their interest, in either films, the symposium, the unique never-seen before display and performances planned for this year. The entry to the festival will be free for all and would be graced by towering Sikh and International personalities.”</p>
<p>– Bicky Singh (Founder, SikhLens)</p>	<p>– Ojaswwee Sharma (India Head & Festival Director, SikhLens India)</p>

About SikhLens and the Organizing Team:

SikhLens, The World’s Premier Sikh Film Festival, seeks to provide an outlet for sharing Sikh heritage and culture with the rest of the world by creating awareness for work that is “Sikh-centric,” showcasing our talent, and instilling pride in the community.

SikhLens seeks work from artists in a variety of fields, including but not limited to movies, books, music, and art. It creates appropriate avenues for this work to be shared with the rest of the world with the aim of getting more exposure for the presenters; and at the same time creating awareness about Sikhs.

SikhLens, through its 'Destination S' program, provides funding and filming scholarship programs for filmmakers both Sikh and non-Sikh, whose projects aim to bring inspiring stories about Sikh history and heritage into the world's mainstream conversation on race, ethnic harmony, justice, and spirituality.

The journey of SikhLens in India so far has been very promising truly. The festival is held every year at Tagore Theatre, which is attended by thousands of visitors from across India and visitors from other countries.

The festival in India this year is presented by Pinaka Mediaworks, Rolling Frames Entertainment and has been supported by Chandigarh Administration, Department of Cultural Affairs (U.T), Government of Canada, United Sikh Mission and many other generous donors and ecosystem partners who cherish and value the importance of film-making, creating next generation storytellers, artists and supporting scholarships in major film schools across the world.

Ojaswwee Sharma is the Festival Director of SikhLens in India who is a National Award Winning Filmmaker - Recipient of 'Rajat Kamal', from the President of India at the 68th National Film Awards by the Government of India.

Collectively in the festivals held so far in India, more than 70 films have been showcased having been produced on and submitted by the diaspora across 11 countries – such as India, USA, Canada, England, Scotland, Australia, Singapore, Pakistan, France, Italy, Kenya have been screened.

Festival History in India:

- 3rd Edition of SikhLens held on 20th February, 2022 (Sunday)
- 2nd Edition of SikhLens held on 21st February, 2021 (Sunday)
- 1st Edition SikhLens held on 21st February, 2020 (Friday)

Every year the festivals hosts world premiers to showcase Sikh-Centric Films, Documentaries, including World Premieres, Large Scale Interesting Art Display Exhibition, Book Launch, Poetry, Talks and Announcements.

The entry to the general public has been kept free.



SIKHLens SIKH ARTS & FILM FESTIVAL INDIA CHAPTER 2023



TAGORE THEATRE CHANDIGARH

FILM SCREENING & PROGRAM SCHEDULE

INAUGURAL

11:00 AM TO 11:30 AM

WELCOME NOTE, LAMP LIGHTING CEREMONY
SHOWCASE OF "THE SPIRIT OF SIKHLENS IN INDIA"

FILM SESSION - I

11.30PM ONWARDS

JITT DE NISHAAN	INDIA
KALASINGHAS	KENYA
TILLA JOGIA	PAKISTAN
CHILDREN OF PARTITION: AN ORAL HISTORY OF POTHOHARIS	UK
FOOTBALL FEVER	INDIA
KAUR	UK
PHOORI	INDIA

LAUNCH AND KEYNOTE - I

COUNTRY REGION FOCUS: UNITED KINGDOM

01:30 PM TO 02:30 PM

BOOK TRAILER LAUNCH OF SIKHLENS PUBLICATIONS
"THE LEGEND OF 1972 - LIFE HOCKEY & BEYOND"

FILM SESSION - II

02.30PM ONWARDS

SINGH IN THE LION CITY	SINGAPORE
THE RETURN OF KOH-I-NOOR	UNITED KINGDOM
THE NEXT PRESIDENT OF MALAWI	MALAWI
ICOR EPISODE 5-KARTARPUR CORRIDOR	INDIA/PAKISTAN
COPELESS	CANADA
AMREEKA	UNITED STATES
BADLAAV	INDIA
HIDDEN HISTORIES: THE SIKH MIGRATION PATH TO CANADA (WORLD PREMIERE)	CANADA

LAUNCH AND KEYNOTE - II

COUNTRY REGION FOCUS: CANADA

05:00 PM TO 05:30 PM

LAUNCH OF SIKHLENS CALENDER 2023,
THEME: HIDDEN HISTORIES : PIONEER SIKHS IN CANADA

PERFORMANCE

05:30 PM

GATKA

FILM SESSION - III

06.00PM ONWARDS

SARBAT DA BHALA	INDIA
SUPER SIKH	INDIA
POWERING THE GURUDWARAS OF PUNJAB WITH SOLAR ENERGY	INDIA
OKRA KING	UNITED STATES
ONE BEAT (WORLD PREMIERE)	INDIA



**SATURDAY
25TH FEBRUARY
11 AM - 9 PM**

SCAN CODE FOR DETAILED PROGRAM SCHEDULE



FILM SCREENINGS
PERFORMANCES
WORLD PREMIERE
CURTAIN RAISER
EXHIBITION

**FOR DETAILS AND INQUIRY
+91 7009554584**

BROUGHT TO YOU BY pinaka mediaworks RFE UNITED SIKH MISSION **SUPPORTED BY** MASTERSHOT PICTURES **COUNTRY PARTNER** Canada **VENUE PARTNER** CHANDIGARH ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE AFFAIRS **INSTITUTIONAL PARTNER** GURUJI GANESH DUTTA SANSKRAN DHANUKA COLLEGE

SIKHLens WORLDWIDE PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES

SIKHLens Community Voices SIKHLens DIGITAL VOICES PROGRAM SIKHLens PUBLICATIONS SIKHLens DESTINATION SIKHLens PROJECT

SIKHLens: SIKH ARTS & FILM FESTIVAL 2023 INDIA CHAPTER IN CHANDIGARH

DESCRIPTION AND DETAILS ABOUT THE SCREENING FILMS

Official List of Screening Films 2023

SATURDAY | 25th FEBRUARY 2023

Time: 11:00 AM to 09:00 PM

Venue: TAGORE THEATRE Sector 18, Chandigarh

MAIN AUDITORIUM

ENTRY FREE

LIST OF SCREENING FILMS

11:00 AM ONWARDS



01:30 PM ONWARDS



06:00 PM ONWARDS



Sn o.	Film/Program Title	Run Time	Film Description	Country of Production
1	Jitt De Nishaan	16	Jitt De Nishan: Signs of victory is the life journey of Sikh couple Babu Nahar Singh and his wife Jind Kaur who were bystanders of the revolutionary eras (partition of India-Pakistan 1947, Sikh genocide 1984 and Farmers' Protest, 2020) in Punjab state. They lost their loved ones in these tough times, but they still stand in pride with the blessings of God to serve for the community.	India
2	Kalasinghas	20	Kalasinghas - Kenya's Legendary Sikhs is feature on a summarized legacy of the Sikhs that spans over 120 years in the East African country. Though there are countless personalities that have been etched in the history of the relatively young African nation, the Sikhs, known there as Kalasinghas by the Africans, this feature is but a humble tribute to a few of those unforgettable.	Kenya
3	Tilla Jogia	6	Before partition, there were numerous religious hubs in India and Pakistan, but after many of these sites became deserted. The primary purpose of this short film is to showcase such religious places to create intercultural and inter-religious harmony among the people of India and Pakistan to ensure peace and friendly relationship across borders.	Pakistan
4	Children of Partition: An Oral History of Pothoharis	40	Children of Partition: An Oral History of Pothoharis is a deep focus on how a community was affected by Partition and their subsequent migration to the UK. The film focuses on the Pothohar region of West Punjab and how this community's heritage and culture has been nurtured and cultivated by the generation who came to Britain.	United Kingdom

5	Football Fever	7	<p>A revolution is gathering momentum in the villages of Punjab. Girls and young women are taking up football, not just as a recreation but as the ticket to a brighter and better future. In the sports center at Bagha Purana village more than 100 girls between the age group of 7 to 24 show up to practice every day. They have big dreams in their eyes.</p> <p>These girls are the first generation females to step out of their homes to pursue sports. It is a big behavior change we are witnessing. One that will light up the future of many young girls to come.</p>	India
6	Kaur	15	Kaur is about a young British Sikh woman who decides to wear a turban for the first time	United Kingdom
7	Phoori	5	In 'ਫੂੜੀ' 'Phoori' 'The anthology of 'ghazals' touches the soul as it reflects upon the pain of separation and isolation and yet reflecting the perennial hope that life presents. The book was launched last year, and this year we are celebrating its 1st Anniversary.	India
8	Singh in The Lion City	14	'Singh In The Lion City' is a short documentary about a Singaporean Sikh man's personal quest to decode his cultural identity. This sets him on a journey of self-discovery along a shared heritage trail - which he encapsulates and celebrates via the creation of an app. This documentary touches on wider themes of home and diaspora.	Singapore
9	The Return of Koh-i-noor	11	This story traces the journey of the most precious diamond's Journey and how Maharaja Ranjit Singh, the ruler of the richest Indian Kingdom of Punjab, managed to get this diamond back to India by using his troops to save Shah Shuja of Afghanistan. He had inherited the diamond but then refused to part with the diamond which had been promised in return for his safety	United Kingdom
10	The Next President of Malawi	15	Helen Singh passionately lays out her dogged plan to help put the country back on its feet through strategies involving common sense, justice, and transparency.	Malawi
11	ICOR Episode 5- Kartarpur Corridor	30	This film tells the story of how the communities of India and Pakistan, who parted into two countries a long time ago, have been taking care of each other's cultural heritage that was left on the other side of the border with love and respect.	India/Pakistan
12	Copeless	22	The son of a drunk and abusive politician reconciles with the guilt that comes from not protecting his mother from his father.	Canada
13	Amreeka	4	A comedic look at the cultural and generational gap between a young Punjabi boy and his father.	United States
14	Badlaav	17	Shabad Chowk is a tradition established 400 years ago - becoming more & more relevant in contemporary times!!	India
15	Hidden Histories: The Sikh Migration Path to Canada	30	Hidden Histories: The Sikh Migration Path to Canada showcases the historic milestones of the first South Asians who migrated from India to Canada in the early 1900s. The documentary covers the arrival of some of the first South Asians and the rampant anti-Asian sentiments they faced along with other key events that led to the disenfranchisement of the early settle	Canada
16	Sarbat Da Bhala	51	Sarbat da Bhala has a new definition with Manjit Singh who while calling the US home, has taken up the mammoth initiative to provide free meals to the needy at more than twenty civil hospitals in Punjab - Feeding more than 50,000 people every day, The film shall showcase the case story of one of the largest kitchen facility which functions 24x7, 365 days preparing and sending out food through mini trucks to civil hospitals across Punjab.	India
17	Super Sikh	16	The film is the journey of a Specially Challenged Sikh, Jagwinder Singh and how he broke all the barriers to achieve his goal.	India
18	Powering The Gurudwaras of Punjab with Solar Energy	10	<p>SikhLens Community Voices Program brings the journey of USM - United Sikh Mission which took up the monumental initiative of setting up a 1.2-Megawatt Solar Power Plant at Sri Harmandir Sahib (Amritsar), Gurudwara Bir Baba Budha Sahib (Thatha, Tarn Taran), and Gurudwara Shaheed Baba Deep Singh Ji (Amritsar) in Punjab, India.</p> <p>The film showcases the journey of the humanitarian step toward ensuring sustainability and reduced global warming that will help save 2,000+ tonnes of Carbon Dioxide emission by the setting up of Solar PV Panels on rooftops at all commissioned and approved locations in the Gurudwaras.</p>	India
19	Okra King	10	Harbhajan Singh, founder of Samra Produce, is America's "king of okra.". The film details the story of Harbhajan Singh who came to Southern California in 1985 as a trained agronomist, with a master's degree in economics. He saw California as ideal for growing the kind of Indian specialties that he ate as a child--okra, eggplant, bitter melon, and beans.	United States
20	One Beat	40	One Beat is the story of Education and Free Healthcare, which showcases the story of free healthcare facilities to the underprivileged and ensuring medical education facilities in the small town of Bhira, in Uttar Pradesh, India by American-Sikh Bahadur Singh.	India



For Collateral, Partnerships, and Sponsorship

Bicky Singh (United States) +1 (714) 504-5264

Ojaswwee Sharma (India) +91 7009-554-584

For Media Inquires, and Press Information

Renuka Salwan +91 98159 41915

PRESS CONFERENCE

SYMPOSIUM

FILM FESTIVAL

SIKHlens
SIKH ARTS & FILM FESTIVAL
INDIA CHAPTER 2023

PRESS CONFERENCE
THURSDAY 23RD FEBRUARY
CHANDIGARH PRESS CLUB
SECTOR 27, CHANDIGARH
TIME : 11:30 AM - 01:30 PM

FOR PRESS INQUIRIES & MEDIA COORDINATION
RENUKA SALWAN +91 98159 41915

FOUNDER BICKY SINGH INDIA HEAD OJASWWEE SHARMA

BROUGHT TO YOU BY: [Logos: IIFA, IFFI, etc.]
SUPPORTED BY: [Logos: Ministry of Culture, etc.]
COUNTRY PARTNER: Canada
VENUE PARTNER: [Logos: Chandigarh Press Club, etc.]
INSTITUTIONAL PARTNER: [Logos: GGS Indraprastha, etc.]

SIKHlens WORLDWIDE PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES: [Logos: SIKHlens, etc.]

SIKHlens
SIKH ARTS & FILM FESTIVAL
INDIA CHAPTER 2023

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO THE
CULTURAL SYMPOSIUM
INTRIGUING DISCUSSIONS ON
FILMS * PHILOSOPHY * PHILANTHROPY *
DIASPORA COMMUNICATION *
POETRY * EXPRESSIONABLE * **FREE ENTRY**

GGDSD COLLEGE
SECTOR 32 CHANDIGARH
MINI AUDITORIUM,
ADMINISTRATION BLOCK
FRIDAY 24TH FEB 10 AM TO 2 PM

FOUNDER BICKY SINGH INDIA HEAD & FESTIVAL DIRECTOR OJASWWEE SHARMA

BROUGHT TO YOU BY: [Logos: IIFA, IFFI, etc.]
SUPPORTED BY: [Logos: Ministry of Culture, etc.]
COUNTRY PARTNER: Canada
VENUE PARTNER: [Logos: GGS Indraprastha, etc.]
INSTITUTIONAL PARTNER: [Logos: GGS Indraprastha, etc.]

SIKHlens WORLDWIDE PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES: [Logos: SIKHlens, etc.]

FOR PRESS INQUIRIES & MEDIA COORDINATION
RENUKA SALWAN +91 98159 41915

FOR DETAILS AND INQUIRY
+91 7009554584

SIKHlens
SIKH ARTS & FILM FESTIVAL
INDIA CHAPTER 2023

INVITATION
★ FILM SCREENINGS ★ PERFORMANCES ★
★ WORLD PREMIERE ★ CURTAIN RAISER ★
★ EXHIBITION OF HERITAGE & CONTEMPORARY ARTIFCATS ★

FREE ENTRY TAGORE SATURDAY THEATRE CHANDIGARH 25TH FEB
TIME : 11AM - 9PM (FULL DAY)

FOUNDER BICKY SINGH INDIA HEAD & FESTIVAL DIRECTOR OJASWWEE SHARMA

BROUGHT TO YOU BY: [Logos: IIFA, IFFI, etc.]
SUPPORTED BY: [Logos: Ministry of Culture, etc.]
COUNTRY PARTNER: Canada
VENUE PARTNER: [Logos: Tagore Theatre, etc.]
INSTITUTIONAL PARTNER: [Logos: GGS Indraprastha, etc.]

SIKHlens WORLDWIDE PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES: [Logos: SIKHlens, etc.]

FOR PRESS INQUIRIES & MEDIA COORDINATION
RENUKA SALWAN +91 98159 41915

FOR DETAILS AND INQUIRY
+91 7009554584