SYNOPSIS:

Year 2001, a temporary ceasefire brings much-needed break to a small war-torn village in Northern Nepal, bringing much joy among the residents. PRAKASH and KIRAN, two young close friends, are also starting to feel the change in the air. Though they are divided by caste and social creed, they remain inseparable, and start raising a hen gifted by Prakash's sister, with hopes to save money by selling her eggs. However, the hen goes missing. To find it, they embark on a journey, innocently unaware of the tyranny brought by the fragile ceasefire.

LOGLINE:

To seek their lost happiness two young boys embark their journey relentlessly, completely unaware of the tyranny brought by broken ceasefire where they witness various unimaginable events that forces them to experience anger, blame, guilt, frustration and finally hope which is beyond their missing hen and their chance to be happy again.

DIRECTOR
Min Bahadur Bham

SCREENPLAY
Min Bahadur Bham
Abinash Bikram Shah

PRODUCERS
Anna Katchko
Tsering Rhitar Sherpa
Min Bahadur Bham
Debaki Rai
AnupThapa

LINE PRODUCERS
Hom Raj Bham
Upendra Jung Shahi

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY
Aziz Zhambakiyev

MUSIC
Jason Kunwar

EDITORS
Nimesh Shrestha
Aziz Zhambakiyev

SOUND DESIGNER
Bipin Sthapit

PRODUCTION DESIGNER
Suman Nidhi Sharma

ART DIRECTOR
Menuka Rai

PUBLICITY DESIGNER
Ananda K. Maharjan

COSTUME DESIGNERS
Nanda Keshar Bham
Tara Khatri

CASTING DIRECTOR
Hira Bijuli Nepali

MAKE-UP ARTIST
Nima Lama

PRODUCTION UNIT MANAGER
Dipesh Bhandari

PRODUCTION MANAGERS
Rajesh Prashad Khatri
Akki Thekpa

CAST
Khadka Raj Nepali
Sukra Raj Rokaya
Jit Bahadur Malla
Hansha Khadka
Benisha Hamal
Nanda Prashad Khatri
Bipin Karki
Pravin Khatiwada

A CO PRODUCTION OF NEPAL, SWITZERLAND, GERMANY AND FRANCE

WITH THE SUPPORT OF:
Vision SudEst - with the support of the SDC (Swiss Agency for Development and Corporation), Switzerland
World Cinema Fund (Berlinale Film Festival), Germany
Aide aux Cinemas du monde, France

PRODUCTION COMPANIES:
Shooney Films, Mila Productions, Tandem Production, CDP and Kaldhungi Films

ORIGINAL TITLE **KALO POTHI** ENGLISH TITLE **THE BLACK HEN** RUNNING TIME **90 MINUTES** LANGUAGE **NEPALI**
SUBTITLES **ENGLISH, ITALIAN** LOCATION **NEPAL** PRODUCTION YEAR **2015** FORMAT **HD (DCP)**
SOUND **DOLBY DIGITAL 5.1** CAMERA **ARRIALEXA** TOTAL BUDGET **300000 USD**

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30. Venice International Film Critics' Week

SHOONEY FILMS, MILA PRODUCTIONS, TANDEM PRODUCTION, CDP AND KALDHUNGI FILMS PRESENT

BUSAN International Film Festival

Kalo Pothi

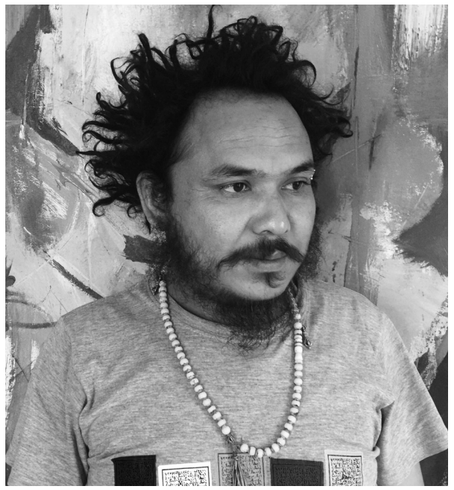
THE BLACK HEN

A FILM BY MIN BAHADUR BHAM

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY:

An award-winning young filmmakr from Nepal, born on 1984, **Min Bahadur Bham** graduated in Nepali Literature and Filmmaking and has a Post Graduate Degree in Buddhist Philosophy and Political Science. His short film **The Flute (2012)** made history in his country, being the first Nepali film presented at the Venice Film Festival and won Jury Award at Toronto Nepali Film Festival. Min Bahadur Bham participated in the Berlinale Talent Campus and attended the Asian Film Academy at the Busan International Film Festival in 2013 where he was awarded The Outstanding Fellow Award. **Kalo Pothi** is his debut film and the first Nepali long-feature film presented in Venice.

Min Bahadur Bham is a President of the Independent Film Society of Nepal, and is an Assistant Professor in Oscar College of Film Studies. He owns a production company, Shooney Films, Nepal where he has produced short and feature films that were screened at film festivals around the world including Busan, Seattle, and Montreal.



SHOONEY FILMS

SHOONEY FILMS, is a production company making its way by focusing on art house cinemas and aimed to work with talented filmmakers of Nepal. Several short and feature films made by this company are selected in various film festivals including Venice, Busan, Clermont Ferrand, Fribourgetc.

TANDEM PRODUCTION

Anna Katchkois a founder of Tandem Production in Moscow, Russiaand in Berlin Germany. This company's credits include: HARMONY LESSONS (2013), Silver Bear Berlinale 2013 and more than 30 international awards; ADVENTURE (2014), Competition Karlovy Vary IFF; NEWSMAKERS (2009), Tribeca International FF; MYN BALA, Oscar Entry from Kazakhstan, biggest national box-office (2013); PUPPET SYNDROME (2015); LUXEMBOURG (2016) and other films.

MILA PRODUCTIONS PVT. LTD.

Mila Productions Pvt. Ltd. was established in 1998, and made more than a dozen films that has been selected and awarded in various film festivals around the world. Mila Productions is presently producing a 13-episode political drama TV series Singha Durbar, and a feature film Seto Surya (White Sun).

CATHERINE DUSSART PRODUCTION (CDP)

The French acclaimed producer Catherine Dussart founded CDP on 1994. This company produced around 3 dozen feature films including some documentaries, which were widely acclaimed and received awards in the major film festivals including Cannes, Berlin, and Venice, etc. One of the company's most recent significant work, Rithy Panh's THE MISSING PICTURE garnered the Un certain regard Award at the Cannes Film Festival and was Academy Award nominated for Best Foreign Language Film in 2014.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT:

I was born in a remote village in Northern Nepal. I grew up to the smell of alpine trees, the sight of fresh, lush meadows, and the touch of the cold Himalayan breeze. With the beauty of my surroundings was a darker aspect of my childhood and of the communities living in that part of the world. Shackled by poverty, illiteracy and taboos, we live in a society that is deeply split by caste and class divides. So, it wasn't easy having to accept the fact that I wasn't allowed to play with my best friend only because he belonged to a lower caste.

And that is the heart of the film's subject matter – a true story of two best friends growing up on in a segregated society during the Maoist insurgency. This story is about the complexities of friendship and our society, a factual reflection of the archaic practices that still prevail in Nepal.

Today, years later, my past still haunts me. As a filmmaker it is crucial for me to bring out my true own life experiences to the world.