

1.) *Valley of Saints*, October 8, 2013

Director: Musa Syeed

SYNOPSIS: Widely considered to be the crown jewel of Kashmir, Dal Lake is a sprawling aquatic community where erupting political violence often distracts from the natural beauty. Gulzar, a young, working-class boatman, plans to skip town with his best friend Afzal in search of a better life, but a weeklong military curfew derails their departure. Forced to wait it out, Gulzar and Afzal discover they're not alone: a young woman named Asifa is also trapped on the lake, but by choice. She's researching the lake's ecosystem and brings on Gulzar to be her guide. As they navigate the floating landscape, an unlikely relationship blossoms between the two. With the end of the conflict looming, Gulzar has to choose between a new life or a new love.

"A likably low-key docudrama set in an attractive area of politically turbulent Kashmir." - Dennis Harvey, Variety

2.) *Salaam Bombay*, November 12, 2013

Director: Mira Nair

SYNOPSIS: The boy Krishna is abandoned by his mother at the Apollo Circus and she tells him that he can only return home when he can afford 500 rupees to pay for the bicycle of his brother that he had trashed. Krishna is left behind by the circus and he takes a train to Bombay. Krishna is called Chaipau by the street children of Bombay and he works delivering and selling tea for Chacha, who owns a street bar. Krishna befriends the heroin addicted Chillum that sells drugs for the drug dealer and caftan Baba Golub, and the girl Manju Golub, who is the daughter of Baba with the prostitute Rekha Golub. Krishna dreams on saving 500 rupees to return home, but the life on the streets of Bombay is not easy.





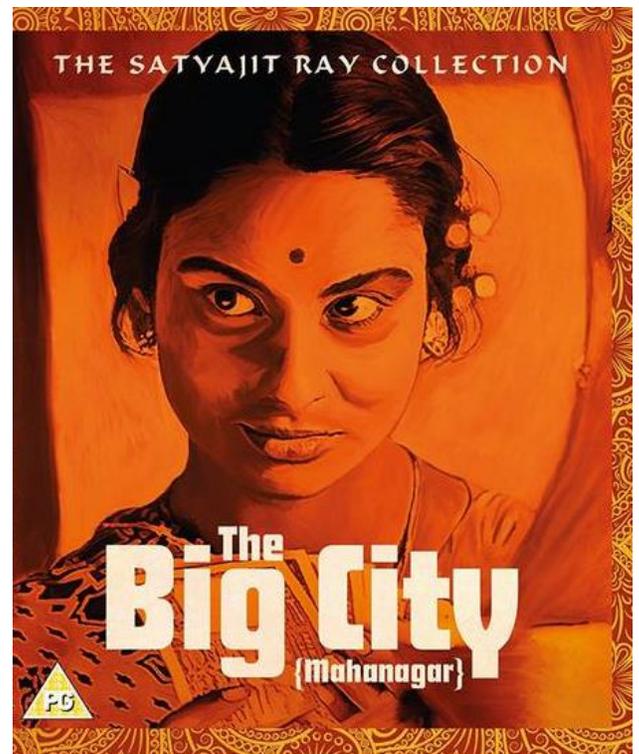
**3.) *Sita Sings the Blues*,
January 14, 2014
Director: Nina Paley**

SYNOPSIS: *Sita Sings the Blues* is a 2008 animated film written, directed, produced and animated entirely by American artist Nina Paley (with the exception of some fight animation by Jake Friedman in the "Battle of Lanka" scene), primarily using 2D computer graphics and Flash Animation.

It intersperses events from the Ramayana, light-hearted but knowledgeable discussion of historical background by a trio of Indian shadow puppets, musical interludes voiced with tracks by Annette Hanshaw and scenes from the artist's own life. The ancient mythological and modern biographical plot are parallel tales, sharing numerous themes.

**4.) *The Big City*, February 11, 2014
Director: Satyajit Ray**

SYNOPSIS: *The Big City*, the great Satyajit Ray's first portrayal of contemporary life in his native Kolkata, follows the personal triumphs and frustrations of Arati (Madhabi Mukherjee), who decides, despite the initial protests of her bank-clerk husband, to take a job to help support their family. With remarkable sensitivity and attention to the details of everyday working-class life, Ray builds a powerful human drama that is at once a hopeful morality tale and a commentary on the identity of the modern Indian woman.



**5.) PINK SARIS, March 4 or 18,
2014**

Director: Kim Longinotto

SYNOPSIS: Sampat Pal is the leader of the Gulabi Gang (aka the Pink Gang), a vigilante group of women in Northern India distinguished by their distinctive bright pink saris. Like many other women, Pal was married as a young girl into a family that made her work hard and often beat her. Unlike most other Indian women, she overcame her problems to become an outspoken, self-described "messiah" for women.

Though domestic abuse is illegal in India, tradition and the caste system are steadfastly upheld by many, especially in the rural areas where the Pink Gang operates. By tradition, women are not allowed to live with their own parents once they are married, and are at the mercy of the husband's family. If a woman comes from a lower caste, she is often not allowed to marry a man of higher rank. Pal's strategy is to expose abusive husbands, in-laws and other offenders by settling family matters out in the open, turning the tables on those who did the damage.

While *Pink Saris* highlights Sampat Pal's strength and passion as a leader, as well as her unique way of resolving disputes, it also sheds light on her private troubles. Her partner, Babuji, who has watched Pal change over the years, is less certain about her high-profile methods.

Kim Longinotto, the world-renowned director of *Pink Saris* has won awards at festivals worldwide, including: the World Cinema Jury Prize in Documentary at Sundance for "Rough Aunties," which aired on HBO2 in May 2010; a 2008 Peabody Award and two Cannes awards for "Sisters in Law"; and an Amnesty International DOEN Award at IDFA and Best Doc UK Spotlight at Hot Docs for "The Day I Will Never Forget," which premiered at Sundance in 2003 and debuted on CINEMAX that year. The Museum of Modern Art honored her with a film retrospective of her body of work in 2009 and she received Hot Docs' Outstanding Achievement Award in 2010.

